



MESSAGES OF THE PRESIDENT

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Official Month in Review

President's Month in Review: March 16-31, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

March 16.—PRESIDENT Magsaysay took off from Nichols Air Base at 1:30 p.m. today on his C-47 *Mount Pinatubo* to keep a crowded speaking schedule in Cebu City.

With him were Reps. Ramon Durano, Pedro Lopez, Manuel Zosa, Maximino Noel and Nicolas Escario of Cebu; Rep. William Chiongbian of Misamis Oriental; former Senator Tomas Cabili; Secretary of Education Gregorio Hernandez, Jr., Brig. Gen. Benito N. Ebuena, Air Force chief; and Lt. Leopoldo Regis, junior presidential aide.

The President took with him ₱150 worth of serum for Cornelio Faigao, president of the Cebu Press Club, who is now in the hospital for acute liver ailment. President Magsaysay received an urgent request for the serum two hours before he left Nichols.

Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., and Gov. Jose Briones led city and provincial officials and a huge crowd who welcomed the President and his party at Lahug airport upon arrival at 3:45 p.m., or two hours and 15 minutes later.

Speaking extemporaneously from an improvised platform at the airport, President Magsaysay promised government aid to Cebu for the solution of problems which Osmeña mentioned in his welcome remarks.

From the airport, the President proceeded to the home of former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., and paid his respects to the "grand old man of Cebu".

THEN he tackled his speaking engagement. He spoke at the commencement exercises of the University of the Visayas, the Southwestern Colleges, and the University of San Carlos.

President Magsaysay strongly condemned neutralism and ultra-nationalism in speeches he delivered at the commencement exercises of two universities and a college in Cebu this evening.

He was the commencement speaker of the University of the Visayas at 4 p.m., the Southwestern Colleges at 6 p.m., and the University of San Carlos at 7:30 p.m.

At the University of the Visayas, the President was conferred an honorary doctorate of laws. UV President and Mrs. Vicente Gullas placed the cap and gown on the Chief Executive.

The President's statements bearing on neutralism and ultra-nationalism were apparently aimed at the campaign line of Sen. Claro M. Recto, who is opposing him for the presidency in the election this November.

"Neutralism is un-Filipino," President Magsaysay told graduating students of the Southwestern College. "To attempt to foist it upon our people is to do them a grave disservice. The country has no need of fence-sitters in the struggle to preserve our way of life. Either we continually love and live this way of life, or communism stretching across the earth and threatening us here and now, will choke it from the body of our nation."

At the University of San Carlos, the President declared, "You do not have to be anti-American or anti-foreign in order to be resoundingly pro-Filipino. You are the battlefield on which future wars will be won or lost—you cannot remain neutral—you will have to take a stand."

He recalled to the graduates of the Southwestern Colleges that "we are a people with a history of courage" in which "there is no place for the fear of freedom, the fear to be on the side of freedom, the fear to be against slavery, the fear to strike a light for liberty amid the encircling gloom that is communism."

“Communism is anti-Filipino,” President Magsaysay said. “When communist sympathizers in the Philippines say that their movement is indigenous and not under the influence or control of any alien power, it is merely to coat with the veneer of a so-called Filipinism the dagger that they have aimed at the very heart of the Filipino way of life.

“We cannot for one moment afford to put in jeopardy the freedom of this way of life. Between it and communism there can be no peace, no grey neutralizing co-existence, no gray neutralism. There can only be conflict—total and without reconciliation.”

The President pointed out that the Philippines remains free in a world locked in a struggle between democracy and communism. “In spite of considerable rant and ill humor, usually around election time,” he said, “we are a free people.”

It is the people’s privilege to grumble, he said, “and no doubt we have things to grumble about, but we are better off than many other national groups than it is possible to name.”

It is also the people’s right to demand a change, the President continued, “and when enough of us want it, to get it. No concentration camp or firing squad awaits us if we happen to be of the minority.”

But the President warned in his Southwestern College speech that “we must not allow insidious proposals of economic panaceas to alienate us from our traditional allies in the free world. Let us not delude ourselves that credit arrangement with the enemies of our way of life will solve the, economic problems which afflict our land.”

“We must recognize that no pie-in-the-sky’ formula will cure all our ills; and that we face a continuing demand for calm thinking, sound reason, impassionate and undramatic hard work.”

At the University of the Visayas, President Magsaysay devoted his commencement address to the efforts of his administration to improve the educational structure of the country.

He said his administration had been seeking to re-order the educational structure “so that it may become a more effective instrument for jacking up our capacity to the rising level of our needs.”

The President pointed out that while much of the country’s wealth has remained idle, there are not enough men and women being trained to develop them owing to the fact that “our educational offerings have been too circumscribed.”

As a result, he pointed out, graduates of high schools or colleges find little opportunities for them owing either to lack of preparation or the lack of room in crowded professions.

He asserted, “We must find a way to divert effectively the vast energy latent in our youth, to the channels of our economic and social redemption. The Board of National Education, which the administration has organized, is making satisfactory progress in this direction.”

The President ate his dinner at the home of Mayor Osmeña. At 9 p.m. he was the guest of the Patria Society and then an hour later, spoke before local veterans and the local Chinese chamber of commerce.

March 17.—PRESIDENT Magsaysay is dead! The nation mourns!

But the people of the Philippines clung stubbornly to the hope that the President was still alive this evening, even as hope faded in the wake of reports that the Chief Executive was killed in a plane crash in Cebu this morning.

With 25 others, including a Cabinet official and the commanding general of the Air Force, the President was believed killed when his plane, the *Mt. Pinatubo*, crashed into a mountainside in Asturias, Cebu, early this morning.

The plane took off at 1:15 in the morning darkness from the Lahug airport, Cebu City. Five minutes later, it sent back a message on weather conditions—the last it managed to send out before the crash.

It was an accident which kept an entire nation on edge all day as it awaited minute-by-minute reports on the fate of the presidential plane and its passengers. Last night, as hope faded, the nation prepared to grieve the passing of the Asian leader.

The only survivor in the fatal crash, the worst in the history of local aviation and the first air disaster anywhere in the world in which a chief of state was the victim, was Nestor Mata, staff member of the *Philippines Herald*. Mata was with the presidential party. The other newspapermen with the group were left behind in Cebu City.

News of the disaster sparked the biggest air-land-sea search concentrated on a few islands in Philippine history.

The Air Force, Military Area commands, Navy ships, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. 13th Air Force, and amateur flyers were all alerted to join the search.

At 6:30 p.m. the plane wreckage was sighted to the boundary of Cebu City and Asturias. Shortly afterwards Defense Undersecretary Jose Crisol suspended the air search. Malacañang was immediately notified about the location of the wreckage and the failure of search teams to see a single survivor except Mata.

The first official to report discovery of the wreckage was Marcelino Nuya, barrio lieutenant of Asturias.

A military plane was immediately dispatched to Cebu with medical supplies and a team of doctors.

Mata, the lone survivor, was rushed to the hospital badly burned and unconscious, according to Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal, PC chief.

Evacuation of the bodies proved to be extremely difficult in view of the fact that one of the ravines is 3,000 feet deep and the area is mountainous and thickly forested.

Search teams were having a difficult time looking for possible survivors in view of the rough and hilly terrain.

Chances that there would be any survivors were described as “nil.”

Three planes were hovering over Tapyawan until darkness suspended operations. Undersecretary Crisol, with a party of newsmen, scoured the area on foot and by motor car looking for the bodies of the victims.

Some 200 troops of the Armed Forces, plus about 200 civilians, were thrown into the great task of locating the bodies or survivors of the crash.

President Magsaysay took off from Lahug airport in Cebu in the *Mount Pinatubo* at 1:15 a.m. Two minutes later, at 1:17 a.m., as the C-47 became airborne, the pilot radioed Nichols Air Base that he had taken off for Manila and asked that a message be relayed to Malacañang that the presidential car and two other cars be sent to the NAB Base Operations building.

The message was received at the Palace by Lt. Navarette, one of the presidential aides. He sent the three cars to Nichols Air Base at 2:30 a.m. the time the *Mount Pinatubo* was expected to land at the airport.

The pilot's message at 1:19 a.m. was the last contact Nichols had with the presidential plane.

The other C-47 stayed at Cebu to wait for the newsmen and other members of the party who decided to stay overnight in the city.

By 2:30 a.m., the *Mount Pinatubo* had not reported to the control tower of the Manila International Airport.

The tower alerted the Air Force and the Civil Aeronautics Administration that the *Mount Pinatubo* was overdue.

The First Lady and her children began keeping up vigil for any further word on the President.

The PAF and the CAA, meanwhile, started a radio check with radio-equipped airports and alerted Clark Airbase and the headquarter of US naval forces in the Philippines at Sangley Point.

Cabinet men and Congress leaders rushed to Malacañang upon being informed that the President's plane was missing.

Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao ordered the Armed Forces to be on alert at 7 a.m. and directed all area commanders to start a ground search for the presidential plane.

At 9:15 a.m., the Malacañang press office issued Bulletin No. 1. It read:

"President Magsaysay took off from Cebu City in his plane *Mt. Pinatubo* at 1:15 a.m. this morning (Sunday, March 17). The plane is overdue in Manila.

"The last radio contact with the plane was upon its take off from Cebu City. It has not been heard from since.

"Contact with Cebu City established that the plane did not return there.

"Search parties from the Air Force, Civil Aeronautics Administration, U.S. Air Force, and U.S. Navy have gone out over the route between Cebu City and Manila.

"Normal flying time between the two points is one and a half hours."

All reports on the progress of the search were relayed direct to the aides' office in Malacañang.

In the Executive Office Building, government officials and close friends kept vigil with Mrs. Magsaysay and her children.

Relatives of the other passengers of the *Mount Pinatubo* also came to wait for the latest word on the fate of the plane.

Secretary Balao told newsmen, "The First Lady is bearing up very well."

Among others who were at her side were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, and Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma.

Shortly before 12 noon, reports were received from the 2nd and 3rd military areas, which cover Southern Luzon and the Visayas, respectively, that ground searchers were negative.

Tracers were sent to Poro Point, La Union, and Iba, Zambales, in the hope that the President might have decided to land there.

But aides pointed out that the pilot would have so informed Nichols Air Base if the President had instructed him to land somewhere else.

LEADERS of Congress and members of the Cabinet held an informal meeting at Malacañang this evening and decided to create a joint executive-legislative committee that will fly to Cebu City first thing tomorrow to assist in the situation.

As of the time of the meeting no definite word had been received on the President's fate and, on the basis of reports from the accident scene, hope was not abandoned that he may have survived. In fact, while the meeting was going on, Cebu Mayor Osmeña, Jr., got through on the telephone to Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao and said the possibility of other survivors besides Nestor Mata, newspaperman of the *Philippines Herald* who has been established to have survived, should not be discounted.

The meeting at Malacañang was also advised that Vice-President Carlos P. Garcia was scheduled to depart from Sydney, Australia, at 2 a.m. tomorrow on board a chartered Qantas Airways plane and that he would arrive in Manila at 4 p.m. the same day.

The meeting decided to advise Vice-President Garcia of the creation of the joint executive-legislative committee that will supervise the situation in Cebu City and asked for his instructions.

The joint committee is composed of Secretaries Eulogio Balao, chairman, Florencio Moreno, Oscar Ledesma, and Paulino Garcia; Senators Emmanuel Pelaez and Francisco Rodrigo for the Senate and Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez and Rep. Cornelio Villareal for the House of Representatives. It will leave Manila at 6:30 a.m.

The Malacañang meeting which began at 7:15 p.m. and ended at 8:45 p.m. was attended by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez; Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr.; Sens. Cipriano Primicias, Pelaez, Rodrigo, and Domocao Alonto; Reps. Romualdez, Arturo M. Tolentino, Tobias Former; and Secretaries Pedro Tuason, Moreno, Balao, Ledesma, Garcia, and Eleuterio Adevosio; Commissioners Dominador Aytona and Amparo Villamor; and Undersecretaries Raul S. Manglapus of Foreign Affairs, Martin Aguilar of Education, and Rafael Contreras of Public Works and Communications.

The following were on board the ill-fated plane *Mount Pinatubo*:

1. President Magsaysay
2. Education Secretary Gregorio Hernandez, Jr.
3. Rep. Pedro Lopez of Cebu
4. Brig. Gen. Benito Ebuena, PAF chief
5. Ex-Senator Tomas Cabili
6. Lt. Leopoldo Regis, junior presidential aide
7. Jesus Paredes, Jr.
8. Nestor Mata, *Philippines Herald* (lone survivor)
9. Pablo Bautista, *Liwayway* Publications
10. Maj. Ramon Camus, appointments secretary
11. Paterno Magsaysay

12. Patricio Osmeña, Malacañang assistant protocol officer
13. Maj. Felipe Nunag, chief of security
14. Antonio Tiangco, security
15. Eduardo Reyes, security
16. Jose Sarcilla, valet
17. Celestino Teves, valet
18. Felix Manuel, Malacañang chief photographer
19. M/Sgt. Regino Manuel, DND movie cameraman
20. Cesar Rama
21. Jesus Rama
22. Maj. Florencio Pobre, pilot
23. Lt. Col. Alfred M. Bustamante
24. Capt. Manuel Navea, co-pilot
25. T/Sgt. Alfonso Ibe, chief of crew
26. Sgt. Isidro Fernandez, assistant chief
27. Staff Sgt. Raymundo Ruiz, radio operator

March 18.—THE PHILIPPINES has a new President.

At 5:56 o'clock this afternoon, some 41 hours after the plane bearing President Ramon Magsaysay crashed against a Cebu mountainside, Carlos P. (Polestico) Garcia became the fourth chief executive this Republic has had in its 11 years of existence.

Before Chief Justice Ricardo Paras of the Supreme Court, under the glaring lights of the chandeliers of Malacañang, Council of State room, the one-time school teacher from Bohol haltingly pronounced the words that made him President of the Philippines:

"I, Carlos P. Garcia, of Talibon, province of Bohol, having succeeded to the Presidency of the Philippines by virtue of the provisions of Article VII, section 8 of the Constitution, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and conscientiously fulfill my duties as President of the Philippines, preserve and defend its Constitution, execute its laws, do justice to every man, and consecrate myself to the service of the Nation. So help me, God."

President Garcia took the oath of succession to the Presidency five minutes after he had convened members of President Magsaysay's Cabinet and officially notified them of the late President's demise.

"I have the honor," President Garcia told the Cabinet, "to inform, you that the President is dead; that there is indubitable proof of evidence that; his body or at least portions of it had been recovered and identified."

Immediately after he was sworn in, the new President appealed to the Filipino people for “sobriety, calmness, and dedication in the fulfillment of our common duty to God and Country, for the great ideals for which President Magsaysay lived and died.”

He also assured the nation that he would carry on the “great political problem” for which “President Magsaysay and the Nacionalista Party had given their all and their best.”

The new president then received pledges of support from leaders of Congress whom he had invited to the first Cabinet meeting of his administration.

The meeting which followed President Garcia’s oath-taking was devoted almost exclusively to the discussion of arrangements for the funeral of President Magsaysay.

As the meeting started, however, Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason. submitted to President Garcia “the resignation of all the members of the Cabinet collectively and individually.”

President Garcia responded by saying that he appreciated the gesture of the Cabinet which provided him with an opportunity to organize his own government if he so desired.

But, he said, he would defer action on their resignations for the time being and asked the Cabinet to carry on as usual. He said he would advise them later of his action on their resignations.

The Cabinet meeting saw the new President issue three proclamations and an administrative order. These were:

- (1) Proclamation No. 395, declaring Friday, March 22, as a special public holiday throughout the Philippines;
- (2) Proclamation No. 396, setting aside Friday, March 22, as the day of the funeral service of President Magsaysay and enjoining the nation to pay their tribute of “love, reverence, and respect” to the departed leader’s memory;
- (3) Proclamation No. 397, declaring a period of national mourning on the death of Ramon Magsaysay; and
- (4) Administrative Order No. 235, creating a committee to take charge of the funeral arrangements and burial of the late President Ramon. Magsaysay.

Finally, the Cabinet meeting under President Garcia’s direction resolved to extend its “sincerest and most heartfelt” sympathies to Mrs. Luz Banzon-Magsaysay; Teresita, Milagros, and Ramon, Jr., Magsaysay; Mr. and Mrs. Exequiel Magsaysay; and other relatives of the President.

“I AM GRIEVED,” was all that Vice-President Carlos P. Garcia, visibly shaken and misty-eyed, could utter as he stepped down the ramp of a Qantas Empire Airways plane that brought his party home from Sydney, Australia.

The sleek silvery Qantas super-G constellation, aptly called *Southern Horizon*, touched down at the domestic terminal of the Manila International Airport at exactly 3:04 p.m. on a chartered flight from Australia by way of Darwin.

It carried Vice-President Garcia and a party of 11 others who attended the recent conference of the council of ministers of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization in Canberra.

A jostling, milling crowd of Senate and House leaders, Cabinet members the diplomatic corps, businessmen, and close relatives and friends elbowed their way through a tight police cordon to catch a glimpse of the man who returned to become President of the Philippines.

Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., and department secretaries headed local officialdom while the Apostolic Nuncio, Msgr. Egidio Vagnozzi, led the diplomatic corps welcoming the new Chief Executive.

While the surging crowd of officials, relatives, and friends milled around him, Vice-President Garcia announced while being led to his car that he would call the Cabinet to an emergency meeting shortly after visiting Mrs. Luz Banzon-Magsaysay.

Senate President Rodriguez, Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Raul S. Manlapus Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzales, Mrs. Garcia and her daughter, Linda, Rep. Miguel Cuenco of Cebu were privileged to get inside the Qantas plane, for about five minutes before Vice-President Garcia emerged.

At 3:17 p.m., the Vice-President started to come out of the plane. Noticeably stunned, he waved twice to the welcoming crowd.

He gave his wife and daughter Linda an affectionate big hug and found time to chat with them briefly despite the onrushing crowd that could not be controlled by police, security officers, and Malacañang guards.

Protected by aides and security officers, the new President embraced Rodriguez while walking toward his car. He appeared to have shed a few drops of tears over the shoulders of the Senate President.

Shortly after, he was whisked away to Malacañang, where he said he would condole first with Mrs. Magsaysay and her family before presiding over an emergency meeting of the Cabinet.

All honors due a returning vice-president were waived by Vice-President Garcia at the MIA terminal.

The Qantas plane left Darwin at 8:20 a.m. where it picked up some members of the Philippine SEATO delegation. It was specially chartered by the Australian Government for the Philippine group.

PRESIDENT Ramon Magsaysay's charred, burned body was found today by rescuers in the wreckage of his plane in Cebu.

The popular President's body was identified by his brother, Jesus, who flew to the scene in a helicopter.

A report from Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol to Press Secretary J. V. Cruz at 12:35 p.m. indicated that the President's body was beyond recognition.

Crisol asked Secretary Cruz about the type of watch the President was wearing during the trip in order to establish the President's identity out of the mass of mangled bodies.

Cruz immediately informed Crisol that the President was wearing either of two watches, one *Rolex* self-winding time piece and the other, a *Vacheron Constantin*.

An assistant in the presidential office said the bodies of President Magsaysay and three of his close associates were found in the presidential compartment behind the crew's quarters.

The rescue team was also able to recover the bodies of five of the victims. They were identified as:

Brig. Gen. Benito Ebuena

Lt. Leopoldo Regis, presidential aide

Maj. Florencio Pobre, pilot

Staff Sgt. Raymundo Ruiz, radio operator

Maj. Felipe Nunag, chief security officer

The other bodies were those of Rep. Pedro Lopez of Cebu, Secretary of Education Gregorio Hernandez, Jr., and former Senator Tomas Cabili. Crisol reported the remains were being flown in helicopters to Cebu.

March 19.—PRESIDENT Carlos P. Garcia buckled down to work today and in lightning action, swore in Raul S. Manglapus as acting secretary of foreign affairs, granted a reprieve to a doomed convict, and received the diplomatic corps and Congress members.

In inducting Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Raul S. Manglapus as acting secretary, President Garcia said the Philippines will continue to identify herself with the free nations of the world.

He swore Manglapus in the presence of members of the diplomatic corps who called to offer their greetings and express their condolences and those of their respective heads of state, for the sudden death of President Magsaysay.

The President told the corps that the policy and stand taken by the Department of Foreign Affairs when he was the secretary would be continued under the present set-up.

AFTER receiving the members of the diplomatic corps and inducting Secretary Manglapus, President Garcia proceeded to the Executive Office, where he received a few callers and worked on some papers.

In a conference with Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon and Malacañang Legal Adviser Judge Salvador Esguerra, the President: (1) sent a directive to all provincial governors and city mayors instructing them to attend the funeral services for the late President Magsaysay on March 22; and (2) granted another 30-day reprieve to death convict Victor de Vega.

The late President Magsaysay had previously stayed the execution of Vega twice. The reprieve granted by President Garcia was the third. The President said that because he had just assumed office he wanted to familiarize himself with the facts of the case.

Among the callers of the President were Reps. Lorenzo Teves and Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental and Constancio Castaneda of Tarlac, Auditor General Pedro Gimenez and members of his staff, ex-Senator Enrique Magalona, and Ambassador Manuel Adeva.

EARLIER in the morning, President Garcia went to the V. Luna General Hospital for a physical check-up. After the check-up, he and his family motored to the Lourdes church and heard mass. From the church, the President proceeded to Malacañang.

IN the afternoon, he motored with Mrs. Garcia to the Manila International Airport to meet the remains of his predecessor.

He followed the hearse bearing President Magsaysay's casket and bore up well under the scrutiny of the curious crowd which flocked about the slow-moving cortege on its way to Malacañang.

President Garcia kept vigil over President Magsaysay's casket from 5 to 7 p.m. He left shortly after for his residence to rest.

March 20.—THIS morning President Garcia visited the remains of the passengers who were with the late President Magsaysay in the ill-fated presidential plane *Mt. Pinatubo* and condoled with the widows and families.

The President first went to see the remains of Education Secretary Gregorio Hernandez, Jr., at the Department of Education building at Plaza Lawton. Arriving at the education building about 10:50 a.m., the President was met by ranking officials of the department, including Undersecretary Martin Aguilar and Public Schools Director Benigno Aldana. At the hall where the body of Secretary Hernandez lies in state, the President expressed his condolences to Mrs. Hernandez.

President Garcia was accompanied by Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, daughter Linda, Mrs. Ferdinand R. Marcos, and Maj. Teofilo Zosa, aide. They motored to the Department of Education building after hearing the mass at Malacañang said for the departed President Magsaysay and after condoling with the late President's family.

From Plaza Lawton the President proceeded to the Philippine Veterans Board building in Binondo, where the body of Lt. Col. Alfredo Bustamante, national commander of the Philippine Veteran Legion, lies in state. After talking and condoling with Mrs. Bustamante and her children, the President left for Funeraria Quiogue, where the remains of Sgt. Isidro Fernandez, Eduardo Reyes, and Celestino Teves were lying in state.

The President then motored to Cubao, Quezon City, where he viewed the remains of Jesus Paredes, Jr. The Chief Executive first went to the house of the deceased and condoled with the family and then proceeded to the Immaculate Concepcion church, where the remains had been taken to lie in state.

The next stop of the President was Camp Murphy, where he was met by National Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, and other ranking officers. The Chief Executive entered the camp chapel and prayed before the caskets of the military casualties of the plane crash. Those lying in state in the Camp Murphy chapel were the remains of Brig. Gen. Ebuena, Maj. Felipe Nunag, Maj. Florencio Pobre, Maj. Ramon Camus, Lieut. Leopoldo Regis, Capt. Manuel Navea, Sgt. Raymundo Ruiz, and Sgt. Alfonso Ibe.

Motoring to the AFP Signal Corps in Diliman, Quezon City, from Camp Murphy, the President condoled with Mrs. Regino Manuel, who was sobbing before her husband's (M/Sgt. Regino Manuel) casket.

The last body visited by the President was that of former Senator Tomas Cabili. The body of the former senator was lying in state at his residence in Cordillera, Quezon City.

From the residence of the late former Senator Cabili, the President motored to his residence in Sierra Madre, Quezon City. He arrived home from his visits to the remains at about 1 p.m. The President was not able to see the remains of Felix Manuel because the body of the chief Malacañang photographer had already been taken to Sariaya, Quezon.

IN the afternoon the President returned to Malacañang and attended the necrological services for the late President Magsaysay under the auspices of the Armed Forces and the War Veterans of the Philippines, Incorporated.

President Garcia also attended the necrological services for Pablo Bautista of the *Liwayway* at the National Press Club building at 8 o'clock in the evening.

THE necrological service in honor of President Magsaysay was held at the ceremonial hall at Malacañang Palace this afternoon under the joint auspices of the AFP and War Veterans of the Philippines. The services were attended by Filipino and American military officials, as well as military attaches of foreign, embassies and legations in Manila.

The services started at 4 p.m. with the Constabulary band playing, *In Memoriam*. Other musical numbers were *Addio* by Tosti sung by Col. Jose Barredo, national director of the War Veterans of the Philippines, and *Ave Maria* sung by Gloria Dizon of the UST Conservatory of Music.

Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, pledged that the Armed Forces would carry on the policies and “noble ideals” of President Magsaysay which had made the Armed Forces an effective instrument in bringing peace and security to the Filipino people.

The AFP Chief of Staff started his oration by asking all members of the Armed Forces, who came in duck uniforms, to stand. The oration was directly addressed as a final salute to their departed Commander-in-Chief.

“As we render you our final salute, we pledge every bone and sinew of the men and women in uniform to help fulfill your one consuming desire—peace and prosperity for the nation.” Gen. Arellano said. “We in the Armed Forces mourn because you were truly a great leader and a father to all of us.”

Maj. Gen. Basilio Valdez, national commander of the Veterans Association, who delivered the first oration, offered the ‘heartfelt condolence of all Philippine veterans to the President’s family. “May the love, the loyalty, and the admiration of all these who knew him well, serve to comfort you in your bereavement for all time to come,” Valdez said.

The response was rendered by Mrs. Elisa Banzon-Cabal, sister of Mrs. Magsaysay, on behalf of the bereaved family.

Among those present at the ceremonies were President Garcia; Gen. Lawrence Kuter, commander of the U.S. Far East Air Force; Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, JUSMAG chief; Rear Adm. Wendell Switzer, commander of the U. S. naval forces in the Philippines; and Maj. Gen. John B. Ackermann, commander of the U.S. 13th Air Force. Mrs. Magsaysay did not attend the ceremonies which lasted until 5 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia today said that he will fulfill an engagement made by the late President Magsaysay to be the guest of Vice-Admiral Wallace Beakley, commander, U. S. Seventh Fleet, on the occasion of the landing exercises of “Operations Beacon Hill” on March 25 in Dinglasan Bay, Quezon.

The invitation was accepted by the late President Magsaysay several days before the fatal crash of his plane. President Garcia said he was going to fulfill the engagement.

March 21.—FROM his Sierra Madre home in Quezon City, President Garcia this morning motored to his executive office in Malacañang, arriving at 10:30 a.m.

His first caller was former President Sergio Osmeña, who had arrived yesterday from Cebu to view the bier of the late President Magsaysay and join the funeral.

The aging Cebu statesman, who had developed a strong friendship with the late President, asked President Garcia if he could participate in the necrological services to deliver a eulogy for the late President. President Garcia readily granted the request.

Apprised that three persons were hurt yesterday during the stampede of the big crowd which came to visit and pay final respects to the remains of the late President, President Garcia gave ₱50 each to the victims.

Col. M. D. Velasco, Malacañang financial assistant, personally delivered the money to Mrs. Agapita Tapangco, 80, widow, of 39-B Molave, Quezon City; Andrea Salom, 50, of Project 2, Quezon City; and Manolito Saguil, 29, of 752 Sanciango, Quezon City.

After receiving ex-President Osmeña, the President’ conferred with other callers, including Mayor Alfonso Tabora of Baguio City and Gov. Mariano Tajonera of Mindoro Occidental.

IN the afternoon, he and the First Lady, Mrs. Linda B. Garcia, attended the necrological services at the Malacañang ceremonial hall for the late President Magsaysay. The ceremonies were held under the auspices of the League of Provincial Governors and City Mayors, headed by Cebu City Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., as chairman.

Towards evening, the President received special envoys of seven countries who will represent their nations at the funeral services tomorrow for the late President Magsaysay.

Those who paid their respects to President Garcia were:

- (1) Vietnam—His Excellency, Nguyen Van Tho, vice-president of Vietnam; His Excellency, Vu Van Mau, foreign secretary of Vietnam; and General Le Van Ty, chief of staff of the armed forces of Vietnam.
- (2) Japan—His Excellency, Hitoshi Ashida (former prime minister of Japan), ambassador extraordinary; Kunihiko Murono, secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Toshio Urabe, counselor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- (3) Australia—His Excellency, Sir Allan Watt, ambassador of Australia to Japan;
- (4) United Kingdom—His Excellency, George Lisle Clutton, ambassador to the Philippines; William Burke Teeling, member of the British parliament;
- (5) Republic of Indonesia—His Excellency, Natzir Dt. Pamontjak, ambassador to the Philippines;
- (6) Kingdom of Thailand—His Excellency, Chitti Sucharitakul, ambassador to the Philippines;
- (7) Argentine Republic—His Excellency, Rogelio Tristany, minister to the Philippines.

The head of each delegation, in presenting his letter of credence to President Garcia, also conveyed his country's condolences on the death of President Magsaysay. In response, President Garcia thanked all the special envoys for their expressions of sympathy and their presence at the funeral services tomorrow.

Each group of envoys was presented separately to the President. Present were Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Raul Manglapus and Protocol Officer Jose Estrada.

March 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia got up at 5: 30 this morning and dressed up to hear the pontifical requiem mass for the late President Magsaysay held at the Independence Memorial Grandstand on the Luneta. The President, together with the First Lady and their daughter Linda, motored to the Luneta, arriving there at 6:20 a.m. They were accompanied by Maj. Teofilo Zosa, presidential aide.

AFTER the mass, the President and his family motored to the Manila Hotel, where they ate breakfast at the presidential suite. They had Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao for breakfast guest.

From the hotel, the President proceeded to the Session Hall of the House of Representatives to attend the necrological services for the late President Magsaysay, at which President Garcia was the principal funeral orator. Services over, the President joined the funeral procession to the Cementerio del Norte, where the late President Magsaysay was interred in the presidential tomb at exactly 12:45 p.m.

President Garcia and his family returned to their residence, where they ate lunch. After a brief rest, the President motored to Malacañang, where he received visitors at 4:30 p.m., at the study room.

At 5: 00 p.m. the President moved to the music room, where he held his first press conference, assisted by Press Secretary J. V. Cruz.

THIS afternoon the President received at Malacañang three foreign representatives sent here by their governments to attend the state funeral of the late President Magsaysay. The foreign representatives called upon the new Chief Executive to say goodbye prior to their departure from the country.

One of the representatives was Admiral Felix B. Stump, commander-in-chief of the U.S. Pacific command who had come here on behalf of U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower. He was accompanied to Malacañang by Minister Horace Smith, charge d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Manila; Gen. Lawrence Kuter, commander of the U.S. Far East Air Force; Vice-Admiral Wallace Beakley, commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet; Rear Admiral Wendell Switzer, commander of the U.S. Naval Forces in the Philippines; Maj. Gen. John B. Ackermann, commander of the U.S. 13th Air Force; and Counselor William Walker, also of the local U.S. Embassy.

Another foreign representative who called on President Garcia this afternoon was General Le Van Ty, chief of staff of the armed forces of the Republic of Vietnam. He was accompanied by Minister Cao Thai Bao of the local Vietnamese Legation, Lt. Col. Le Lien, and Col. Jose Banzon of the AFP.

Shortly before 5 p.m., the President received Gov. Pedro Correia de Barros of Macao, who represented Portugal in the state funeral. He was accompanied to Malacañang by Consul Carlos Nunez of the local Portuguese consulate.

The President had his first formal press conference as chief executive at 5 p.m.

"After the press conference, the President received a delegation from Leyte headed by Gov. Bernardo Torres. In the group were Mayors Aquilino Cantiga of Albueria, Agustin Fulvadora of Indang, and Emiliano Melgaso of Longos.

PRESIDENT Garcia said this evening he would soon go out to the rural areas of the country "to try to be worthy of the confidence of the people."

In his first press conference at Malacañang, the new Chief Executive reiterated his pledge of carrying on the political program of the Magsaysay administration, and indicated that he would seek a reexamination of its economic policies.

Touching on a number of subjects, President Garcia emphasized his concern for the economic problems of the country and said he would have the National Economic Council transformed from its present advisory status to a body vested with strong executive powers.

"I appeal to the press for cooperation," President Garcia said in his remarks opening the press conference.

He explained he was still feeling his way in his new office and that it would take some time before he could acclimatize himself to the new environment.

Addressing the newsmen, several of whom were foreign correspondents, the Chief Executive said they were free to offer constructive criticisms because "I am not infallible."

Any suggestions pointing out his mistakes or offering alternative solutions to pending problems would be most welcome, the Chief Executive said.

He spoke for a good 15 minutes, expounding on his program of administration which, he said, he had charted along the course set by his predecessor.

President Garcia considered it his "bounden duty" to carry on the political program of the late President Magsaysay, adding he would prosecute it with relentless vigor as his departed predecessor had done.

He cited the crusade against graft and corruption in the government, land reforms, unemployment, rural development, irrigation, and other related economic problems which he promised to tackle to find their solutions.

"The fight will be relentless and continuous," the President pledged.

But the country's economic policies, he said, deserved to be studied more carefully, and he planned to do this with the assistance of competent technical men.

He explained that when President Magsaysay died, he was still studying the five-year economic program recommended by the NEC, and he proposed to subject this program to further scrutiny.

"I may have to revise or reverse some of the recommendations contained in the five-year plan," President Garcia said.

He was in favor of concentrating powers pertaining to economic policies in the hands of an "economic czar," indicating that the economic body he had in mind to supplant the NEC would be a powerful, executive agency.

Elaborating on this, the President said he would consult soon with Congress leaders to formulate the procedure by legislative action as to how he would have the economic body he had proposed, organized as an effective planning and implementing agency in the economic field.

The new President declined to discuss questions touching on politics, adding he would lay off the subject in deference to the late President, who had just been laid to rest.

After endorsing his predecessor's land reform and rural development program, President Garcia observed how the late Chief Executive had been held in high esteem and veneration by the people who, he said, had been "orphaned" by President Magsaysay's death.

He said he would attempt to fill the void left by the late President by going out to the barrios soon so that he could show he was worthy of the people's confidence.

Asked if he would go out to the rural areas as frequently as President Magsaysay did and by airplane, President Garcia said he would do the best he could but would adopt "tighter security."

On the question of foreign policy, President Garcia said the Philippines "will stand side by side with the United States," the US being the leader of the free world.

He manifested his strong belief in aligning the country with the democracies who seek world peace, "which is the *sine quo non* of world security and the full enjoyment of freedom."

President Garcia also touched on the following:

(1) He would cross party lines in the appointment of government officials, "depending on the nature of their jobs."

He said his policy would be to find capable men wherever they may be found to assure efficiency in the government service.

(2) He would maintain the *status quo* among appointees of President Magsaysay, and announced he was retaining Press Secretary J. V. Cruz.

(3) He indicated he might make some changes in the Cabinet, but this would come later. "The Cabinet may be retouched now and then," he said.

(4.) He has no plans of making changes or shifts in the present assignments of Philippine diplomatic representatives abroad.

(5) He has definitely no intention of going to the United States, at least during the next several months. He said, he will be merely filling the unexpired term of his predecessor.

(6) He is not in favor of trade with Red China, saying that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages. He would oppose admission of Red China to the United Nations.

(7) He would continue the policy of President Magsaysay of opening Malacañang to the people.

As a parting statement, the President said he would appreciate it being published in the papers that he was thankful to all the countries that sent messages condoling with the people on the death of President Magsaysay and wishing him success as the new Chief Executive.

“I will strive to prove worthy of the confidence of friends in the free world,” he said.

March 23.—THIS morning President Garcia received several members of the League of Provincial Governors and City Mayors who pledged their support and cooperation to his administration.

Headed by Rizal Gov. Isidro Rodriguez, vice-chairman of the league, the provincial governors and city mayors told the President that they would support his administration as they supported the administration of the late President Magsaysay.

The President thanked the provincial governors and city mayors for their pledge and said that he’ needed such support and cooperation.

The President announced that he would give a luncheon for the provincial governors and city mayors on Tuesday, March 26, at the Manila Hotel. Local problems of the provincial and city executives and the local autonomy bill would be discussed at a conference immediately following the luncheon.

The first visitors of the President were officials from Vietnam headed by Vice-President Nguyen Van Tho. The Vietnamese officials, who attended the funeral of the late President Magsaysay, paid a courtesy call on the President. During the call, Vice-President Nguyen Van Tho informed the President that Vietnam has allocated for export to the Philippines 50,000 tons of rice.

The President thanked the Vietnamese Vice-President for the offer and said that he would discuss the matter with the proper authorities. The Vietnamese officials who called on the President were Vice-President Tho, Foreign Minister Vo Van Mau, Army Chief of Staff Lieut. Gen. Le Van Ty, and Minister to the Philippines Cao Thai Bao.

A pledge of support to the new Administration was also made to President Garcia by Albay Gov. Nicanor Maronilla-Seva, Rep. Pio Duran, and the members of the Albay League of Mayors. Goy. Seva, speaking for the delegation, said: “As we supported the administration of the late President Magsaysay, so shall we support your administration.”

Early callers of the President included Brig. Gen. Alfredo Santos, head of the SEATO Military Planning Group in Bangkok, Thailand, and Gregorio G. Abad, special assistant to the Philippine Reparations Mission in Tokyo, Japan. Gen. Santos, who attended the funeral of the late President Magsaysay, paid his respects to the President.

Abad submitted a confidential report from Caesar Lanuza, reparations mission chief, to the President. Abad also discussed with the President the activities and problems of the mission, the procurement of reparations goods, and the reparations bill pending in Congress.

Gov. Jose G. Espino of Nueva Vizcaya submitted a provincial board resolution of support to President Garcia. The resolution, adopted in Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya, March 20, carried the pledge of support of the provincial board

“to the administration of President Carlos P. Garcia, particularly in the implementation of the rural development program which has been left by his venerable predecessor.”

President Garcia today also turned down the resignations of Jose C. Nable and Vicente Logarta as legislative secretary and legislative liaison to the President, respectively.

President Garcia told Nable and Logarta to “carry on” with the work they had been doing for the late President Magsaysay.

President Garcia expressed deep gratitude to various official delegations which called on him at Malacañang this morning to convey pledges of support and cooperation to his administration following the death of his predecessor, President Ramon Magsaysay.

“Right now, I feel like a man suddenly thrown into the water and left to himself,” the new President said. “I will need all the cooperation I can get from various branches of the government.”

The President this morning received members of the AFP general staff, commanders of major services and their staffs, and area commanders and their staffs. With Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano acting as spokesman, the large delegation of ranking officers of the Armed Forces pledged their full support and loyalty to the new Administration.

The Chief Executive expressed gratitude for the spirit of cooperation shown by the Armed Forces officers. He said he was happy to accept the pledge from the branch of the government which constitutes the mainstay in the maintenance of peace and order in the country.

Accompanied by Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao and Defense Undersecretary Jose Crisol, the Armed Forces delegation included Lieut. Gen. Arellano, AFP chief of staff; Commodore Jose M. Francisco, Navy chief; Col. Pedro Molina, acting Air Force chief; Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal; PC chief; Brig. Gen. Leoncio Tan, 1st MA commander; Col. Juan Relosa, 2nd MA commander; Brig. Gen. Cornelio Bondad, 3rd MA commander; and Col. Climaco Pintoy, 4th MA commander.

Earlier this morning, the President received a delegation from the Philippine Association of School Superintendents headed by its president, Tomas de Castro, Bulacan division superintendent. Accompanied by Public Schools Director Benigno Aldana, Assistant Director Vitaliano Bernardino, and other bureau officials, the delegation invited the President to be guest at their annual convention in Baguio City sometime in May, saying that President Magsaysay had previously accepted their invitation.

President Garcia said that he would honor all commitments of the late President Magsaysay. He assured the group that he would be available as guest for the occasion.

Other delegations this morning were those from Negros Oriental headed by Rep. Lamberto Macias; from Capiz, headed by Gov. Jose Dinglasan; and from Pangasinan, headed by Gov. Conrado Estrella.

IN the afternoon President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the U.S.T. chapel, where the remains of the late Education Secretary Gregorio Hernandez, Jr., lay in state. From there, they joined the long funeral procession to the Catholic cemetery in San Bartolome, Malabon, iRizal.

After condoling with the widow and the parents and children of the late education secretary, the President returned to Manila about 6 p.m.

MALACAÑANG is still open to the public—to the masses who really own it.

This was emphasized by President Garcia today when he instructed his senior presidential aide, Lt Col. Emilio Borromeo, that the gates of Malacañang should never be closed to the people who would like to enter and visit the presidential residence.

It will be recalled that the late President Magsaysay, immediately upon his assumption of office in 1953, directed that the gates of Malacañang should always be opened to the common people, because, he said, Malacañang belonged to the people.

March 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning continued condoling with the families of airplane crash victims who had perished with former President Magsaysay aboard the plane *Mt. Pinatubo* last Sunday.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the Chief Executive motored to the residence of Mrs. Tomasa Lopez, widow of the late Rep. Pedro Lopez, where he spent 30 minutes comforting the bereaved family.

At 9 a.m. the Chief Executive heard mass at the Lourdes church in La Loma, Quezon City.

Earlier, the President received friends and well wishers who trooped to his Sierra Madre (Quezon City) residence.

After visiting the Lopez family, the President motored to a restaurant on Dewey Boulevard where he ate his luncheon. He was accompanied by Col. Jorge Delarmente and Capt. Agerico Palaypay, aides.

Motoring back to his Sierra Madre residence, the President went over letters from well-wishers, after which he took a brief rest prior to his departure for “Operation Beacon Hill” at Dingalan Bay, on the coast of Quezon province.

PRESIDENT Garcia fulfilled today an engagement his predecessor failed to keep.

He flew to Sangley Point at 3 p.m. and then boarded another plane for Laur, Nueva Ecija. From there, he flew by helicopter to the *USS Saint Paul*, from whose deck he would view “Operations Beacon Hill” today.

President Garcia’s trip to Laur was in fulfillment of a promise the late President Magsaysay made March 12 to Vice-Admiral Wallace M. Beakley, US 7th fleet commander.

Beakley had invited President Magsaysay to observe 20,000 US Marines debark in battle gear from 92 ships, March 12, in an operation’ designed to show US capability of fulfilling its commitments under the Philippine-United States mutual defense pact.

President Magsaysay accepted the invitation but could not keep the date: death got him first, but his successor volunteered to make good the promise. With Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, 10 newsmen, and a couple of aides, President Garcia left for Laur this afternoon, from where he boarded a helicopter which took him on the deck of the *USS Saint Paul*, flagship of Vice-Admiral Beakley.

It was gathered from the Malacañang press .office that the President would stay on board the *Saint Paul* until after the operations were completed this afternoon. The operations will be concentrated on the Dingalan bay area and the coast of Quezon province.

PRESIDENT Garcia arrived aboard U.S. heavy cruiser *Saint Paul* at 4: 09 p.m. today by helicopter—the first copter he has ever boarded his life—to view “Operations Beacon Hill.”

The President, accompanied by U.S. Embassy Minister Horace Smith, was welcomed aboard the ship by Vice-Admiral Wallace Beakley, commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet and overall commander of operations and other officers of the cruiser *Saint Paul*.

Earlier, President Garcia with other Philippine and U.S. Government officials had led several planes which flew from Manila to barrio Bagong Sikat, Gabaldon, Nueva Ecija, where U.S. marine engineers had lengthened and improved the seldom-used airfield for these operations.

Met by Nueva Ecija Gov. Amado Aleta, 1st MA Commanding General Leoncio S. Tan and his staff, and barrio residents of Bagong Sikat, the President said his coming to these operations was an earnest of his determination to carry on the policies of the late President Magsaysay. He said that Magsaysay had accepted the invitation to view these operations and he was now fulfilling the late President's commitment.

President Garcia told the rural folks he would carry on Magsaysay's other commitments, especially by pursuing vigorously the rural development program. He assured the barrio people they would continue to receive priority consideration from the government.

Accompanying President Garcia were Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, Rep. Numeriano Babao, Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal and Commodore Jose Francisco of the navy. American top officials included Minister Smith and Embassy Counselor William Walker. Also on hand were Chinese Ambassador Chen Chih Mai and observers from nationalist China armed forces in Taipei, Formosa.

The visitors landed at Bagong Sikat from where they were airlifted aboard *Saint Paul* by helicopter shuttle.

Admiral Beakley briefed the visitors on exercises and said the troops to be landed tomorrow on Dingalan Beach will race towards Cabanatuan City to intercept enemy force which had landed at Lingayen, Pangasinan, and was racing towards Manila.

This ship is anchored at Dingalan Bay, which is in Quezon province, while Bagong Sikat is across the Sierra Madre range in Nueva Ecija.

March 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning viewed "Operations Beacon Hill" from the *USS Saint Paul* and from the *USS Estes*, another heavy cruiser, and then landed on Dingalan Bay beach for a close-hand view of these amphibious operations.

Meeting people of Dingalan town, President Garcia reiterated that he was determined to carry on the policies of the late President Magsaysay with particular emphasis on rural development and improvement of the living standards of the masses.

Dingalan Mayor Tomas Angara tearfully told President Garcia that the late President Magsaysay had promised ₱25,000 for the construction of the municipal building of this newly created town. "Now, Magsaysay is gone," Angara said, "and you are our remaining hope."

President Garcia told Mayor Angara that Dingalan may expect its municipal building, re-emphasizing he would fulfill all the commitments and the program of the late President. He added that his presence at these "Operations Beacon Hill" was proof of this.

After viewing the initial landings from the *Saint Paul*, President Garcia expressed desire to visit the *USS Estes* flagship of Rear Admiral Harold O. Larsen, commander of the amphibious task force of the exercises. President Garcia boarded Admiral Beakley's launch and after ten minutes arrived aboard the *Estes* where he was welcomed by Admiral Larsen and Marine Maj. Gen. S. Jack, commander of the marine air-ground task force of the operations.

President Garcia was taken on a tour around the *Estes* and then returned to the launch to skirt the landing beaches for close-up view of the operations. But the President changed his mind upon nearing the beaches and decided to land. The personnel landing craft was summoned and he transferred to it in midwater and then was taken to the beaches.

Curious residents of Dingalan were on the beaches watching the landing, and President Garcia immediately walked up to them and greeted them. The residents were happy to see the new President, who reassured them that the late President-Magsaysay's program for the common people would be continued.

Among those who talked with the President was Councilor Pedro Udarde of Dingalan.

Later President Garcia, with Admiral Beakley, Secretaries Manglapus and Cruz, Rep. Numeriano Babao, and Gov. Amaclo Aleta motored a short distance to Felipe Buencamino's country home where the party stayed for lunch.

Mayor Angara called on the President at Buencamino's house.

The President also was told by Capt. Jose Carandang of the Nueva Ecija detachment of the 1st Military Area that four Army lawyers have been assigned to join "Beacon Hill" headquarters to help assess any damages that maneuvers may cause among the population. Carandang said that these lawyers were detailed on request of the American authorities themselves who wish a speedy and fair disposition of damage claims that may result from the exercises.

PRESIDENT Garcia told a press conference this noon the "Beacon Hill" exercises had provided renewed proof of the ability of the U.S. armed forces to help defend the Philippines against aggression.

The President met with newsmen covering the exercises after he had lunch at the country home of Felipe Buencamino, Jr., at Dingalan, Quezon, off the beach where U.S. troops participating in the maneuvers had landed.

The President also reiterated there would be no change in the country's policy towards Red China.

He said the basis talks between the Philippines and the United States were merely recessed and that resumption of the talks could therefore be expected provided a mutually acceptable basis for reopening the negotiations could be reached. He emphasized, however, that such basis was possible only within the framework of the declared Philippine position.

President Garcia said he was impressed by the coordination, precision, and timing of the various U.S. armed forces units which took part in the amphibious maneuvers. He said these demonstrated U.S. defensive power.

He added that the exercises were reassuring to all Filipinos because they showed the full capability of U.S. armed forces to help defend the Philippines against attack under the terms of the mutual defense treaty between the two countries. This treaty, he added, was a most important item in the relations between the two countries.

Asked by newsmen if the bases talks would be resumed, President Garcia said he expected them to be after pointing out that they had merely been recessed and not called off.

President Garcia admitted that informal explorations were being made through normal Philippines-United States diplomatic channels to determine, whether any mutually acceptable basis could be found for the talks resumption. He stressed however that this basis must fall within the framework of the Philippine position. He also emphasized that the final decision on the part of the Philippines as to when, where, and how to resume the talks will be made by the Philippine panel which conducted the negotiations.

The President said regarding the policy in regard to Red China that, even as secretary of foreign affairs, he had been against the admission of that country to the United Nations and against any relaxation of the restrictions on Philippine trade with the Chinese mainland. This policy will remain, he said. He reiterated that he felt the disadvantages far outweighed whatever advantages might be gained from trading with the mainland.

Asked to comment on the nomination of Charles Bohlen to be the new U.S. ambassador to the Philippines, the President stated that he had readily extended Philippine acceptance of Mr. Bohlen. He pointed out that Mr. Bohlen was reputedly one of the most capable men in the United States Foreign Service.

President Garcia also expressed appreciation of the United States plan to turn over to the Philippine Government in improved condition the bridges and 10-mile road which U.S. armed forces engineers had built for "Operations Beacon Hill." Eleven bridges have been built along the road over the Sierra Madre between Dingalan Bay, Quezon, and Gabaldon, Nueva Ecija. U.S. marines engineers had improved and developed the road itself for the exercises.

The President said he had been told that, after the exercises, U.S. engineers would remain behind in the area to see to it that the road and bridges were turned over to the Philippine Government in the best condition possible.

THE President told the people of Gabaldon, Nueva Ecija, the first rural town he visited since assuming the presidency, that he had pledged to carry on the policies of President Magsaysay not only because his tenure was merely a continuation of the late President's administration but also because he firmly believed in those policies.

Speaking before the townspeople on an improvised platform about 3:30 p.m. today, the President said: "I believe as President Magsaysay did that the power of this country does not spring from the higher strata of our population but from the common people in the outlying areas. I hope to continue the good work President Magsaysay was doing to improve living conditions in outlying regions."

The President was landed by helicopter at the Bitulok airstrip at 3:15 p.m. from the *USS Saint Paul*, flagship of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, where he had viewed "Operations Beacon Hill staged on Dingalan Bay. Gov. Amado

Aleta of Nueva Ecija, member of the presidential party invited to watch the mammoth naval maneuvers, informed him that a large group of people were waiting for him in Gabaldon.

Accompanying the President to Gabaldon were Minister Horace Smith, charge d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Manila; Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao; Rep. Numeriano Babao of Batangas, chairman of the House committee on national defense; and Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff.

As he was considered a guest of the U.S. Government until he was safely landed back at Nichols Air Base on a U.S. navy plane following the maneuvers, the President was escorted along stretches of dusty roads to Gabaldon by a detachment of U.S. marines in full battle gear, part of the amphibious task force which had landed in Dingalan Bay earlier this morning in connection with the naval operations.

The President told the people of Gabaldon that he had just come from an operation which amply demonstrated the ability of America to help defend the Philippines in case of Communist aggression. He said that, from what he had seen of the performance of American might, the security of this country was assured.

"One of the things President Magsaysay worked for the hardest and which he left as a legacy to his people was to insure the security of this country." He said. "President Magsaysay had always been for cultivating friendly relations with the United States, and I am glad to have come here to see the fruition of this effort."

Secretary Balao, who spoke briefly before the President, urged the townspeople to support and cooperate with President Garcia in order to give him a chance to continue the work President Magsaysay had left unfinished. Gov. Aleta, who introduced the President at the gathering, urged him to run for the presidency, making him the first provincial executive to urge publicly President Garcia to run.

Welcoming the President in Gabaldon were delegations from Gabaldon and surrounding towns, headed by Gabaldon Mayor Emilia Morales and Guimba Mayor Virgilio Calica.

The presidential party took off at the Bitulok airstrip aboard a U.S. Navy TF twin-engined plane at 4:20 p.m. for Manila.

March 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia this noon reiterated before the Provincial Governors and City Mayors' League that the main objective of his administration was to carry on the policies and the political program of the late President Magsaysay.

The provincial and city executives were guests of the President at a luncheon conference in the Manila Hotel. The members of the league, through their chairman, Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., of Cebu City, pledged their support and cooperation to the administration of President Garcia. Thanking the provincial governors and city mayors for their "generous support and kind cooperation," the President said: "I must continue with all the policies of the late President Magsaysay, because it would be a betrayal of his accomplishments and ideals if I do not continue to prosecute his program."

The President said that he needed the support of the league in order to carry out effectively the political program of the late President Magsaysay. "I know you would not deny me the support I need," he said.

The Chief Executive added: "You can come to me with the same freedom, frankness, and directness as you did with our late President. I am conscious of my limitations and I welcome any constructive criticism."

The President assured the provincial and city executives of his endorsement of the local autonomy bill in connection with his pledge to carry out the political program of the departed President Magsaysay. The Chief Executive expressed his support for the local autonomy bill after he was asked about his stand on the matter by members of the league.

Mayor Osmeña submitted a copy of the final draft of the local autonomy bill to the President saying that Sen. Decoroso Resales, chairman of the

Senate committee on local governments had already gone over it. The Cebu City mayor told the President that most problems of provincial and city executives were brought about by the lack of local autonomy.

The President also assured that all provincial governors and city mayors would be given courtesy passes with the Philippine Air Lines and the Manila Railroad Company for use in their official trips to Manila and back to their respective provinces and cities. The passes will be good only for official trips.

During the luncheon conference, Mayor Osmeña committed himself and "the people of Cebu" to support President Garcia's re-election. The President thank Mayor Osmeña but said that he preferred to remain silent on political matters.

In a light vein Mayor Osmeña also said that all the provincial and city executives might join him in supporting the President in November if he fully endorsed and approved the local autonomy bill.

The President was applauded several times by the provincial governors and city mayors in the course of his extemporaneous remarks. He recalled that he was instrumental in the formulation of the Nacionalista Party platform in 1953. "Our late President implemented all the items in that platform, but I was mainly concerned with our foreign policy, hardly with our domestic problems. I now find myself in need of your support so that I can successfully continue to prosecute our late President's political program," the President said.

The President arrived at the Manila Hotel at 12 noon for the luncheon conference.

EARLIER, the President received provincial delegations which pledged their support to his administration. At the same time, resolutions pledging support to his administration were continuously being received at Malacañang.

The Chief Executive had breakfast at his residence in Sierra Madre, Quezon City, with political leaders of Cagayan, including ex-Rep. Domingo Siazon, ex-Rep. Conrado Singson, Fiscal Alfonso Dones, Col. Pedro Felix, and Remigio Butacan, a lawyer.

After the breakfast, the President received provincial delegations, also at his residence. The provincial delegations which expressed support for the Administration included Capiz mayors accompanied by Gov. Jose Dinglasan; Tarlac officials, headed by Rep. Constancio Castañeda and Gov. Arsenio Lugay; and town officials of Zamboanga del Norte, headed by Rep. Alberto Ubay.

FROM his residence, the President motored with Mrs. Garcia and daughter Linda to Congress, where they attended the necrological services for the late Rep. Pedro Lopez of Cebu, who died with President Magsaysay and 25 others in the plane crash in Mt. Manungal, Cebu.

The President arrived in Malacañang about 10 a.m. and received callers. The first callers were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Barry, who were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Eugenio Eusebio. Barry is vice-president of Lions International, while Eusebio is the district governor of the local Lions club.

Officers of the Philippine Medical Association were the next callers of the President. Headed by its incumbent president, Dr. Fernando Manalo, and former Health Secretary Juan Salcedo, the PMA officers informed the President about their rural health programs, including their indigents project. The President commended the PMA officers and members for bringing the facilities of modern health service to the grassroots, and encouraged them to expand their projects. The medics offered the services of their association to the Administration "in any way we can be of help."

The President accepted the invitation of the PMA officers to be the guest speaker at their annual convention on May 2 in Baguio City. The President will also present the Golden Heart award to Dr. Francisco Duque of Dagupan City, incoming president of the PMA, during the convention. The award to Dr. Duque had been approved by the late President Magsaysay.

Other PMA officers who called on the President were Dr. Pedro Dimayuga, vice-president, and Dr. Alberto Z. Romualdez, secretary-treasurer.

Members of the Philippine Law School class of 1923, of which President Garcia was the valedictorian, also called on the President and informed him that the Philippine Law School would confer on him the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, on April 5. The President graduated from the Philippine Law School as valedictorian in 1923, with Justice Conrado Sanchez of the Court of Appeals as the salutatorian. Justice Sanchez recalled that the President received a general average of 91 while he got 86.

The President, and Justice Sanchez posed for a picture for the second time since 1923 when they graduated from the PLS. Members of the PLS Alumni Association of 1923 who saw the President included University of the East President Francisco Dalupan, Judge Ceferino de los Santos, Elections Commissioner Sixto Brillantes, Judge Minerva Inocencio-Piguing, Judge Edilberto Barot, Judge Antonio Cañizares, and PNB Vice-President Conrado Sevilla. Ricardo Lacson, president of the Philippine Law School and the Lacson College, was also with the members of the alumni association. The association will tender a banquet in honor of the President on April 28.

Other callers of the President included Reps. Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon and Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, Govs. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon and Juan Pajo of Bohol, and Philippine Ambassador to Taipeh Narciso Ramos, who paid a courtesy call.

Among the resolutions pledging support to the Administration received by the President were those from the municipal council of President Roxas, Capiz; the Barrio Lieutenants League of President Roxas, Capiz; the municipal council of Talisay, Negros Occidental; and the barrio council of Bubog, Talisay, Negros Occidental.

President Garcia today signed Proclamation No. 399, proclaiming April 9, 1957, as Bataan Day and declaring it a special public holiday.

The President also signed Executive Order No. 244, fixing office hours during the summer season. The executive order reduces office hours in all government offices to five continuous hours from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. from April 1 to June 15. The provisions of the executive order does not apply to the offices in Baguio City whether national, provincial, or municipal.

The executive order also does not oblige the head of any department, bureau, or office to reduce the office hours in his department, bureau, or office. The office head is given discretion by the executive order to maintain full hours subject to the requirements of the service or reduce them provided the volume of work is not diminished by the reduction of office hours.

In declaring April 9 as Bataan Day and as special public holiday, the President said that “the commemoration of the Fall of Bataan is a fitting homage to the heroism of Filipino and American forces who fought side by side against overwhelming odds in the epic struggle for democracy and freedom.”

IN the afternoon the President motored to Malolos, Bulacan, where he was the principal orator at the necrological services held in honor of the late President Magsaysay, under the auspices of the provincial committee of the mayors’ and provincial governor’s offices and the people of Bulacan, led by Gov. Alejo S. Santos.

In his oration President Garcia reiterated that he would carry on faithfully and forcefully President Magsaysay’s program and policies, emphasizing as he (Magsaysay) did the improvement of the living condition of the masses.

Before attending the necrological services at the provincial capitol auditorium in Malolos, President Garcia made a side trip to some barrios of Malolos where he inspected a barrio road ordered constructed by the late President Magsaysay, connecting the barrio of Lungos, Malolos, to the barrio of Iba, Hagonoy.

Alighting from his car, President Garcia walked the dusty road from barrio Bulihan to barrio Lungos. On the way he was met by many barrio people whom he greeted and to whom he said that he would carry out all the rural projects and program of government intended to uplift the barrio people, initiated by the late President Magsaysay.

After hiking some one kilometer of dirt road, the President finally reached the eight-kilometer barrio road being constructed. The President was informed that some 49 men of C Company of the AFP corps of engineers were constructing the barrio road.

Upon inquiry, the President was informed that it would take about a month more to finish the barrio road. President Garcia expressed the hope that the AFP corps of engineers would finish it soon for the benefit of the barrio people.

President Garcia was accompanied in his barrio inspection by Gov. and Mrs. Santos, Sens. Francisco A. Delgado and Francisco Rodrigo, and Rep. Rogaciano Mercado, who accompanied him from the Manila Hotel after the President’s conference with House leaders. Also present was Brig. Gen. Leoncio S. Tan, commanding general of the 1st Military Area.

From the barrio of Lungos the presidential party motored to Malolos, Bulacan, and proceeded directly to the Provincial Capitol pavilion, where the necrological services were held. An altar and a symbolic catafalque were constructed in the center of the pavilion. At the right side of the catafalque was a picture of the late President Magsaysay.

Among the orators were Mayor Ignacio Santiago of Polo, Bulacan, chairman of the mayors’ league of the province, Board Members Serafin C. Gunigundo and Tomas S. Martin, and Gov. Santos.

President Garcia's party left the Manila Hotel at 3:25 p.m., arriving at Malolos at 5:25 p.m. after a side trip to the two barrios. He left Malolos at about 7 p.m. and arrived in Manila at 8 p.m.

March 27.—THIS morning the President had breakfast at his Sierra Madre (Quezon City) residence, with Ben Javier who took notes on his life story. The interview lasted about 45 minutes.

After the breakfast President Garcia greeted well-wishers who trooped inside the sala of his residence. Among them were Cebu solons, including Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco and Reps. Ramon Durano, Manuel Zosa, and Isidro Kintanar. The Cebu solons pledged their support if the President should bid for reelection.

President Garcia today continued receiving pledges of support for his administration. Among those who called on him this morning were Sen. Jose C. Zulueta with several mayors from Iloilo, and Rep. Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo and Gov. Jesus Almero of Masbate. Then the President motored to the Manila Doctors Hospital on Isaac Peral, where he had his eyes examined. He was examined by Dr. Carlos Sevilla.

After the eye examination, the President hurried to Malacañang to preside over the Cabinet meeting.

AS he presided over his first regular Cabinet meeting this day, President Garcia reiterated to all his Cabinet members his wish that they remain at their posts and that they help him as he continues to carry on the work left unfinished by the late President Magsaysay.

President Garcia said that he was making this request because he knew that the Cabinet members were in the best position to help him prosecute the great task begun by the late President Magsaysay.

The President's statement was a reiteration of a previous request to the Cabinet members when he met them for the first time after the death of President Magsaysay.

President Garcia expressed the desire that the Cabinet members take it upon themselves to exercise full authority with corresponding responsibility in the discharge of their duties in their respective departments. The President said that under this arrangement the Cabinet members: should assume command responsibility for the implementation of the work allotted to each department of the government.

The President also expressed the desire to set aside a definite time each working day for the secretaries to consult him on important matters affecting their departments. A more definite announcement will be made on this matter later. It is also on this occasion when the Cabinet members can inform the President of what is going on in their departments.

The President appointed a Cabinet committee to set standards for the inclusion of items in the Cabinet agenda. He recalled that President Magsaysay himself had frequently complained that comparatively unimportant matters found their way into the agenda. The committee is composed of Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, chairman, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, and Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason.

Pending the final choice of a permanent secretary of education, President Garcia at the Cabinet meeting designated Education Undersecretary Martin Aguilar as acting secretary of education. The designation of Aguilar was deemed necessary in view of the accumulation of papers in the department requiring the signature of the department head; such as, diplomas and other pending matters. These papers have piled up since the death of Secretary Gregorio Hernandez, Jr.

At the Cabinet meeting President Garcia directed Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao to keep a firm hand in the maintenance of peace and order throughout the country and to maintain vigilance against the possibility of a resurgence of Huk activities. He emphasized that the Armed Forces should not relax its vigilance and should carry on the policy of all-out force against die-hard Huks.

President Garcia gave this order following report of a Huk raid at the boundary of Pangasinan and Tarlac. He directed Secretary Balao to alert all his men in the field to continue foot and mobile patrols and to maintain their vigilance.

The President expressed his desire during the Cabinet meeting to improve the efficiency of the Air Force. He stressed the necessity of studying the possibility of acquiring trainer planes. He directed Secretary Balao to study two alternative ways of acquiring such trainers—whether the Philippine Government should procure primary trainer planes from Japan to be charged against reparations or it should order them from the United States through the Philippine procurement mission.

With regard to implementation of the reorganization plans, President Garcia reiterated what he had previously said that except for those offices already transferred, plans for reorganizing all other offices will be suspended in the meanwhile.

“Let what has been done remain done and what is pending remain pending,” President Garcia said. He added that this was in line with the decision of the late President Magsaysay.

The Cabinet approved the holding of the proposed third ECAFE conference on water resources development in Manila sometime in December 1957. The conference will enable technical personnel charged with irrigation and water resources development projects opportunity for direct contact and consultation with recognized experts in the field of water utilization and control.

The Cabinet also approved a proposal of the National Economic Council that the Department of Public Works and Communications take charge of all arrangements for the conference. A committee will be formed to plan and implement the necessary arrangements for this conference. The committee is to be composed of representatives of the Department of Commerce and Industry, the Department of Foreign Affairs, and from the following offices of the Department of Public Works.

(1) From the secretary’s office—Manuel K. Torres, technical assistant, and Engineer M. D. Bautista, chief, program and budget division;

(2) From the public works bureau—Director Julian A. Buendia and Agapito Alano;

(3) From the NAWASA—General Manager Susano R. Negado and Engineer Roberto Villatuya;

(4) From the National Power Corporation—General Manager Filemon M. Zablan and Asst. General Manager and Chief Engineer Jose Lahoz.

On recommendation of Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus, the Cabinet approved the sending of Cecilio D. Diloy of the Bureau of Plant Industry and Feliciano C. Manuel of the U.P. College of Agriculture to the United Kingdom not later than April 5, 1957. The two scholars were awarded fellowships in crop protection techniques in Britain under the Colombo Plan.

Upon recommendation of Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, the Cabinet authorized the detail of Manuel E. Buenafe of the Department of Commerce and Industry to act as adviser to Filipino exhibitors in the New York and Seattle world fairs in the United States for a period not exceeding 25 days. The transportation expenses of Buenafe from Manila to New York and Seattle and return will be defrayed by the exhibitors.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting held at the Council of State room. The meeting lasted from 10:25 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

After the Cabinet meeting the President received Gov. Marcelo Adduru of Cagayan, who headed a group of mayors from his province. Adduru and the mayors pledged their cooperation to President Garcia’s administration.

President Garcia today sent a wire to Admiral Wallace Beakley, extending his condolences on the death of a jet pilot in connection with "Operations Beacon Hill."

President Garcia was a guest of Admiral Beakley on March 24 and 25 during the staging of the naval demonstration. The President requested Admiral Beakley to convey his message of condolence to the family of the pilot who perished in the war exercises.

March 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia honored General Maxwell Taylor, chief of staff of the U.S. Army, with a luncheon at Malacañang this noon.

After the luncheon, President Garcia said that steps were already being taken to study on a technical level the increases of military aid to the Philippines in terms of equipment for air needs. The President said General Taylor had shown deep interest in further strengthening the alliance between the Philippines and the United States not only militarily but also economically.

In brief informal remarks after the luncheon, President Garcia welcomed General Taylor and his staff to the Philippines. He paid tribute to the late President Magsaysay, saying that the people of the Philippines and of the free world have lost a staunch champion in his death. He added that the visit here of General Taylor during this moment of sorrow of the Filipino people was most comforting and reassuring. He offered a toast to General Taylor.

General Taylor in response thanked President Garcia for the honor accorded him and expressed his deep regret over the death of the late President. He also expressed the hope for continued greater understanding between the armed forces of the Philippines and of the United States.

Others present at the luncheon were General Maxwell Taylor, Minister Horace Smith, Secretary Eulogio Balao, Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez, Rep. Numeriano Babao, General Alfonso Arellano, Admiral Wendell Switzer, General Joseph Harper, General John Ackerman, Brig. Gen. James K. Woolnaugh, Col. Howard Snyder, Col. Frank Norris, Col. Clyde Layne, Col. Wesley Edwards, Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, and Col. Emilio Borromeo, presidential aide.

PRESIDENT Garcia reiterated his gratitude to numerous provincial delegations which continued calling on him at Malacañang this morning to present resolutions pledging their support and cooperation to his administration.

"Knowing my limitations, I am sure I will find difficulty in carrying on with this administration used to the strong arm of the late President Magsaysay. But with your support, your faith, and your understanding, I feel strong and capable enough to tackle the hard tasks ahead of me," the President told his visitors.

Gov. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga called to pledge his support in case President Garcia decided to run for the presidency. Gov. Lazatin informed the President he had nothing to do with the resolution reportedly passed recently by the Pampanga provincial board endorsing Sen. Gil J. Puyat's candidacy for president.

With Lazatin was Mayor Amando Quioc of Mabalacat, an officer of the Pampanga mayors' league, who also denied reports that the league recently passed a similar resolution supporting Senator Puyat's candidacy. Mayor Quioc explained that such a resolution could not have been passed, as the last meeting of the league was on March 6 when it passed a resolution endorsing the Magsaysay-Garcia team in the forthcoming presidential elections. Copies of this resolution had been furnished President Magsaysay and then Vice-President Garcia, Mayor Quioc said.

A delegation from the Philippine Coconut Producers Federation presented a petition requesting:

(1) That representations be made with the U. S. Government for the abolition of the excise tax imposed on coconut oil;

(2) The appointment of a representative of coconut producers, in the board of governors of the Rehabilitation Finance Corporation' in case a vacancy should occur in that financial institution in the future; and

(3) The appointment of Benjamin Guiang, vice-president of the Coconut Producers Federation, as member of the board of directors of the Philippine National Bank.

During their call, the newly elected officers of the federation took their oath of office before President Garcia. Inducted were Gov. Juan F. Triviño of Camarines Sur, president; Benjamin Guiang, vice-president for Mindanao; Juan S. Alano, regional director for Mindanao; Jose Mercado, regional director for Luzon; Tirso Uytengsu and Rep. Lamberto Macias, regional directors for the Visayas; and Santiago Gancayco, secretary-treasurer.

Newly elected legion officers of Marking's Fil-American Guerrillas who called at Malacañang to pledge their loyalty to the new Administration were also inducted by President Garcia. Among the officers inducted were Onesimo Soriano, national chairman; L. F. de Joya, vice-chairman for Cavite and Batangas; M. K. Santos, vice-chairman for Manila and Bulacan; Pablo Jornacion, vice-chairman for Rizal; V. Plantilla, vice-chairman for Laguna; Tiburcio Umlas, vice-chairman for Pampanga; O. Alzate, vice-chairman, for Quezon; and Gerardo Agustin, vice-chairman for Tarlac and Pangasinan.

Earlier this morning the President had breakfast with members of the Congressional Press Club who called on him to pay their respects. Then he repaired to his study, where he received callers until 12:30 p.m.

A delegation from the Laguna mayors' league submitted a resolution passed at their recent meeting pledging loyalty and support to the Administration. Accompanied by Rep. Wenceslao Lagumbay, the group included Mayors Alimango of Cabuyao, league chairman; Roman Vito of Majayjay, vice-chairman; Genaro Catalan of Los Baños, secretary; and Faustino Marcelo of Sta. Cruz, treasurer.

Other delegations this noon were those headed by Governors Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Leon Fernandez of Sulu, Mariano Peñaflorida of Iloilo, Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental, and Jesus Almero of Masbate; Reps. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Eladio Balite of Samar, and Ricardo Ladrado of Iloilo; and Mayors Adriano Puno of Bacolod City and Cipriano Colago of San Pablo City.

IN the afternoon the President directed that Barrio Lieutenant Marcelino Nuya be given an official award by the Government for his heroic and humanitarian act in the rescue of Nestor Mata of the *Philippines Herald*, the lone survivor in the *Mt. Pinatubo* plane crash in which President Magsaysay and 25 others died.

The President also said that he would issue a directive to have an investigating team to determine who among the barrio people that showed meritorious acts during the rescue operation in the crash of the presidential plane should be given proper awards.

The Chief Executive made these statements in the course of a visit to Mata this afternoon. Mata is confined at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

The President made this decision when Mata recalled the gallantry of the barrio lieutenant who was mainly responsible for his being brought to the Southern Islands Hospital in Cebu City. Mata also lauded the barrio folks who had helped in the rescue operations.

The President talked with Mata about 20 minutes. Also present were VMH Director Joaquin Sanchez, Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, PCAC Chairman Frisco San Juan, and doctors and nurses of the hospital.

From Mata's room President Garcia inspected the other wards of the hospital and talked to several walking patients. He told them to be hopeful of their early and full recovery. The President then went to the hospital lawn and noted that the landscaping was not complete. He suggested to the director that the planting of more trees and plants be completed in order to improve the scenery.

The President also inspected the presidential suite in the hospital which has never been used. Then he went to the director's room, where he admired a painting of the late President Magsaysay done by a Japanese artist, Kenzo Kakamori.

After some refreshments the President went back to his car. Before he boarded it, he was met by many walking patients who shook hands with him.

The President arrived at the hospital about 5 p. m. and left about 5:30 p.m.

Upon reaching Malacañang, President Garcia received the delegates to the second annual convention of East Asian Travel Commission, who paid a courtesy call. The delegates were accompanied by Modesto Farolan, president of the Philippine Tourist and Travel Association. They are at present holding their conference at the Manila Hotel.

Among those in the group were Japan's Doigiro Majima, Mikio Sudo, and Takamasa Kofugi; Korea's Consul Do Soon Chung; Indonesia's Des Alwi and Soepari Tzokrohartono; Hongkong's George Hamilton Dick; India's R. K. Mukerjee; and Vietnam's Nguyen My Loc. Philippine observers with the group were Dalmacio Ago, Matias Antolin, Salvador Peña, and Eduardo Crisostomo.

March 29.—THIS morning, the President received officials of several government corporations who called at Malacañang to pledge their cooperation and to brief him on the latest activities of their government entities. The Chief Executive also received local business representatives who pledged their support and wished him success in his administration.

NARIC officials informed the President that the late President Magsaysay had approved the importation of 100,000 metric tons of rice in anticipation of a national shortage this year on account of floods, heavy rains, and pests. Former Governor Juan O. Chioco, NARIC board chairman, said that the late President had also approved the sending abroad of one of the members of the board to negotiate the projected rice importation on a government-to-government basis.

The NARIC officials reported that the corn crop this year was also short of the country's requirements. They said that the NARIC was exerting maximum efforts to purchase all the corn that was available in the farms to be sold in corn-eating provinces at a loss, in pursuance of a directive of the late President Magsaysay.

NARIC officials who called on the President this morning included Chairman Chioco, Board Members Maximo Calalang and Osmundo Mondoñedo, and Acting General Manager Vicente Concepcion.

Justices of the Court of Appeals called to pay their respects. They were Presiding Justice Jose Gutierrez David and Associate Justices Jose Ma. Paredes, Arsenio Dizon, Sotero Rodas, Dionisio de Leon, Buenaventura Ocampo, Felix Natividad, Felix Martinez, Querube Makalintal, Conrado Sanchez, Fernando Fernandez, Florentino Saguin, Sotero Cabahug, Fred Ruiz Castro, Vicente Santiago, Eugenio Angeles, and Ramon San Jose.

A delegation from the Philippine Chamber of Industries submitted a resolution written on parchment paper, assuring their wholehearted cooperation to the new Administration in all its policies designed to insure the economic stability of the nation. This group was headed by Roberto Villanueva, chamber president.

A delegation from the Bankers Association of the Philippines likewise pledged their full support to the new President. Alfonso Calalang, association president, acted as spokesman for this group, made up of presidents of the country's principal banking institutions.

Other delegations were those from the Home Financing Commission headed by Commodore Jose Andrada; the Land Tenure Administration, headed by Commissioner Manuel Castañeda; and Members of Class 1937 of the Reserve Officers' Service School who were celebrating the 20th anniversary of their graduation. This last group was headed by Col. Generoso F. Tanseco, class president.

Earlier this morning, the President received Dr. and Mrs. O. W. Rash, former resident in the Philippines on a brief visit here, who presented him with a box of cigars bought on the Escolta in 190G. The brand of the 57-year old cigars was *Germinal* and they were manufactured by the Fabrica de Tabacos de Manila. With the couple were their grand-daughter, Louise, and their niece, Dorothy Davis.

The President also received American members of the Nutrition Survey Team of the Armed Forces who called to say goodbye prior to their return to the U. S. after completing a 60-day research work in the Philippines. The team was headed by Dr. William J. Darby.

The President received callers at his executive office until 12:45 p.m. Then he repaired to the state dining hall in the Palace, where he had lunch with the members of the U. P. Board of Regents.

The President has nominated Col. Pullong Arpa (ret.) as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Philippines to Egypt, Malacañang announced today. Arpa is a third class foreign affairs officer. He will be chief of mission. ,

PRESIDENT Garcia this noon instructed the U.P. Board of Regents to submit a number of names of alumni of the state university for possible appointment to the board to fill the vacancy left by the death of Prof. Vicente Lontok.

The President gave his instructions in the course of a luncheon conference he had this noon with members of the board who impressed upon him the necessity of filling up the vacancy preparatory to the election of a university president. He said he had in his possession several names previously submitted by the U. P. Alumni Association to the late President Magsaysay for the regency post but that he wanted to have a wider field from which to pick a suitable man for the position.

Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, chairman ex officio of the Board of Regents, promised to include the matter at the next regents, meeting He said that the board had until May 15 within which to elect a president of the university, as it was held imperative that the institution should open in June with a new president already installed.

Present at the luncheon conference this noon were Secretary Aguilar, Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., Rep. Carmen Dinglasan-Consing, Ernesto Sibal, Aurelio Periquet, Arturo Garcia, Gumersindo Garcia, Gonzalo Gonzalez, and Dr. Enrique Virata.

PRESIDENT Garcia said this evening he would continue the same policy toward Asia laid down by his predecessor, President Magsaysay.

At his weekly press conference in Malacañang, the Chief Executive clarified a published report that he had revived the "Asia for the Asians" slogan as a principle of the country's foreign policy.

"Our policy toward Asia is a continuation of that laid down by President Magsaysay," read the opening sentence of the press statement President Garcia authorized for release.

Press Secretary J. V. Cruz read the statement of the conference. The rest of it follows:

"Last October our late President said that it was one of the objectives of our foreign policy to develop our political and cultural relations with our Asian neighbors. He mentioned this objective together with the paramount purpose of national security which we have achieved by collective defense arrangements, particularly with the United States of America.

"Taken together, these two objectives mean that we seek the strengthening of freedom in Asia for two reasons: first, so that our fellow Asians may enjoy the fruits of real independence; and second so that we may, by being surrounded with communities of free Asians, be all the more secure from subversion and attack.

“To this end, it is our purpose within the limits of our capacities to share in the efforts of giving substance to the freedom of Asians. This is our purpose in intensifying technical and cultural exchanges with such countries as Indonesia, Vietnam, China, Malaya, and other countries of free Asia. This is why we recognized Vietnam and why we want to open diplomatic mission in more Asian capitals; such as, Rangoon, Burma.

“This is our policy in Asia. It cannot be adequately expressed in any single slogan.

President Garcia also told the press conference that he had not announced any new policy and that, by whatever name the country’s foreign policy in Asia is known, no special significance is attached to it.

He said that, because the original “Asia for the Asians” policy had the tendency of being misinterpreted as “exclusivistic,” it had been renamed the “Philippine policy in Asia.”

The President also defined his position on the “neutralist” stand taken by some Asian countries, particularly India.

He said he was against “neutralism” as a national policy in the ideological conflict between democracy and communism.

“But this does not mean that we have to quarrel with the neutralist countries,” President Garcia explained.

He said that international diplomacy involved in many ways the tolerance of the views of other nations.

President Garcia stressed further that essentially the Philippine foreign policy was based on two guiding principles; namely, first, the maintenance of friendly and cordial relations with the United States; and second, the maintenance of closer ties and cooperation between the Philippines and her Asian neighbors.

He said it was within this framework that the Asian policy was formulated, from which the country has no plans at present of deviating.

March 30.—IMPLEMENTING his pledge of continuing the policies of the late President Magsaysay, President Garcia today issued a policy statement declaring that the Magsaysay community development program would receive without any changes “my direct and personal attention.”

President Garcia added that the implementation of this program through the office of the presidential assistant on community development “will be pursued with greater vigor and determination by my administration.”

After making this policy statement, President Garcia also issued a directive to all community development workers saying that he felt very strongly that the community development program was too important to be involved in the ebb and tide of political fortunes. He declared that he would strive to protect this program from the encroachment of partisan politics.

The President issued this circular because he said that there might be great anxiety and insecurity among the ranks of community development workers who feared that changes might be made in implementing the program. He said that this feeling might engender a feeling among the barrio people that the program would suffer as a result of the death of the late President.

President Garcia appealed to all community development workers to give the barrio people the assurance that their welfare would be foremost among the goals of the Administration. He said, “I would like to appeal to you all to strive to exert greater efforts in order to assure the community development program’s success.”

The Chief Executive issued his policy statement on the community development program through Ramon Binamira, in charge of the program, after a breakfast with ICA officials at Malacañang this morning. The ICA officials were headed by Dr. Dennis Fitzgerald, deputy director for operations of the ICA.

After the conference, President Garcia said that he had good reason to believe that the United States “would continue to regard with increasing generosity” the implementation of the ICA projects in the Philippines.

The President said he was glad to hear that Dr. Fitzgerald was satisfied with the way the community development projects in the Philippines were being implemented. He added that the ICA deputy director considered the Philippine community development projects with deep sympathy.

President Garcia said that in a week or two he would discuss with Col. Harry Brenn specific items under the ICA aid program. He added that equipment consisting of tractors and bulldozers requested by the late President Magsaysay for the country’s rural development projects had begun to arrive in the Philippines.

The President and Philippine officials exchanged views with ICA officials on foreign aid in this area.

Those present at the breakfast conference were Minister Horace Smith; Dr. Dennis Fitzgerald, deputy director for operations. ICA; Dr. Raymond Moyer, ICA director of Far East Operations; Edwin H. Arnold, deputy director of Technical Services, Washington, D. C; Walter Schaefer, assistant to director for finance; Joseph Brent, ICA mission chief, Taiwan; Alvin Roseman, ICA mission chief, Cambodia; Leland Barrows, ICA mission chief, Vietnam; William Warne, ICA mission chief, Korea; James Baird, ICA mission chief, Indonesia; N. Carter de Paul, ICA mission chief, Laos; Sylvester Olson, acting director, Japan; William J. Shephard, Thailand; Col. Harry Brenn, Philippines; John Murphy, controller; Washington; Secretary Florencio Moreno; Secretary Paulino J. Garcia; General Joseph Harper; George Aurell; Governor Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank; Eduardo Romualdez of NEC; Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison; and Presidential Assistant on Community Development Ramon Binamira.

After conferring with the ICA officials from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., President Garcia received some callers, among whom were Sens. Jose C. Zulueta and Domocao Alonto.

The President also received Manila Railroad General Manager Salvador T. Villa, who expressed the need of expanding the facilities of the Manila Hotel. The President agreed that the Manila Hotel should expand its facilities in order to accommodate the growing number of guests.

The President then conferred with Executive Secretary Fortunate de Leon on important papers.

At 11 a.m. the President motored to the ACCFA office on Taft Avenue. He was accompanied by Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and Capt. Agerico Palaypay, aide.

IN another act implementing the late President Magsaysay’s policies, President Garcia this afternoon pledged to work to have the capital of the ACCFA increased to enable the agency to expand and intensify its program of farm credit and cooperative marketing as rapidly as possible.

He told ACCFA officials that he would direct the Central Bank and other government financing institutions to accommodate the ACCFA with the financing it required.

At the same time, the President said that knowing how the members of Congress were patriotic and ready to extend all possible help to the farmers, he would appeal to them to restore the ₱10 million slashed from the appropriation for the ACCFA.

The Chief Executive was applauded as he spoke extemporaneously at the ACCFA offices on Taft Avenue after having been given a briefing on the work and accomplishments of the ACCFA. ACCFA officials who spoke were Administrator Osmundo Mondoñedo and Assistant Administrator Francisco M. Sacay. Capt. Ernesto Gimenez, general manager of the Central Cooperative Exchange, and Col. Carmelo Barbero, also of the CCE, were the other two speakers.

The briefing was made at the board of directors conference room in the ACCFA office. Maps and charts showing ACCFA activities were shown to the President.

The President made his pledge of support to the ACCFA after inquiring into the status of the cooperative program as well as the problems being encountered by the ACCFA.

Emphasizing the importance of building up mass participation in the economic and social development of the country, the President expressed his desire to see the farmers' cooperative associations, or FACOMAS, grow in strength and stability.

He said that the FACOMAS were extremely potent agencies through which the rural people could secure improvement in their economic life on the basis of organized self-help. He added that the Government must give every possible assistance and support to develop and strengthen the self-help spirit being generated by the FACOMAS.

President Garcia directed the ACCFA officials to redouble their efforts and endeavor "to accelerate the process of emancipating the farmer from rural usury and exploitation by unscrupulous middlemen."

Mondoñedo presented the President with a copy of the fourth annual report of the ACCFA.

Informed that there were already 250,000 individual farmers in almost 11,000 barrios organized into cooperative marketing associations under the ACCFA program, President Garcia said the present capitalization of ₱100 million was not sufficient.

The President instructed Mondoñedo to prepare a plan by which the services of the other extension agencies of the government would be coordinated and made to produce the "greatest possible result by using the farmers' organizations as the channel for these services."

The President arrived at the ACCFA building a little past 11 a.m. He was greeted warmly by the employees. He left the ACCFA at past 12:30 p.m.

The President then motored to the Funeraria Paz, where he visited the body of the late Dr. Artemio Danao, a member of the Board of Dental Examiners. The President condoled with the family of the deceased represented by Felipe Danao. Then the President motored back to Malacañang.

PRESIDENT Garcia signed Administrative Order No. 326, requiring District Judge Pascual Santos of the Court of First Instance of Masbate to resign.

This was the first act of the President implementing the late President Magsaysay's desire to clean the government of unfit government officials. The President acted upon recommendation of the Supreme Court.

An administrative case was filed by the solicitor general against Judge Santos for serious misconduct and inefficiency in office for allegedly:

- (1) Submitting monthly statements, required for the collection of his salary, falsely certifying that all proceedings, applications, petitions, motions, and cases of all kinds submitted for decision or determination for a period of 90 days or more had been determined and decided; and

- (2) Approving and signing false monthly reports of his clerk of court that respondent had no cases pending decision for 90 days or more.

The charges were investigated by Associate Justice Querube C. Makalintal of the Court of Appeals.

According to the findings, the explanation of the respondent for Charge No. 1 was found unsatisfactory.

As regards the second count, the President said that he agreed with the Supreme Court that the respondent was still grossly negligent in approving and signing the reports of his clerk of court. The administrative order said: "What is worse, in signing and sending advance certificates of work completed which obviously did not reflect the truth, respondent showed, as observed by the court, serious disregard not only of the truth but also of the veracity that should characterize official records."

The President said in his order that in view of the findings, and "it appearing that the respondent has already been warned previously by the Supreme Court for reprehensible acts, I am constrained to take drastic action against him in the cause of the public service."

The President's order said: "Upon the recommendation of the Supreme Court, Judge Pascual Santos is hereby required to tender his resignation within five days from receipt of copy hereof. Should he fail to do so, he should be considered removed from office effective on the day following the expiration of the said period."

The case of Judge Santos was one of several involving alleged misconduct by judges of first instance which have been submitted to the Supreme Court for investigation and decision, pursuant to President Magsaysay's determined drive to clean up the government. The late President had once expressed impatience and disappointment with the high court's slow pace in disposing of these cases.

THE President was speaker at the forty-ninth commencement exercises of the Philippine Normal College held this afternoon at the PNC campus.

Fetches from Malacañang by PNC President Macario Naval, Mrs. Natividad Rogers, president of the PNC faculty association, and Dean of Instruction, Jesus Martinez, the President arrived at the PNC compound about 4:30 p.m. For almost two hours, the President stayed on the stage while diplomas were distributed to about 700 graduates of the college.

The Chief Executive was introduced by Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr. The President's speech lasted about 20 minutes. Other guests included Public Works Secretary and Mrs. Florencio Moreno and Benigno Aldana, director of public schools.

After the exercises, the President was led to the second floor of the PNC building where he had dinner with officials and faculty members of the institution.

Awarded diplomas at this afternoon's ceremonies were those who had completed the two-year general curriculum, the three-year combined general and home economics curriculum, bachelors of science in elementary education, and masters of arts in education.

After fulfilling his engagement with the Philippine Normal College, where he was commencement speaker this afternoon, he boarded the presidential yacht with a staff of Palace assistants. The yacht pulled out at 8:30 p.m. and anchored off Sisiman Cove before midnight. Before retiring for the night, he had a set of chess games with Col. Nicanor Jimenez, newly-appointed Malacañang assistant on Seato affairs.

March 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia decided he was entitled to a rest this day, after a week of grueling activities since he assumed office and took over the reins of administration on the death of President Magsaysay.

The Chief Executive and his party heard today shipboard mass at 7 a.m. After breakfast he and members of his party took a motor launch and landed on the beach of Luzon Point, a natural swimming resort off the coast of Mariveles.

As soon as the party hit the beach, the President was met by one Ricardo Valdez, who took care of loading cut logs of a mining company for shipment to Manila. The President conversed with Valdez and his wife and inquired about their work and their living conditions.

He could not resist the clear and shallow sea water; so he went in swimming.

PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered the extension of appointments of temporary employees in various offices appointed under the late President Magsaysay's administration.

The President gave this directive to Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon after consultation with Malacañang Financial Assistant Miguel D. Velasco aboard the *Santa Maria*, where the President rested during the weekend after a hectic two weeks since he assumed the Presidency.

Upon being informed that some 150 temporary employees whose appointments had terminated March 31 would be laid off, the Chief Executive told his executive secretary to continue carrying these affected employees in the payroll.

Although the President was supposed to rest during the cruise off Manila Bay, he took with him state papers to study. He was accompanied by Palace assistants with whom he consulted on important matters.

Among other decisions made by the President were:

(1) He signed an administrative order firing Tranquilino O. Calo, Jr., as justice of the peace of Carmen, Agusan; and

(2) He signed pardon papers of prisoners, upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

An administrative case was filed against Calo for, among other things: (a) ignorance of the law, (b) electioneering, and (c) persecution of political enemies. These charges had been investigated by the district judge of Agusan.

In the administrative order, the President affirmed that the respondent was found guilty of the three charges. Upon recommendation of the secretary of justice, the President dismissed Calo as justice of the peace of Carmen, Agusan, effective upon receipt of notice of the administrative order.

The President's action on the dismissed justice of the peace followed closely an order requiring a judge of first instance to resign. By these acts President Garcia showed he was following President Magsaysay's policy of cleaning the government of undesirable and unfit officials.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, the President signed the pardon papers of the following:

Conditional Pardon: Conrado Punzalan, Leodegario Aliboso y Erica, Juanito Alibuso, Leon Leycano y Mendoza, Pedro Triviño, Melchor Gerodias y Macalalad, Martin Neri, Nicacio Villanueva y de los Santos, and Cayetano Jecino.

Special Absolute Pardon: Alejandro de la Llave y Gerial.

Absolute Pardon: Roberto Carrios.

Upon being informed aboard the *Santa Maria*, that Gov. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga had met with an accident, the President ordered a physician of the First Military Area to see the governor and extend medical assistance if necessary. The President was later informed that Lazatin was confined at the St. Anthony's Hospital in Manila and that he was not in serious condition.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: April 1-15, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

April 1.—THIS morning President Garcia and his family officially took up residence at Malacañang.

Accompanied by their Lady daughter arrived Linda, the President and the First Lady arrived at Malacañang at 8 a.m. They proceed to the Palace chapel, where a low mass was said.

Present were the members of the Cabinet and their ladies, including Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Raul S. Manglapus, Finance Secretary and Mrs. Jaime Hernandez Defense Secretary and Mrs. Eulogio Balao, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Commerce Secretary and Mrs. Oscar Ledesma, Labor Secretary and Mrs. Eleuterio Adevos, Acting Education Mrs. Martin Aguilar, Jr., Public Works Secretary and Mrs. Florencio Moreno, Press Secretary and Mrs. J. V. Cruz, Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia, and Acting Economic Coordination Administrator Juan Concon. Bohol Governor Juan Pajo was also present.

After the mass breakfast was served at the President received dining hall. Then the President received more well wishers and friends who gathered in the dining hall.

PRESIDENT Garcia today submitted to the Commission on Appointments the following nominations:

- (1) Melecio R. Domingo as deputy collector of internal revenue;
- (2) Narciso G. Reyes as career minister;
- (3) Judge Agustin P. Montesa as district judge of the 5th judicial district, to preside over the court of first instance of Bulacan, Branch II;
- (4) Judge Eulogio Mencias as district judge of the seventh judicial district to preside over the courts of the first of instance of Rizal, Quezon City, and Pasay City, Branch II, Pasig, Rizal;
- (5) Judge Ramon Nolasco as district judge of the sixth judicial district, to preside over the court of first instance of Manila, Branch IX;
- (6) Narciso Vasquez, Jr., as justice of the peace of Zumarraga, Samar;
- (7) Delfin A. Aprecio as justice of the peace of Cardona, Rizal;
- (8) Santiago Tañada, as fourth assistant city attorney of Quezon City;
- (9) Wenceslao Gozon as member, Labor Standards Commission;
- (10) Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona, as chairman and Justice Undersecretary Jesus Barrera and Solicitor General Ambrosio Padilla, as members, of the Civil Service Board of Appeals for another term one year expiring February 8, 1958.
- (11) Francisco S. Bernabe as justice of the peace of Malolos, Bulacan;
- (12) Juan Locsin as member of the Board of Administrators of the Philippine Coconut Administration, vice Eduardo Reyes, resigned, for the unexpired term up to August 15, 1958.

TOWARD noon the President conferred with Executive Secretary De Leon and other Palace assistants on pending state papers.

IN the evening, the president had a long dinner conference with Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson and city officials.

It was speculated that Lacson discussed with the President matters affecting the November elections. Lacson had announced that he was also a candidate for the presidency.

The Malacañang announcement of the meeting stated that the topic of the conference was confined to local municipal problems. It was disclosed that President Garcia assured the city officials that he would honor all commitments the late President Magsaysay had made to help solve administration problems of the city.

Besides Lacson the following were present at the dinner meeting: Vice-Mayor Jesus Marcos Roces, Rep. Joaquin R. Roces of Manila, and Legislative Secretary Jose Nable.

Malacañang announced today that President Garcia has not authorized any person or persons to solicit contributions on his behalf for political or other purposes.

Malacañang requests that the police be immediately advised about anybody who uses the name of the President to collect funds in the guise of voluntary contributions.

April 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning ordered all government relief agencies to rush aid to the fire victims in Catbalogan, Samar.

The President:

- (1) Ordered Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to release immediately the necessary financial aid;
- (2) Ordered the Armed Forces to submit a report on the calamity; and
- (3) Directed the SWA, the Red Cross, and the AFP to coordinate relief operations in that area.

The President's directives came following receipt of a telegram from Samar Gov. Fernando Veloso, who said that Catbalogan was razed by a conflagration which was the worst in its history. Gov. Veloso informed the President that the fire wiped out commercial and residential districts in that area. Gov. Veloso estimated the damage at ₱ 20 million and requested aid.

President Garcia was studying the request of Gov. Veloso to put Catbalogan under a state of calamity.

THE President today told field division engineers of the Department of Public Works and Communications to implement the public works program of the Administration in line with the plans of the late President Magsaysay.

The field division engineers, who had just completed a convention in Manila, called on the President with Public Works Undersecretary Rafael Contreras and Public Highways Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog.

The President was informed by the public works officials that ₱50 million had been appropriated and already calendared for the construction of public highways this year.

Acting on the information that the construction of more feeder roads on self-help basis was imperative, the President directed Commissioner Maslog to study and submit a report on how to implement thoroughly the self-help feeder roads program.

The President received callers from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The callers, most of whom came from the provinces, requested aid for their various public works projects.

Sen. Decoroso Rosales and Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor informed the President that about four-fifths of Catbalogan, Samar, was razed by a fire which hit the town yesterday. Mrs. Villamor told the President that social workers had already been sent to Catbalogan with aid for the fire victims. The Chief Executive informed Sen. Rosales that other assistance measures had already been ordered for Catbalogan.

Papal Nuncio Msgr. Egidio Vagnozzi presented the President with a copy of *Annuario Pontifico 1957*. Msgr. Vagnozzi was received by the President at the music room.

Support of President Garcia's administration was pledged by Rep. Leonardo Perez, mayors, vice-mayors, and councilors of Nueva Vizcaya. The pledge was made during the call of the Nueva Vizcaya officials on the President.

Among the provincial delegations received by the President were Quezon province mayors and town officials accompanied by Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., Rep. Manuel Enverga, and Governor Leon Guinto, Sr.; Iloilo municipal officials with Rep. Ramon Tabiana; Sorsogon mayors accompanied by Rep. Salvador Encinas; Nueva Ecija town officials with Rep. Celestino Juan; Quezon City barrio lieutenants; and a delegation from Cotabato.

The first callers of the President were Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon of Iloilo City, Governor Delfin N. Montano of Cavite, and former Senator Justiniano S. Montano.

Other callers included Sen. Alejo Mabanag; Reps. Francisco Ortega of La Union, Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Panfilo Manguera of Marinduque, Natalio Castillo, Bartolome Cabangbang, and Esteban Bernido of Bohol, Carlos Tan of Leyte, Emilio Cortep of Pampanga, Delfin Albano of Isabela, Serafin Salvador of Rizal, and Erasiiho Cruz of Bulacan; and Juan T. David, a lawyer from Bulacan.

IMPLEMENTING further his desire to dispatch immediately all-out aid to the fire victims in Catbalogan, Samar, President Garcia this noon directed Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao to rush to the stricken area the necessary technical personnel.

The President directed Brig. Gen. Cornelio Bondad, 3rd MA commanding general, to coordinate relief and security work with the Social Welfare Administration and other relief agencies. Bondad was also ordered by the President to submit immediately a report on the general situation in the disaster area in order to determine the necessity of issuing a proclamation declaring a state of calamity.

On direction of the President, Social Welfare Administrator Villamor ordered 3,000 sacks of rice to be shipped from Legaspi, Albay, to Catbalogan. Another 500 sacks of rice from the NARIC will be loaded this evening aboard a ship for the area.

The President also directed Budget Commissioner Aytona to release necessary funds from the contingent appropriation to be used in the purchase of construction materials and other necessary supplies.

One Navy ship now in Cebu was placed under the disposition of General Bondad for the relief operations.

PRESIDENT Garcia formally launched this afternoon the 1957 Cerebral Palsy Educational and Fund drive sponsored by the Elks Club at the Malacañang social hall.

Addressing an impressive crowd at the kick-off ceremonies, the President called upon the people to help "this most worthy endeavor, for the sake of our severely handicapped cerebral spastics."

After his brief message, President Garcia started the fund campaign by contributing ₱500G.

In handling his contribution to Eugenio Puyat, general manager of the drive, the President said that he hoped all civic spirited citizens would support the campaign.

Puyat disclosed that there were 746 patients at the clinic this day who were being treated free of charge. Ages of these patients ranged from eight months to 20 years.

In his message President Garcia pointed out that there are about 20,000 cerebral spastics who have been neglected and ignored, or left to deal with their disability with crude and haphazard methods.

“It was only lately that the government, through the National Orthopedic Hospital, and civic-spirited citizens, through the Elks Cerebral Palsy Clinic, have initiated effort to deal with this painful affliction scientifically and effectively,” he added.

First-day contributions totaled ₱18,405.

April 3.—THIS morning the President held a breakfast conference with members of the Sugar Planters’ Association who sought assistance for the full implementation of a law making fertilizer available to farmers at reasonable cost.

The sugar planters claimed that Republic Act No. 1609 was being only partially implemented and that only ₱5 million out of the ₱18 million annual appropriation was being released for fertilizers.

The President told the sugar planters that he was not against the full implementation of the law, because it was his desire to solve the present crop shortage in the country, particularly corn. He suggested that the sugar planters appoint among themselves three members to confer with the authorities concerned on measures to fully implement the law.

The Chief Executive said that he would check up from time to time on the progress of such conferences. He assured the sugar planters that he would give serious consideration to any agreement reached.

The sugar planters also assured the President of their support and cooperation with his administration. The President thanked the members of the association for their pledge.

Present at the breakfast conference were Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, Rep. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Sugar Planters Association President Jose Mapa Gomez, former NEC Chairman Alfredo Montelibano, Roberto Llantado, Vicente Gustillo, Rosario Singson, Mariano Santos, Gavino Moras, Giro Locsin, Fernando Cuenca, Rodolfo Lizares, Gerry Rodriguez, Amado Garcia, Cesar Poblador, Arturo Piccio, Ramon Nolas, Fernando Rosales, Jose Manzano, R. Benedicto, and Trino Montinola. The breakfast conference lasted from 8:30 to 9: 30 a.m.

AFTER the breakfast, the President went to the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Jose Corpus, where he visited Mr. and Mrs. Exequiel Magsaysay, parents of the late President Magsaysay. The President conversed for about 15 minutes with Don Exequiel and Dona Perfecta, who are staying indefinitely in the house of Dr. and Mrs. Corpus. Mrs. Corpus is the daughter of Don Exequiel and Dona Perfecta, while Dr. Corpus was the late President’s personal physician.

The President returned to Malacañang about 10 a.m. and presided over the regular Cabinet meeting.

President Garcia took further steps to aid the fire-stricken people of Catbalogan, Samar. At the Cabinet meeting he signed a proclamation declaring the existence of a state of calamity in Catbalogan.

The proclamation made it unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation in the locality (1) to sell or offer for sale palay, rice, corn, cloth, milk, canned goods, sugar and other foodstuffs, building and construction materials, at prices higher by 25 per cent or more over and above the average current local price of such commodities; one month

previous to the occurrence of the calamity; and (2) to aggravate the crisis by refusing for the purpose of profiteering to sell at the legal price or by hiding, concealing, or hoarding the above goods.

At the same time the President directed that the provincial treasurer of Samar be authorized to give a two-month advance salary loan to all provincial and municipal employees of the town. The President directed Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon to determine whether the GSIS or the Philippine National Bank would advance the required funds for the purpose.

The President directed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor and Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol, over-all performance officer to enplane for the fire-stricken area and supervise and coordinate the relief activities. The two officials left by an amphibian plane requested from the United States Navy about 2 p.m., immediately after the Cabinet meeting. The plane was requested because amphibious craft is the speediest transportation to Samar.

The President was informed by Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao that more troops from Cebu and Leyte had been sent to Catbalogan in order to maintain peace and order for security purposes.

PRESIDENT Garcia gave members of his Cabinet today greater auto-burden of his work which he said would be devoted to other pressing matters of state.

At the Cabinet meeting for the President said that he was willing to accept command responsibility for the actuations of his department secretaries even if he has given them full discretion to act on matters not involving state policies.

The President and the Cabinet likewise:

1. Banned completely the exportation of scrap iron by turning down all petitions for an extension of time to ship out these articles; and
2. Approved the request *pi* the joint committee for Philippine participation in the Brussels (Belgium) Universal Exposition of 1958 to assess government owned or controlled corporations in order to raise the sum of ₱150,000 needed for the purpose.

In giving the department secretaries greater autonomy, the President upheld the report of the committee headed by Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona limiting questions which should be submitted to the Cabinet.

In its report to the Cabinet, the Aytona committee recommended that “only matters relating to the establishment of national policy should be submitted to the Cabinet for action.”

It also listed the following possible exceptions which may be submitted to the Cabinet for decision:

1. Matters involving jurisdictional disputes or conflicts of opinion between two or more executive departments or comparable major agencies where every effort to resolve such matters at department level had been made but no resolution had been reached; and
2. Questions which even though dealing with specific cases tend to set precedents.

At the same time, the President said that like the practice of the late President Magsaysay, he would make himself available to the people and keep the Palace open to them.

In making this announcement, the President urged his department secretaries to follow President Magsaysay's example of making their offices easily accessible to all callers, especially those in need of help.

The President pointed out that, as a result of the new plan in dealing with the members of the Cabinet, he hoped that more questions could be resolved and more people would benefit by this arrangement.

“As you are the extension of my personality, and as you act on these various cases, I have actually multiplied myself and as a result I hope that more persons will be attended to and more problems solved on department levels.”

President Garcia and the members of the Cabinet denied all petitions to extend the time for the exportation of scrap iron.

The Cabinet action, it was learned, was prompted by criticisms raised recently by Sen. Claro M. Recto against the lifting of the ban by allowing some persons to export these commodities.

It was learned that the Cabinet had granted certain businessmen permits to export scrap iron, but that these permits had expired.

Petitions were addressed to the Cabinet for the extension of the time to make the shipment, as their scrap iron had not been loaded fully when the deadline came.

Senator Recto had indirectly chided the Administration for authorizing the exportation of scrap iron against a standing ban for the shipment of these commodities outside the country.

Upon the recommendation of Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, the Cabinet approved a request of the joint committee for Philippine participation in the Brussels exposition to assess ₱150,000 from government owned or controlled corporations.

Secretary Ledesma reminded the Cabinet that the Philippine Government was irrevocably committed to participate in the exposition.

He said that the committee felt that the most feasible way of raising the money was to assess each government corporation.

Ledesma said that the government had only up to June within which to finish the construction of the Philippine pavilion.

THIS afternoon, President Garcia received Gov. Juan F. Triviño of Camarines Sur, who sought the release of ₱650,000 for river control project to avoid recurrent floods in his region, as well as the construction of the projected Caramoan Peninsula lands in his province.

As president of the Philippine Coconut Producers Federation, Gov. Triviño also took up with President Garcia some pressing problems of coconut growers.

LATER this evening, the Chief Executive received a delegation from the Escolta Walking Corporation which called to pledge their support and to wish him success in his administration. Headed by former Labor Secretary Primitivo Lovina, corporation president, the delegation also invited President Garcia to be guest of officers.

The EWC delegation included former Mayor Francisco Batacan, former Labor Director Felipe E Jose. Pedro Padilla, Fidel Vibar, Cosme Fabre Antonio Brodett, Jose Alvir, Patricio Senador, Mauricio Silverio, J. P. de los Reyes, Jose Yatco, and Gonzalo Espino.

Among the callers this evening was Sen. Edmundo Cea.

April 4—PRESIDENT Garcia held a breakfast conference with congressional leaders today, the first since he assumed the presidency. The conference took up legislative matters pending before the current session of Congress.

1. The President inquired on the status of the reparations bill and was told that the bill was up before a Senate-House conference committee. The main difference between the Senate and the House versions of the bill is that not more than 70 per cent of reparations payments will go to the private sector as against the government sector, while the Senate bill does not specify which part should go to the private sector and which part to the government.

The President told the conference that while he was not interested as to which version should prevail regarding this point, he hoped that the final reparations measure would retain the principle of flexibility, that is, it would not specify rigidly what share should go to the government and what share to the private sector.

On the suggestion of Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, the conference also agreed to insert a provision in the final reparations bill which would make chargeable to reparations services whatever amount should be paid to ramie processing plants in Japan for the processing of ramie fiber grown in the Philippines and shipped to that country for finishing. Cuaderno told the conference that the Philippines was disbursing plenty of dollars for the processing of ramie in Japan. Charging it against reparations services, he said, would result in saving these dollars.

The Senate and the House conferees also were of the opinion that the provision in the House bill limiting reparations benefits to natural-born Filipinos was of doubtful constitutionality. It was the consensus that this provision would have to be thrown out of the final bill.

2. President Garcia renewed his plea for the restoration of cuts from the budget made in the House of Representatives.

(a) He made a strong request for the restoration of the ₱10 million additional capitalization for ACCFA denied by the House. President Garcia cited the benefits that ACCFA has extended to the average Filipino farmer by providing him with easy credit facilities, warehousing facilities, marketing advantages, etc. The conference, in view of President Garcia's appeal, seemed disposed to consider (favorably his request for restoration of the ₱10 million fund.

On motion of Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez, President Garcia promised that he would instruct the ACCFA to extend its services to the coconut industry. Pelaez pointed out that coconut growers have been clamoring for the benefits of the cooperative movement and that it was time the ACCFA heeded this clamor.

(b) The conference also seemed sympathetic to President Garcia's plea for restoration of the ₱8 million additional capitalization for the NARRA which had been rejected by the House. President Garcia pointed out that the NARRA to date has settled 19,000 families, of whom 14,000 have already achieved self-sufficiency, thus leaving only 5,000 families more to be taken care of by the NARRA. The President said that the publicity given to a few families which left NARRA settlements in disgust has distracted public attention from the fact that the NARRA has been highly successful in guiding 14,000 families to self-sufficiency. President Garcia and the Congress leaders also agreed that the administration of the NARRA has improved considerably since Col. Luis Franco became general manager.

(c) From the attitude of the conference, it was felt that there may be rougher sailing for President Garcia's request that the proposed ₱20 million additional capitalization for NAMARCO be restored. In urging this restoration, the President pointed out that goods imported into the Philippines have risen in price owing to circumstances beyond our control. He pointed out the cost of these goods has gone up at the source; transportation costs have risen because of the Suez Canal crisis; freight charges have gone up all over the world. As a result of these factors beyond the control of the government, President Garcia said, most prime commodities imported into the country have gone up in price. He said the only way to counteract this development was to insure ample supply of such commodities, and that this could be done only by increasing the capitalization of the NAMARCO. Thus, President Garcia requested restoration of the proposed ₱20 million additional capitalization for the NAMARCO.

3. President Garcia also told the conference that he was 100 per cent behind President Magsaysay's state-of-the-nation message recommendation for an adequate anti-Communist bill. Rep. Joaquin Roces of Manila assured the President that the compromise bill now pending consideration by the House was sufficiently strong and adequate to fulfill the need for forestalling further inroads by the Communist movement in the Philippines. On the basis of his assurance, President Garcia said he was placing his full support behind the Roces bill.

4. On motion of Rep. Eladio Balite, and with the full endorsement of President Garcia, the conference also agreed to approve a ₱500 thousand fire damage bill for Catbalogan, Samar. President Garcia this afternoon dispatched a special message to Congress, recommending immediate approval of the fire damage bill.

5. The conference also agreed that a bill would be presented and approved increasing the capitalization of the National Power Corporation to enable this corporation to carry on the construction of the Binga hydroelectric power project, the twin project of the Ambuklao power system. Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno said he would determine the exact amount of extra capitalization needed by the NPC.

6. President Garcia also pledged that he would make ₱20 million available immediately to cover public works projects which have been authorized by existing laws but the funds for which have not yet been appropriated. President Garcia said he would raise the amount by requiring government corporations to pay as soon as possible the advances made to them by the National Government. Secretary Moreno advised the conference that the outstanding public works projects already approved by Congress, but for which funds have not yet been made available, amounted to ₱110 million.

Those who attended the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr.; Sens. Cipriano Primicias, Jose P. Laurel, Sr., Alejo Mabanag, Fernando Lopez, Emmanuel Pelaez, Francisco Delgado, and Gil Puyat; Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr.; Reps. Daniel Romualdez, Arturo M. Tolentino, Joaquin R. Roces, Tobias Fornier, Cesar Fortich, Jose Roy, Eladio Balite, and Jose Corpus; Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno; Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona; NEC Chairman Eduardo Romualdez, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon; Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno; and Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable.

THE President today said that he would not remove Salvador Villa as general manager of the Manila Railroad Company, because Villa was doing

a good job and his services were indispensable in the expansion of the MRR. The statement of the President was prompted by a petition of labor leaders of the MRR requesting the retention of Villa as general manager and Andres Hizon as chairman of the MRR board of directors.

Upon reading the petition, the President said: "There is no question about Villa. I never thought of removing him, because he is doing a good job and he is indispensable in the expansion program of the MRR."

The labor leaders, representing the eight labor unions of the MRR, were accompanied by Rep. Constancio Castañeda of Tarlac. The President also said he would retain Hizon.

The President spent a very busy morning this day. After his breakfast conference with Congress leaders, he proceeded to the study room, where he received callers until 2 p.m. The presidential callers were mostly from the provinces. Several of them pledged their support to the Administration and many requested aid for their various public works projects.

Among the provincial delegations were the San Miguel, Leyte, councilors and residents accompanied by Speaker Protempore Daniel Romualdez and Mayor Santiago Paladin; Surigao officials composed of Rep. Reynaldo Honrado, Mayors Arcadio Jamir of Bacuag and Rafael Okay of Marihatag; La Paz, Leyte, town officials composed of Mayor Santiago Paladin and councilors and accompanied by Rep. Domingo Veloso; mayors and leaders of Mindoro Oriental with Gov. Francisco Infantado; officials of Mindoro Occidental with Gov. Mariano Tajonera; farmers from Villasis and Sant6 Tomas, Pangasinan, accompanied by Mayor Juan Dizon of Villasis, Vice-Mayor Mamerto Robura of Villasis, Vice-Mayor Asterio Soriano of Alcala, and Mrs. Estela Primicias-Sindico; Nacionalista Party

leaders of Nueva Ecija accompanied by NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco; and the delegation from Catanduanes with Gov. Juan Alberto.

Rep. Honrado said that the 25 mayors of Surigao have signed a resolution endorsing the re-election of President Garcia. The President thanked the Surigao solon and mayors for their confidence in him.

Members of the Philippine Association of Exhibitors of the Rolling-Floating Exposition also called on the President. They requested the Chief Executive the use of Navy LST boats during their floating exposition sometime in May. The President said that he would discuss the matter with Commodore Jose Francisco of the Navy.

Among the other callers were Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco; Reps. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay and Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, Augusto Francisco of Manila, Felipe Abeleda of Mindoro Occidental, and Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon; Gov. Domingo Chipeco of Laguna; Minister, Manuel Escudero; and Baguio City Councilor Benito Lopez, who urged the President to recommend a bill to Congress making the mayorship of Baguio elective.

April 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the ACCFA to provide corn planters with sufficient fertilizer this month because of the current planting season.

The President's directive was issued to the ACCFA assistant administrator, Dr. Francisco Sacay, who was called to Malacañang. It will be recalled that at a recent conference with sugar planters who had expressed willingness to devote part of their land to corn, the President said that he was in favor of the full implementation of the law appropriating ₱18 million for fertilizer.

The President told Dr. Sacay it was imperative that the corn planters be provided with sufficient fertilizer this month in order to remedy the current corn shortage. The Chief Executive, answering a report from Dr. Sacay that the demand for fertilizer was greater than what available funds could purchase, said that measures should be adopted to allocate fertilizer to applicants in accordance with their respective crops' planting seasons.

Dr. Sacay also informed the President that out of the ₱5 million already released for fertilizer, ₱3 million was utilized to import fertilizer and the other ₱2 million was used for the purchase of fertilizer from the National

Power Corporation. The ₱5 million was released from the ₱18 million appropriated by law for the purchase of fertilizer annually.

After his conference with Dr. Sacay the President received the members of the NAWASA board of directors who submitted their individual and collective resignations "in order to give you a free hand to choose men of your confidence.

The President upon reading their resignations said: "I request you to carry on. I am carrying on the work of the late President Magsaysay and you should also carry on." After their resignations were turned down, the NAWASA directors pledged their support and cooperation to the Administration. The President thanked them and expressed gratefulness for their pledge.

The NAWASA directors who called on the President were retired Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas, chairman; Susano R. Negado, member ex officio; Vicente Orosa, Cristobal Santiago, and Hermenegildo R. Reyes, members.

The board of directors of the Association of Provincial Treasurers, City Treasurers Municipal Treasurers, and Assessors also called on the President and informed him that their association was studying some changes in the assessment system of the government. The President said that if they would send their recommendations to him, he would recommend to Congress whatever legislation may be necessary.

The directors of the association were headed by Conrado Hernandez, chairman Jose Perez, vice-chairman; Pio Advincula, secretary; and Pedro Coronel, treasurer.

Others who called on the President were Gov. Juan Alberto of Catanduanes and ex-Senator Justiniano Montano.

President Garcia also received Eleuterio J. Gustilo and Pastor A. Gonzales representing members of the Class of 1923 of the Philippine Law School, who requested the holding of a class reunion with the President who belonged

The President said that he would be very glad to attend the reunion with his former classmates.

Gustilo and Gonzales showed the President the yearbook of their class in which it was predicted that the then graduate, Garcia, would become the vice-president of the Philippines. This prediction, they said, was not only fulfilled but was more than realized when the then Vice-President Garcia became President of the Philippines.

THE Chief Executive today cabled Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo in Washington directing him to master all support for pending bills in the U.S. Congress designed to bring benefits to Filipino veterans.

The President was implementing original instructions of the late President Magsaysay on this matter, who before his death, had instructed Romulo to take necessary measures for the benefit of Filipino veterans.

At the same time, President Garcia told Romulo to convey the gratitude of the Filipino people to Congressman Olin T. Teague and Congressman Brooks: Harvey V. Higley, administrator of veterans affairs in Washington; and the American Legion for their efforts in helping the cause of the Filipino veterans.

The President cabled Romulo after a conference with Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao; Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff; and Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal, PC chief.

PRESIDENT Garcia said this afternoon that he will not release for publication the report of the Philippine bases panel on the ill-fated negotiations it conducted with: a United States counterpart, August through December of last year, for the revision of the 1947 military bases agreement.

The Chief Executive told a press conference in Malacañang this afternoon that the report, popularly known as the "White Paper," was "classified" in its entirety and as such, could not be made public.

This was President Garcia's first actuation since he assumed the presidency, March 17, that contravened a declared wish of his predecessor, the late President Magsaysay.

Shortly after he had received the "White Paper" on February 28 from Senator Emmanuel Pelaez, panel spokesman, President Magsaysay said he would make public such portions of the report as would not endanger the security of either the Philippines or the US or breach diplomatic protocol.

Other than these considerations, President Magsaysay said, he saw no reason for withholding the "White Paper" from the public.

Sources close to the Philippine bases panel said one of the major matters which occupied President Magsaysay's mind shortly before his death was the determination of just what portions of the report to release.

President Garcia's emphatic refusal this day to have the "White Paper" published was expected to draw criticisms from several members of the bases panel, especially from those who had had a hand in preparing the report.

It was the sentiment of these members that publication of the "unclassified" portions of the report would give the populace a "better grasp" of the points at issue in the stalled negotiations.

They were of the opinion that such a knowledge would keep the public from believing charges that the bases panel had been “unreasonable” in its demands and would unite the populace behind the panel’s stand on the bases question.

PRESIDENT Garcia was awarded the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, in solemn ceremonies held this evening at the Philippine Law School, where he graduated *magna cum laude* 34 years ago.

In his address accepting the honor bestowed on him by his Alma Mater, the President congratulated the new crop of graduates and urged them to cooperate in the solution of two main problems confronting the nation today; namely, to alleviate the plight of the common man and to preserve our democratic institutions.

The doctorate hood was placed on the President at 6:20 p.m. by Ricardo C. Lacson, PLS president, assisted by the First Lady, Mrs. Garcia. Among those present at the ceremonies in connection with the institution’s 36th commencement exercises held at the PLS quadrangle in Intramuros, were members of the Cabinet, members of the diplomatic corps, senators, and representatives.

Associate Justice Conrado V. Sanchez of the Court of Appeals, orator of the occasion, traced the colorful political career of President Garcia; first, as representative and provincial governor of Bohol; next as senator, vice-president, and concurrently secretary of foreign affairs; and then, as President of the Republic. Justice Sanchez also recalled the exploits of the President as a *guerrillero* during the dark days of the Japanese Occupation.

The welcome address was delivered by PLS President Lacson, who also introduced President Garcia, the distinguished PLS alumnus. President Garcia’s speech lasted about 30 minutes.

The Chief Executive continued speaking despite a slight drizzle toward the end of his speech. The ceremonies ended shortly after 7 p.m. with the President shaking hands with this year’s graduates of his Alma Mater who filed past him on the stage.

From the PLS, the President returned to Malacañang and made ready for his trip to Baguio City, where he was scheduled to address visiting members of the Moral Rearmament Movement.

The President left the Palace for Baguio a little after 8 p.m. He was expected to return tomorrow afternoon to address the graduates of the Feati Institute of Technology.

April 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia, the First Lady, and their daughter Linda visited their other “palace” in Baguio City early this morning.

It was the first visit of the First Family to the Mansion House, the summer home of the Chief Executive, since President Garcia succeeded to the presidency last March 19.

The President was accompanied by three senators and representatives, province people, and political leaders headed by Gov. Juan Pajo of Bohol, and Malacañang newspapermen.

Having developed an aversion for airplanes, the President took a special presidential train to Damortis (La Union last night. Cars waited for him and the members of his party at Damortis to take them up through the sig-sags to the Pines City.

The President arrived at the Mansion House at 3 o’clock this morning.

PRESIDENT Garcia this morning stressed the need of understanding moral values and living in accordance with moral principles as an effective means of neutralizing the effects of communism.

The President spoke before the Moral Rearmament Asian Assembly delegates who have been holding their conference at the Pines Hotel, from March 28 up to April 8. Twenty-seven countries are represented at the conference with some 250 delegates attending.

In his extemporaneous remarks, the President said that man should understand God's law and must adjust his life in accordance with these laws. He added the main reason why there was so much human suffering was that man disobeyed the moral or eternal laws.

He cautioned that man should not think bad thoughts, speak evil words, or do bad deeds. Otherwise, he said, man would reap what he had sown. Instead, he advised that man must always have kind thoughts, words, and deeds for his fellowmen.

He expressed the hope that if all nations lived up to the natural laws and observed the "eternal verities" there would be peace in the world. He added that the world must unite in correcting the tendency to forget spiritual things instead of stressing only the material things.

He said he was glad that the Moral Rearmament Movement was helping people in understanding the moral laws and in living in accordance with these laws.

He welcomed the delegates to the Philippines and wished them a most successful assembly.

In the course of the program, representatives from various countries recounted to the audience their personal experiences on how the Moral Rearmament Movement had vitally affected their lives and made them live as true Christians.

President Garcia arrived in Baguio at 2:30 this morning after a train ride from Manila to Damortis and there by car to Baguio.

The President was accompanied by the First Lady and their daughter Linda, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon; Sens. Domocao Alonto, Francisco Delgado, and Roseller T. Lim; Rep. Angel Castaño of Manila; Bohol Governor Juan Pajo; Lieut. Col. Emilio Borromeo and Lt. Melchor Fronda; Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison; and Malacañang newspapermen.

The presidential party was met at Damortis by Mayor Alfonso Tabora of Baguio City.

The President spent the night at the guest house. After breakfast he motored to the Pines Hotel for his speaking engagement at the Moral Rearmament Movement conference.

Upon reaching the Hotel entrance, he was met by MRA officials and a group of delegates who sang a welcome song.

About 10:30 a.m., after he had addressed the MRA delegates, the President and his party motored down to Damortis, where they took the train for Manila, arriving at the Sta. Mesa railroad station about 4 p.m.

In the evening the president said that "national stability is the high goal of our individual and collective efforts."

He stressed: "This should be the guiding policy not only in the field of government but also in the sphere of private endeavor."

The President made this statement in his address at the 12th commencement exercises of the FEATI Institute of Technology, on which occasion he was conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*. The conferment rite was performed by the FEATI president, Dña. Victoria L. de Araneta.

In his prepared address, the President said that national stability was the “achievement of a well-balanced national development which leaves no portion of the nation and no phase of life to the withering effects of negligent conduct.”

He pointed out that a high material standard of life for every man and woman in the country was most desirable. However, he explained that the Government’s efforts to achieve economic development should not merely be directed toward that objective.

The President said: “Our thinking and our striving for an expanded agricultural and industrial growth should be dominated by an overpowering purpose. This should be the ultimate objectives of all our plans for national stability.”

Mentioning in particular the graduates of the FEATI, President Garcia said that they should be more than mere engineers, chemists, or technologists. He explained: “The graduate is a man and should be a man. He is a citizen and should be a free citizen. It is not enough that he understands and appreciates material values. It is absolutely essential that he must know human values and measure his achievements and life itself by such standards.

The Chief Executive, however, warned that in the desire to attain national stability, the people should remember “that the exaltation of the human spirit, the respect for the dignity of man, and the maintenance of freedom are the ends which we should strive after.” At this point the President differentiated the opposing ideologies of democracy and communism. He explained that democracy stands for human values and the moral and spiritual attributes of man. On the other hand, he said, communism regards material values “as the be-all and end-all of existence.”

Continuing in his address, he explained that a social system was likely to fall prey to communism unless a climate of political stability was developed and an adequate measure of economic stability was established. He said that aside from political stability, the country must develop a stable economy because “an economic vacuum creates a danger which will likely affect adversely the stability of our body politics if permitted to remain for a long time.”

He added: “It has always been the concern of our government to achieve an adequate measure of economic stability by developing our natural resources, by encouraging the expansion of our agriculture, and by creating incentives for the establishment of industries. While we are still distant from the desired goal of general economic stability, the evidence of increasing activities in this respect is too clear and palpable to be ignored except by those who will not give credit to achievements of a lighter degree than what has been accomplished by much older industrialized countries.”

Regarding the development of the country’s economy, the President said that “the prospects in this respect are bright and encouraging.”

Sounding a note of optimism, President Garcia said: “There is no cause for pessimism, no reason for despondency, no ground for alarm that eventually we might never enjoy an adequate measure of economic stability. We are moving with reasonable speed in the path of economic progress.”

The conferment on the President of the doctorate degree highlighted the twelfth graduation exercises of the FEATI Institute of Technology. The President was introduced as the commencement speaker by the FEATI vice-president and dean, Dr. G. Y. Zara.

April 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia started today his two-week Lenten fasting by hearing mass on board presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* en route to Catbalogan, Samar, where he intended to find out how the government could be of further help to thousands of fire victims.

The mass was said by Captain Juan Tugade, Navy chaplain, about 8 a.m. while the yacht was sailing off Calapan, Mindoro Oriental.

With the President at mass were Samar Reps. Gregorio Abogado, Eladio Balite, and Marciano Lim; Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Armed Forces chief of staff; Commodore Jose Francisco, PN flag officer in command; Rodolfo Andal, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System; and newsmen.

President Garcia brought Andal along to look into the possibility of extending credit facilities to the fire victims and facilitate their rehabilitation, particularly the construction of their homes.

Andal was also instructed to survey the extent of damages on government buildings insured with the GSIS to expedite payment of the corresponding indemnity.

Negado came along to look into the extent of damages on the town's waterworks. He disclosed his intention to revise the outmoded waterworks system in Catbalogan.

After mass the President and his party ate breakfast. President Garcia did not take anything save water with sugar. This will be his daily fare for one week.

ABOUT 9 a.m. the yacht and its escort held rescue exercises while cruising off Mindoro. The drill lasted some 20 minutes and consisted of the yacht stopping its engines and the escort ship overtaking and coming alongside it.

Commodore Francisco explained that the exercise simulated an emergency aboard the *Sta. Maria*, where it had become necessary for the escort ship to come alongside and receive the yacht's passengers. The exercise was made difficult by high swells.

The President is scheduled to arrive at Catbalogan at 7 a.m. tomorrow. Aboard the yacht and its escort are additional relief supplies for the fire victims.

The President spent the rest of the day going over state papers and chatting with newsmen.

April 8.—THE President today instructed GSIS General Manager Rodolfo Andal to extend real estate loans to the Catbalogan fire victims regardless of whether or not they are members of the system, to facilitate reconstruction of homes and business establishments.

The President also authorized two months' salary loans to national, provincial, and municipal government employees in Catbalogan to help tide them over during the period of rehabilitation.

Complying with the President's instructions, Andal immediately authorized the local provincial treasurer to pay the salary loans of applicants out of any available funds from the provincial treasury, subject to reimbursement by the GSIS. Andal, who is with the presidential party, also asked the cooperation of the local Philippine National Bank agency.

The President made available the amount of ₱40,000 as relief of the fire victims. In this connection, he formed a relief committee composed of the provincial governor, the PC provincial commander, and the Social Welfare Administration representatives to dispose of the amount to aid effectively the sufferers.

A big crowd of Catbalogan residents was on hand as the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* pulled up the local wharf at 7:15 a.m. Reception delegations were headed by Gov. Fernando Veloso, Catbalogan Mayor Esteban Pecson, and other officials from the nearby towns.

Escorted by the cheering townspeople, the President walked from the wharf to the provincial capitol about a kilometer away. Enroute, he noted the extent of the devastation wrought by the conflagration which gutted four-fifths of the town, including the commercial district. He also dropped in at the schoolhouse where refugee fire victims were temporarily housed and stayed a while to chat with a number of families. Members of the party were surprised that the President walked briskly despite the fact that today is the second day of his fasting.

Addressing a large crowd gathered before the steps of the capitol building, the President lauded the splendid work of the relief agencies and civic organizations in extending immediate aid. He said that so far 11,600 sacks of rice, 7,936 cases of canned goods, 3,000 bags of cement, and other relief goods from the Social Welfare Administration, the Red Cross, and private establishments were already in Caltbalogon. Other speakers were Govs. Veloso and Bernardo Torres of Leyte.

Then the President went to the governor's office on the second floor of the capitol building, where he conferred with local officials, including about 30 mayors who had come to Catbalogan to present their problems.

The presidential party is scheduled to leave at noon for the return trip.

PRESIDENT Garcia today cabled a message to President Eisenhower on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of Bataan Day.

In his message, President j Garcia said: "Today our two peoples are fighting the more subtle enemy, Communism, which is trying to subvert the ideals we fought for on Bataan."

Continuing, he said: "The; Filipino people know well the benefits of liberty and freedom and will continue to fight with the great spirit exemplified in Bataan to preserve those ideals."

President Garcia said that the Filipinos were pledged that the spirit of Bataan should not perish, and! that those gallant Filipino and American heroes who died for democracy; shall not have died in vain."

April 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia today signified his intention to purchase a four-engine plane and a faster ship for the use of the chief executive in periodic inspection trips throughout the country.

In a press conference aboard the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* at 12:30 p.m., a few hours before he landed in Manila on his return from Catbalogan, Samar, the President said that the head of the nation, whoever he may be, was entitled to a safer plane than the C-47 planes being used by the Air Force. He contemplated the acquisition of a small four-engine plane about the same size as a C-47.

Because the Philippines is made up of many islands, most of which are not equipped with airfields, the President also pointed out the need of providing the nation's chief executive with a faster boat to keep up with his tight schedules. "Not necessarily a yacht but a utility boat on which a president could go about from island to island with a minimum of delay," he said. The presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* is a converted Navy minesweeper of World War II vintage.

Asked where he expected to get the necessary funds for the purchase of the plane, the President said he would get it from Armed Forces appropriations or ask Congress to appropriate the necessary amount. The ship could perhaps be ordered from Japan under the reparations agreement, he added.

Commenting on reports that Congress would restore budget slashes except the ₱20 million earmarked for the NAMARCO because of alleged animosities existing between some Congressmen and NAMARCO Manager Benjamin Estrella, the President expressed confidence that even the ₱20 million would be restored.

He said that if reports of ill-feeling between some congressmen and Estrella were true, he did not believe that the congressmen would place personal animosities above the nation's welfare. "The NAMARCO needs the funds to carry on its program of helping maintain the economic stability of the nation," he said, "regardless of who may be heading the NAMARCO."

During the conference, the President disclosed that the GSIS teams dispatched to Catbalogan to process and pay two months' salary and real estate loans to fire victims had already arrived at their destination. He said that a radio message he had just received on board the yacht also informed him that the ₱40,000 he had allotted for the relief of

the fire sufferers had already been received by the provincial treasurer of Samar from the PNB branch in Catbalogan.

In the course of the press conference, the President reiterated his preference for foreign investments over capital loans, saying, among other things, that foreign investments bring in technologists which this country is badly in need of. He pointed out, however, that foreign investments should be welcomed here on a selective basis, that is, in fields that had not yet been undertaken by Filipinos and which make use of local raw materials.

President Garcia also told newsmen at the press conference he will accept a "compromise with merits" which would solve the long drawn problem involving 2,400 overstaying temporary Chinese visitors in the Philippines.

The President said he was not abandoning the late President Magsaysay's policy to repatriate "as soon as possible" the overstaying Chinese temporary visitors.

However, he added, that a "compromise with merits" may be favorably considered by the Philippine Government.

The President took up the question of 2,400 overstaying Chinese temporary visitors following reports that Immigration Commissioner Emilio L. Galang had blamed the Cabinet for the immigration mess in his testimony before the Senate yesterday on the government's policy towards 3,000 Chinese who had overstayed their visit here.

In his testimony, Galang in effect accused the Department of Foreign Affairs of usurping his office's jurisdiction over these visitors and showed displeasure over the extension which Padre Faura had been granting the Chinese's right to stay here.

The *Santa Maria*, aided by favorable winds and currents, reached Manila at 1:45 p.m.

But President Garcia, locked in a chess battle with Col. Nicanor T. Jimenez, technical adviser in SEATO affairs did not go ashore immediately after the boat had docked at Pier 5.

Before playing chess, the President consented to an informal press conference with the newsmen on board the ship.

President Garcia dressed up on the boat and motored directly to the Luneta, where he addressed a big Bataan Day crowd.

From the Luneta, the President dropped in at Malacañang, where he got his cap and gown, then proceeded to the commencement exercises of the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City.

THIS afternoon the President motored to the Independence Memorial Grandstand, where he was the principal speaker at a program which climaxed the four-day celebration of the 15th anniversary of the Fall of Bataan.

Starting from the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria*, where he had taken a brief rest following his arrival from Catbalogan, Samar, the President was accompanied to the grandstand by the AFP chief of staff, Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Col. Emilio Borromeo, and Col. Dionisio Ojeda. A 21-gun salute marked the President's arrival at the grandstand. He immediately responded to an honor guard composed of a company of soldiers in front of the grandstand.

A military parade featured the ceremonies which smarted after the President had taken his seat at the grandstand.

Before delivering his speech, President Garcia read the following message from United States President Dwight D. Eisenhower:

“On behalf of the people of the United States, I send Bataan Day greetings to our friends in the Philippines. Bataan Day is a solemn day for both nations, for it is a time when we pause to remember the price and consider the meaning of freedom.

“To try to recapture in words the deeds of the men of Bataan is not possible. By their action they expressed the true spirit of freedom better than words could ever do. That spirit is what we commemorate today.

“We also commemorate the comradeship which has bound our two nations together so strongly in the past, and which continues to be so vital in the anxious present.

“The dangers which now confront us are in a sense just as real as those that were faced on Bataan fifteen years ago. So we continue to draw upon the spirit of devotion, of comradeship and courage, which is the noble legacy of Bataan.”

The President was introduced by Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao.

After delivering his speech, President Garcia laid wreath on the flag-draped cenotaph of the late President Ramon Magsaysay, while a vested choir led by Mrs. Sally Cuadra-Salcedo sang a hymn.

Present during the ceremonies were members of the diplomatic corps and ranking government officials.

April 10.—AT the Cabinet meeting this morning President Garcia backed an order issued by Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez banning the exportation of bangos fry.

The President’s action was in line with his policy of giving each department head more authority with corresponding responsibility in discharging the tasks of their respective departments.

Rodriguez had ordered the banning of the exportation of bangos fry in order to protect the interests of fishpond owners who complained that the exportation of this item left them in difficulty looking for fish seedlings for their fishponds.

However, after considering the investments under permits which had been previously granted by the Cabinet in favor of some parties, the Cabinet authorized these permittees, including the last applicant, to ship abroad bangos fry up to and including June 30, 1957, without any further extension and subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Final verification by the Central Bank of the declared value prior to shipment;
- (2) Shipment of the bangos fry must be supervised by the Bureau of Fisheries, the Bureau of Immigration, and the Bureau of Customs;
- (3) Payment of the shipment in dollars to the Central Bank of the Philippines must be effected before shipment; and
- (4) Usual conditions imposed by the Export Control Committee. The President and the Cabinet approved the sale of the NARIC lot on

Azcarraga and Evangelista Streets to the Government Service Insurance System for ₱6 million under such terms and conditions agreed upon by these two government entities.

It was understood the GSIS will absorb the obligations of the NARIC to the National Government in the amount of ₱4 million which will be charged against the accounts of the National Government with the GSIS. The balance of the purchase price will be paid by the GSIS direct to the NARIC upon the signing of the deed of sale. This will enable the NARIC to obtain additional funds for its stabilization function.

In this connection, the Cabinet reiterated its desire that the Office of Economic Coordination intensify the collection of amortizations and interests due the Philippine Government from government-owned corporations. The Cabinet authorized the OEC to require the Cebu Portland Cement Company to turn over to the National Development Company the amount of ₱10 million from the proceeds of the sale of the Bacnotan Cement Plant so that the NDC might be able to settle part of its indebtedness to the National Government.

Upon recommendation of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Cabinet authorized Harvey E. Hodge to salvage a U.S. submarine which was sunk within the Sangley Point naval base as an exception to Executive Order No. 175, series of 1948, it appearing that this vessel was a public war vessel of the United States.

It was, however, stipulated that this action should not be taken as a waiver of whatever interests the Philippines might have over other vessels similarly situated under international or municipal laws or under the said Executive Order No. 175.

President Garcia, who presided over the Cabinet meeting, adjourned the meet shortly after 12 noon because of his speaking engagement at the Lions Club luncheon at the Manila Hotel. The meeting which was held at the Council of State room started at past 10:30 a.m.

THIS noon the President reiterated “we cannot live in isolation,” saying world conditions inevitably affect the local situation making it necessary for the Filipinos “to live with the rest of the world.”

The President was guest speaker at the regular luncheon meeting of the Manila Lions at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel. He delivered an extemporaneous speech after he was introduced by the Manila Lions president, Dr. Olimpio Villacorta, as “the President of the Philippines by the will of the people and by the will of God.”

Taking a dig at those “who prefer to live in the Sleepy Hollow of isolation of centuries ago,” the President said that it was necessary to give and take—to live with the rest of the world in order to attain universal freedom, universal peace, and universal happiness.

The President paid tribute to the Lions Club for realizing the necessity of world brotherhood. He pointed out that the Lions organization was all over the world.

Turning to the issue of nationalism, the President said that “we should re-define nationalism in terms of the present world situation.” He added that the concept of nationalism many years ago could no longer be the same concept of nationalism now. He envisioned a nationalism of the whole’ world where a tragedy for the Americans or the Eskimos will also be a tragedy for the Filipinos and all other nationals.

“We cannot live in isolation because every economic, political, or social situation in any part of the world affects us,” the President said.

The Chief Executive was made honorary member of the Manila Lions because of “his exemplary services as legislator and statesman, Vice-President of the Philippines, and Secretary of Foreign Affairs.” Macario Tan read the citation and Dr. Villacorta placed the Lion medallion on the President.

The President said in accepting the membership: “I will prove that this honorary membership has not been extended to me in vain.” He was also presented by the Manila Lions with a large green laminated chessboard aside from a chess book which was sold to him by the Lions during the program.

The Chief Executive was flanked on the presidential table by Acting Secretary of Education Martin Aguilar, Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, General Emilio Aguinaldo, Dr. Villacorta, District Lions Governor Eugenio Eusebio, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, and Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao. The President arrived at the Manila Hotel a few minutes after 1.p.m. and returned to Malacañang about 2:30 p.m.

EARLIER, after the Cabinet meeting and on his way to the Lions meeting, the President met a delegation of the Philippine Manpower Reserve, Incorporated, who requested aid for the employment of the organization's deserving and neediest members.

The President informed the members of the organization that the late President Magsaysay had authorized the release of ₱200,000 for the self-help projects of the Social Welfare Administration designed to aid unemployed persons. The Chief Executive said that the members of the organization could desire help from these projects. He also said that he would study their problems thoroughly. Spokesman of the organization was Ricardo Rod. Reyes. Labor Secretary Eleuterio Adevosio also talked to the delegation.

The President's only callers in the morning before the regular Cabinet meeting were Netherlands Minister to the Philippines Allard Merens, Van Gorkon of the Netherlands Legation, and Miss Clarice Lorenz of Australia.

Minister Merens, who is scheduled to leave for his country on reassignment, bade goodbye to the President. He was presented by the President with a *kamagong* walking cane. Van Gorkon is the *charge d'affaires* of the Netherlands legation.

Miss Lorenz, founder of the National Opera of Australia, paid a courtesy call on the President.

PRESIDENT Garcia this day nominated four full colonels to become brigadier generals.

Those nominated were: Col. Diosdado L. Rodriguez, AFP deputy chief of staff; Nicanor S. Velarde, commanding officer of the Philippine Army Training Command; Col. Tirso G. Fajardo, 3rd Infantry Division commander; and Col. Juan C. Relosa, commanding officer of 2nd Military Area.

SUPPORT of the entire province of Bataan was pledged to President Garcia's nomination at the convention and to his election in the coming November polls by a big delegation of officials from that province this evening.

Former Bataan Gov. Adelmo Camacho, chairman of the Nacionalista Party in the province who acted as spokesman if the group, told the President that all the Bataan delegates to the Nacionalista convention, including the two board members and mayors, were behind President Garcia one hundred per cent.

Camacho said that inasmuch as President Garcia had been elected together with the late President Magsaysay in the 1953 elections and inasmuch as the President was wholeheartedly carrying on the program of government of the late President, he deserved a chance to 'serve a full term as president.

President Garcia said that he was touched by the spontaneous demonstration of support shown by the Bataan delegation which came from the province of the late President's wife. He said that, knowing the great responsibility he had in carrying out to realization the unfinished work of the late President, nothing could gladden him more than to receive such promise of support.

He pledged to the delegation that he would do his best in fulfilling his task so that the great work begun by the late President Magsaysay would not be interrupted.

The President said: "I hope to be able to deserve your continuous support."

The delegation headed by Camacho consisted of Board Members Raymundo Galicia and Faustino Vigo; Mayors Lorenzo Bongco of Orani, Federico Muli of Dinalupihan, Jose Advincula of Mariveles, and Lorenzo de la Fuente of Abucay; Ex-Mayor Manuel Santos of Orion; and other political leaders in the province.

Another delegation from Davao likewise called to pledge its support. The delegation included Mayors Hermogenes Baloyo of Tagum, Gonzalo Palamos of Hagonoy, Lauro Arabejo of Compostela, and Severino Lacson of Moncayo.

Among the last callers this evening were Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno.

April 11.—AFTER breakfast with Don Exequiel Magsaysay, father of the late President Magsaysay, Rep. Godofredo Ramos of Aklan, Gov. Jose Dinglasan of Capiz, and Geminiano Yabut, the Chief Executive proceeded to the study room, where he attended to the problems and requests of many callers. On this fifth day of his fasting, the President took only water during breakfast. Don Exequiel came to Malacañang to return the President's visit to him and Mrs. Exequiel Magsaysay.

Among the callers of the President was Pedro D. Dioquino, a lawyer of Masbate, Masbate, who expressed appreciation for the recent removal by the Chief Executive of District Judge Pascual Santos as judge of the court of first instance of Masbate. Dioquino told the President that he was the original complainant against Judge Santos and as a result of his complaint an investigation followed resulting in the recommendation of dismissal of Judge Santos by the Supreme Court.

The President told Dioquino that the removal of Judge Santos was in line with the Administration's policy of weeding out undesirable public officials. Dioquino pledged his support to the President's re-election.

Another group which expressed full support for the President's reelection was a delegation of officials and leaders of Isabela headed by Rep. Delfin Albano. The Isabela delegation endorsed the President's re-election and thanked him for the implementation of the program on the financing and buying of native tobacco. Among those in the delegation were Mayor Panfilo Masigan, ex-Gov. Agustin Pintang, ex-Mayor Augusto Perez, ex-Board Member Felipe Padua, Pedro Cabauatan, Councilor Roger Esquera, Councilor Andres Carag, and Manuel Apostol.

A delegation of small fishermen headed by Arcadio Nuestro, president of the Federation of Manila Bay Fishermen, also called on the President and requested him to ban trawl fishing in Manila Bay. The President said that the matter would be studied thoroughly, together with the other requests for the banning of trawl fishing in other areas.

The fisherman complained to the President that their fishermen's village in Tondo was being occupied by some squatters. The President referred them to the Bureau of Lands with the directive that the matter be taken care of as soon as possible.

Rep. Joaquin Rocas of Manila accompanied Leo Hockstetter, Far East representative of the Motion Picture Association of America, and some proprietors of Manila movie houses, including Marcos Rocas and Ernesto Rufino, who discussed with the President the problems, of the foreign movie industry here. Juan Tan, labor leader, was also present at the conference representing the laborers and employees working in the movie theaters and companies. The President assured Hockstetter that he would confer with Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno on measures to solve the problems of the foreign movie industry in the country.

The President also met a delegation from Bataan composed of ex-Gov. Adelmo Camacho, ex-Gov. Alberto Aquino, Board Member Faustino Vigo, Mayor Federico Muli of Dinalupihan, and Mayor Jose Advincula of Mariveles. The delegation requested artesian wells and pre-fabricated school houses for the various barrios of Bataan.

Other callers of the President included Speaker Protempore Daniel Romualdez; Reps. Pedro Trono and Ramon Tabiana of Iloilo, Ignacio Cruz of Misamis Oriental and his delegation, Ramon Durano, Manuel Zosa, and Maximino Noel of Oebu, Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, Mateo Pecson of Masbate, and Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan; Gov. Alejo Santos of Bulacan; ex-Sen. Prospero Sanidad; ex-Gov. Gregorio Santayana of Quezon; ex-Gov-Paciencio Ysalina of Misamis Oriental; and, ex-Gov. Federico Castillo of Mindoro Occidental.

THE President today turned down the resignation of Dagupan City Mayor Teofilo Guadiz. Mayor Guadiz was an appointee of the late President Magsaysay. In his letter of resignation, Mayor Guadiz said that he was resigning in order to give the President a free hand to name his own choice for the Dagupan mayoralty.

President Garcia also signed Proclamation No. 406, declaring Saturday, April 20, as a special public holiday.

April 20, follows immediately Holy Thursday and Good Friday, which are public holidays, and immediately precedes Easter Sunday.

PRESIDENT Garcia tackled an old ticklish problem this afternoon—the presidency of the University of the Philippines.

The Chief Executive had merienda with the officers and members of the UP Alumni Association, headed by Sen. Domocao Alonto.

It was learned that the alumni recommended names for the President's consideration in the choice of the UP presidency.

The UP Alumni Association had previously endorsed Dean Vicente G. Sinco of the College of Law to head the UP.

April 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning had breakfast conference with 18 congressmen who reiterated their stand to support a Garcia-Laurel, Jr., ticket in the coming convention of the Nacionalista Party.

The congressmen also suggested to the President that a meeting of the executive committee of the NP be called immediately “to discuss some important matters and exchange ideas.”

Speaker Protempore Daniel Romualdez, who acted as spokesman of the group, told the President that the sentiment among the House NP members was that Speaker Laurel should be the vice-presidential candidate of the party. “We will pursue this line in the convention,” Romualdez said.

Answering the congressmen, the President said that he would abide by the decision of the convention. He added that he would discuss the possibility of calling a meeting of the NP executive committee with leaders of the party.

Other matters taken up during the conference were the legislative program of the Administration and the implementation of the Administration's rural development projects. The breakfast conference, which lasted for an hour, was attended by Speaker Protempore Romualdez, Reps. Constancio Castañeda of Tarlac, Enrique Corpus of Zambales, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Bartolome Cabangbang and Natalio Castillo of Bohol Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Agustin Gatuslao of Negros Occidental, Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Jose Nuguid of Bataan, Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Ricardo Ladrido of Iloilo, Angel Castañano of Manila, and Tobias Fornier of Antique. Malacañang Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable was also present at the conference.

AFTER the breakfast conference, the President proceeded to the study room, where he met a delegation of retired top Army officers who proposed the sending of a veterans mission to the United States to work for benefits and claims of Philippine veterans and war widows. In the delegation were Maj. Gen. Calixto Duque, Maj. Gen. Guillermo Francisco, Brig. Gen. Florencio Selga, Brig. Gen. Alberto Ramos, Col. Francisco Enage, and Mrs. Pilar Normandy. They were accompanied by Sen. Ruperto Kangleon.

The retired officers made the proposal to the President in a written memorandum. The President said that he would discuss the matter with some government leaders. He assured the retired Army officers of help from the executive branch of the government in case the plan is finally put through. He also told them to discuss the matter with Congress leaders in order to get congressional support for the proposed mission.

Representatives of American insurance companies in the Philippines also called on the President and informed him of their problems. Insurance Commissioner Ceferino Villar was present at the conference. Those who called on the President were Arthur Henderson, president of the local branch of the American International Underwriters; Gus Oliver, local manager of the Insurance Company of North America; and Victor Bello, local manager of the

American Foreign Insurance Association. They were accompanied by Charles Hodge, U.S. Embassy economic consultant, and Edwards Milans, U.S. Embassy commercial attaché.

IN the presence of officers of the Community Chest of the Philippines, the President signed a proclamation setting aside the period from June 1, 1957, to July 15, 1957, for the 1957 Community Chest Fund Campaign. The kick-off for the 1957 Community Chest fund drive will be held on June 1 at Malacañang. Carlos Palanca is the Chairman of this year's fund drive. Among those present during the signing of the proclamation were FEU President Teodoro Evangelista and Mrs. Trinidad F. Legarda. Mrs. Leonila Garcia, the First Lady, was also present.

After signing the proclamation, the President conferred with ACCFA Chairman and General Manager Osmundo Mondoñedo, Philippine Tobacco Administration Manager Manuel Turingan, and four congressmen from the North. Discussed during the conference was the plan for financing, grading, and buying of native tobacco. The President instructed Turingan and Mondoñedo to get together and thresh out the problems affecting native tobacco. The congressmen present at the conference were Reps. Amadeo Perez of Pangasinan, Manuel Cases of La Union, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, and Delfin Albano of Isabela.

Other callers of the President included Gov. Juan Alberto of Catanduanes and Filemon Rodriguez, former chairman of the National Power Corporation and the National Economic Council.

MALACAÑANG announced today that President Garcia has reinstated Vicente Gella as National Treasurer of the Philippines owing to lack of evidence to warrant his prosecution in court in connection with alleged backpay irregularities.

The President reinstated Gella pending the final disposition of the administrative case against him (Gella) and without prejudice to the final outcome of the same. The reinstatement order was forwarded to Gella this day by Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon.

In reinstating Gella, the President also took into consideration the voluminous record of the administrative case which will take time to study.

The President today signed an administrative order designating members of the committee to coordinate the planning of the Marikina multi-purpose project.

Designated members of the committee were the secretary of public works and communications, as chairman, the director of public works, the general manager of the NAWASA, the general manager of the National Power Corporation, the commissioner of public highways, a representative of the National Power Board, a representative of the auditor general, a representative of the secretary of finance, and a representative of the National Economic Council.

Among the purposes of the Marikina project are (1) to regulate and control floods and (2) to provide storage of the flow of the river and the use of such stored water for irrigation, water supply, and power generation. The committee will serve as the coordinating body of the project.

IN the evening the President administered the oath of office to Pullong Arpa as minister to Egypt. Present at the ceremony held at the President's study in Malacañang were Mrs. Arpa, Sen. Domacao Alonto, and a delegation from Sulu, home province of the appointee.

The first Filipino Moslem appointed to the foreign service with the rank of minister, Arpa thanked the Chief Executive for the confidence reposed in him. President Garcia replied that Arpa's appointment was in accordance with the Administration's policy to give "Brother Moslems" greater participation in the government.

Arpa is a member of the board of directors of the Moslem Association of the Philippines. He will be the first minister of the Philippines to Egypt since the elevation of the Philippine diplomatic office in that country from

consulate to legation. Yusup Abubakar, Philippine consul general there, will be charge d'affaires of the new Philippine legation.

April 13.—EARLY this morning, President Garcia received William Whiteford and Henry Hood, president of Gulf Oil Company and vice-president of the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, respectively, who paid a courtesy call following their arrival in Manila in the course of a tour of the Far East.

Both business executives were accompanied to Malacañang by Gerald Wilkinson. The affair was purely social. Breakfast was served to the President's guests while the Chief Executive took only a glass of warm water with sugar. Today is the seventh day of President's fasting.

After the breakfast, the President was presented by Hood with a plastic paper weight with a profile of President Lincoln.

The breakfast lasted from 8 to 9 p.m.

The President then conferred with Sens. Emmanuel Pelaez, Domocao Alonto, and Roseller T. Lim, and Davao Gov. Alejandro Almendras.

The conferees discussed problems affecting Mindanao. Among the matters taken up were the full implementation of the Administration's rural development program, the construction of feeder roads, and more artesian wells.

PRESIDENT Garcia this morning instructed PCAC Chairman Frisco San Juan to investigate complaints that AFP officials had been mauled by Quezon City police the other night. The President took this action upon receipt of a complaint from a local radio announcer this morning.

The Chief Executive told San Juan that, if warranted, proper charges should be filed and drastic action taken against guilty parties.

According to the complaint received by the President, one Anita Lapeña, legal wife of Lt. Reynaldo Melosantos, disappeared from the family home on February 19, returned briefly on February 25 and left on the same day, and returned again March 4 and again disappeared on March 25.

The other night Lt. Melosantos and his father, Capt. Leopoldo Melosantos, had been tipped off about Anita's whereabouts. Riding in an Army jeep, they spotted her walking with QCPD Detective Jesus Antonio along South 6th Street in Kamuning. The girl and the detective were taken by the Army men into the jeep and taken to the house of Undersecretary Jose Crisol, but Crisol was out at the time. They were next taken to the house of Secretary Eulogio Balao, but Balao was also out. Then they went to the house of Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, who referred them to the PC criminal investigation service.

The CIS was beginning to investigate the case when Capt. Melosantos thought of going back to the detective's house in Kamuning to get Lapeña's belongings and from there go to the Manila Police Department. While the two officers, the girl, and the detective were near the Quezon Monument, they were stopped by Quezon City police members, some of whom were in uniform while others were in plain clothes.

The officers, although in civilian clothes, fully identified themselves. In fact the driver was in complete uniform. But they were all allegedly forced out of the jeep at gunpoint and taken to Quezon City Police headquarters where they were manhandled. The abuse was allegedly heavy in the case of Sgt. Gregorio Ponciano driver of the Army jeep, who is still confined at the V. Luna General Hospital.

PRESIDENT Garcia today become Student No. 497 of the Institute of national Language.

He filed an application for enrolment in the home study course on National language offered by the institute for government employees.

The President also signed as part of the application a promise to contribute paper and mimeograph ink to enable the INL to keep up with the course. He was issued student identification No. 497, and the first lesson has been forwarded to him.

The President, in his application for enrolment, confessed that he knows "*kakaunti pa lamang*" of the national language and that he would like to know more, being the highest executive of the land.

THE President left this afternoon for week-end-cruise. The yacht *Santa Maria* steamed into Manila Bay about 5:25 this afternoon. President Garcia was accompanied by NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez, GSIS General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal, AFP Chief of Staff Alfonso Arellano, Commodore Jose Francisco, Col. Nicanor Jimenez, Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Air Force Chief Pedro Q. Molina, Col. Jose Ramos, Gov. Juan Pajo of Bohol, Maj. Jose Estrella, and Dr. Jose Corpus, physician of the President.

The President took with him a thick bundle of state papers. He said he would study some economic problems with Romualdez and Andal. He also said he would continue discussing details of the proposed acquisition of a new presidential plane with General Arellano and Cols. Molina and Ramos.

April 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia was briefed today by Acting NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez of the general economic situation in the country and abroad. He also briefed the President on the detail and background materials concerning the proposal to enter into a trade protocol with Japan which the President is expected to take up at the next Cabinet meeting.

This was in view of the proximity of the termination of the open account agreement with Japan on April 30. Romualdez also informed the President on the progress of the acquisition and implementation of industrial priority formula in line with the efforts of the government to intensify industrial development. Those are the three main points that the President discussed with Romualdez, one of his economic advisers.

The President also went over state papers. This morning the President-heard palm Sunday mass aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria*.

He started taking fruit juice in the morning of this second week of his fasting for the overhauling of his digestive system.

The President refrained from playing chess this day. Instead he busied himself reading the Bible. He read the chapters on the Passion of Christ as a part of his observance of Holy Week which started this day.

The *Sta. Maria* docked at Pier 5 at 10:30 in the evening, some three hours, behind the President's scheduled return to Malacañang.

April 15.—THIS morning the President awarded the Philippine Legion of Honor (Degree of Commander) to Rear Admiral Wendell G. Switzer of the U.S. Navy. The award was given after a breakfast given at Malacañang by President and Mrs. Garcia in honor of Admiral and Mrs. Switzer.

Admiral Switzer was cited for exceptionally meritorious and valuable services to the Republic. The citation said that Admiral Switzer "has greatly assisted in the technical advancement of the Armed Forces of the Philippines by affording the Philippine Navy the generous exploitation of invaluable materials, modern facilities, and skilled personnel of his command, particularly the use of the U.S. Navy ship repair services at Subic, Zambales."

The citation added that aside from Switzer's contribution to the enhancement of the security of the Republic, "he has displayed profound and sincere concern for the love and collective welfare of the Filipino people by his spontaneous

assistance during emergencies and other expressions of humanitarian services rendered regardless of place, time, and expense.”

The citation also said that “following the initial announcement of the aircraft tragedy involving the late President Magsaysay, and without any further consideration he immediately mobilized his command and dispatched planes and personnel to the search and rescue operations, in a most benevolent and unmistakable manifestation of the deep ties he has consciously established between himself and our people.”

The citation was read by Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, presidential aide. Assisting at the rites were Mrs. Switzer, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, and Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff.

After the breakfast and immediately before the awarding of the Legion of Honor, President Garcia delivered brief remarks in which he expressed the appreciation of the Philippine Government for the various ways of assistance rendered by Admiral Switzer to the Filipino people. He said that in this way Switzer had contributed to the fostering of closer ties of friendship between the Philippines and the United States.

The President expressed the hope that the Admiral would meet the same success in his future assignments as he had met here during his tour of duty in the Philippines. In his response Switzer thanked the President and the Philippine Government for the honor conferred upon him which he said he accepted with great humility. He recalled that during his stay in the Philippines, he was fortunate to have made the friendship of government officials and the Filipino people, which friendships, he said he would cherish during all his life. He wished President Garcia success in his administration.

The President gave souvenir gifts to Admiral Switzer consisting of a *kamagong* cane and a box of Philippine cigars. Mrs. Garcia gave Mrs. Switzer a *piña* luncheon set.

PRESIDENT Garcia this morning assured members of the Social Security Commission that he would endorse and certify, if necessary, the bill amending the Social Security Commission Act.

Labor Secretary Eleuterio Adevos, chairman of the commission, told the President that if the bill was approved it would benefit workers, laborers, and employees working in private firms. The amendatory bill seeks to correct some defects in the original law creating the commission.

Rodolfo P. Andal, Government Service Insurance System General Manager, also told the President that he shared the views of Secretary Adevos concerning the amendatory bill. The members of the commission told the President that the amendment was necessary before the law is implemented. Other members of the commission who discussed the bill with the President were Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbukon representing the secretary of health and Teofilo Reyes, representing management.

Secretary Adevos also accompanied the members of the Philippine delegation to the ILO conference in Geneva, Switzerland, this June. The President wished the delegation luck. Members of the delegation, who paid a courtesy call, included Dean Jorge Bocobo, Cipriano did, Cesar Lorenzo, Juan Tan, Felina Reyes, Feliciano Belmonte, Jr., Ruben Santos, and Raul Inocentes.

The President conferred with NARIC Board Chairman Juan O. Chioco and Bureau of Internal Revenue Collector Jose Arañas. The President and Chioco discussed the progress of the measures adopted by the Administration to remedy the current corn shortage while Collector Arañas reported on the progress of tax collection.

Officers of the National Press Club headed by President Domingo Abadilla made representations with the President for houses and lots which could be sold to homeless newspapermen. With the newsmen was Vicente Orosa, People's Homesite and Housing Corporation chairman and general manager, who informed the President that portions of Project 8 in Quezon City would be set aside for newspapermen.

Other callers of the President included Sen. Decoroso Rosales, Rep. Enrique Corpus of Zambales, Rep. Numeriano Babao of Batangas, Gov. Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Oriental, ex-Rep, Leon Cabarroguis, Leyte ex-Governor Honorio Lopez, Mayor Francisco Enriquez of Atimonan, Quezon, and a delegation from the municipality, and Judge Guillermo Guevara.

A delegation of northern Negros coffee producers called on the President and denounced Forestry Director Felipe Amos for refusing to release the northern forest reserve in; Negros Occidental for their use. The delegation told the President that the area was promised them by the late President Magsaysay. The President said he would discuss the matter with Director Amos. The delegation, headed by Rep. Jose Puey, was composed of Alfredo Maraño, president; Vicente Katalbas, vice-president; and Salvador L. Paris, technical man of the coffee planters association.

The President finished receiving callers about 1 p.m., after which he motored to Pasay City where he attended a luncheon given by the Friends of Roxas Society on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the death of the late President Manuel A. Roxas. The President went to the luncheon party with the First Lady and Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora. Mrs. Trinidad Roxas met the President and the First Lady.

Earlier in the morning President Garcia had ordered a wreath sent to the Roxas historical marker at Clark Field where the late President died. Brig. Gen. Leoncio Tan, 1st MA commanding general, laid the wreath on behalf of the President.

The Chief Executive also sent a wreath to the Roxas tomb at the Cementerio del Norte. Upon his direction, units of the Presidential Guards Battalion were mounted at the tomb.

MALACAÑANG announced today that Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao will head a Philippine mission to Washington that will confer with officers of the U. S. National Shrines Commission for Bataan and Corregidor to finalize plans for a \$6 million memorial on Corregidor.

Members of the Philippine team, scheduled to leave the last week of April, are Lieut. Jesus Vargas, retired Armed Forces chief of staff, and Col. Jose Razon, representing Filipino veterans. Razon will travel on his own.

The team will meet with the U. S. body headed by former U. S. Ambassador Emmet O'Neal which has been raising funds for an appropriate memorial on Corregidor to honor Filipino-American comradeship in World War II.

Malacañang announced Balao's mission after the latter held a half-hour conference with President Garcia.

PRESIDENT Garcia accepted today the tender of resignation which PCAC Vice-Chairman Antonio J. Villegas reiterated last Friday.

In resigning Villegas assured that even in private life he will continue helping the cause of good government. Villegas resigned from his positions as vice-chairman of the PCAC and special prosecuting counsel in the various administrative cases which the late President Ramon Magsaysay had assigned to him.

Villegas first joined the government with the creation of the PCAC by the late President Magsaysay.

IN the afternoon the President received members of the Far East Trade Mission sent over by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce to survey possibilities of increasing investments in Asian countries.

With Ned Lewis, vice-president of the Wilbur Ellis Company and LACC director, acting as spokesman, the mission informed the President that their survey would last about two months and would take them to Hongkong, Japan, and other important countries in Asia, aside from the Philippines.

The President assured members of the mission that the Philippine Government was always ready to welcome foreign investments that would promote the development of the country. He asked the group not to hesitate to call upon any government agency which they thought could be of assistance to them in their survey work here.

Accompanied to Malacañang by Ed Milans of the U. S. Embassy in Manila and Stanley Fisher of the local American Chamber of Commerce, other members of the mission included Eugene D. Flaherty, vice-president of the American President Lines; Julian E. Embshoff, vice-president of Citizens National Trust and Savings Banks of Los Angeles; John F. Parkinson, traffic manager of the Los Angeles Harbor department; John A. Showers, director of the Far East Division of the World Trade Department; and Fred C. Embshoff.

Later in the evening, the President also received executives of the Standard Vacuum Oil Company headed by Cris Larsen, who informed him of plans of his firm to establish an oil refinery in Bataan.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: April 16-30, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

April 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning held a breakfast conference with officials of the United States Veterans Administration who discussed with him the operations of that office.

Present during the breakfast were Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao; John T. Cooper, Jr., manager of the local office of the USVA; Dr. Robert Cook, medical coordinator; Thomas Lee, assistant chief of the legal division; Henry Scott, assistant to the manager; and Col. Bernard Anderson, who represented the American Legion.

Using different charts to illustrate his points, Cooper informed the President that:

- (1) Of the total U. S. expenditures in the Philippines, 53 per cent goes to the veterans and their families;
- (2) The expenditures of the USVA contribute 11 per cent of the country's foreign exchange reserves;
- (3) The USVA is now paying ₱65 million to the country's veterans and their families; and
- (4) In line with the policy of the USVA, the beneficiaries maintain bank deposits which at present total ₱40 million.

Cooper also informed the President that the local USVA was the lone office outside the United States administering veterans' affairs. In other countries, Cooper added, veterans' affairs were handled by attaches.

Financing of the Veterans Memorial Hospital for the next 10 years was discussed. No details about this matter were released.

After the breakfast conference, the President proceeded to the Malacañang study room, where he received some callers.

Rep. Luminog Mangelen headed a delegation from Cotabato which requested assistance for public improvements.

Individual callers were Sen. Quintin Paredes, Speaker Protempore Daniel Romualdez, Gregorio Licaros, and Tito Timpo, mayor of Kibawi, Bukidnon.

Roberto Oca, president of the Philippine Transportation Workers Organization, invited the President to be the guest during the convention of that labor organization on April 28 at the National Press Club building.

The President received callers up to 1 p.m.

THE President, on the tenth of his Lenten fasting today, drank milk in accordance with his two-week fasting schedule. He would continue taking milk up to Holy Saturday, the last day of his fasting.

Upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, President Garcia today granted 27 conditional pardons, three absolute pardons, and one special absolute pardon.

IN the afternoon the President and Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, the First Lady, motored out of Malacañang. They returned late in the afternoon.

April 11.—AT 5 o'clock this morning the President left for Baguio City, where he is expected to spend the rest of the Holy Week. He took along bundles of pending state papers.

Riding in a car, the President was accompanied by Maj. Jose Estrella, aide; Gerardo Palaypay, appointments secretary; and some newsmen.

President Garcia arrived in Baguio at 10 a.m. after a four-hour drive from Manila,

The Chief Executive arrived in Baguio with former Executive Secretary Jose Reyes. Reyes stayed at the Mansion House with the First Lady's relatives.

On the way to the Pines City, the President paused at the town of Sison, Pangasinan, where he presided over a press conference at a restaurant. President Garcia sipped milk while the newsmen took coffee.

Upon his arrival at the Guest House, the President closeted himself reading the Bible and the Passion of Christ. At the stroke of 12- noon, he led a one-minute prayer for the late President Magsaysay.

The prayer offering was attended by Exequiel Magsaysay, father, of the late President; Mrs. Concepcion Labrador; Ramon Magsaysay, Jr.; Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano; Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal; and Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz.

The President held a second press conference within two hours in front of the Lourdes Grotto at the Mansion House. He retired at 1 p.m. saying that he would devote the rest of the day to meditation.

PRESIDENT Garcia today dismissed nationalism as a campaign issue and said he would base on the economic issue his bid to retain the post he took over from the late President Magsaysay.

In two press conferences within two hours, President Garcia also said that:

1. He would order the Department of Justice to investigate the reported ₱12 million lobby for overstaying Chinese visitors if government agencies could gather sufficient evidence to warrant a probe.
2. He hoped the bases negotiations between the Philippines and the United States would be resumed.

The Chief Executive disclosed some of his political plans as the official mourning period ended for President Magsaysay, who died in a plane crash with 25 others last March 17.

He said he would launch a full-scale offensive after the Holy Week to win the Nacionalista presidential nomination and eventually the November election.

President Garcia at his first press conference in Sison, Pangasinan, this morning told newsmen that he would launch a full-blast campaign Monday to win the NP presidential nomination and the November balloting.

Asked by newsmen about his political plans, President Garcia smiled, saying such plans and strategy were never disclosed—"they are a military secret."

But he said he would launch his political campaign on the issue of economic development. He waved aside the possibility of fighting on the nationalism issue, saying, "We are all nationalists."

Explaining his economic program, the President said he was not in favor of the lifting of exchange controls, saying the economy of the country did not warrant such action.

He reiterated that he favored foreign investment in the Philippines.

Asked about the role of the Constabulary and the Army in the coming elections, President Garcia said those military organizations would be used only in maintaining peace and order upon the request of the Commission on Election.

The President touched on the ₱12 million lobby question in his second press conference in Baguio.

He said he would instruct the Department of Justice to investigate the alleged lobby if government agencies could gather sufficient evidence on which to start a probe.

Meanwhile, he said, the Government was pressing consistently for the deportation of the overstaying aliens.

The President hinted displeasure with Immigration Commissioner Emilio Galang, but refused to answer a newsman's query as to whether he would fire the immigration chief.

Galang, in testimony at the Senate hearings on the alleged ₱12 million lobby, laid part of the blame for the continued stay in the Philippines of more than 2,000 temporary Chinese visitors on actions by President Garcia when he was vice-president and concurrently secretary of foreign affairs.

Asked to comment on Galang's testimony, the President replied, "Galang doesn't deserve to be answered by the President. There was confusion in the statements of the immigration commissioner," he added.

During this interview, the President said he would keep Secretary of Justice Pedro Tuason in the Cabinet.

"No one can impeach the integrity of Tuason," he said.

PRESIDENT Garcia decided to commute the death penalty imposed upon prisoner Victor de Vega to life imprisonment as a pure act of mercy, considering that the killing of the deceased, Florentino Completo, *alias* Faustino Completo, happened during the Japanese occupation in 1944 when, on account of the resistance against the enemy, the temper of the times was such that people would take away human life without much deliberation and forethought.

The President believes that the killing of the deceased by Victor de Vega had something to do with the activities of the guerrilla band operating in the border of Cavite and Batangas to which de Vega was attached.

April 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia heard Maundy Thursday mass at 4 o'clock this afternoon at the small chapel of the Guest House. Fr. Juan Tugade, Navy chaplain, said the mass. Among those present were presidential aides and newsmen.

Fr. Tugade went to Baguio to assist the President in his spiritual retreat. He brought for President Garcia appropriate reading matters, among them pamphlets and sermons on the Seven Last Words.

The President continued reading the Bible this morning. At past nine a.m., he walked around the lawn of the Mansion House accompanied by Assistant Press Secretary Sison. Then the President went alone to one of the *kiosks* where he spent a few minutes of spiritual contemplation. He said the atmosphere of the place was conducive to meditations.

Following the late President's policy, President Garcia had the Mansion House and Guest House and grounds open to the people. Hundreds of vacationists trekked to the grounds for sight-seeing. In his garden stroll, the President met a group of teachers from Negro's Occidental and another group from Davao. He greeted them and asked if they were enjoying their Baguio sojourn.

Later the President met Rep. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga in front of the Guest House and discussed with him land problems. President Garcia said he would prosecute vigorously the Magsaysay policy of buying big landed estates for resale at cost to tenants. He added that he would back up the work of the Land Tenure Administration in helping solve the tenancy problem.

April 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up late this morning, having played chess from 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon to 4 o'clock this morning with former Executive Secretary Jose Reyes, a house guest. The President said Reyes won once after many attempts.

On his 13th day of fasting, President Garcia looked thinner. But he was still strong as he toured the Mansion House grounds for his morning exercises.

This day being Good Friday, President Garcia read the book, *God Is Dying*, which contains a sermon on the Last Seven Words, written by Fr. Fulgence Meyer. He also continued reading the Holy Bible.

The President made his readings in his bedroom upon waking up in the morning. He interrupted his spiritual exercises by giving a press conference in one of the *kiosks* of the Mansion House, after which he strolled on the garden lawns: He came by many visitors from different parts of the country vacationing in Baguio. He welcomed them and talked with them informally.

Then he returned to the Guest House and drank another glass of milk. He resumed his spiritual readings until about 4 p.m., when he gave another press conference. In the evening he resumed reading spiritual books.

The President said he would end his fast on Sunday when he would take soft-boiled rice.

IN a press conference this morning President Garcia said he favors the active participation of Catholic groups in public affairs and in the government. He spiked charges of Church meddling in the government, saying that the Catholic Action groups were merely "under the guidance, nor regimentation of Catholic authorities."

President Garcia stressed that he will make representations for the appointment of a Filipino cardinal, "because it is the desire of Catholic Filipinos."

In the press conference, President Garcia:

1. Announced that he would meet leaders of private banks tomorrow to discuss the economic development of the country;
2. Said he would expedite the appointment of a Philippine, ambassador to the Vatican;
3. Directed Lieut. Col. Emilio Borromeo, senior military aide, to supervise the relief operations for the five victims in Gingoog, Misamis Oriental.

In favoring Catholic participation in the government, President Garcia said 80 per cent of our population are Catholics and, as citizens, their views will be helpful to the government. He pointed out that Catholic voters are more articulate in public affairs.

PRESIDENT Garcia, who presided at his second press conference this afternoon said he will meet with Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason to discuss the possibility of providing immunity for the press secretary and start off a full-scale investigation of the questionable transactions behind the case of the overstaying Chinese visitors.

The President reiterated that he had directed the Department of Justice to dig deeper into the alleged scandal.

At the same time, he authorized Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Raul S. Manglapus to appear before the Senate committee looking into the case of the overstaying Chinese and give that body all the facts held by the department on temporary visitor.

President Garcia pointed out that he had, in his capacity as then secretary of foreign affairs, granted two extensions of three months each to the temporary visitors in accordance with a Cabinet resolution. }

The President stressed that the temporary visitors should not be confused with overstaying Chinese who came here as refugees from the Chinese mainland when the communists overran it.

In the press conference this morning, President Garcia disauthorized Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang's statement that Malacañang was contemplating to "expose Immigration Commissioner Emilio Galang."

It was Commissioner Galang, who "revived" the case of the overstaying Chinese in a testimony before the Puyat committee, which is conducting hearings on the budget.

At the same time, President Garcia said that he believes the Senate committee on finance, headed by Sen. Gil J. Puyat, is not the proper body to investigate the Chinese lobby.

In a radiocast two weeks ago, City Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson "elaborated" on the alleged workings of the lobby for the purpose of legalizing the permanent stay of the Chinese visitors in consideration of ₱12 million representing their cash bonds.

The Liberals took up the "expose" and made it a campaign issue against the party in power. Several days ago, Reps. Diosdado Macapagal of Pampanga and Amadeo Perez of Pangasinan filed a resolution in the House of Representatives demanding that the activities of the supposed lobby be investigated.

Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr, branded the other day the Macapagal-Perez resolution as a political stunt and said that the case should be decided by the Nacionalista Party, it being a "political issue" involving the Nacionalistas.

The President said that the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee, not the Committee on Finance, should handle the investigation of the case.

President Garcia denied that Malacañang was contemplating reprisals against Galang for his "revelations" on the overstaying Chinese. However, the President stated that should Galang commit serious blunders in the future, he would be compelled to take drastic action against him.

At this juncture, he reiterated that Cabangbang's statement was not authorized. He hinted that he would talk with the Bohol representative and caution him against making similar statements.

The Chief Executive stated that Galang embarrassed the administration in his testimony before the Puyat committee.

He stressed that the Chinese temporary visitors have, not increased in number since the administration of the late President Magsaysay began in 1954.

April 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia received at the Guest House at 10:00 o'clock this morning justices of Supreme Court, headed by Cesar Bengzon, who paid their courtesy call.

In the course of their call, the President further reiterated before the Justices what he had already announced to the press that it was improper to consider the retirement of Chief Justice Ricardo Paras in favor of the nomination of Sen. Jose P. Laurel as reported, because Paras was not yet due for retirement, and besides, he was doing a good job. The President further reiterated that the position of chief justice should not be considered subject of political horse-trading.

The justices were gratified upon hearing personally from the President his stand on the matter. They said it had further upheld the independence of the judiciary.

The President exchanged views with the justices on such subjects as the reading of the Holy Bible, the significance of the finding of the Dead Sea scrolls, and the President's annual fasting which ends Sunday. Other justices present were Marceliano Montemayor, Alex Reyes, Alejo Labrador, Felix Bautista Angelo, Pastor M. Endencia, Roberto Concepcion, and Alfonso Felix.

The President received a report from Social Welfare Administrator Amparo S. Villamor that relief work for fire victims in Misamis Oriental and Angeles, Pampanga, was going on successfully and that the situation was under control.

A big delegation of teachers from the South headed by Silvino Maceran called on the President and greeted him. They said they were attending summer sessions in Baguio and they wanted to express their Easter greetings. The President spent some time chatting informally with them.

The President later conferred with Gov. Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank on economic matters. No details were given of the conference.

Auditor General Pedro M. Gimenez and Auditor Mauro Miranda of Baguio City also called on the Chief Executive to invite him to speak before the auditors' convention to be held sometime in May.

NAWASA General Manager Susano R. Negado informed the President that the water situation in Baguio was now under control. Negado discussed also matters affecting his office.

Other callers included Rep. Carlos Tan of Leyte and Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora and Baguio Councilor Benito Lopez.

In the afternoon the President held a press conference.

THE Chief Executive told a press conference this afternoon that Galang's "statement of facts" on the Chinese case before the Senate committee on finance has caused "embarrassment" to the Administration.

President Garcia said he was thinking of asking Immigration Commissioner Emilio Galang to rectify his views on the issue of overstaying Chinese or face "drastic measures."

President Garcia conferred earlier with Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol on the case and said he agreed with the congressman, one of his closest advisers, that the facts about the overstaying Chinese should be straightened out.

Galang had testified before the Senate committee that the Department of Foreign Affairs, while still headed by President Garcia, had obstructed his efforts to deport 2,400 Chinese who had overstayed their visas as temporary visitors.

The immigration commissioner's insistence on their deportation sparked a dispute between him and President Garcia while the latter was still vice-president and concurrently secretary of foreign affairs.

Galang had also declared that the foreign office had allowed the entry of Chinese temporary visitors and had given them extensions for their expired visas although 2,400 had already overstayed their permits.

The President reiterated to newsmen in Baguio today that the quota for the entry of temporary visitors had never exceeded the fixed figure of 500 during the Nacionalista administration.

In the press conference, President Garcia also said:

1. He was confident of winning the Nacionalista Party presidential nomination and would open his campaign for a “full-term” in Malacañang by sailing to Bacolod City and Iloilo City Wednesday.

2. He met Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., who has been mentioned as his possible running mate, at a luncheon given today by Mayor Alfonso Tabora of Baguio City, but they did not discuss politics.

3. He has disauthorized Rep. Cabangbang to speak for and in behalf of Malacañang.

4. There was no truth to the charge of City Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson that he (the President) had allowed Japanese and Formosan fishermen to fish in Philippine waters.

The President said he does not expect to meet any rough sailing in the Nacionalista Party convention. He said he would anchor his campaign to economic issues and to the development of a middle-class.

Exuding confidence, President Garcia added he would start talking on Monday to delegates to the NP convention.

Telling of his meeting with Speaker Laurel, the President said Mayor Tabora’s party was purely a “social affair.”

He said he inquired from the House leader the state of health of his father, Sen. Jose P. Laurel, his rival for the NP nomination. “That was the only political talk” in the party, he added.

He said he would ask the electorate for a “full-term in Malacañang” to enable him to translate into action his plans and policies.

The President said Mayor Tabora was a close friend of the Laurels, but the city executive had pledged support to him “with reservations.”

In his meeting with Cabangbang, the President said he approved the manifesto of the Garcia-for-President-Movement which the Bohol solon heads as national coordinator.

President Garcia said that while he had disauthorized Cabangbang to speak for and on behalf of Malacañang, “I cannot stop him” from expressing his own views.

With regard to Mayor Lacson’s charge, the President said he had not allowed Japanese and Formosan fishermen to enter Philippine waters and that he had not formally received any request for them to do so.

The Chief Executive was in high spirits during his press conference. He ended his 14-day Lenten fast today and announced the forthcoming wedding of his daughter and only child, Linda, to Fernando Campos.

President Garcia ended his much-publicized fast at midnight tonight.

At the stroke of 12, President Garcia completed 14 days of taking nothing but liquid.

One of the first things he did during the press conference was to announce the forthcoming marriage of his only daughter, Linda, to Fernando Campos, a barrister and law graduate from the University of the Philippines.

Said the President to newsmen: “Tomorrow being Easter Sunday and in memory of the resurrection of the Lord, I am happy to announce the forthcoming marriage of my only daughter, Linda, to Mr. Fernando Campos.

Asked how he felt about the forthcoming marriage, the President said: “I am happy about it.”

April 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today observed Easter Sunday by hearing mass said by Fr. Juan Tugade, Navy chaplain, at the Guest House chapel. Among those present at the mass were Malacañang assistants, newsmen covering the President, and Highways Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog.

After the mass the President shook hands with his guests and extended his Easter greetings.

Other officials who called later on the President to greet him were Ambassador Chen Chih-mai of Nationalist China, Agriculture Secretary and Mrs. Juan de G. Rodriguez, Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora, Pangasinan Governor and Mrs. Conrado Estrella, Pangasinan Board Member Nancy Q. Sison, La Union Gov. Bernardo Gapus, and NARRA Board Member Porfirio V. Sison.

President Garcia broke his fast at about 8 o'clock last night when he started on *lugaw*. Today he is still on the same soft diet. Although he fasted during the past two weeks, subsisting on sugar and water at first and on fruit juice, then milk, in the second week, he had observed his regular routine of receiving daily callers except since last Wednesday when he went en spiritual retreat. The President feels in good health today although he has lost 11 pounds.

THIS afternoon at about 5 o'clock, the President gave a press conference.

PRESIDENT Garcia called on Congress today to speed up consideration of vital legislation measures to obviate the necessity of holding a special session in view of the coming presidential elections.

He told newsmen at a press conference in Baguio at 5 o'clock this afternoon that in his meeting with Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., yesterday, he urged the House chief to rush important measures since the current regular session has only 26 days to go.

The President said he was heartened by Laurel's concurrence with his views and the Speaker's statement that he would direct the arrest of solons who might absent themselves from the remaining days of the session.

President Garcia said the measures he wished expedited include the national budget, the reparations bill, the mines development bill, the social security bill, and other financial measures.

The President said he would convey his wishes to Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez upon his return to Manila tomorrow. He will leave Baguio by car early tomorrow and entrain at Damortis (La Union) for Manila.

In his press conference, President Garcia also:

1. Said he discussed with Chinese Ambassador Chen Chi-mai this morning the possibility of releasing Chinese-owned \$1.1 million held in the Philippines. He added they touched briefly on the problem of 2,400 Chinese who had overstayed their temporary visitors' visas here;
2. Authorized Press Secretary J. V. Cruz to release a statement assailing Antonio J. Villegas, resigned vice-chairman of the President's Complaints and Action Committee, for declaring that the late President Magsaysay's campaign against corruption had become "a mockery" under President Garcia; (Cruz labeled Villegas' statement a cheap and transparent stunt.)
3. Issued a statement in welcome for Australian Prime Minister Robert Gordon Menzies and Dame Pattie Menzies, who are scheduled to arrive in Manila tomorrow for a state visit to the Philippines.
4. Reported he had conferred with provincial governors who pledged support for his presidential bid;
5. Made a bid for the support of the Magsaysay-for-President Movement.

President Garcia said he and Speaker Laurel agreed that a special session would be unfeasible owing to the proximity of the elections. He met Laurel at a luncheon in the house of Mayor Alfonso Tabora.

He said Laurel would start implementing tomorrow his promise to order the arrest of any solon who would absent himself from the sessions.

The President told newsmen that the Chinese ambassador was reluctant to discuss the case of the overstaying Chinese visitors in view of the current Senate investigation of the matter.

However, he said, he inquired about the status of Chen's proposal that the Chinese be repatriated to Formosa under five categories.

The President quoted the Chinese envoy as replying, "It is unfortunate that up to this time my government has not yet reached a decision on the matter."

It was not known whether or not President Garcia urged that the Taipei Government speed up action on the repatriation of the overstaying Chinese.

He pointed out that Chen came to greet him on Easter Sunday and to discuss the possibility of releasing the Chinese-owned dollars held in the Philippine Bank of Commerce.

President Garcia said he told Chen he would study the matter further.

Contacted by the *Chronicle*, the ambassador said, "That money is ours, but we are going slow with this ease in order to avoid straining relations with the Philippines."

Chen also told the *Chronicle* he believed the ₱12 million lobby allegedly seeking to extend the stay here of the 2,400 Chinese must have developed before he assumed his post here.

He waved aside a question as to whether or not the Chinese Embassy was conducting its own inquiry into the case. "I am not aware of the case," he said.

In welcoming Prime Minister and Dame Pattie Menzies, the President said: "I wish for their pleasant stay in our country."

He said Menzies state visit would surely strengthen further the solidarity between the Philippines and Australia. He also took occasion of the impending arrival of the prime minister to express his gratitude to the Australian Government for providing him with a plane to return to the Philippines when President Magsaysay died last March 17.

President Garcia, then vice-president and concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, was chief Philippine delegate to the SEATO council of ministers meeting in Canberra.

"This is a noble gesture of friendship which the Filipino people and government appreciate," the President said in recalling the Australian Government's offer of a plane to rush him home.

President Garcia postponed an earlier press conference scheduled at noon to receive political leaders who came to promise him support.

In bidding for the MPM's backing of his presidential bid, the President said, "I would like to see those who helped the late President Magsaysay also give me their support in order that I could prosecute his policies."

President Garcia said he believed that a great majority of the MPM members would support him despite reports that the MP.M would form its own party.

April 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning paid tribute to provincial and city health officers and urged them to continue implementing the rural health program of the late President Magsaysay, saying that “the most outstanding development during the last four years is the program on rural health.”

The President was the guest speaker at the 9th annual convention of the League of Provincial and City Health Officers held at the Far Eastern University auditorium. In paying tribute to the health officers, the President said he was gratified that “you have discharged your responsibilities with zeal and dedication.”

The Chief Executive cited the late President Magsaysay for having inspired the legislation mapping out the rural health program. The President said that the rural health law, Republic Act No. 1082, passed early during the Magsaysay administration, was “easily one of the most important pieces of legislation in the whole annals of our country.”

The President arrived at the FEU about 10:30 a.m. accompanied by Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia. He was met at the gate by Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbokon, Hospitals Director Tranquilino Elicaño, Dr. Melquiades Ronquillo, president of the league, and other officers of the league. The President delivered his speech about 11 a.m.

After his speech, the President descended from the platform and shook hands with the delegates to the convention. Other speakers at the convention were Secretary Garcia, Director Elicaño, and Dr. Ronquillo.

The President arrived from Baguio City about 9 a.m. and after a brief rest in Malacañang, he motored to the FEU auditorium.

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia warmly received Prime Minister and Mrs. Robert G. Menzies of Australia on their arrival at Malacañang this afternoon on a state visit to the Philippines.

The Menzies will be house guests at Malacañang until their scheduled departure at midnight tomorrow. ¹

Arriving at the Malacañang grounds about 4:15 p.m., Prime Minister Menzies was met by an honor guard formed by a unit of the presidential guards battalion under the command of Major Bernabe Cadiz of Company C. After acknowledging raffles and flourishes offered by the honor guard, the Menzies and members of their party were led up the Palace, where they were met at the head of the stairs by the President and the First Lady, who led them to the Palace music room, where refreshments awaited the visitors.

At the music room, the First Lady inquired from Mrs. Menzies about their trip, particularly their reception at the Manila International Airport. Mrs. Menzies replied that “everything was perfect” and took occasion to thank the Filipino people for the welcome they had received on their arrival here.

President Garcia, in turn, thanked the Prime Minister for the hospitality he had received in Australia when he headed the Philippine delegation to the recent SEATO Council of Ministers session in Canberra.

After some 20 minutes, the President and the First Lady escorted the Menzies from the music room and showed them their room at the Palace. President Garcia explained that the room assigned to them used to be the bedroom of Presidents Magsaysay, Quirino, and Roxas located at the east wing of the Palace.

At this point, the Prime Minister said something about the room being a little bit warm. President Garcia said he was having the air-conditioning system re-connected because it had been ordered disconnected by President Magsaysay.

Accompanied by James Allen, charge d'affaires of the Australian Embassy in Manila, members of the Prime Minister's party at Malacañang this afternoon included Sir Allen Brown, secretary to the Prime Minister; James

Plimsoll, assistant secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs; Miss Hazel Craig, private secretary; and Hugh Dash, press secretary.

Sir Brown and Secretary Plimsoll were also billeted at the guest room in Malacañang Palace. Other members of the party were accommodated at the Manila Hotel.

After receiving the Australian Prime Minister, the President received in the Malacañang study room officers of the Catholic Action of the Philippines who paid a courtesy call.

Support of President Garcia's administration was pledged by the group, headed by Dean Jose Ma. Hernandez, president of the association.

The President told the delegation that he was gratified with their pledge, saying that he welcomed support from such an active organization.

The Catholic Action delegation was composed of Dean Feliciano Ledesma Carlos Rivilla, Patricio Amador, Andres Decepeda, Mrs. Nestora Benetua, Mrs. Rosario O. Alejandro, Isidro Laeson, Ernesto Escaler, and Lieut. Col. Alejandro R. Lim (ret.).

In the evening the President signed a proclamation declaring April 30, 1957, as Women's Rights Day.

The President signed the proclamation "in recognition of the contribution of women to the economic, social, and political welfare of the nation."

President Garcia signed the proclamation in the presence of a delegation of the Women's Party of the Philippines headed by Miss Inocencia Rivilla. Others present were Mrs. Lita Sollorano, Mrs. Vicenta Aviles, Mrs. Remedios Gatmaitan, Dr. Tomasa Halili, and Mrs. Soban Singh.

The President this evening also received a delegation of the League of Philippine Architects collaborative group headed by Architect Rufino O. Antonio, who presented to the Chief Executive the master plan of the executive group of the National Capitol building expected to be constructed soon in Quezon City on a 27-hectare lot at a cost of some ₱15 million.

The President told Antonio to bring all the drawings to the Cabinet meeting tomorrow morning for final approval of the Cabinet members.

Members of the Iloilo Press Club and Newsmen's Association also called on the President. The delegation consisted of Luther Garcia, Rodolfo Clafarols and Eliodoro Confreros. They were accompanied by Celestino M. Vega 'of the *Bagong Buhay*.

April 23.—THIS morning President Garcia presided over a meeting of U. S. officials to discuss plans to finalize the negotiation of an agricultural commodities agreement between the Philippine and U. S. Governments.

The President was told by the Philippine and U. S. groups that preliminary technical talks towards conclusion of such an agreement have ended and that the stage was set for formal negotiations between the two governments.

The President told the head of the American group, Minister Horace Smith, U. S. Embassy charge d'affaires, that he would appoint at the earliest possible time the members of the Philippine panel that would negotiate this agreement. It was held likely that officials who have participated in the preliminary talks would be included in this panel.

These officials include Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus, Acting NEC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, and Central Bank Gov. Miguel Cuaderno.

The Malacañang meeting was attended by both economic and defense officials of the two governments. Presence of the defense officials was explained by the fact that the pesos to be paid the U. S. Government for the purchase of surplus agricultural commodities would be re-committed to use in the Philippines for such purposes as improving the country's defense situation and helping along its economic development.

The hour-long meeting which began at 9:30 a.m. was attended, on the Philippine side, by President Garcia, CB Governor Cuaderno, Secretary Manglapus, Chairman Romualdez, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, and Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, among others, and on the American side, by Minister Smith Rear Admiral Edgar A. Cruise, Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, Maj. Gen. John b. Ackerman, U. S. Embassy Counselor William Walker, and Col. Harry Brenn.

PRESIDENT Garcia and his Cabinet at their meeting this day took further steps to implement the Government's policy of gradually withdrawing from investment fields where private enterprises have indicated their desire to take over.

President Garcia and the Cabinet decided in principle to sell the shareholdings of the National Development Company in the Philippine Electrical Manufacturing Co., Inc., and in the Compania de Celulosa de Filipinas.

For this purpose the President appointed a special committee to appraise the value of the Government's interests in these two corporations, to be composed of the following: Deputy Administrator Juan Concon of the Office of Economic Coordination, as chairman, with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, and RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, as members.

The President instructed the members of the committee to submit their findings on this matter to the Cabinet at its next meeting prior to the disposition of the government's stocks in these corporation.

At the same time the President and the Cabinet authorized the sale of the NDC canning plant to C. L. Inductivo or his successors in interest for the sum of ₱215,041.59.

In this connection, it will be remembered that, before the death of the late President, he had approved the final sale of the CEPOC plant in Bacnotan, La Union, to a private concern.

At the Cabinet meeting the President said that he would continue following the policy of having the government gradually withdraw its participation in private industries.

President Garcia and the Cabinet also decided to extend for a period of 60 days the open account trade agreement between the Philippines and Japan, provided that:

- (1) Japan pays in full the outstanding amount due to the Philippines beyond the allowable swing balance as of April 15, 1957;
- (2) The parties agree to pay interest of four per cent per annum during the period of extension on amounts outstanding and unpaid beyond the allowable swing balance; and
- (3) The parties will immediately enter into negotiations and conclude a trade protocol during the period of extension.

At the Cabinet meeting the President approved the trips of Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma and NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez to Hannover, Germany, as official guests of the German Government to attend the East Asia Trade Conference to be held under the German Industries Association, an official organization of German financiers and industrialists

The trade conference is scheduled for May 2 to 12. The trip will include official calls on the foremost bankers and industrialists in Hannover Berlin, Frankfurt, and Magdeburg.

The Cabinet also authorized the participation of the Philippines in the seminar on highway safety scheduled to be held in Tokyo, Japan on May 13-23, 1957, under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.

The following were designated Philippine delegates to the conference: Highways Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog, Traffic Research Engineer Irineo S. Ramos of the Bureau of Public Highways, and Col. Mariano Azurin of the Constabulary traffic control group.

President Garcia reiterated to OEC Administrator Concon his desire that collection of amortizations and interests from the government corporations be stepped up. The President emphasized that the government corporations should meet their financial obligations to the government.

During the Cabinet meeting the President signed a proclamation extending the tenth annual fund campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross for a period of 30 days from April 18 to May 17, 1957.

In the proclamation the President said that the original period from Feb. 14 to March 31, 1957, had been adversely affected by the deaths of President Magsaysay and Education Secretary Gregorio Hernandez, Jr., and that it was necessary to extend the period.

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 11:10 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

THIS afternoon the President motored to the Gomez Elementary School on P. Guevara Street, where he was guest speaker at the third plenary session of the ninth annual representative assembly of the 'Philippine Public School Teachers Association.

Arriving at the Gomez Elementary School shortly past 5 p.m., the President was met by PPSTA officials, including Domingo Tan, vice-president, and Leocadio Momongan, Galicano Luansing, and Policarpio Domingo, members of the board of directors. He was greeted with a warm applause by the teachers who attended the assembly.

In the course of the program, Mila Magsaysay received a medal for the late President Magsaysay, who was awarded posthumously by the PPSTA for his unselfish service to the country, especially to the common people, and for his deep concern for the teachers' welfare.

The President was fetched from Malacañang by Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., and Roman F. Lorenzo, Laguna superintendent of schools.

Before going to the PPSTA program, the President received in the music room a few callers who paid a courtesy call.

Minister Horace Smith, U. S. Embassy charge d'affaires, accompanied Admiral Lawrence Frost, director of U. S. Naval Intelligence, who is presently on a routine observation trip.

A group of insurance executives also called on the President. They were C. V. Starr, chairman of the board of the Q. V. Starr Co., New York; W. Youngman, president, C. V. Starr Co.; Earl Carroll, and Emilio Abello and Leonides Virata, president and vice-presidents respectively of the Philippine American Life Insurance Company.

Then the President received officers of the American Chamber of Commerce who also paid their respects. The American businessmen consisted of R. J. Monical of CALTEX (Philippines); Paul Wood, president of the International Harvester of the Philippines; and Ewald Selph, head of an American law firm. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Alfonso Calalang.

IN the evening President and Mrs. Garcia gave a state dinner in honor of Prime Minister and Mrs. Robert G. Menzies of Australia, who are now in Manila on a state visit.

April 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning told newsmen on board the yacht *Sta. Maria* that he was in favor of Auditor General Pedro Gimenez's view that Armed Forces men detailed to civilian jobs should not receive AFP pay but that of civilian positions only. The current practice is that these AFP men draw AFP salary and get the differential from the civilian job salary should the latter be higher. However, should the AFP pay be higher, they receive AFP pay only.

The President said they should get only the salary commensurate to civilian positions they occupy, regardless of whether or not it be or higher than their AFP pay.

The yacht bearing the presidential party pulled out of pier 5 at 8:15 a.m. today. Among those on board are Sen. Jose C Locsin Reps. L Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte and Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon; Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno; Cavite Gov. Delfin Montano; Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon; Julian Montilla of Pulupandan; and Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson.

Also with the President is his daughter Linda, who will crown a queen in one of the towns to be visited by the presidential party.

PRESIDENT Garcia told a press conference this noon that he would try to keep Press Secretary J. V. Cruz as long as he could

The President made the statement in response to newsmen's Queries about reports that his press secretary planned to reiterate his courtesy resignation soon He said he had no personal knowledge of such plan.

The Chief Executive also expressed his desire to keep other Magsaysay men in the government even in the event of his election provided they kept up with their splendid work.

In the course of the conference given at lunch with the newsmen the President said that Immigration Commissioner Emilio Galang had gone to Malacañang last night to ask permission to re-appear before a congressional committee and that the President had told him he did not care how many times Galang appeared in any committee provided Galang testified To facts and made efforts to rectify any misrepresentation made of his testimony as it had appeared in the newspapers.

According to the President, Galang then told him that news reports of his testimony were not accurate and that Galang had asked the President to read the official transcript of his testimony where he had not blamed anyone for the Chinese situation which Galang had considered normal.

PRESIDENT Garcia said today he was in favor of a six-year presidential term without reelection.

He said such a term would ensure an efficient administration because the incumbent Chief Executive would not seek reelection and would thus be above politics.

In the press interview aboard the yacht, President Garcia also said he would name Deputy Administrator Juan Concon as acting head of the Office Economic Administration. Concon is at present officer in charge of the OEC.

During the press conference, President Garcia said the "tremendous ovation" he received at his meeting with the MPM yesterday augured well for his candidacy for the presidency.

Asked about the speech he scheduled to make in Bacolod City tomorrow, the Chief Executive replied it would be extemporaneous.

He declined to disclose what he would say, but it was generally believed that the President would make a bid for support of his political plans.

President Garcia said he would make another trip to Mindanao next week, presumably to continue his drive for political support.

The Chief Executive stayed in his cabin the whole morning, going over pending state papers he had not taken along for action during the trip.

ABOUT 12:30 p.m. the President came out of his room and had lunch with the newsmen. Shortly before 4 p.m. he re-entered his cabin which he had turned into a private study.

Malacañang stepped into the controversy because of public interest and because of the charitable institutions affected. The controversy arose from the demand of horse owners and trainers for an increase of their percentage from the total gross of the *Have* and double races. At present the horse owners and trainers get four per cent of the total gross of *Have* and double races. Their demand is for five and a half per cent.

Charitable institutions affected by the controversy are the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, the Philippine Tuberculosis Society, and the White Cross. It is from these institutions that the horse owners and trainers are demanding the one and a half per cent increase.

IN the evening the President had supper with members of the presidential party.

MALACAÑANG today took a hand in the horse racing controversy when Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Yenko, Jr., upon instructions of President Garcia, called the parties concerned to a conference in Malacañang "to reach an amicable settlement."

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Because of the controversy, horse races have been temporarily cancelled by the horse owners who claimed that with the present percentage they were getting they were operating at a loss. Secretary Yenko requested the parties concerned to reach an amicable settlement so that the horse races could, at least, be temporarily continued for about a month until a permanent solution was reached.

Secretary Yenko said that he called, the parties concerned to a conference upon instructions of the President in order to get to the bottom of the controversy. He said that the conference was fact-finding and that he would submit his findings and recommendations to the Chief Executive, who would render a decision.

Present at the conference were GSIS General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal and Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser both of whom assisted Secretary Yenko; representatives of the GAB headed by Roces Commissioner Mariano Marfori; Board Secretary Alfredo Guidote; Joseph Arcache, heading the horse owners and trainers; Don Rafael Roces and Marcial Lichauco, representing the Manila Jockey Club; representatives of the San Lazaro Race Track; and representatives of the charitable institutions headed by Eugenic Santos, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office general manager.

Secretary Yenke heard the explanations of all the parties concerned and gave assurance that any solution to be formulated would give justice and fairness to all.

April 25.—THE President woke up 7 this morning and heard mass aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria*.

After the services, the President had breakfast with Sen. Jose C. Locsin, and Mrs. Jose Aldeguer, Mrs. Sofronio Quimson, and Mrs. Florencio Moreno.

After breakfast, President Garcia engaged Florencio Campomanes and Capt. Francisco Calinawan in several games of chess.

As the yacht neared Bacolod City, the President told newsmen on board he had ordered Forestry Director Felipe Amos to expedite the release of forest lands which had been planted to coffee by pioneers in Negros Occidental.

Early release of these lands for agricultural purposes would enable the pioneers to obtain titles to their plantations and apply for crop loans with the Rehabilitation Finance Corporation.

PRESIDENT Garcia received a royal reception on his arrival at Bacolod City at 10:30 a.m. today. Civilian piper cub planes flying in formation kept circling above the yacht *Sta. Maria* as it steamed into port. On hand at the Banago wharf to welcome the President was a large delegation from two provinces headed by Govs. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental and Serafin Teves of Negros Oriental, and Mayors Teopisto Cordova of Bacolod City and Mariano Perdomo of Dumaguete City.

After acknowledging the cheers of his welcomers, the President was conveyed at the head of a long motorcade to the Capitol building before which a much larger crowd waving "Elect Garcia" placards congregated to see and hear him. The President addressed the crowd in front of the Capitol.

After the public rally, the President was scheduled to hold a conference with national, provincial, and city officials from Negros Occidental and

Negros Oriental at the Capitol. The presidential party will have lunch at Gov. Gatuslao's residence.

At 2 p.m. the party motored to the southern towns of Negros Occidental where the President inaugurated the waterworks system and the Magsaysay Bridge at Himamaylan, and health center at Binalbagan. The party traveled about 80 kilometers inland.

Linda Garcia, the President's daughter, who was with the presidential party, crowned the town fiesta queen of Himamaylan this evening.

April 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia was the keynote speaker at the National Air Jaycees Convention held at the University of San Agustin, Iloilo City, today.

The President was introduced to the conventionists by Manuel Loring, Jr., Jaycees Regional vice-president for Western Visayas. Other speakers were Salvador Sarabia of the Iloilo Jaycees and Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon of Iloilo City, who delivered the welcome addresses; Sen. Fernando Lopez, honorary president of Iloilo Jaycees; Ira D. Day, president of Jaycees International, who delivered a speech of greetings; and Luis Ma. Araneta, president of Philippine Jaycees.

The yacht *Sta. Maria* bearing the President and his party docked at Iloilo at 9 a.m. today. The reception consisted of a fluvial parade which escorted the *Sta. Maria* into port, a continuous blaring of sirens of factories along the shore, a 21-gun salute which boomed as the President went down the gangplank, and a large cheering crowd which surged forward to shake the President's hand as soon as he stepped on the dock.

After acknowledging the raffles and flourishes offered by an honor guard formed by the local military unit, the President motored to nearby Fort San Pedro for a tree-planting ceremony sponsored by the Jayceerettes. Then he proceeded to Jaro, where he visited Archbishop Jose Maria Cuenco and later spent a few moments of prayer at the Jaro Cathedral.

The President was at the University of San Agustin auditorium about 10:30 a.m.

ABOUT 12 noon the President headed a long motorcade to Pototan, some 36 kilometers away. Here he held a conference with Iloilo mayors who brought up problems of their respective municipalities, and there the presidential party had lunch at the home of Gov. Mariano Peñaflorida. The President returned to Iloilo City in the afternoon in time for a rally with ward leaders at the San Agustin University auditorium.

IN the afternoon the President was presented with two resolutions passed recently by the Iloilo provincial board and the Iloilo Mayors' League pledging support for his election.

In the resolution presented by Gov. Mariano Peñaflorida, the provincial board expressed the belief that of all presidential aspirants, President Garcia was best prepared "Owing to his background, experience, integrity, and dependability as a public servant."

The Mayors' league, on the other hand, made known in its resolution that it subscribed "unconditionally to the fiscal policies of the government being initiated and prosecuted by President Carlos P. Garcia." The resolution was handed to the President by Mayor Alfonso Espino of Dingle, league president.

Both resolutions were written on sheepskin scroll about three feet long. They were presented to the Chief Executive in the course of his conference with national, provincial, and municipal officials at the municipal building in Pototan at 3:30 p.m. today.

Also at the conference were Reps. Jose Aldeguer, Pedro Trono, and Ricardo Ladrido, and a big delegation from Capiz headed by Gov. Jose Dinglasan.

The President received a rousing welcome in his tour of northern Iloilo towns today. Everywhere he went, people lined the streets and cheered as the presidential car passed by. It took him this afternoon almost two hours to travel 36 kilometers, the distance from Iloilo to Pototan, owing to large delegations which forced the presidential car to stop several times along the way.

April 21.—IN high spirits, the President had breakfast this morning aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria* with government officials headed by Rep. Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon and Cavite Gov. Delfin Montano.

He spent the morning exchanging impressions with these officials and the other members of his party on the political campaign he undertook in Iloilo and the Negros provinces.

In an optimistic tone, President Garcia said his political drive had elicited "the unexpected popular endorsement" from these provinces. He gave newsmen an off-the-record views of his chances in the coming elections. His views were very optimistic.

The President also played chess with Florencio Campomanes and Capt. Francisco Calinawan.

At lunch time, winds and waves buffeted the *Sta. Maria*. The yacht was then off Masbate.

The President proved to be a good sailor. He remained unruffled as turbulent waves lashed the yacht. His companions were not as calm.

The *Sta. Maria* expects to drop anchor in Manila Bay early tomorrow morning. From the yacht, the President will proceed to Malacañang and have lunch with ranking officials of the Philippine Association of Free Labor Unions.

PRESIDENT Garcia expressed confidence that the people of Negros Occidental and Iloilo would rally behind him in his desire to carry on with the program of the late President Magsaysay following the enthusiastic receptions accorded him during his four-day whirlwind tour of the two provinces.

In his speeches delivered in clear, forceful Visayan during the tour, the President had reiterated his appeal for popular support to enable him to continue with the policies of the late President Magsaysay, particularly the improvement of living conditions in the rural areas.

He had inaugurated a bridge in Himamaylan, a waterworks system in Hinigaran, a health center in Binalbagan, and an artesian well in Sumag. To the mammoth crowds which gathered in these small towns of Negros Occidental to witness the ceremonies, the President said, "It is projects such as these that had become an obsession to our late President in his concern for the welfare of the masses. I intend to keep on building such projects."

He added: "I will carry on with the policies of President Magsaysay not only to honor the memory of that great man but also because I firmly believe in the wisdom of his policies. And should God permit me to continue, I shall dedicate my full time and energy to the upliftment of the masses of our people, make of them worthier so that this nation may be a better place to live in and die for, if necessary."

During his barnstorming tour of the two provinces, the President was always behind schedule in the hectic itinerary prepared for him by local committees, sometimes by as much as three hours, on account of numerous unscheduled stops he had to make. Almost all barrios and important road junctions along the route had formed their own welcome delegations, many of which were with brass bands and fireworks display. Learning that those people had waited there for hours, the President had to go down the car and shook hands with their leaders, or addressed them from atop the bumper of his car.

Reaching a road crossing in Binalbagan, Negros Occidental, last Thursday afternoon, the President came upon a large crowd waving numerous placards assuring him of victory in their locality in the November elections. He expressed amusement when he noted that one of the placards recalled he had garnered 132 votes there as vice-presidential candidate in 1953 while his opponent, Jose Yulo, got only nine votes. Binalbagan is former Speaker Yulo's birthplace.

The President's itinerary in Negros Occidental required him to travel some 83 kilometers from Bacolod City to Himamaylan in three hours, passing through a number of coastal towns. The presidential party negotiated the distance in almost six hours. The motorcade which was more than three kilometers long was considered among the longest ever seen in the province.

Similar situations awaited the President on his arrival in Iloilo the following day, yesterday, where he was presented with resolutions of support from the provincial board and the mayors' league, and from other organizations in the province. The board's and league's resolutions were elaborately hand-printed on scrolls of sheepsin about three feet long.

Passing through Janiuy, Iloilo, in the afternoon, the presidential party was stopped by the townspeople who blocked the road and refused to budge until the President got off his car and said a few words to them through a microphone, hastily set up under a tree by the roadside.

Mayor Pedro Margarico, in introducing the President to his townspeople said: "We would like to see President Garcia not only as President by succession but also as President by election." According to Mayor Margarico, Janiuy is the largest municipality of Iloilo.

In the next town of Sta. Barbara, Mayor Jacinto Delgado, on seeing how his people mobbed the President on alighting from his car, was moved into shouting into the public address system: President Magsaysay may be dead but his spirit still lives in the person of President Garcia.

Members of the presidential party were impressed by the endurance and stamina shown by the President during the hectic tour. His tight schedules kept him almost constantly busy from 8 a.m. to as late as midnight, but he showed no sign of strain or fatigue. Encouraged by the spontaneous show of affection on the part of the people, the President kept up with his itinerary with inspired enthusiasm.

April 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Manila at 5:20 this morning as he completed a four-day stumping tour of Iloilo and Negros Occidental.

It was the first political stump of President Garcia after the end of the one-month of mourning for President Magsaysay.

Upon arrival at Malacañang, the President heard mass and ate a light breakfast. Then he went to bed to rest. Malacañang aides said the President felt the effects of the rigorous town-to-town campaign he waged in Iloilo.

However, he was waken up 9:30, as he had scheduled an appointment with Rep. Tobias Fornier, chairman of the House committee on appropriations.

President Garcia and Fornier were closeted for almost an hour. It was learned that President Garcia had asked the Antique solon to help the Administration by restoring items for the government agencies like the National Marketing Corporation, the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration, and the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration.

President Garcia also received Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, chief of staff of the Armed Forces.

After meeting an unexpectedly great number of callers, the President went to the 12th anniversary party of the employees of the *Manila Chronicle* in Pasay City. The President greeted the officials and employees of the *Chronicle* and expressed the wish that it “would live a hundred more years.”

The President was accompanied by Lt. Melchor Fronda, presidential aide, Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, and Assistant Press Secretary G. V. Sison.

President Garcia also presented checks from the *Chronicle* to two retiring employees, Aniceto Jamotillo and Francisco Valdez.

From the *Chronicle* party, the President motored to La Mesa Dam, where he addressed a convention of the Philippine Association of Free Labor Unions. The President stayed at the dam for more than two hours.

At 4 o'clock President Garcia addressed another labor gathering at the National Press Club building. The gathering was the convention of the Philippine Transport Workers Organization.

At the La Mesa Dam, the President met Labor Secretary Eleuterio Adevos, who is reported preparing to quit the Cabinet after May 1 to campaign for the Senate.

After his meeting with the PTWO, the President went to the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel, where he was feted by the Philippine Law School Alumni Association headed by Judge Ceferino de los Santos.

THIS afternoon the President pledged to labor that he would continue working with all his resources for greater benefits to the laboring class which he called “soldiers of industry and the country’s economy.”

The President said that he would recommend to Congress a bill to reorganize the Court of Industrial Relations in order to make it more responsive to the needs of labor by rendering its decisions on labor cases more swiftly and by attending to as many cases as possible.

The Chief Executive also announced that he had certified to Congress the urgency of a bill amending the Social Security Act and would certify another bill which will require that in all government boards of corporations controlled or owned by the government, the working class would be represented.

The presidential announcements were met with thunderous approval by hundreds of labor delegates whom the President addressed separately this afternoon, the first being the Philippine Association of Free Labor Unions at the La Mesa Dam in Novaliches, and the other being the Philippine Transport Workers Organization at the National Press Club building.

Arriving at the La Mesa Dam at 1:15 p.m. for the septennial reunion of the PAFLU, the President was met by PAFLU leaders headed by Cipriano Cid, national president, and by Labor Secretary Eleuterio Adevosio. After luncheon served at the recreation center, a program followed, at which Cid and Secretary Adevosio spoke. Cid presented to the President problems of labor which he said needed solution.

Putting aside his prepared speech, President Garcia spoke extemporaneously, first in Tagalog and then in English. At 4 p.m. the President left the PAFLU and motored to the NPC building on Aduana near the Jones Bridge, where the PTWO first biennial convention was held. The President was accompanied in his car by Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, and Lt. Melchor Fronda, presidential aide.

The President was met at the NPC building by PTWO officials headed by Roberto S. Oca, national president. Rep. Angel Castaño of Manila introduced the President as the champion of labor, who was vigorously implementing the policies of administration initiated by the late President Magsaysay, and who had a special love for the laboring class. Oca acted as master of ceremonies. Rep. Augusto Francisco of Manila was also present at the program.

In his two speeches President Garcia said that he was carrying on the work of government started by the late President and that he was especially interested in working further for the amelioration of the working class. He paid high tribute to the achievements of labor in the Philippines which he said was most progressive and had acquired world prestige.

The President said: "We want to make this country economically strong and sound. In this great and difficult task, it is not enough that we have capital. We need to have labor to dig the wealth hidden in our earth, to fell the trees of our forests, to dive into the depths of our waters, and to turn the wheels of our industries."

In this joint enterprise, management and labor should work together, the President said. He added that labor was entitled to the fullest participation in the wealth that it would produce.

Battling strongly for the laboring class, President Garcia said that it should be entitled to a living wage so that it could improve its economic and social condition and enjoy the good life. He emphasized that this was giving labor social justice.

However, the President said that labor should play its role well and do its obligations so that industry could run on an even keel and so that more goods could be produced to justify the granting of higher wages.

The Chief Executive urged labor to settle its disputes through collective bargaining as a means of achieving industrial peace. He said that better results could be gained in an atmosphere of persuasion rather than by coercion.

He also appealed to the workers to exhaust first all amicable means of getting their demands before resorting to strikes which, he said, were expensive to the country as a whole. For this reason, he said, he would recommend to the next Congress the reorganization of the Court of Industrial Relations. In this reorganization, the President said,

he envisioned the establishment of CIR branches in strategic places in the country and the appointment of more referees and more personnel. Under this set-up, the President believed that labor cases could be settled more swiftly and that justice to laborers would not be delayed.

He said, "I believe that with the reorganization of the CIR we may be able to solve most of our problems and there will be less strikes."

Regarding unemployment, President Garcia said that the problem would be solved by intensification of the country's industrial activities which would result in greater production. He mentioned the potentialities of the country's untapped resources in its mines, hydroelectric power, lumber, and possibly, oil. He also said that the country which was most suitable for the production of rice was still lagging in its production of this staple crop. The full development of the country's resources, he pointed out, would finally solve the unemployment problem.

The President revealed that he had been born in a small barrio and that he had obtained his education by dint of diligent labor. He said that he had worked all his life and that he had always had in his heart the interest of labor and would continue to work for that cause.

President Garcia told labor representatives that he would always listen sympathetically to the problems of the working man and that they should not hesitate to consult him any time his help was needed.

The President was applauded warmly after making his pronouncements in behalf of labor.

April 29.—HEAVY equipment and machinery for development of rural areas were pledged this morning to President Garcia by Col. Harry Brenn, International Cooperation Administration director, at a breakfast conference at Malacañang.

Citing the role of the ICA in the economic development of the country, Brenn briefed the Chief Executive on ICA operations in the Philippines.

Brenn said the ICA assistance fall into two categories, the industrial and the community development.

In the industrial field, Brenn said that through ICA's assistance to local industries, a total of ₱51 million has been saved in imports as of March 31, 1957. He added that the development of local industries has resulted in the employment of 11,843 new workers.

Brenn attributed this progress to the rural development program being spearheaded by the presidential assistant on community development. He said rural development has created additional income for the barrio people, thereby increasing their purchasing power for goods manufactured from local industries.

The President expressed his satisfaction with the ICA programs which played a vital role in rural development. He told Brenn to keep up the good work and to intensify the implementations of the rural development program.

Present during the breakfast which lasted from 8 to 9 a.m. was Ramon Binamira, presidential assistant on community development. PRESIDENT Garcia this day received callers up to 2 p.m. Rep. Jorge Abad of Batanes accompanied a group of town mayors from that province requesting funds for public works improvements and other projects in their respective towns.

The President received officers of the Project 6 Association which requested assistance for the construction of a school house and a health center for the residents in that government housing project.

A group of Tatalon (Quezon City) tenants called to request the President's intercession so that the price of the lots they are occupying will be reduced by the owner. The group was headed by Mrs. Aurora Dizon.

Alfonso Natividad, group settlement leader from Piat, Cagayan, headed a group of settlers who requested the President's assistance in the eviction of squatters to give way to legitimate settlers in that area. The President referred their case to the PCAC.

The President also received Minister Pullong Arpa, who is leaving shortly for his post in Cairo, Egypt. Minister Arpa called on, the President for final instructions before leaving for his post.

Edward Dennis Normandy III, Philippine delegate to the World Youth Forum, called to pay his respects following his arrival from the United States where the *New York Herald Tribune*-sponsored forum was held. He was accompanied to Malacañang by his mother, Mrs. Pilar Normandy, and Fr. Joseph O'Brien, S.J., of the Ateneo.

Rep. Carlos Tan of Leyte accompanied Naval Mayor Brigido Corneja, who requested public works improvements for his town.

Individual callers included PNB President Arsenio J. Jison, Dean Conrado Benitez, Dean Jose M. Hernandez, president of the Catholic Action of the Philippines, Rep. Angel Castaño of Manila, and Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto E. Laguio.

April 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned today to Manila tired from a hectic motor drive to the largest province in Central Luzon. The President, although tired, was visibly happy over his triumphal political offensive in Pangasinan where streets were lined up with people who cheered him but occasionally jeered at Pugak and Tugak, who had ridden in Car No. 1 from Carmen, Rosales, to Lingayen when the President boarded Gov. Conrado F. Estrella's topdown car.

The President, after staying late at the closing night of the Dagupan City exposition, woke up at 6:30 o'clock in the morning, received former Interior Secretary Teofilo Sison, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Gov. Estrella, and other political leaders. Although no announcement was made as to the details of the meeting at the President's room, it was indicated that President Garcia had appealed for the support of Pangasinan politicians in his bid for the presidency.

Upon leaving his room to sit at the breakfast table, the President found Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang, who came rushing to Lingayen with Col. Urbano Caldoza of the Civil Aeronautics Administration. Cabangbang had fought vainly for Caldoza's reinstatement under the late President Magsaysay's administration.

Cabangbang was reported to have been irked by newspaper reports that President Garcia had "muzzled" the Bohol solon for harassing former Magsaysay men in the government.

The Bohol solon met Col. Osmundo Mondoñedo, ACCFA administrator, whom he was reported to have assailed as among the MPM men who had committed political treason against the Chief Executive.

At their meeting Cabangbang told Mondoñedo that he never considered the ACCFA head among the political traitors. However, Cabangbang told Mondoñedo that he could not say the same thing for Labor Secretary Eleuterio Adevos, whom the President defended against the solon's diatribe last Monday afternoon in a press conference.

Cabangbang boasted he had evidence that the MPM leaders still in the government had met at the residence of a former commissioner of customs in San Juan and decided to resign *en masse* in the event that the MPM men were pushed around too much by the Bohol representative.

AFTER his breakfast, with the Pangasinan political leaders, the President hurried back to Manila, where he was scheduled to meet leaders of both houses of Congress.

He had set a conference with Congress leaders following reports that the two chambers were at loggerheads over the priority listing of administration bills.

Upon returning to the Palace, the President found the place swarming with many callers. Sen. Jose C. Zulueta was at the Palace reception room waiting for the President to arrive. Zulueta, it learned, wanted to explain his position in his new feud with Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon of Iloilo City. Another caller was Sen. C. Locsin.

The President, who expected an unruly conference between the Senate and the House leaders, found the conclave tame. Press Secretary J. V. Cruz said that "there was absolutely no evidence of the so-called discord between the leaders of both chambers."

The conference lasted for more than two hours as the Senate and the House leaders sorted out the different pending bills.

Shortly after the President concluded his conference with Congress leaders, the President motored to Angat, Bulacan, together with Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, the First Lady, where they inaugurated the new municipal building of the town. The entourage was expected back early last night.

PRESIDENT Garcia and Congress leaders agreed this noon on a list of 21 bills to be given priority consideration by Congress during the remaining days of the current regular session.

The bills include the budget. House leaders present at the Malacañang luncheon-meeting which lasted from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. pledged to work for the restoration of vital budget items previously stricken out by their appropriations committee. These include outlays for the NAMARCO, the ACCFA, and the NARRA.

The meeting was attended by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, and Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco for the Senate, and Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez, and Acting Majority Floor Leader Ismael Veloso for the House of Representatives.

The other 20 bills given top priority by the conference were:

1. The public works bill, initiated and still pending in the House;
2. The bill creating a reparations commission, pending before a conference committee;
3. The Tariff Code, approved in the House and pending in the Senate;
4. The anti-subversion bill, approved in the House and pending in the Senate;
5. The bill providing for development of the nickel and iron ore deposits in Surigao, initiated and pending in the House.
6. The bill appropriating ₱120,000 for burial expenses for the late President Magsaysay and his fellow air-crash victims, approved in the House and pending in the Senate;
7. The bill appropriating a life pension for Mrs. Magsaysay, initiated and pending in the House;
8. The bill appropriating ₱10 million for Cebu City fire victims, approved in the House and pending in the Senate;
9. The Social Security Act amendments, pending in both chambers;
10. The bill appropriating ₱4million to defray the cost of extension classes organized some years ago, together with corresponding salary adjustments for teachers, initiated and pending in the House;
11. The bill repealing the 7 per cent tax on agricultural produce, still pending in the House;

12. The bill providing for a tax census, pending in both chambers;
13. The bill creating a National Development Authority, pending in both chambers;
14. The bill offering incentives to foreign investors, approved in the Senate and pending in the House;
15. The bill increasing the appropriation for pensions for veterans of the Philippine Revolution, from ₱5.5 million to ₱6.5 million, to raise individual pensions from ₱15 to ₱25 monthly;
16. The apprenticeship bill, pending in both chambers;
17. The bill on credit unions (S. B 236), initiated and pending in the Senate;
18. The Krivenko bill, pending in both chambers;
19. The local autonomy bill, pending in both chambers; and
20. The bill reducing electric power rates, initiated and pending in the House.

MALACAÑANG announced today the designation of Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol as acting secretary of national defense while Secretary Eulogio Balao is abroad on an official mission.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Month in Review: May 1-15, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

May 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning had breakfast with Pakistan Premier Husseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy, who arrived in Manila at 2:40 a.m. today.

Present during the breakfast were members of Premier Suhrawardy's party, including Osman Ah, joint secretary of the ministry of commerce; Aitad Amad Kahn, principal secretary to the Prime Minister; Col. Majid Malik, principal information officer; Mahmud Ahmad, undersecretary, ministry of foreign affairs and commonwealth relation; Abud Hashim, A.P.P. correspondent; Hakimuddin, assistant private secretary to the Prime Minister; S. Hussein; and K. H. Rahman, commercial secretary of the Pakistani Embassy at Tokyo. The breakfast lasted from 8 to 9 a.m.

Premier Suhrawardy was met at the Manila International Airport by Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus, who headed the welcoming group.

IN the afternoon the President led the nation in the observance of Labor Day by addressing a big crowd which gathered in front of the Independence Memorial Grandstand after a three-hour long Labor Day parade.

In his speech the President pledged that he would carry on the labor policies of the late President Magsaysay for the benefit of the laboring class. He pledged that he would sign into law any bill passed by the Congress for the welfare of the working man just as he would veto any bill that would prejudice the working man's interests.

President Garcia drew the immediate sympathy of the crowd, when he started his Labor Day speech in Tagalog. He was applauded several times in the course of his brief address in Tagalog. This being the first time that the President used the national language in his public address, he sometimes hesitated as he tried to give the correct pronunciation to the Tagalog words, but the crowd gave him an approving hand.

Before delivering his address, the President handed the awards to several outstanding labor leaders for the year 1957.

Color was added to the Labor Day celebration this year by the presence of Prime Minister Husseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy of Pakistan, who was seated in the grandstand next to the President. Among the officials and dignitaries in the grandstand were Labor Secretary Eleuterio Adevosio, Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus, Sen. Roseller T. Lim, chairman, Senate labor committee; Rep. Angel Castano of Manila, chairman, House labor committee; and several labor leaders and members of the diplomatic corps.

Premier Suhrawardy, who was introduced to the audience by Secretary Manglapus, said in his brief remarks that he brought to the Philippines the greetings of Pakistan to the Filipino people, especially the greetings of Pakistan's laboring class to the Philippines' laboring class.

He said that he was amazed at the growing strength of labor organizations in the Philippines. He paid tribute to the late President Magsaysay for his leadership and for what he had done for the benefit of the people.

President Garcia was fetched from Malacañang by Labor Secretary Adevosio and Vicente Arniego, chairman of the executive board of the Labor Day celebration. Also with the presidential party were Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and Lieut. Melchor Fronda, aide.

The President arrived at the Independence Memorial Grandstand a little past 3 p.m. He returned to Malacañang about 7 p.m.

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia gave a state dinner in the evening for Husseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy, Prime Minister of Pakistan, and his party, at Malacañang.

May 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning cancelled the projected purchase of a four-engined De Havilland plane for presidential use.

The President said that, instead, the Philippine Government would receive two twin-engined *Albatros* amphibian planes from the United States Government today, the 22nd anniversary of the Philippine Air Force. The turn-over of these planes is in accordance with the mutual assistance agreement between the Philippines and the United States.

The President was informed that these *Albatros* amphibian planes have powerful engines, modern radar equipment, and reversible props, and that they are jet-assisted during take-off. They have a 16-hour flying time as compared to the eight-hour flying time of the C-47s.

PRESIDENT Garcia addressed this morning some 1,000 delegates at the opening of the general session of the 50th Annual Convention of the Philippine Medical Association at the St. Louis College gymnasium in Baguio City.

The President was introduced by Dr. Fernando Manalo, outgoing president of the PMA. Other speakers were City Mayor Alfonso Tabora of Baguio and Dr. Justo Rosales, president of the Baguio Medical Society, who delivered welcome addresses. Dr. Manalo introduced the President.

The ceremony started at about 9:30 a.m. with Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia cutting the ceremonial ribbon which signalled the opening of the medical convention.

President Garcia gave the awards to PMA members who were honored for their outstanding achievements. Among the awardees was Dr. Francisco Duque of Dagupan City, PMA president who was awarded the Golden Heart Presidential Medal for initiating the giving of free medical treatment to indigent families. The ceremonies ended before 12 noon.

THE President today requested all department secretaries concerned to take proper steps to speed up the rural development program of the Administration.

In implementing the President's suggestion, all field men concerned with rural development will be requested by their respective department heads to give priority attention to the prosecution of the grants-in-aid program undertaken through the presidential assistant on community development.

Under the grants-in-aid program, barrio people, through their barrio councils, will be given the opportunity to decide what projects they wish to undertake, provided that these projects will contribute to increased production and income, that they are self-help public improvement projects, or that they are health and sanitation projects. Of these categories, emphasis will be given to projects contributing to increased production and income.

The assistance of the barrio people will include providing them with necessary technical services in the preparation of plans, bills of materials, and other data which the barrio people cannot be expected to do by themselves.

At the same time, the President directed Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno that the ICA equipment already in the Philippines and those scheduled for delivery be organized into self-help barrio road construction teams, and that personnel be trained to operate them. These teams will be used primarily for the self-help barrio roads program and will be operated and maintained by the Bureau of Public Highways.

The President also requested Secretary Moreno to establish a section in the Bureau of Public Highways to be solely responsible for the administration, implementation, and scheduling of these self-help barrio roads program, working in close association with the presidential assistant on community development.

PRESIDENT Garcia, making good his Labor Day promise to work for more benefits for the working class, told a press conference in Baguio this noon he would certify to Congress the urgency of six bills favorably affecting labor.

President Garcia said he would ask Congress today to look with favor on bills:

1. Amending the Social Security Act of 1954 by eliminating provisions labor had found objectionable;
2. Seeking the establishment of credit unions;
3. Defining the causes for which employment may properly be terminated;
4. Providing for the development of nickel and iron ore deposits in Surigao to offer employment opportunities;
5. Laying down rules for apprenticeship; and
6. Offering incentives to foreign investors with a view to providing Philippine labor with ample opportunities for employment.

The President revealed his intention of certifying these bills to Congress only a day after he promised a mammoth Labor Day crowd in Manila that he would continue his predecessor's policy of working for more benefits for labor.

In the conference, the President also:

1. Dismissed as groundless the reports published in a Taipeh (Formosa) newspaper that overstaying Chinese here were being treated shabbily;
2. Justified the pardon of Rascid Lucman, life-termer and brother-in-law of Senator Domocao Alonto;
3. Favored increasing the membership of the Nacionalista Party executive committee to give representation to groups integrated into the party;
4. Expressed indifference to suggestions that members of the Magsaysay-for-President Movement be absorbed individually by the NP;
5. Cancelled his projected purchase of a four-engined De Havilland *Heron* plane; and
6. Expressed preference for holding the NP convention in the last week of June or on the fourth of July.

In spiking charges of a Taipeh newspaper, that "imperialistic treatment" was given Chinese in the Philippines, the President said he had received no protest or complaint from the Chinese ambassador on this score. He said the ambassador had invariably praised Philippine treatment of overstaying Chinese.

President Garcia said "any foreigner who overstays his visa should expect deportation."

He explained that the cases of the Chinese visitors have been frozen owing to inaction on the part of the Taipeh Government toward receiving them in Formosa. The President said Taipeh had not proposed any solution for the repatriation of the Overstaying Chinese.

Defending the grant of pardon to Lucman, the Chief Executive disclosed that the late President Magsaysay had directed an NBI inquiry into Lucman's case and that a report pointed to other persons as the killer in the slaying for which the Muslim had been imprisoned.

President Garcia said Lucman's petition for a new trial to correct the original judgment failed to prosper in the courts. He emphasized that the pardon granted was conditional.

THE President also favored an increase in the membership of the Nacionalista Party executive committee to give representation to integrated groups like the Democratic Party.

He was non-committal on a proposal for the absorption of the MPM into the Nacionalista Party. He said: "I have no say on this."

President Garcia claimed that disagreement in the group may result in individual absorptions into the Nacionalista Party.

PRESIDENT Garcia today enlisted the cooperation of school superintendents in the implementation of the rural development program of the Administration.

In an extemporaneous speech delivered this afternoon at the opening of the nine-day annual convention of the Philippine Association of School Superintendents at Teachers' Camp in Baguio, the President said that school superintendents were in the best position to assist the program, their jurisdiction extending to the remotest areas in the country.

The President also pledged that he would continue the policies of the late President Magsaysay to improve and expand the nation's educational system in order to assure sufficient education for every child who seeks admission to the public schools.

The President was introduced by Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr. Other speakers were Tomas de Castro, association president, who acted as master of ceremonies, and Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora who delivered a welcome address to some 155 conventionists. Also present in the convention hall were school supervisors, principals, and teachers attending summer classes in Baguio.

May 3.—THE President this day took a direct hand in preventing the impending Philippine Air Lines workers strike by discussing with the PAL board of directors the demands for salary increases and offering a solution which was substantially acceptable to the employees.

After consultation with the PAL board of directors at the music room in Malacañang this morning, the President suggested that to the demands of the PAL workers, the PAL management offer a ₱15 monthly increase in salary which will hold good during the next four years. Under this arrangement, there will be an extension of the contract between the workers and the management.

Among other things, it will be stipulated that during the Tenure of the contract, there will be no strikes or lock-outs.

The President also said that if during the four-year period the PAL would continue to show more substantial profits than that in the past year, he would see to it that bonuses were given to the employees.

Rep. Angel Castaño of Manila, who helped in presenting the staging of a strike by the PAL workers, said that the offer of the government as proposed by the President through the PAL board of directors was substantially acceptable to the PAL workers.

The President upon arrival this morning from Baguio City, met with the PAL board of directors with whom he discussed the problems of the PAL workers. After more than an hour's conference during which the President exchanged views with the PAL directors, the President suggested the giving of a ₱15 salary increase for a period of four years after the signing of the agreement. The President's suggestion was unanimously endorsed by the board.

Those present at the conference were Rafael Ygoa, vice-president; Daniel Ma. Gomez, secretary; Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Antonio McLeod, Andres Soriano, Jr., Jose H. Panganiban, Alfonso Sycip, Jaime Velasquez, and Gregorio Trinidad, directors.

A few days ago, the President conferred twice with officials of the PAL union in an effort to settle the differences between the management and the employees. The President gave assurances that he would do his best to seek a happy solution.

PRESIDENT Garcia and his Cabinet today, after hearing the appraisal of a special Cabinet committee on the value of the government's interests in two corporations, approved the sale by public bidding of the share holdings of the National Development Company in the Philippine Electrical Manufacturing Company, Inc., and in the Compania Celulosa de Filipinas.

As a further step in implementing the government's policy of gradually withdrawing from the investment fields where private enterprises have indicated their desire to take over, the President and the Cabinet approved in principle the sale by public bidding of the government's share holdings in the Manila Gas Corporation.

The President directed OEC Administrator Juan Concon to bring to the next Cabinet meeting the appraisal papers submitted by the committee which had already made a study on the sale of the government's shares in the Manila Gas Corporation.

Final decision on this matter is expected to be handed down by the Cabinet at its next meeting.

The prospective sale of the government's shares in the Manila Gas Corporation will be the fifth to be undertaken by the government in its determination to get out of private business. The government had already sold the CEPOC cement plant in Bacnotan and the NDC canning plant.

The President and the Cabinet also approved the report of a Cabinet special committee which had endorsed the National Economic Council's recommendation allowing the Phillips Industrial Development, Inc., to establish a factory to manufacture glass envelopes and incandescent lamps through its subsidiaries, the Philippine Glass Bulbs, Inc., and the Phillips Electrical Lamps, Inc. It was stipulated that these companies should be 60 per cent Filipino-owned.

At a previous Cabinet meeting, the President had appointed the special committee to study the protest of the Philippine Electrical Manufacturing Company against the recommendation of the NEC approving the proposal of the Phillips Industrial Development, Inc., to establish a glass envelope factory and an incandescent lamp factory in the Philippines. The committee is composed of NEC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez as chairman, with Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona and Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma as members.

It had been found out that Phillips is an established and reputable firm and its entry in the local electric lamp manufacturing industry would bring about improvement in the quality and at the same time reduce the price of locally manufactured lamps, thus benefiting consumers.

Furthermore, the NEC had been convinced that the entry of Phillips would not result in harmful competition as there was adequate market for both PEMCO and Phillips. It was felt that the emphasis being placed on the industrialization and electrification programs of the government would result in a considerable increase in the country's requirements of electrical lamps, as these programs gained momentum. Besides, Phillips would invite and allow local firms to participate in the ownership and operation of its proposed glass envelope factory. This tie-up will, result in reduction of the foreign exchange allocation for the importation of glass bulbs.

In view of these findings, the special Cabinet committee recommended approval of allowing the Phillips Industrial Development, Inc., to establish a factory for the manufacture of glass envelopes and incandescent lamps.

Upon representation of Manila Railroad Company General Manager Salvador T. Villa, the President and the Cabinet approved substitutions in the procurement schedule from Japanese reparations as approved by the Cabinet on September 12, 1956, for Category No. 1 and on November 14, 1956, as follows:

Instead of nine first class coaches, 32 third class coaches, seven poultry cars, and six diesel rail cars, only five first class coaches and three diesel rail cars will be procured depending on the results of an international bidding.

It was also approved to hold an international bidding for 20 third class coaches and seven diesel rail cars. The bidding will be held simultaneously in Manila and in Tokyo.

At the Cabinet meeting, the President approved the appointment of Aguinaldo Maaba as secretary to the Cabinet and the advisory councils and concurrently as chief of the general affairs division of the Executive Office.

Maaba took over the position left by the late Prof. Vicente Lontok, under whom he had served as assistant.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 12:20 to 2:10 p.m. Owing to heavy engagements, especially his conference with the board of directors of the Philippine Air Lines upon his arrival from Baguio this morning, the President was delayed in holding the Cabinet meeting.

IN the afternoon the President inaugurated the national headquarters of the Garcia-for-President-Movement (GPM) and pledged to “dedicate the rest of my life to work for the prosperity and happiness of the nation” if elected.

The President reiterated that he would continue with accelerated tempo all the items in the political program of the late President Magsaysay. He said he would place emphasis on the solution of the unemployment problem by initiating a balanced development of the agricultural economy and the industrial program.

The Chief Executive delivered extemporaneous speeches both at the national headquarters of the GPM on Arquiza Street, in Ermita and at the national campaign headquarters of the GPM on Plaza Lawton. He was introduced by Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, national coordinator of the GPM, as “the President whose interest is the national interest.”

“We should balance the development of our agricultural economy and our industrial program to improve our national economy in order to absorb the unemployed among us,” the President said.

He arrived at the GPM headquarters with Mrs. Garcia about 5:40 p.m. and proceeded upstairs for the inauguration. He was fetched from Malacañang by a motorcade led by Rep. Cabangbang and GPM leaders. Also with the presidential party was Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez.

Among those who were at the inauguration were Reps. Angel Castancy of Manila, Constancio Castaneda of Tarlac, Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Lorenzo Teves of Negros Occidental, and Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto.

Upon his arrival, the President was mobbed by a large crowd of supporters and admirers and it took him several minutes before he could ascend the stairs.

At the national headquarters of the GPM on Plaza Lawton, the President delivered part of his extemporaneous speech in Tagalog. Other speakers were Rep. Castano, former Manila Councilor Isauro Santiago, and Rep. Zosa.

President Garcia assured members of the Farmers’ Cooperative Marketing Association all over the country that he would support all measures designed to help the farmers free themselves from poverty and monopoly.

The President delivered a short talk before the FACOMA members who called on him at Malacañang. The farmers, stockholders of the Central Cooperative Exchange of the ACCFA, were accompanied by Osmundo Mondoñedo, ACCFA chairman and administrator, and Ernesto Jimenez, CCE general manager.

After hearing the problems of the FACOMAs as expounded by Rizalino E. Lopez, spokesman of the group, the President said that he had already requested the members of Congress to restore the ₱10 million slashed from the ACCFA budget. He said that Congress agreed to restore not only the ₱10 million to the ACCFA but also the ₱10

million to the NAMARCO and the ₱8 million to the NARRA. He said that the cooperation of Congress in the restoration of the items was proof that the Congress members were interested in uplifting the conditions of the farmers and the common man.

The FACOMA members, in a unanimous resolution, expressed their thanks and gratitude to the President for his continuous support for the welfare of the farmers as evidenced by his “great desire to continue implementing the announced policies of the late President Magsaysay on rural development.”

In his talk with the FACOMA members, the President also promised that he would certify to Congress the urgency of the following bills as recommended by ACCFA Administrator Mondoñedo:

- (1) House Bill No. 7275, broadening the financing activities of the ACCFA, increasing the revolving fund of the ACCFA, and making explicit the authority of the ACCFA administrator to suspend erring FACOMA officials;
- (2) The bill amending Rep. Act No. 1194, revising the classification of Virginia leaf tobacco to be purchased by the government through the ACCFA;
- (3) House Bill No. 7294, including farmers’ cooperative marketing associations affiliated with the ACCFA as one of those qualified to become transferees of lands acquired and titled by authority of the Land Tenure Act;
- (4) The bill amending Commonwealth Act No. 141;
- (5) House Bill No. 5863, eliminating the prohibition on FACOMAs to handle the products of non-members except for storage and authorizing said FACOMAs to deal in the products of, and transact with or for other persons, entities, and parties who are not members of the association any business that it may transact with or for the members; and
- (6) House Bill No. 6578, extending the period of exemption from the payment of duty granted to textiles made of 100 per cent Philippine ramie.

Other requests of the FACOMA members which the President said he would study thoroughly were:

- (1) The certification of Senate Bill No. 578, authorizing the ACCFA instead of the NAMARCO to import onions, potatoes, garlic, and cabbages;
- (2) A directive to the NARIC to use the FACOMAs or their agencies as exclusive buying and distributing agents of rice or palay for NARIC;
- (3) A directive to the NARIC to buy all rice or palay bought by FACOMAs at agreed prices;
- (4) A directive to the NARIC not to construct facilities such as warehouses, ricemills, or stores where FACOMA warehouses, ricemills, or stores exist;
- (5) A directive to the NAMARCO to allocate a monthly quota of at least 30 per cent of its entire dollar allocation be earmarked for the CCE for exclusive distribution to FACOMAs; and
- (6) Allowing the ACCFA, NAMARCO, CCE, and any federation of FACOMAs to import directly farm implements, supplies, and commodities.

Earlier in the afternoon, the President signed the bill creating the municipality of Naawan in Misamis Oriental. The bill was the first one signed by the President during the current session of Congress. Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez, Rep.

Ignacio Cruz, and several mayors of Misamis Oriental were present at the signing of the bill. Naawan was formerly a/barrio of the town of Initao.

May 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia told the people of Laguna today that he would continue with the program enunciated by the late President Magsaysay of constructing irrigation systems all over the country as a means of helping poor farmers as well as of increasing the nation's food production.

Speaking at Siniloan, Laguna, this noon before a large crowd gathered to witness the inauguration of the Mayor River Irrigation System which will service some 800 hectares of rice lands in three Laguna towns, the President reiterated his plea for popular support so that he could have an opportunity to carry out the laudable policies of "my great predecessor."

The Chief Executive spoke extemporaneously in Tagalog and in English for about 30 minutes, during which he enumerated some of the projects of the late President which he intended to continue; such as, the construction of barrio roads, pre-fabricated school buildings, health centers, the installation of artesian wells, and providing homes for the homeless and lands for the landless.

"Owing to the untimely death of our illustrious leader, many people still do not have homes and lands, and many barrio roads, school buildings, health centers, and artesian wells are yet to be constructed," the President said. "I intend to complete the program of the late President Magsaysay to its happy conclusion."

Fetches from Malacañang by Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay and Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, the President left the Palace about 7:10 a.m. He was met at the Rizal-Laguna boundary in San Pedro Tunasan by a large delegation headed by Gov. Dominador Chipeco, Rep. Jacobo Gonzales, town mayors, and other political leaders of Laguna.

The Chief Executive was scheduled to arrive in Siniloan at 10 a.m. to inaugurate the new irrigation project. However, owing to numerous unscheduled stops he had to make enroute, on account of other delegations which awaited him with brass bands, fireworks, and welcome leis, the President arrived at his destination past 12 noon, more than two hours behind schedule. Among the places where the President stopped, in deference to the wishes of the people who had waited for him for hours, were Bifian, Platero, Sta. Rosa, Cabuyao, Balite (Victoria), Pagsanjan, Kalayaan, Paete, and Pakil.

Entering Siniloan about 12 noon, the President was met at the outskirts of the town by a delegation of municipal officials headed by Mayor Ruben Adricula. He alighted from his car and, at the head of a welcome parade, walked the rest of the way to the town plaza about half a kilometer away, where a large crowd had gathered to welcome him.

After a brief, extemporaneous speech delivered in Tagalog, thanking the townspeople for the warm reception they had accorded him, the President returned to his car and motored to the irrigation dam site some three kilometers from the town.

The inauguration ceremonies started with an overture rendered by the Siniloan band. The ceremonial ribbon was cut by Mrs. Florencio Moreno, assisted by Mesdames Chipeco and Lagumbay, wives of the governor and the congressman, respectively. Rev. Alejandro Olalia, bishop of Lipa City, blessed the project.

The President, in his speech, disclosed that the province of Laguna had received a total of 22 million during the last three years of the Nacionalista administration, compared to only 4 million given under the previous administration. The 22 million had been given to the province in the form of public works projects, he said. He promised to continue "with this great momentum of public improvements."

The Chief Executive was introduced by Rep. Lagumbay. Other speakers at the inauguration rites were Gov. Chipeco, who delivered the welcome address, and Secretary Moreno, who delivered the opening remarks, Servando Suguitan, district irrigation engineer, was master of ceremonies.

Constructed at a cost of 192,000, the new Mayor River Irrigation System is considered the largest in Laguna. It will benefit some 2,000 families of farmers and serve about 800 hectares of rice lands in the municipalities of Mabitac, Famy, and Siniloan. It was estimated that the system would increase agricultural production in that region by three-fold.

The President was back in Manila about 3:30 p.m.

AFTER a hurried lunch, the President sped towards Manila to catch up with the meeting of the executive committee of the Nacionalista Party. He arrived late, as the presidential party reached Manila at 3:45 o'clock this afternoon.

After the NP executive committee meeting, the President gave an impromptu press interview over Radio Station DZQL *Radio Reloj*.

President Garcia said this afternoon that he was running for election on a platform of clean government as he announced what he called a "relentless drive against graft and corruption."

He made this announcement in a brief press interview with newspapermen over Station DZQL *Radio Reloj* at the New Selecta on Dewey Boulevard.

In a sortie at noon today into a politically hostile territory in Laguna, the President lambasted the Liberal Party in a bid to strengthen his chances in the coming elections.

It was the first broadside fired by President Garcia against the opposition party since he lifted the one-month moratorium on politics occasioned by the death of President Magsaysay.

In the New Selecta press conference, President Garcia:

1. Renewed a bid to win to his side the members of the Magsaysay-for-President Movement;
2. Expressed the view that Congress will restore the slashed item of the President's Complaint and Action Committee in the budget; and
3. Favored the development of a strong opposition which should serve as a fiscalizer to the leaders of the party in power.

In appealing to the MPMs, the President said the group is a potent factor in any election.

He stressed this as he recalled that he had not contemplated to remove Labor Secretary Eleuterio Adevosos from the Cabinet even if Garcia's chief political lieutenant, Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, concurrently national coordinator of the Garcia-for-President Movement, had denounced Adevosos as "disloyal" to the Chief Executive.

He said he was retaining Adevosos in the Cabinet and stressed the hope that the MPM will back him in his bid for the presidential election.

"I hope to get them to my side," President Garcia declared. He said that the MPMs who supported the late President Magsaysay would throw their support behind him because he was determined to follow the policies of his predecessor.

He said he would undertake a “relentless” campaign against graft and corruption in the government. “The MPMs are against graft and corruption,” he recalled.

The President spiked a charge that the Nacionalista Party convention which may be held sometime next month or in August will be a “rigged-up affair.”

He stated that he would not allow this to happen although such a set-up may favor his candidacy.

At the same time, the President said the coming convention will be able to decide on the candidate of the majority party. “I have high hopes that the party will be able to resolve any dead-lock,” the President remarked.

Turning on the pruning of items in the budget, the President said he believed that the PCAC item which had been abolished in the proposed budget would be restored.

He said he needed the PCAC in his campaign for a clean and honest government. He pointed out that the PCAC is the “clearing house of the complaints of the common man”.

Answering a query on whether or not he favored a reported plan of the Liberal Party to support him in the event their quest for a candidate for the highest position fails, President Garcia said he wanted to preserve the existence of a healthy opposition.

He said a fiscalizer is necessary to preserve democracy in the Philippines.

However, the Chief Executive commented that he has not given the supposed LP plan a thought. “Let them present their proposal,” he said, “before I shall comment on the supposed plan.”

IN the afternoon the President received some two hundred delegates to the 28th annual convention of the Philippine Dental Association who paid their respects to the Chief Executive on the last day of their convention.

The delegation was headed by Dr. Atanacio N. Ilano, president of the PDA, and Dean Genaro Felizardo, chairman of the convention. Also present were Dr. William R. Alstadt, president-elect of the American Dental Association; Dr. Jose F. Aubertine, fellow of the American College of Dentists; and Dr. Bienvenido R. Erana, president-elect of the 2nd Asia Dental Congress.

In his brief remarks to the dentists, the President said that the Administration had greatly expanded its rural health program, including the employment of more dentists to minister to the dental needs of the barrio people. He added that, as the program would expand further, more dentists would be needed to attend to the health of the people.

The President said that the science of dentistry had developed to an advance stage in the Philippines and that Filipino dentists had acquired prestige here and abroad.

Dr. Ilano introduced the President.

In the course of the call, Dr. Alstadt presented a scroll to the President making him a honorary citizen of Little Rock, Arkansas. The scroll was signed by Little Rock Mayor Woodrow Wilson Mann. Together with the scroll went a small symbolic key to the city of Little Rock.

Dr. Alstadt, in his brief remarks, said that he had observed the progress of dentistry in the Philippines resulting in a higher standard of the practice of the dental profession. He said that the International Dental Federation and the American Dental Association had recognized the Philippine Dental Association as the, official dental association in the Philippines.

The President expressed his thanks to the Little Rock Mayor, through Dr. Alstadt, for the honor of having been made an honorary citizen of that city.

PRESIDENT Garcia said in the evening that "economic statemanship" and closer alliance with the United States will steer the country through economic difficulties and the dangers of communism.

He addressed the members of the Chicago Club at the Aristocrat on Dewey Boulevard. The President said the Philippines can survive the "crucial struggle" against communism "under the leadership of the United States of America, and we intend to maintain this alliance."

He pointed out that the most serious problem involving the security of the country is posed by a "godless ideology that seeks to disrupt and destroy our orderly democratic processes."

He urged the members of the Chicago Club, as "men schooled in the ideals of democracy, to lead our people in that struggle."

In warning against the communist menace, the President rallied the people to "be ever on the alert, lest this merciless, soulless, treacherous way of life again attempt to creep into the lives of our people."

Although he was unequivocal in maintaining closer alliance with the United States, the President said, that the country should also strengthen its ties with other Asian countries within the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization.

He observed that the United States is a member of the alliance. "This is for us Filipinos," he said, "significant because of our special relations with that great country which has helped us a great deal in surmounting the many difficulties and problems we have encountered since we regained our independence in 1946."

He stressed also that as a young nation, the Philippines in its "endeavor to develop a fuller and more tranquil life can benefit much from the lessons of history and from the rise of progressive nations today, like America."

Turning to the economic difficulties of the country, the President pointed out that the root of most of the problems of mankind is economic.

He said that the Administration has been giving greater emphasis to the solution of economic problems.

He declared:

"With the natural wealth and resources that a provident God has endowed our country, there is no reason why we could not provide our people with better shelters, better foods, more comforts in life—if only the national effort should be geared with determination towards this end. We cannot do these things overnight."

However, he warned: "We can not achieve our avowed goals amidst petty squables, intrigues, and greed. We need to be guided by sound economic statesmanship and the genuine concern for those who have less in life."

May 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning before leaving for Antipolo, Rizal, at 9:20, said the Administration has succeeded in operating the government with a balanced budget for the past three years, and added that he would never tolerate deficit spending.

The President made this statement at the Malacañang study room, where Tarlac town mayors gathered to pledge their support to his election bid.

In a brief talk to the Tarlac town executives, the President urged the mayors to cooperate with his administration, particularly on projects enunciated by the late President Magsaysay.

Headed by Gov. Arsenio Lugay, the Tarlac town mayors consulted the Chief Executive on matters affecting their respective towns. The President listened to the town mayors individually, taking down notes on their respective problems.

Rep. Constancio Castañeda accompanied the town mayors to Malacañang.

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this morning motored to Antipolo, Rizal, on the opening day of the two-month annual pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage.

The President was fetched from Malacañang by Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong. Others who accompanied him were Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Gov. Juan Pajo of Bohol, Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, and Lieut Melchor Fronda, aide.

On the way to Antipolo, the presidential party was met at Cainta by Mayor Francisco Felix and Vice-Major Catalino Cruz, who led welcomers, and at Taytay, by Rep. Serafin Salvador and Mayor Manuel Santos, who also led welcomers. In both places, the President alighted from his car, walked some distance, and acknowledged the greetings of the people,

The President and the First Lady and their party arrived at the Antipolo Cathedral past 10:00 a.m., and heard mass said by Mons. Vicente Fernandez, parish priest of the town. Other officials at the cathedral were Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, Sen. and Mrs. Lorenzo Sumulong, Public Works Secretary and Mrs. Florencio Moreno, Executive Secretary De Leon, Gov. Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, and Mayor Isaías Tapales of Antipolo.

After the mass, the President and his Lady, together with the presidential party, motored to the farm of Sen. Sumulong where a traditional yearly luncheon was given. Among the officials present were Sen. and Mrs. Alejo Mabanag, Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez and husband, Sen. and Mrs. Lorenzo M. Tanada, Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Rep. Miguel Cuenco of Cebu, and Rep. and Mrs. Serafin Salvador of Rizal.

From the Sumulong farm, President Garcia and Senate President Rodriguez and his party motored back to Manila. They arrived at Pier 5 about 1:30 p.m., where the President boarded the yacht *Santa Maria*. Aboard the yacht waiting for him were some 17 governors who discussed with the President problems affecting their respective provinces.

After cruising in Manila Bay, the yacht returned to Manila about 5:30 p.m. After the governors had left, the President worked on a bundle of state papers awaiting presidential decision.

Among the papers signed by the President was a proclamation amending a previous proclamation which established the Mt. Apo National Park. The proclamation excludes from the previous proclamation's operation a certain portion of the land embraced within an area of about 3,946 hectares situated in Makilala, Cotabato, and declares this portion open to disposition under the provisions of the Public Land Act.

Another proclamation reserves for school site a certain portion of the public domain in barrio Bugasan (Sabakan), Parang, Cotabato.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, the President signed papers giving conditional pardons to six convicts and absolute pardon to one insular prisoner.

The President remained at the yacht until late in the evening, working on state papers and conferring with Secretary De Leon on pending matters.

PAKISTAN Prime Minister Hesseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy will leave the Philippines tomorrow morning with an assurance from President Garcia that this country would support the United Nations in all its efforts to solve any international dispute.

The assurance was embodied in a joint communique which President Garcia and Prime Minister Suhrawardy issued early this morning. It was interpreted by members of the Suhrawardy party as a “signal victory” for the Pakistani premier in his fight against Indian annexation of the princely state of Kashmir.

They pointed out that President Garcia’s assurance was similar to the one Premier Suhrawardy drew from Japanese Premier Nobusuke Kishi during his state visit to Japan April 23-30.

The key part of the Garcia-Suhrawardy communique, in the Pakistani’s view, said Mr. Garcia and Mr. Suhrawardy agreed that all international disputes could be settled through the United Nations. (See *Historical Papers and Documents*, pp. 2765-2766, for full text of the joint statement.)

May 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today told a delegation of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines headed by Miss Helena Z. Benitez, CAWP president, that he would make full utilization of women’s services in various government offices to help him in the difficult task of government.

The Chief Executive said that he would continue placing the best qualified women wherever they are most suited to serve the country.

At the same time, he reassured the women leaders that he would do his best to continue using the national language as often as he could. As a matter of fact, he said that on some occasions in the past few days, he had spoken in Tagalog, the last one being on the occasion of Labor Day when he delivered his full speech in the national language.

The Chief Executive was prompted to make these remarks about his use of Tagalog by Dr. Ligaya D. Perez, acting president of the Panitik ng Kababaihan, who inquired from the President if he would deliver more speeches in the national language.

Miss Benitez also requested the President to certify to the urgency of House Bill No. 6600 in order to insure the holding of the first national conference on family life in December 1957, a project that was approved by the late President.

Other members of the CAWP present were Felisa S. Garina, acting secretary; Rafaelita Hilario-Soriano, Women’s International League; Constanca D. Dumlao, League of Women Voters of the Philippines; Juanita L. Pintoy and Milagros B. Sabane, Camp Murphy Women’s Club; Barbara M. Yap and Andrea Godinez, of the Moslem Women’s Association of the Philippines; Jessie Lichauco, Association de Damas Filipinas; Barbara B. Mariano and J. S. Lopez, Junior Federation of Women’s Clubs; Joaquina R. Zapanta, Women’s Christian Temperance Union; Trinidad F. Legarda, Pan-Pacific Women’s Association of the Philippines; Concepcion R. Gonzalez, Girl Scouts of the Philippines; Paz M. Catolico, National Federation of Women’s Clubs; Juanita Valera, Catholic Women’s League; and Mrs. Nieves Baens-del Rosario.

The President started receiving his regular callers at about 9:30 a.m. after having breakfast with executives of the Tabacalera. The League of Administration Executives, headed by Maj. Antonio G. Perez, called on the President and pledged its support of, and cooperation with, the Administration.

Rep. Floro Crisologo of Ilocos Sur requested the President that immediate extension of the Ambuklao hydroelectric power lines be made to Northern Luzon, particularly to Ilocos Sur, in order to bring the benefits of rural electrification to that region. The President directed National Power Corporation General Manager Filemon Zablan to take action on the request.

The Philippine Contractors Association headed by its President, Perfecto Mañalac, requested the President that more construction materials be made available in order to hasten the many construction works going on in the country.

The delegation was accompanied by Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno.

The Health Education Association of the Philippines delegation requested more appropriations for community centers. This project is a joint venture of the Department of Education, the Department of Health, and the Health Education Association of the Philippines. The delegation was headed by Macario Naval, president of the Philippine Normal College and of the association, and Carmen del Rosario, secretary.

Mayor Placido Fialza of Itogon, Mt. Province, and Mrs. Cecille Afable requested the President's help for the several families which had been displaced from their lands as a result of the construction of the Ambuklao and the Binga projects, and who until now have not been settled. The President referred the matter to Public Works Secretary Florenco Moreno to take up their case at the next meeting of the National Power Corporation.

Rep. Justino Benito of Pangasinan accompanied four mayors of his district and requested funds for the construction of the Ambaywan irrigation system and the waterworks system for Tayug. The President said that he would take this matter up with the Council of State at the next meeting.

A delegation of the Federated Civic Women's Organization of Quezon City headed by Mrs. Norberto Amoranto and Dr. Justiniano T. Mendoza, director of the Labor Hospital, requested the President to grant an additional ₱60,000 for the construction of a dispensary for the Labor Hospital.

A big delegation of the Philippine Employees, Laborers, and Tenants Association (PELTA) of Dagupan City, jointly with the Rapu-Rapu Labor Union of Albay, presented, resolutions to the Chief Executive endorsing unqualifiedly the President's candidacy for president.

The PELTA was represented by Francisco M. Lopez, its president and chairman, while the RRLU was represented by Eulalio B. Garcia, who spoke for Andres A. Aguilar, president of the union.

A delegation of the Garcia Citizens' Movement for President of Quezon City, headed by Mateo Ross, president, also paid their respects to the Chief Executive.

Other individual callers of the President were Sen. Domocao Alonto; Reps. Ombra Amilbangsa of Sulu, Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, and Ramon P. Mitra of Mt. Province; and Gov. Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte.

THIS morning the President stayed for a period of 30 days the execution of the death penalty on prisoner Crispin Verzo.

The court of first instance of Camarines Norte and the Supreme Court had imposed the death penalty upon prisoner Verzo for the crime of multiple murder and damage to property and the sentence had been set for execution on May 9, 1957.

A petition had been filed with the Board of Pardons and Parole for the commutation to life imprisonment of the death penalty imposed upon the prisoner. However, the report and recommendations of the Board of Pardons and Parole had not yet been received and some time will be needed for a thorough and careful consideration of the merits of the petition.

For this reason, the President stayed the execution of the final sentence on the prisoner.

THE President this morning also directed the secretary of health to order an investigation of alleged manhandling of two reporters by a doctor of the Philippine General Hospital.

The President took this action upon reading reports of the incident in the papers. The Chief Executive directed that the health secretary, after investigating the case, take the necessary action in accordance with the circumstances of the case.

IN the afternoon the President reiterated his determination to continue emancipating the rural people from the clutches of greedy landlords and loan sharks and to prosecute with vigor the land reform program initiated by “our great proletarian leader, the late President Magsaysay.”

The President made the statement during his extemporaneous speech before the delegates to the convention of the Philippine Rural Action for National Regeneration (PRANAR) at the YMCA building. The speech was one of the four speeches delivered by the President this afternoon.

Other speeches delivered by the President this day were:

(1) That before the Philippine Electric Plant Operators Association at the Manila Hotel;

(2) That before the National Seminar on Human Rights at the Institute of Science and Technology building; and

(3) The extemporaneous speech in Tagalog before the NARIC delegation from. Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac, Pangasinan, Isabela, Cagayan, and other provinces headed by NARIC Board Chairman Juan O. Chioco, Acting General Manager Vicente Concepcion, Rep. Celestino Juan of Nueva Ecija, Govs. Jose Espino of Isabela, Marcelo Adduru of Cagayan, and Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, and Mayor Teodoro Santiago of Cabanatuan City.

In his speech before the PRANAR and the NARIC delegations, the President said that Malacañang was always open to the people. He invited the people to “come to me with your complaints and problems.” He assured them of his help.

He cited all the measures initiated by the Administration for the welfare of the common man. He said that small farmers and barrio people should take advantage of the small loans being offered by government agencies and corporations like the ACCFA, FACOMA, GSIS, RFC, and the CCE.

The President was given the *Order of the Carabao* award by the, PRANAR in recognition of his contributions to the uplift of the rural areas. Also given posthumously the same award was the late President Magsaysay. Milagros Magsaysay received the award for her late father. Dominador La Madrid, president of the PRANAR, said that the *Order of the Carabao* is symbolic of the backbone of the nation.

PRESIDENT Garcia, making known his desire for clean elections this November, vowed to respect the rights of minority political parties.

He said he would never countenance any act that may render it difficult for minority parties to express their will through the polls.

“Minority political parties may rest assured,” he said, “that I shall never lift a finger or utter a single word that may deprive them of an equal and untrammelled freedom in the discussion of the issues which they may present to our people.”

President Garcia made the vow in a speech he delivered in opening a national seminar on human rights at the Institute of Science and Technology building in the Philippine General Hospital compound.

The seminar which will last until May 11 is under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization’s national commission of the Philippines.

In vowing to respect the rights of minority parties, the President said he is fully cognizant that “one of the acid tests of democracy is the clear awareness on the part of the majority party of its solemn responsibility to respect the rights of the minorities.”

“I am not unmindful of the lesson of experience,” he said in a jocular vein, “that the majority party that rides roughshod over the minorities is on its way to taking the place of the latter.”

At the Institute of Science and Technology building, where the President spoke on human rights after he had spoken before the Philippine Electric Plant Operators Association at the Manila Hotel, the Chief Executive was met by Dr. Jorge Bocobo, chairman of the seminar on human rights, and Rafael Salas, acting executive secretary of the UNESCO under whose sponsorship the seminar was held.

From the Institute of Science and Technology building, the President proceeded to the YMCA building for the PRANAR affair. The President was cheered by the delegates to the PRANAR convention when he said that he would recommend to the Land Tenure Administration the expropriation of a landed state in Paco as requested by the delegates.

The President returned to Malacañang about 7 p.m. and received the NARIC delegation. After the NARIC delegation, the President received the officials of the Home Financing Commission with whom he discussed matters affecting the commission. The officials were headed by Commodore Jose Andrada, chairman of the HFC.

May 7—PRESIDENT Garcia was accorded a colorful reception on his arrival in Cotabato, Cotabato, at 11: p.m. this morning aboard the plane *Pagasa* following more than three hours’ trip from Manila.

On hand at the Cotabato airport was a large crowd headed by national, provincial, and municipal officials, including Gov. Udtog Matalam, Rep. Luminog Mangelen, Cotabato Mayor Mando Sinsuat, and Lambayong Mayor Jose Guerrero, president of the Cotabato Mayors’ League.

After acknowledging the enthusiastic cheers of welcomers made up of people of mixed faiths, and the raffles and flourishes offered by an honor guard composed of the local Constabulary unit, the President was whisked at the head of a long motorcade to the palace of Mons. Gerard Mongeau, prelate nullius of Cotabato, thence to the nearby Immaculate Conception Cathedral, where a *Te Deum* was sung by the prelate.

Accompanied by local officials, the President then proceeded to the burned area where the fire had gutted eight blocks of the town’s business center with an estimated loss of 6,500,000. The President stayed at the fire area about 30 minutes, chatting with some of the 500 families rendered homeless by the conflagration. Most of the victims were Chinese businessmen.

The President had lunch at the officers’ clubhouse of the local PC headquarters. The Southern Hotel, where the luncheon was originally scheduled to be held, had been burned down.

At 4 p.m. the President had merienda at the carnival grounds, given jointly by the local civic organizations, including the Knights of Columbus, the Rotary, the Jaycees, the Freemasons, the Catholic Ladies League, and the Muslim association. Then the Chief Executive proceeded to the town plaza for the public rally.

Tonight the President had dinner at the Fountain Head Hotel given by the Cotabato Mayors’ League. Then he was the guest of honor at the mayor’s league night at the carnival auditorium, where he inducted the officers of the local press club headed by Pedro Morales, club president.

The President spent the night at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Perfecto Marquez, where he always stays while in Cotabato.

The presidential party included Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno Govs. Bernardo Torres of Leyte, Juan Pajo of Bohol, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, and Alejo Santos of Bulacan; and Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson.

May 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned today, from a two-day flying trip to Mindanao where he launched a “fruitful” campaign in Cotabato to win over the southern island voters in November.

Upon his return to Manila the President expressed confidence at getting the Muslim vote.

In Mindanao the President was guest of Boholanos who gave him a breakfast in one of the restaurants which survived the conflagration in Cotabato, Cotabato. President Garcia was at "home" among his province people, reviewing old acquaintances with several of them.

The President was scheduled to induct the officers of the press club at a dance in the carnival auditorium in the evening. However, when the President showed up at the auditorium, the place was practically empty as the guests trooped in later in the night. Before the President could induct the press club officers, it rained, preventing them from fulfilling his schedule.

After waiting in vain for the weather to clear up a few minutes before midnight, the President decided to leave the auditorium.

It was learned that the officers of the Cotabato Press Club went to see President Garcia in his quarters, but were told that the President was already asleep.

The President asked for the press club officers in the morning but the latter decided to call the whole thing off.

Before leaving Cotabato this morning, the President saw former Sen. Salipada Pendatun, who was expected to run for the House of Representatives in the coming elections.

FROM the Cotabato airport, the President flew on to Romblon where he viewed the remains of Mrs. Manuel Solidum, wife of the governor of the province. Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno accompanied the President to Romblon.

Taking off after lunch in Romblon, the President arrived in Manila shortly before 2 o'clock this afternoon.

The President was reported to have been wearied by the hectic trip to Cotabato where he delivered several addresses.

Waking up at six o'clock in the evening, the President conferred with the members of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank and the officers of the Philippine Chamber of Industries and the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines.

The President directed the Monetary Board to relax its controls on foreign exchange in order to provide a healthier climate for the industrialization of the country.

Rep. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, accompanied the businessmen and the Monetary Board members.

In the group were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Dean Vicente Sinco, Gregorio Licaros, Ben Medrano of the CCP, and Fernando E. V. Sison of the PCI.

May 9—THIS morning, the President had breakfast with visiting American businessmen who paid a courtesy call. The affair was purely a social gathering.

The businessmen included Allen Chase, Jack Tyler, Henry LeCossett, and William Cunn. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, U.S. Embassy Minister Horace Smith, and David Chang.

Implementing a previous Cabinet decision to negotiate and conclude a trade protocol with Japan, the Cabinet approved the composition of the Philippine panel of negotiators as follows:

Jose Ma. Espino of the Department of Foreign Affairs, chairman; Dr. Marcelino Bernardo of the National Economic Council, vice-chairman; Dr. Benito Legarda of the Central Bank, Bonifacio Quiaoit of the Department of Commerce and Industry, and Martin Mendoza of the Department of Foreign Affairs, as members.

In addition, the following were appointed advisers: Dominador P. Amor of the Department of Foreign Affairs; Bernardo Abrera, NASSCO general manager; Jose H. Panganiban, NDC general manager; Vicente Coloso, OEC technical adviser; and Jose M. Trinidad of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Wilfredo Vega of the Department of Foreign Affairs was appointed secretary to the panel.

The Cabinet gave its approval to the composition of the panel upon representation of Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus.

The Cabinet also approved the tank type (swimming pool) research reactor with two-position core model which the Philippines intends to acquire at the expense of the United States Government.

This type of reactor had been recommended by the inter-departmental committee on atomic energy, of which Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia is the chairman. In sponsoring approval of this type of reactor, Secretary Manglapus said that this matter was considered urgent because further delay on the decision would hold the stages of implementation of the project.

Hand in hand with the approval of this research reactor, Secretary Manglapus also recommended that the President certify to Congress the urgency of legislation creating an atomic energy commission as administering authority to carry out the implementation of the bilateral agreement between the Philippines and the United States. This commission will formulate and recommend general policies concerning the development, uses, and disposition of atomic energy products.

The Cabinet was informed that until an atomic energy bill had been approved by the Congress, research and development on nuclear energy in the Philippines could not progress and Philippine commitments in the bilateral agreement with the United States would remain unfulfilled. This agreement will expire in 1960, after which any financial aid committed to the Philippines by the United States for this project might be lost by default.

The bilateral agreement entered into on July 27, 1955, is for cooperation between the Philippine Government and the United States Government in the development for peaceful uses of atomic energy. The Philippine Government expressed the desire of pursuing a research and development program towards the realization of the peaceful and humanitarian uses of atomic energy and to obtain assistance from the United States Government with respect to this program.

The United States Government, in turn, has committed to assist the Philippine Government by furnishing at *no cost*, a nuclear research reactor and by defraying the salaries, travel, and other necessary expenses of the technical men to be sent to the Philippines to supervise the installation and initial operation of the research reactor.

The Philippine Government is committed to construct the building and related facilities to house the reactor and to bear the cost of maintaining and operating the reactor.

Moreover, the Cabinet approved the draft agreement between the Philippine Government and the World Health Organization and on behalf of the United Nations and its specialized agencies concerning office accommodations in Manila.

Under this agreement the government shall grant to the WHO the free use of a piece of land on the corner of Isaac Peral and Taft Avenue on which to build the regional office for the Western Pacific of the WHO.

The WHO will enjoy the free use of the land indefinitely for as long as the regional office of the organization remains in Manila. The title to, and ownership of, the land shall remain with the Philippine Government.

The government will contribute as an outright donation the sum of ₱500,000, approximately 50 per cent of the estimated cost of constructing the WHO buildings. The title to the buildings shall be in the name of the WHO. However, should the WHO discontinue its activities or should it cease to require office accommodations in Manila, it will transfer a clear title to the buildings to the Philippine Government.

The Cabinet, furthermore, approved the sale by public bidding of the share holdings of the Philippine Government in the Manila Gas Corporation. It was stipulated that the selling price should not be less than ₱362.78, the book value per share as of March 31, 1957.

The Cabinet action in selling the government's shares of investment was the fifth to be undertaken in its determination to gradually withdraw from private business. It has already sold the CEPOC cement plant in Bacnotan, the NDC canning plant, and its share-holdings in "the Philippine Electrical Manufacturing Company and the Compania Celulosa de Filipinas.

Upon agreement between the secretary of health and the secretary of national defense, the Cabinet approve the transfer of the V. Luna General Hospital to the Bureau of Hospitals and of the Fort William McKinley Hospital to the Armed Forces.

The exchange of these hospitals is calculated to bring about more hospital facilities and accommodations to more people and will minimize the overcrowding of patients in government hospitals in Manila.

The exchange is also believed to be beneficial to both the Armed Forces and to the Bureau of Hospitals.

Also approved during the Cabinet meeting was the request of philatelists, stamp collectors, and civic organizations to issue a mourning stamp in honor of the late President Magsaysay. The American Bank Note Company of New York will print the 5-centavo stamps bearing the late President's picture. It was recommended that 5 million stamps be ordered.

The Cabinet decided to sell the stamps at ₱10 each and that one-half of the proceeds from the sale would go to the Magsaysay Memorial Fund.

During the Cabinet meeting, the President announced to his Cabinet members his policy regarding community development. He said that it was his desire that the Administration would implement the community development program with greater emphasis and that this activity should be kept away from the encroachment of partisan politics.

The President requested that all departments of the government give their active, continuous, and unreserved cooperation and that all efforts be coordinated.

The President announced that he had authorized the presidential assistant on community development jointly with the Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources; Health, Public Works and Communications, and Education to embark on a "grants-in-aid" program where barrio people would be given the opportunity to decide what projects they wished to undertake within the following broad categories:

- (a) Projects contributing to increased production and income;
- (b) Self-help public improvement projects; and
- (c) Health and sanitation.

The President said that in order that the grants-in-aid program would succeed, it was necessary that the various departments concerned give priority support by providing the necessary technical services and help supervise the implementation of the program.

Upon the recommendation of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, the Cabinet authorized the sending of Enrique S. San Juan, supervising architect in the Bureau of Public Works, to the Brussels Universal Exposition of 1958 in Belgium. San Juan was designated as the architect to supervise the work on the Philippine pavilion in the said exposition.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia in the afternoon called House leaders to a conference in an effort to quell the worsening rebellion in the House of Representatives against some members of his Cabinet.

It was a hastily-called conference as House members had suppressed items in the budget which are occupied by MPM men, whose loyalty to the party and to the Administration, had been doubted.

Malacañang was silent on the outcome of the conference. Assistant Press Secretary G. V. Sison, was allegedly stopped from attending the meeting by Legislative Secretary Jose C Nable.

Nable, it was learned, released the information to congressional reporters. Nable's action incensed Malacañang newsmen last night who decided to bring what, they call "usurpation of the function of the press secretary by the legislative secretary" to the attention of President Garcia at the press conference this afternoon.

Before the President's meeting with House leaders, some 40 MPM members pledged their support to President Garcia's administration.

Acting Defense Secretary Jose M. Crisol, head of the group, called common effort to support President Garcia as the latter has vowed to carry on the program of the late President Magsaysay.

Also among those who saw the President were close associates of the late President Magsaysay.

IN the evening, the President received a delegation of provincial board members from 17 provinces which presented him with a petition seeking that all provincial board members be called to a convention in Manila and be given an opportunity to organize themselves into a league.

With Provincial Board Member Salvador Madarang of Zambales as spokesman of the group, the delegation informed the Chief Executive that they had come to Manila on their own.

Malacañang said that newly-elected officers of the Garcia-for-President Organization took their oaths before the Chief Executive.

Headed by William V. Velasco, national coordinator, the organization is composed of various elements of the population with all provinces represented.

Other delegations were those headed by Sen. Domocao Alonto, Reps. Luminog Mangelen of Cotabato, and Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan.

PRESIDENT Garcia and Minister Walter Hofer of the Confederation of Switzerland this afternoon pledged continued friendly relations between the Philippines and Switzerland on the occasion of Minister Hofer's presentation of his credentials as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the Confederation of Switzerland to the Philippines.

Minister Hofer was the first foreign envoy to present his credentials to the President. The ceremony was held at the ceremonial hall of Malacañang about 4:30 p.m. in the presence of some Cabinet members.

The Swiss minister, who is the first diplomatic representative of his country to the Philippines after a long series of consular representations since 1862, said in his remarks that “the long standing ties between our two countries have aroused the particular interest of private and official Swiss circles in the Philippine nation of today.”

In his response, the President expressed confidence that Minister Hofer would play “a major role in strengthening further the cordial relations now happily existing between our two countries and peoples” and conveyed to the President of the Swiss Confederation “the sincere best wishes of the people of the Philippines and my own for his continued good health and happiness, as well as the well-being and prosperity of his people.”

Minister Hofer cited the Swiss-Philippine Treaty of Friendship signed on August 30, 1956, and the Air Agreement between the two nations in 1952 as proofs of what the treaty declared as “perpetual peace and everlasting amity” between the Philippines and Switzerland.

The minister also said that his country would be happy, should circumstances warrant, to assist the Philippines and to welcome “fresh new ideas and plans which a younger state and nation usually brings forth.” He expressed the best wishes of the President of the Confederation of Switzerland to the President and the people of the Philippines.

Among those present at the ceremony were Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, Acting Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Tomas de Castro, Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora, and Protocol Officer Jose Estrada, Pedro Angara-Aragon, and Monico Vicente of the Department of Foreign Affairs protocol division, Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, senior presidential aide, and Maj. Jose Estrella, presidential aide.

May 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia and House leaders, in a conference this morning, perfected their previous understanding on the budget and the other bills certified as urgent.

The President conferred with the House leaders in the music room of Malacañang for about half an hour. Present at the conference were Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez, and Acting Majority Floor Leader Ismael Veloso.

Before his conference with the House leaders, the President received the members of the Commission on Election who showed him the new ballot box with multiple locks and a metal seal with serial numbers. The commissioners told the President that the new ballot box was more convenient and would make more secure the safety of the ballots.

The President looked over the new ballot box and congratulated the commissioners. The new ballot box has two compartments, one for valid ballots and the other for spoiled ones. Formerly there were two separate boxes for the valid ballots and the spoiled ones. Members of the Commission who called on the President were Domingo Imperial, chairman; Gaudencio Garcia and Sixto Brillantes, members; and Emilio Aguila, secretary to the commission.

The members of the Commission on Election were the first of the many callers of the President. Starting at 9. a.m., the President finished receiving the callers 2; 30 p.m.

Representatives of the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities, the Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines, the Association of Christian Schools and Colleges, and the unaffiliated schools submitted a petition to the President requesting the certification of House Bill No. 5211, which seeks to abolish the one per cent assessment tax on the gross income of private schools. The private schools representatives called the tax immoral and unjust.

Also contained in the petition was the private schools’ argument against “the incomplete 2-2 Plan sought to be implemented this coming academic year without giving schools sufficient time for study and readjustment.” They

requested the deferment of the effectivity of the so-called 2-2 Plan on the ground that “both public and private schools will find the implementation of the 2-2 Plan impossible and impractical.”

The President assured the private schools’ representatives that he would study seriously with the Department of Education officials the argument against the 2-2 Plan. Concerning the presidential certification of House Bill No. 5211, the President advised the delegation to get the recommendation of the Congress leaders first in accordance with an understanding between the Chief Executive and the Congress leaders on bills for certification.

Among those in the private schools delegation were FEU President Teodoro Evangelista, UM President Mariano V. de los Santos, UE President Francisco Dalupan, Miss Helen Benitez of PWU, William L. Anderson of the Silliman University, Jose Motomal of UST, Segundo Infantado of NTC, Brother H. Gabriel, president of the CEAP; and Benicio T. Catapusan, executive secretary of the ACSC.

Philippine Chief Delegate to the United Nations Felixberto Serrano accompanied Asian experts on human rights who paid a courtesy call on the President. The experts from the Philippines, Australia, Japan, India, Indonesia, Thailand, and Nationalist China attended the recent seminar on human rights held at the Philippine General Hospital compound. The Asian experts were also accompanied by Prof. Enrique Fernando, Sergio Barrera of the Department of Foreign Affairs United Nations division, and Antonio Prats of the protocol division, Department of Foreign Affairs.

Members of the National Federation of Rice and Corn Planters also submitted a petition to the President proposing the banning of the importation of rice during the harvest season. The rice and corn planters claimed that during the harvest season, the Philippines was self-sufficient in rice. The petition also contained proposals to stabilize the price of rice and to equalize the distribution of fertilizer among the planters.

The President said that he would study the petition thoroughly and would discuss the matter with officials of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the NARIC. He also advised the rice and corn planters to confer with the officials concerned on their proposal for the banning of the importation of rice. He said that the problem would be discussed on a Cabinet level and the rice planters would be invited to the meeting. In the delegation were former NEC Chairman Alfredo Mon-telibano, former Agriculture Secretary Mariano Garchitorea, Mario Moreno, Buenaventura C. Lopez, Mrs. Julia Vda. de Gonzalez, Mrs. Angela Butte, Juan Cojuangco, Asterio Favis, Romeo Gonzales, Marianito Tinio, and Juan Estacion.

The President received from Tarlac Governor Arsenio Lugay the sum of ₱15,000 as his province’s contribution to the Peace and Amelioration Fund Commission. The amount was raised by the Tarlac chapter of the PAFC through benefit programs. With Governor Lugay when he handed the check to the President were officials of Tarlac, including Provincial Treasurer Angel Tadeo; Lt. Col. Eladio Isleta, PC provincial commander; Lt. Col. Nelso Regalado, 5th BCT commander; and Dr. Marcos J. Corpuz, provincial health officer.

Another contribution to the PAFC in the amount of ₱8,000 was handed to the President by Bernardo Carpio, a lawyer of Davao. The amount was raised by the Davao chapter of the PAFC through the holding of benefit performances.

Provincial and municipal officials of Isabela, headed by Rep. Delfin Albano and Gov. Felix Caro, pledged their loyalty and support to the President for his re-election. The President thanked the delegation which was composed mostly of town mayors and councilors.

Rep. Fernando Pajarillo of Camarines Norte accompanied municipal officials of his province who requested aid for their public works projects. Among those in the delegation were Mayor Santiago Carranceja, Vice-Mayor Solomon Bacuno, Municipal Treasurer E. Chavez, Dr. Rufino. Salcedo, and municipal councilors Jesus Villafranca, Porfirio Ramos, Pedro H. Ferrer, Diego Naring, Mrs. Emilia Boayes, Eleuterio David, Fulgencio Badagtad, Sotero Macaro, Fabian Balce, Sofronio Balce, and Doroteo N. Caneba of Daet.

Officers of the Barrio Lieutenants Association of the Philippines invited the President to speak at their national convention to be held in Manila on June 1. Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez accompanied the barrio lieutenants.

The President also received the war widows of Zamboanga who requested the early release of their backpay claims. The President referred their problem to the authorities concerned for immediate action.

Other callers included Sen. Alejo Mabanag; Reps. Carmen Dinglasan-Consing of Capiz, Jose Roy of Tarlac, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, and Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan; Govs. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga and Alejo Santos of Bulacan; Spanish Ambassador Francisco Conde Garcia; NDC General Manager Jose H. Panganiban; Dr. Amando Dalisay; Fulgie Vega, Jr., of the Iloilo Boys' Town; and Fr. Jose Martinez, father superior of the Sanctuary of St. Anthony in Forbes Park, Makati, Rizal.

May 11.—THE President and Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia this morning motored to Camp Murphy, Quezon City, where a traditional testimonial parade was given in honor of the Chief Executive by the Armed Forces.

A 21-gun salute greeted the President upon his arrival at the parade grounds at exactly 8:30 a.m. On hand to greet the President were Acting Defense Secretary Jose M. Crisol and Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff.

Immediately upon arrival, the President inspected an honor guard consisting of cadets from the Philippine Military Academy.

Then the President, accompanied by Crisol, and Gen. Arellano, rode a command car and proceeded to the parade grounds where he inspected a brigade composed of contingents from all AFP units.

After the inspection, the President took his place in the grandstand and the parade started.

The President's speech climaxed the program.

Present during the occasion were members of the diplomatic corps, high government officials, and ranking armed forces officers of the Philippines and the United States.

IN a caucus called this noon by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, NP chieftain, the presidential aspirants agreed they were ready to make sacrifices for the sake of party unity, but they were deadlocked on who should give way.

The closed-door meeting, held in the Tindalo room of the Manila Hotel over a luncheon table, was attended by President Garcia, NP chief Rodriguez, and Sens. Jose P. Laurel, Gil J. Puyat, and Quintin Paredes.

Sen. Cipriano Primicias, who was also invited by Rodriguez to the caucus, failed to attend on account of illness.

President Garcia reportedly appealed to his three rivals to give him a chance to run for a full term so that he could continue the program "of his predecessor, the late President Magsaysay.

He told his colleagues he never aspired to the presidency when President Magsaysay was still living, but now that Providence had placed him in Malacañang he wished he could continue as President in his own right.

But the President's appeal seemed of no avail, as the other three indicated they were determined to seek the nomination in the NP convention in accordance with the will of their supporters.

Rodriguez called the meeting for an exchange of views among the presidential aspirants in an effort to pare them down to only one whom the NP convention will nominate as the party's presidential standard-bearer.

In the Manila Hotel closed-door caucus, it was hoped that presidential aspirants would make offers of withdrawal in accordance with the plea of Rodriguez to simplify the work of the convention by having only one candidate for the nomination.

Rodriguez expected that a pre-convention agreement to back up only one candidate for the presidency would give the incentive for greater party unity and insure NP victory in the November polls.

However, none of the candidates made an offer to withdraw and instead, they took turns in explaining their positions and justifying their candidacies.

One of the decisions reached was to constitute a committee, with Rodriguez as chairman, which will seek a formula to narrow down the number of NP contenders to two, who will be pitted against each other in the party convention.

President Garcia expressed confidence such a formula was not difficult to find. The group decided to meet again next week when Rodriguez is expected to be ready with the formula.

The meeting broke up shortly after 4 p.m., about four hours after it started. Rodriguez announced that he would gather the same candidates next week in a bid to resolve the impasse.

PRESIDENT Garcia pledged this afternoon to continue with the rural development program of the late President Magsaysay and vowed to keep it out of politics.

The Chief Executive spoke before some 400 barrio lieutenants and 2,000 other persons at the opening of the seminar of barrio council members from five Southern Luzon provinces at the U. P. College of Agriculture in Los Baños. The seminar would discuss the role of barrio councils in the community development program.

In stressing rural development, President Garcia said that the development of agriculture in the barrios should first be made before industrialization.

He asserted that he believed in balanced agricultural and industrial development because "to do otherwise would be to build on sand." He pointed out that a farmer's earnings are less than ₱110 a year and a farmer could not buy the products turned out by industry.

The President also declared that he would recommend to Congress passage of certain measures that would give more autonomy to the barrios. This would include, according to the President, empowering the barrio councils to raise funds through voluntary contributions and giving the barrios a share in taxes collected from real property in their respective jurisdictions for use in community projects.

He also disclosed that he had adopted a five-year plan that would give an artesian well for every 200 persons, more waterworks, and feeder roads constructions. He said that 175 .million has been appropriated by Congress for artesian wells over a five-year period.

"These constitute," he asserted, "the grandiose dreams of the present administration."

The President also paid tribute to the barrio lieutenants, who, he said, work night and day to attend to the needs and problems of their constituents.

Vito Fernandez, president of the Barrio Lieutenants League, also spoke and appealed to the President for the continuation of President Magsaysay's rural program.

Ramon Binamira, presidential assistant on community development, introduced the President, while Dean Leopoldo Uichanco of the U. P. College of Agriculture delivered the opening remarks.

The President arrived in Los Bahos about 4 p.m., accompanied by Laguna Gov. Dominador Chipeco and Col. Juan C. Relosa, 2nd MA commander.

The Chief Executive started his speech in Tagalog but later switched to English. He left after 6 p.m.

On his way to Laguna, the President was met at the Laguna-Rizal boundary by Gov. Dominador Chipeco and Ramon Binamira, presidential assistant on community development. Chipeco rode with the President to Los Banos where they “were welcomed to the college by Dean Leopoldo Uichanco.

The President was “honored with a merienda by the members of the bario council gathered at the college, campus.

THE President boarded the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* this evening for a weekend rest after a hectic seven-day of political conferences in Malacañang and campaign tours in Mindanao.

He went aboard the ship after a five-hour drive to the UP College of Agriculture in Los Baños, Laguna, where he addressed a seminar of barrio councils sponsored by the presidential assistant on community development.

May 12.—IN the morning the President conferred with Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Armed Forces chief of staff. No detail was released by Malacañang on the subject of the President’s conference with Arellano.

PRESIDENT Garcia emphasized today the need for giving the salary standardization plan of the Wage and Position Classification Office a “fair trial” in his belief that a great majority of government employees were still underpaid.

In a message read to the Philippine Government Employees Association, which held a whole-day rally picnic at the Balara filters in Quezon City, the President also stressed that he was against excessive salaries for higher officials and that he was committed to the principle of “equal pay for equal work.”

The President’s message was read by Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon.

In explaining the features of the WAPCO salary plan, President Garcia said some people felt that the rates for high officials were “proportionately too high” compared with the rates for the rank and file under the plan.

“I feel committed to the principle of equal pay for equal work. I am therefore against excessive salaries for higher officials, especially in the government corporations capitalized out of borrowed money inasmuch as they belong to the same organization, the civil service, and are subject to the same civil service rules and regulations,” President Garcia said.

The Chief Executive stated that his administration could compare with that of other countries insofar as being liberal with employees was concerned.

He cited the privileges enjoyed by Philippine government employees under the general retirement and pension system. He mentioned their leaves with pay and half-day sessions during the summer months as among these privileges.

In return for these privileges, President Garcia urged all government employees to be the ideal public servant “animated by a missionary spirit, loving his work regardless of the material reward.”

He also asked them to “beware of temptations and strive always for ideal things.”

Like the late President Magsaysay, President Garcia emphasized that he believed in the policy of bringing the government closer to the people.

He expressed fears that some people might criticize this “personalized government.”

But as far as he was concerned, President Garcia said, Malacañang would continue to be the palace of the people, always open to those who seek audience or have a petition to present directly with the President, even though it is not exactly one involving the constitutional right regarding redress of grievances.”

The PGEA tendered the testimonial luncheon in honor of President Garcia, senators, and representatives. The employees asked for the following:

- (1) 40-hour or five-day work a week;
- (2) Restoration of the 10,200,000 salary standardization fund in the appropriation bill;
- (3) Liberalization of the Retirement Act, retiring employees with 30 years of service in government regardless of age; and
- (4) Twenty years of service should make an employee eligible for retirement so long as he had reached the age of 50.

PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Manila at 4 o'clock in the afternoon from a weekend aboard the presidential yacht *Santa Maria*.

He gave up two appointments, one with the Philippine Government Employees Association at the Balara filters and the other with the Philippine Veterans Legion at the YMCA Youth Center auditorium.

Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon represented the President at the PVL, saying that President Garcia “had a previous commitment.”

It was learned that the President was at the time aboard his yacht, conferring with Augusto Sevilla, chairman of the board of directors of the Cebu Portland Cement Company.

Reports said that the veterans were made to understand that the President was going to give a luncheon for the PVL members. However, up to 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the lunch boxes did not come. Many veterans were heard grumbling because the supposed host did not come.

This infuriated the Garcia-for-President headquarters which accused some PVL members for plotting the incident to embarrass the Chief Executive.

INFORMED of the incident, the President went ashore and drove to the YMCA auditorium to meet the PVL members. He was accompanied by Gov. Alejo Santos of Bulacan, a guerrilla veteran, who introduced him before the PVL members.

President Garcia spoke before the convention at 5 p.m., shortly before the meeting closed with the election of new legion officers. He had failed to appear as scheduled at 11 a.m., but showed up unexpectedly in the afternoon and spoke extemporaneously.

The President made a formal bid for the support of veterans in the elections by asking them to get “together in supporting the policies of good government.”

He said he and the veterans are bound by the same love for freedom and for the maintenance of a good government. He expressed the hope that the same spirit may find them together in supporting the policies of good government.

The President reassured veterans that his administration would look after them for the patriotic service they rendered in fighting in the last war, in Korea and other fronts to preserve freedom and democracy in the Philippines.

The President was accompanied to the YMCA by Govs. Alejo Santos of Bulacan and Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija.

It was noted that Agriculture Undersecretary Jaime Ferrer, a ranking PVL official, left the YMCA after the President had arrived.

Ferrer, former commander of the legion, had been the target of attacks from solons, who asked for his relief from the Cabinet for “political disloyalty” to the President.

President Garcia failed to show up at the meeting this noon owing to a previous commitment. However, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon read the President’s written message to the veterans.

The President, in that message, expressed optimism that the veterans would “choose well in November, for they knew that with their collective well-considered vote, they will help in giving our country a set of public servants who stand ready to declare a moratorium on their private interests while in office.”

Convention proceedings were suspended for about an hour from 11:30 a.m. as the delegates waited for President Garcia to address them.

About 1 p.m., Executive Secretary De Leon arrived at the convention hall and announced the inability of the President to appear before the audience.

He then proceeded to read a prepared message of the Chief Executive.

FROM the PVL meeting, the President motored to the UST campus to speak at the Hospital Week celebration. He was met at the UST gate by F. Ciriaco Pedrosa, vice-rector of the institution.

President Garcia returned to the Palace at 7: 30 o’clock in the evening.

May 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., and the division superintendents of schools to intensify the implementation of the home industries program of the department as a means to help solve the unemployment problem in the country.

The President said that there is a ready market for the products of cottage industries abroad and that in order to maintain this market these products should be standardized and that cooperatives should be organized to handle the big scale exportation of these products.

The President made these remarks on the occasion of the call of schools superintendents who were headed by Secretary Aguilar. In his brief extemporaneous remarks, the President said that the Department of Education should intensify its work in its vocational schools, especially in its home industries, and that there should be trained men to handle this job.

The President recalled that in Switzerland, the different parts of watches are being manufactured by different guilds and that these different parts are gathered in an assembly line in the manufacture of watches. He said that this is also true in Japan.

The President observed that this same practice could be observed in the Philippines in the manufacture of different products for export, the separate parts of which could be handled or manufactured in the home industries set up by the Department of Education.

The spokesman of the group was Jose Tuason, president of the Philippine Association of School Superintendents. Roman Lorenzo, chairman of the committee on resolutions, also read some of the resolutions passed by the association, among which was the opposition of the superintendents to the bill regarding the teaching of Spanish. To this the President said that he would ask the Board of National Education to study the matter and afterwards he would consult with the board.

To the request that funds be appropriated for the repair of buildings being used by school teachers at the Teachers Camp in Baguio, the President said that he would look for the needed amount.

The President received hundreds of callers today immediately after a breakfast conference. He received callers up to 2 p.m. after which he ate his lunch.

In the afternoon he started receiving his callers at 4 p.m. and continued to receive them up to past 7 p.m.

Among the morning callers were the executive officers of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, headed by Jorge B. Vargas, BSP president and chief scout. Vargas requested authority from the President to extend the invitation to have the Philippines as the seat of the next World Scout Jamboree to be held sometime in 1959 or 1960. The President readily approved the request.

Some 18,000 scouts from all over the world are expected to attend the Jamboree and if the invitation is accepted, it would be the first time that such a world jamboree will be held in a country in this part of the world.

The President thanked the boy scouts executives upon being informed officially that he had been made the honorary president of the BSP. The announcement had been withheld in deference to the period of mourning for the late President Magsaysay.

Vargas also presented the Chief Executive with the annual report of the BSP in which it was reported that in 1956 the organization had a general membership of 201,813, the biggest in the 34 years of scouting history. This was made possible by an unprecedented gain of 59,391 scouts and scouters in one year alone.

A big delegation of teachers from Ilocos Norte headed by Vicente Lazo, retired supervisor, requested the President that the school teachers who had taught during the Japanese occupation be credited for their period of teaching during the Japanese time in order that they would qualify for the promotional examination given to teachers. Lazo was informed that although these teachers were allowed to continue teaching, they were being harassed by some people who present complaints to the effect that the teachers concerned had not taught during the Japanese occupation.

The President immediately telephoned Acting Education Secretary Aguilar and instructed him to look into the case of the teachers and give them justice.

Owing to the big number of callers, the President received jointly the following delegations:

(1) The Bago Bantay (Quezon City) Ladies Association, headed by Mrs. Jovita Rosauero, which requested financial assistance in the construction of a health center.

(2) The Bulacan Fishermen's Corporation which requested the blasting of illegal dikes and fishponds in the province of Bulacan. This group was headed by Col. Jose de la Rosa and Mayor Artemio Meneses.

(3) The Anti-Trawlers Association group, headed by Apolinar Fojas of Cavite City, Mayor Macario Peña of Naic, and Arcadio Nuestro, president of the Small Fishermen's Federation of the Philippines, which requested the banning of trawlers in Manila Bay. This group is composed of delegates from Pampanga, Cavite, Bulacan, Rizal, Bataan, and the Manila Bay area and represented some 270,000 people. Accompanying them were Cavite Gov, Delfin N. Montano and former Sen. Justiniano S. Montano.

(4) The MRR pensioners, headed by Juan Fernando, which complained that their pensions had been deferred and disallowed by the railroad.

(5) The Bulacan Farmers Association, headed by Pedro Vergara, which protested against dikes illegally constructed, causing floods to rice fields and affecting *bijon* manufacturers.

(6) The Candaba Swamp settlers, headed by Jose Dacques, who requested construction of feeder roads from the highway to the swamps.

(7) The Batangas Breeders Association, headed by Felipe Gabuco, which presented to the President the horse breeding and other allied problems of their association.

(8) The Piat (Cagayan) Settlers Association, headed by Alfonso Natividad, which presented problems regarding the distribution of land in Piat.

Regarding the request of the Anti-Trawlers Association, the Bulacan Fishermen's Corporation, and the Bulacan Farmers Association, the President said that final decision will be made on their requests after discussion of their petitions at the Cabinet meeting on Friday.

The President later received a delegation of the Foundation for the Blind headed by Nicomedes S. Maligot, which requested that the Association of the Blind be included in the distribution of benefits being derived from the Sweepstakes races.

The President also received the members of the presidential committee which had studied the Pepsi-Cola case. Solicitor General Ambrosio Padilla, chairman of the committee, submitted to the President the final report of the committee's findings. Other committee members present were Lt. Col. Angel Salcedo and Dr. Arturo Alafritz.

The President referred the Padilla committee report to Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason for evaluation and recommendation. No announcement will be made of the committee report until Secretary Tuason has submitted his evaluation to the President.

Earlier, the President had breakfast with the First National City Bank of New York executives who paid a courtesy call. The bankers included the visiting NCBNY Vice-President Frederick Satterfield and two local managers of that bank, Irving Searing and G. R. Hutchison.

They were accompanied to Malacañang by Sen. Gil J. Puyat.

Then the President received members of the Disabled Veterans Legion of the Philippines who sought the President's assistance for the increase of pensions for disabled veterans from ₱50 to ₱100. The President said that he was not against the raising of pensions for the disabled veterans.

The DVL members included Liberate Viray, Pancho Mamaril, and Amero Salvosa. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Dr. Eliseo Velmonte of the Philippine Veterans Board.

Lanao Gov. Salvador Lluch accompanied some town mayors of that province requesting assistance for public improvements of their respective towns.

Other morning callers of the President included Gov. Marcelo Adduru of Cagayan and Rep. Angel Castaño of Manila.

President Garcia continued receiving his callers at 4 p.m.

He received Donald H. McLean, Jr., and Mrs. Marjorie Ravenholt from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund in New York City, who informed the Chief Executive of the creation of the Ramon Magsaysay award.

The President was gratified upon hearing this news and expressed his thanks.

The President then received Chinese Ambassador Chen Chih-mai, who accompanied Ran In-ting, a contemporary Chinese artist, who presented the Chief Executive with a painting of his own.

The Chinese artist has his paintings now on exhibit at the Department of Foreign Affairs building in Manila. He also had exhibits of his paintings in London, Paris, Rome, Tokyo, New York, and Washington, D.C.

Ambassador Chen said that Ran had also presented a painting to President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The President thanked the Chinese ambassador and Mr. Ran for the painting.

Then the President received a big delegation of the Manila chapter of the Philippine Veterans Legion headed by Dr. Placido Bronto, commander, and Col. Alfonso Torralba, vice-commander.

In his brief remarks the President reiterated what he had told the veterans at their convention yesterday that he would continue working to give more benefits to the veterans of the Philippines in recognition of their valiant fight for freedom.

The President next received the delegation of the Municipal Health Officers headed by Dr. Pedro Guerrero, president, and Dr. Jaime Mendoza. The delegation was accompanied by Dr. Amadeo Cruz, head of the Rural Health Division of the Department of Health.

In his brief remarks the President requested the rural physicians to do their best in contributing to the health of the country by attending to the health needs of the people in the rural areas.

The delegation requested the President to increase the minimum salary of the rural doctors because, they claimed, some rural physicians were receiving pay lower than other government employees. The President said that he would do his best to help them.

Dr. Francisco Duque, president of the Philippine Medical Association, requested the President to certify to Congress a bill which will divide the work being performed by the Board of Medical Examiners and distribute it into three; namely, the Board of Medical Examiners, the Board of Medical Education, and the Board of Medical Practice and Inquiry.

Dr. Duque explained to the President that this proposed bill will contribute to the raising of the standards of medical practice in the Philippines and thus contribute to the improvement of the health of the people.

Duque was accompanied to Malacañang by Dr. Romeo Atienza, president-elect for the coming year of the PMA, and Dr. Alejandro Gaerlan, medical adviser to the President.

Other afternoon callers of the President were Paul Reeves, Rep. Enrique Corpus of Zambales, Rep. Agustin Gatuslao of Occidental Negros, who accompanied two mayors, and Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon received Yaacov Shimoni, who presented his credentials as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the State of Israel to the Philippines at ceremonies held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

Among those present at the ceremonies were Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Yenko, Jr., Minister Tomas de Castro, Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel G. Zamora, Department of Foreign Affairs Protocol Officer Jose Estrada, Ernest Simke, consul general of Israel, and Hyman Levine, honorary president of the Jewish community in Manila.

May 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia left Manila at 7 a.m. today in the third of three planes which brought him and his party on a second campaign invasion of Mindanao in less than a week.

He flew in the C-47 *Sahib*, official aircraft of the Civil Aeronautics Administration, piloted by Administrator Urbano Caldoza and Capt. Vicente Rivera, Jr.

The plane landed at the Buenavista airport at 10 a.m. and the President was met by a huge crowd.

He led a motorcade to Buenavista town, where he addressed a rally and promised to speed up work on public works projects in Agusan province.

With the President were Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, Rep. Ignacio Cruz of Misamis Oriental, Rep. Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbokon. Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Gov. Emilio Naval of Bataan, Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal, Constabulary chief, Col. Pedro Q. Molina, chief of the Air Force, and newsmen.

President Garcia reiterated to the people of Agusan his pledge to continue the unprecedented nationwide public improvement program initiated by the late President Magsaysay as a means not only of bolstering the country's economy but also of easing the unemployment problem.

In speeches delivered this day in various Agusan towns, the President observed that Agusan was among those badly in need of improvement. He said if elected, he would see to it that Agusan receive the full share of benefits. He said he would pursue the late President's program until all barrios had artesian wells, schools, and health centers, and were connected by feeder roads to the highways and to the towns.

The President spoke before a large crowd at the Buenavista airport. Then he motored to Cabadbaran through some 53 kilometers of dusty roads. En route, he dropped in at the St. Joseph's church in Butuan City for the *Te Deum* sung by Fr. Cornelio Van de Loo and sponsored by various religious societies of Butuan City.

Arriving at Cabadbaran shortly before noon, the President was introduced at the town plaza rally by Gov. Dagani, who urged his province-people to vote for President Garcia. From the rally the President proceeded to Tubay town, where he inaugurated the ₱2 million Magsaysay Bridge.

May 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia told the people of Misamis Oriental today that with the able assistance of Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez and other outstanding leaders of this region, exploitation of Mindanao's natural resources was assured.

In speeches delivered in various parts of Cagayan de Oro City, President Garcia spoke of the aim of the Administration to tap fully the vast potentialities of Mindanao. He said that exploitation of minerals and large tracts of virgin lands would considerably enrich the nation's economy.

Accompanied by Sen. Pelaez, Gov. Vicente de Lara, Rep. Ignacio Cruz City Mayor Justiniano Borja, and Misamis Oriental mayors, the President spent the day in inaugurating different projects of Cagayan de Oro City. Sen. Pelaez arrived by plane early this morning from Manila to join the President.

The presidential party, arrived at Cagayan de Oro at 7 o'clock last night from Surigao. After acknowledging cheers of a mammoth crowd which had anxiously awaited him at the Lumbia airport since 3 p.m. yesterday the President, escorted by local officials, motored to del Monte where he spent the night.

As early as 6:30 a.m. today, local officials in Cagayan de Oro started trekking back to Del Monte to fetch the President to this city. Arriving at Cagayan de Oro about 9 a.m., the President inaugurated the 50,000 annex building and doctors' quarters of the provincial hospital, and the Red Cross and Blood Bank building where he and members of his party had lunch this noon. The President also laid the cornerstone of the puericulture center sponsored by the Women's Club, and officiated at a tree-planting ceremony at the new Red Cross and Blood Bank building.

After a brief rest at the new hospital annex, the President held a conference with Mindanao provincial governors, city mayors, and Misamis Oriental mayors at the Capitol building, where a cocktail party was given in his honor by Mindanao officials.

Later this afternoon, the President inaugurated the supermarket and returned to Del Monte in the evening.

PRESIDENT Garcia said in a press conference in the afternoon that he would find it difficult to have Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez as a running mate. The Chief Executive explained that he and Pelaez came from the "same region."

In Pelaez' presence, the President said in answer to a newsmen's question as to whether he would have Pelaez as a running mate in the elections, that he would find it difficult to support the senator as they come from the same region.

In the press conference the President:

1. Said he thought of Pelaez as "sympathetic" to his candidacy and did not consider the senator a potential rival or foe;
2. Announced his intention to keep hands off local politics;
3. Said he would serve notice on MPM leaders still in the government that he would keep them in office as long as they cooperated with him;
4. Refused to comment on Senate Bill No. 167, pending a study of the measure in relation to the entire range of the national economy;
5. Denied he had political henchmen in Congress; and
6. Refused to comment on the formation of the Progressive Party beyond saying a two-party system was the best for the country.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: May 16-31, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

May 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned at 11:35 o'clock this morning from three-day stumping tour of Mindanao. He returned with a battery of provincial governors who had endorsed his candidacy with Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez as a running mate.

Immediately upon arrival at the Palace, the President rushed to the Manila Hotel, where he addressed a 4-H Club luncheon. He arrived at the Manila Hotel about 12:30 p.m.

President Garcia this afternoon appealed to the youth to continue with their patriotic task of producing more economic goods in order "to bolster the country's national economy that will enable every citizen the employment of full measure of the good things of life."

The President sounded this appeal before hundreds of young boys and girls who attended the luncheon at the fifth annual rally of the 4-H Clubs at the Fiesta Pavilion at the Manila Hotel. Youth representatives from all parts of the Philippines were on hand to hear the President's after-luncheon message.

The Chief Executive was introduced by a 16-year old high school graduate named Bustrillos Zacarias, a 4-H Club member of Tagbilaran, Bohol. The big gathering was headed by Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Agricultural Extension Director Domingo Paguirigan, and officials of several firms contributing to the maintenance of the National 4-H Clubs.

Discarding a prepared text, President Garcia delivered an extemporaneous speech in which he lauded the National 4-H Club organizations for the phenomenal growth of their membership from an original 5,000 to the present 113,000 young boys and girls all over the country.

The President said that through these organizations, the country's young boys and girls were being trained for leadership as shown by their activities in their respective local 4-H Clubs.

Pointing with pride to the fact that the 4-H Club members were earning while they were learning, and that they had a total income of some ₱2million, President Garcia said that this achievement "gives us a feeling of faith and confidence in the capacity of our youth to contribute to the strengthening of the nation's economy."

He stressed that the country's need today is to build up an economy which could offer wide opportunities for everyone to work. He said that the youthful members of the 4-H Clubs were showing the way to help strengthen that economy.

He praised Secretary Rodriguez and Director Paguirigan and officials of the 4-H Clubs and sponsoring firms for giving an opportunity to Filipino young boys and girls in engaging in productive activities. He said that this was encouraging because later on these youths would take over the reins of government from the present national leaders.

The Chief Executive expressed the hope that all the young boys and girls of the Philippines join the 4-H Clubs in order that they could help solve the country's economic problems.

Before the President's speech, eight national winners in the 4-H Clubs contest were announced, as follows:

- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|----------|-----------|-------|---------|----------|-----------|-----|------------|-------------|----------|
| (1) | Mauricio | Alcantara | of | Caba, | La | Union, | for | field | crops, | tobacco; |
| (2) | Miss | Justa | Bicay | of | Basco, | Batanes, | for | gardening; | | |
| (3) | Miriam | Cariño | of | Bontoc, | Mountain | Province, | for | foods; | | |
| (4) | Miss | Zenaida | Saag | of | Minalin, | Pampanga, | for | home | industries; | |

(5) Leopoldo Feliciano of Malabon, Rizal, for gardening;
 (6) Miss Cecilia Florencio of Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya, for foods;
 (7) Miss Consuelo Ivo of Jaro, Levte, for home industries; and
 (8) Miss Pilar Tarnboboy of San Remigio, Cebu, for home improvement.

Each of the winners was granted a ₱400 scholarship. Miss Justa Bicay and Mauricio Alcantara, Jr., were also awarded the champion girl and champion boy prizes. They represent the Philippines in the United States convention of 4-H Clubs.

The President presented the certificates to the winners.

IN the evening the President swore into office Brig. Generals Diosdado Rodriguez, Nicanor Velarde, Tirso G. Fajardo, and Juan Relosa at a simple ceremony held at the Malacañang reception room.

Present at the induction were Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon; Acting Defense Secretary Jose M. Crisol; Commodore Jose M. Francisco, Navy chief; Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal, PC chief; wives of the newly inducted generals; and Armed Forces officials.

The President assisted the wives of the generals in pinning the stars on the new brigadier generals of the Armed Forces.

The President also received a delegation of public school dentists and physicians, headed by Reps. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna and Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo, who requested the President to certify the urgency of a bill nationalizing the dental and medical services of the Bureau of Public Schools.

Reps. Lagumbay and Ladrado informed the President that in the proposed bill the fifty centavos being collected for dental and medical services in the Bureau of Public Schools would be eliminated. The President certified the bill.

Upon recommendation of Acting Defense Secretary Crisol, the President also certified a bill amending Republic Act No. 1134, which seeks to place enlisted men of the Armed Forces on an equal footing with the commissioned officers who, by virtue of Republic Act 1134, are granted longevity pay. This bill is deemed necessary considering that enlisted men constitute the backbone of the entire Armed Forces.

The President also certified another bill which seeks to liberalize the retirement law for the AFP retireable enlisted men and officers allowing them to be promoted to the next higher rank upon death, even without finishing one year of service in their present ranks. The President, moreover, certified other bills which aim to give more benefits to members of the Armed Forces.

Earlier, the President received a group of nurses, headed by Mrs. Rosario Ordiz, who paid their respects to the Chief Executive prior to their departure to attend the eleventh quadrennial congress of the International Council of Nurses in Rome, Italy, from May 25 to June 1.

The President also received GSIS General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal. The President directed Andal to coordinate his activities with the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation in order to expedite the housing projects of the government in the Visayas, Mindanao, and Quezon City.

May 17.—THE President this morning received at the Malacañang music room U. S. Undersecretary of the Army Charles Funicane, who paid a courtesy call.

Funicane is on an observation tour in the Far East with J. Owen Zerhellen of the State Department, and Robert D. King and Paul Feireisen, both of the office of the secretary of the army.

The visiting American officials were accompanied to Malacañang by U. S. Embassy Minister Horace Smith; Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, JUSMAG chief; and Col. Henry Miller, U. S. military attache.

Then the Chief Executive received at the study room Paul J. Langan, Far East director of the American Foundation of Overseas Blind, Inc., New York, and Eric Boulter, overall executive director of the foundation, who also paid a courtesy call.

The visiting American social workers were accompanied to Malacañang by Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor and Victor Baltazar, SWA supervisor of vocational rehabilitation for the blind and the handicapped, and Jeanette Sills, AFOP consultant of the SWA.

The visiting social workers informed the Chief Executive that, among other things, their purpose in visiting the country were:

- (1) To look into the feasibility of setting up an AFOB regional office
- (2) To survey and evaluate existing local program of vocational rehabilitation of the blind and the handicapped;
- (3) To establish printing plants for the manufacture of braille books, journals, and literature;
- (4) To extend grants and scholarships for studies abroad; and
- (5) To attend the inauguration of the newly created Commission for the Blind at Zamboanga City.

AT the Cabinet meeting this day the President directed the NARIC to buy all the palay stored in the bodegas of the FACOMAs at a price not lower than the floor price, which is ₱9 a cavan for *macan ordinario*.

The President gave this directive in the presence of Acting NARIC General Manager Vicente Concepcion, NARIC Board Member Maximo Calalang, and NARIC Statistician Fabian Valdemor.

This action was taken by the President in view of reports that the FACOMAs had some three million cavan of palay in storage and that there seemed to be no buyers.

The President and the Cabinet discussed lengthily the petition of the Bulacan Fishermen Corporation requesting the cancellation of all permits and licenses issued for the construction of fishponds at the mouth of the Bulacan River and to have all dikes constructed there demolished.

Invited to attend the discussion of this problem were Alejo Manalang, chief of the land management division of the Bureau of Lands; Jose Agutaya, district land officer, land district No. 7, Manila; Fisheries Director Heraclio Montalban; Jose Sanchez; Domingo Tecson; Jose Busque; and Juan Lopez of the Bureau of Fisheries.

Acting Defense Secretary Jose M. Crisol, who had made an investigation of the alleged illegal construction of dikes in two fishponds in Bulacan, Bulacan, voiced the sentiment of the fishermen adversely affected by these constructions and recommended the demolition of these illegal constructions.

After a discussion of the subject, President Garcia ruled that the matter be referred to Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, who would render a legal opinion. The President said that depending on "the justice secretary's opinion, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez might modify his department's Administrative Order No. 19, which declared as fishing grounds all areas within the Manila Bay fishpond project and cancelled or rejected all applications filed for areas within the project, so as to include the disputed areas in Bulacan within the purview of the administrative order.

The President directed the officials concerned to report to Secretary Tuason and discuss the matter more thoroughly before a legal opinion would be rendered.

The President and the Cabinet heard the petition of the Small Free Fishermen represented by Apolinar Fojas, their lawyer and spokesman, requesting the issuance of an executive order banning trawl fishing in Manila Bay.

Also present were officials of the Inter-Island Deep Sea Fishing Association headed by their president, Ildefonso Lachenal, who replied to the petition of the small fishermen. Fisheries Director Montalban also gave his comments on the matter.

Fojas said that the association of the small fishermen requested the banning of trawl fishing in Manila Bay in order to save from ruin some 270,000 fishermen members of their association who were allegedly being deprived of their means of livelihood through the activities of the trawlers. Lachenal replied that the association of trawlers had an investment of ₱16 million with some 4,000 people employed and, if their trawlers were banned from fishing in the Manila Bay area, there would be a diminution by 40 per cent in the fish supply of Manila which would result in high prices, to the detriment of a great number of people. He added that the real cause of the depletion of fish in the country was not the activities of trawlers but dynamite fishing.

Director Montalban said that his bureau had recommended the partial banning of the activities of trawlers in the Manila Bay area by prohibiting them from fishing in waters less than 10 fathoms deep. However, this was considered as an impractical solution because of the difficulty in enforcing this order.

After hearing both sides of the case, the President and the Cabinet appointed a committee to study further the petition requesting the banning of trawl fishing in the Manila Bay area, taking into account the interests of those engaged in trawling and the interests of the small fishermen and the consuming public.

The President directed the committee composed of the agriculture secretary as chairman, and the labor secretary and labor undersecretary as members, to submit their recommendations to the Cabinet as soon as possible. Gov. Delfin Montano of Cavite, who accompanied the members of the federation of small free fishermen, spoke in favor of the banning of trawlers in Manila Bay.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 10:45 a.m. to 2 p.m.

IN the afternoon the President received a resolution from the members of the provincial boards of the different provinces of the Philippines pledging “to support and actively work for the nomination of President Garcia . . . and to work for his election in order that he could carry on the great program of government to which he and the late President Magsaysay had been jointly committed.”

The resolution was presented to the President by Lino B. Azicate, board member of Catanduanes, who sponsored the resolution. Azicate presented it after the President had addressed the board members in convention at the Malacañang recreation hall. Co-sponsors of the resolution were Board Members Eladio Caliwara of Quezon, Agustin Fausto of Zamboanga del Sur, and Dr. G. Carreon of Zamboanga del Sur.

The resolution said that President Garcia “by training, academic attainment, experience, and physical, mental, and spiritual qualifications, is eminently qualified to occupy the high office he now holds.” It added that the President “is a militant and uncompromising foe of communism and a resolute fighter for democracy.”

In his extemporaneous address to the conventionists, the President stressed that the objective of the Administration was development of the country’s economy in such a way that every man and woman in the country could be fruitfully employed.

The President said that in order to achieve this end, the government would do everything within its power to develop all its natural resources. He said that the country was rich, especially in mineral resources, like nickel, iron, coal, copper, and gold. He said that with the full development of these mineral resources, there would be great opportunities for employment.

He appealed to the provincial board members to cooperate with the Administration in its task of bringing about the realization of the country's program of economic development.

He said that it was not true as some "prophets of disaster" kept saying, that the Administration had no economic program. The President said that there can be nothing further from the truth than this.

The President was introduced by Sofronio Quimson, technical assistant on civil affairs, who was in charge of the two-day convention. Quimson drew a parallel between the careers of the late President Magsaysay and President Garcia and said that the President should carry on the task left unfinished by the late President.

During the open forum which followed the President's address, a board member requested that an executive order be issued requiring that in the absence of a governor, a member of the provincial board be appointed acting governor. The President said he would study the matter.

Regarding a complaint by another board member that in one of the cases investigated by the PC AC, the complainant was not given the opportunity to explain his side and that the case was allegedly summarily dismissed, the President said that he would look into the matter and effect reforms in the PCAC in order to make it more efficient in the performance of its duties.

Before addressing the conventionists, the President inducted the newly elected officers as follows:

Salvador Madarang (Zambales), president (chairman); Jose Evangelista (Ilocos Norte), vice-chairman for Luzon; Francisco Remotigue (Cebu), vice-chairman for the Visayas; Benjamin Lopez (Bukidnon), vice-chairman for Mindanao Mrs. Nancy Q. Sison (Pangasinan), executive secretary; Vicente Javier (Rizal), assistant executive secretary; Agustin Fausto (Zamboanga del Sur), treasurer; Mrs. Dolores Acuña (Pangasinan), assistant treasurer; Dr. Germanico Carreon, (Zamboanga del Norte), public relations officer; Lino Azieate (Catanduanes) press relations officer;

Emilio Goduco (Nueva Ecija), Amado Gervacio (Rizal), Pedro Gallanosa (Sorsogon), and Justiniano Cortez (Cagayan), members of board of directors for Luzon; Manuel Laurente (Aklan), Lino Chatto (Bohol), Francisco Benedicto (Romblon), and Jose Camenforte (Sannar), members of board of directors for Visayas; Dr. Jose O. Martinez (Zamboanga del Norte), Sheik Ali Usman (Lanao), Alfonso Dalali (Misamis Oriental), and . Dr. Genaro Bomediano (Misamis Occidental), members of board of directors for Mindanao.

The President was fetched at 4 p.m. from Malacañang by a committee consisting of Board Members Francisco Remotigue of Cebu, Dr. Genaro Bomediano of Misamis Occidental, and Justiniano Cortez of Cagayan.

The President returned to Malacañang at 6: 30 p.m. and received former Senator Olegario Clarin and Luciano de la Rosa.

The Chief Executive also received Antonio Araneta, who accompanied Dr. L. Van Gorkon, *charge d'affaires* of the Netherlands legation; D. C. F. Van Eendenberg, president of the Phillips Industrial Development; and Dr. Th. P. Tromp, member of the presidium of the board of management of N. V. Phillips in Holland,

The officials paid a courtesy call on the President.

May 18.—LEADERS of warring factions of the local Nacionalista Party banded together for the first time to give President Garcia a rousing reception and to pledge their unconditional support in the November elections.

Speaking separately at a luncheon tendered by provincial officials at Poro Point this noon, local political leaders assured the President that La Union would rally solidly behind him both in the Nacionalista convention and in the presidential election.

The local leaders explained they had decided to support the President because, according to them, of all presidential aspirants, he was the most qualified for the position. They said that not being connected with any business interests, the President would concentrate his efforts for the interests of the country and not for his own.

Among the speakers were Gov. Bernardo Gapuz, Rep. Francisco Ortega, Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora, Godofredo Rilloraza of San Fernando, former Govs. Juan Carbonell and Aguila of La Union, and former Rep. Valerio Fontanilla.

The President, in turn, thanked everyone for this manifestation of trust, confidence, and affection which, he said, was beyond his expectation. He said it had made him all the more confident in winning the election to continue the work for the cause of the people.

Another speaker at this noon's luncheon, Ex-Gov. Jorge Camacho, said that he had retired from politics eight years ago but when he heard that President Garcia was running for election, he decided to come out of retirement and help him retain the presidency. All three ex-governors are ex officio delegates to the Nacionalista convention.

Other speakers were Gov. Marcelo Addaru of Cagayan, president of the Northern Luzon governors, who predicted a "solid north" for President Garcia; Gov. Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, who promised he would resign from the governorship if the President did not win in his province; Gov. Juan Triviño of Camarines Sur, who likewise predicted an overwhelming majority for the President in the Bicol region, and Gov. Marcos Malupa of Batanes, who also promised to campaign for the Chief Executive not only in his province but throughout the whole country.

EARLIER, at 10 a.m., the President landed at the Loakan airfield in Baguio after a 45-minute trip from Manila aboard the PAF plane *Pagasa*. After acknowledging the cheers of a large crowd of welcomers headed by Baguio City officials, the President motored direct to the Pines Hotel, where he addressed the fourth annual convention of the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines. He was introduced by Jose S. Rodriguez, vice-president of the association. Alfredo Montelibano, former NEC chairman and president of the association who had been scheduled to introduce the President, was not able to attend the convention because of his sick wife.

After the President's speech which lasted about 20 minutes, the President spent about 30 minutes answering questions from some 200 delegates who brought to his attention their pressing problems. About 12:30 p.m., the President again took off from Loakan airfield for San Fernando, La Union.

At 6 p.m. the President inaugurated two wings of the provincial hospital. He addressed a large rally at the site inauguration ceremonies.

PRESIDENT Garcia said this afternoon he was in favor of secret balloting for the presidential nomination at the Nacionalista Party convention as he optimistically announced that he "will beat (Jose) Yulo again."

The Chief Executive was referring to his candidacy as the late President Magsaysay's running mate. He bested Yulo, who ran as President Quirino's teammate,

The President held an informal press conference at Poro Point after resting from a speaking engagement in Baguio City and San Fernando, La Union.

At the press conference, the President:

1. Claimed that he had "busted" the mythical "Solid North," saying that the region is now solidly behind him;

2. Said he was in favor of the proposed constitutional amendment providing for a six-year presidential term;
3. Predicted that the Nacionalista Party may be forced to declare some congressional districts free zones;
4. Said he will resume the “unity talks” with the other presidential aspirants after the close of the congressional session;
5. Stated that resigned Secretary of Labor Eleuterio Adevosio was disappointed because other Magsaysay-for-President Movement leaders, like Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Raul S. Manglapus, have not resigned;
6. Said he was still considering the case of Undersecretary of Agriculture Jaime N. Ferrer, another MPM, whose salary item in the budget was scrapped by the House for alleged “disloyalty” to the NP administration.
7. Expressed optimism that “if nominated (by the NP), I will win the presidential elections handily.”

The President claimed that” he had busted the mythical “Solid North” as shown by the rousing endorsement given him by rival factions of the NP in La Union and in other Northern Luzon provinces.

He said that he was in favor of secret balloting in the coming NP convention by way of commenting on Sens. Jose P. Laurel’s and Gil J. Puyat’s threat to walk out of the convention if the voting was done by *viva voce*. He said the party rules provide for secret balloting and recalled that President Magsaysay and he were nominated by secret ballot in the 1953 convention.

On Yulo’s candidacy, President Garcia said: “I have beaten him, I will beat him again, this time decisively, even in his hometown in Negros.” The then vice-presidential candidate beat Yulo in his hometown, Bago, Negros Occidental.

The President said that the proposed constitutional amendments may pass through the present session of Congress, if the controversial proposals were dropped.

He cited as non-controversial the six-year presidential term and the concurrence of Congress in a presidential proclamation of the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus*.

He referred to the proposal to restore the bicameral legislature as “controversial.”

Asked to comment on Sen. Claro M. Recto’s “Program on Government,” the President said that Recto was “rewriting the Administration’s program of government” and that he was just “reciting” the things “we have already started to do.”

He said reports that Secretary Manglapus was resigning were being circulated by Adevosio, Who was “disappointed” because other MPMs had not followed his resignation.

President Garcia also minimized, former Customs Commissioner Manuel P. Manahan’s chances for the presidency, adding that even Yulo was uninterested in taking him as a candidate for senator in the Liberal Party ticket.

PRESIDENT Garcia designated Malacañang Technical Assistant Crisanto V. Alba to investigate the administrative charges” filed against Chief of Police Ilustre Reyes of Cavite City, Malacañang announced today.

The Cavite chief of police had been charged with: (1) abuse of authority and/or misconduct in office, (2) immorality, (3) toleration of gambling, (4) failure to account for the proceeds of a police fund festival held in December 1955; and (5) maltreatment of prisoners.

Malacañang directed Alba to submit immediately his findings and recommendations on the case as soon as he finishes with the investigation.

THE President this day also directed Acting PCAC Chairman Mariano Yenko, Jr., to coordinate the investigation of the death of Emiliano Carolino, allegedly at the hands of San Juan (Rizal) police officers.

In his personal letter to the President, Carolina's father asked the President's intervention in the investigation, claiming that he feared a whitewash of the case.

Yenko this morning dispatched a PCAC team to San Juan, even as NBI authorities proceeded to gather evidence for submission to the provincial fiscal.

The PCAC which is coordinating an NBI-PC-San Juan police team was directed to report its findings to the President at the earliest possible time.

May 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning told a large gathering of members of different religious "organizations of La Union that the Administration was not allowing any let-up in the fight against communism.

The President made this statement in a short talk he delivered at the San Fernando Christ the King Hall after a breakfast given in his honor by the La Union parish council.

Present at the breakfast were Northern Luzon officials including Sen. Alejo Mabanag, La Union Gov. Bernardo Gapuz, Rep. Francisco Ortega of La Union, San Fernando Mayor Godofredo Rilloraza, Batanes Gov-Marcos Malupa, Nueva Vizcaya Gov. Jose Espino, Ilocos Sur Gov. Pedro Singson Reyes, and Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora.

Stressing the evils of communism, the President urged the people to be strengthened by their faith in the fight against an ideology which had created chaos and discontentment in places where it gained foothold.

After breakfast the President motored back to Poro Point, where he received delegations consisting of political leaders, officials, and town mayors from Northern Luzon provinces.

The delegations pledged their support to President Garcia's election bid, and consulted the President on local political matters.

Such delegations were those from Abra, headed by Virgilio Valera and Bene Pe Benito, former congressman and former governor of that province, respectively; from Ilocos Sur, headed by former Ilocos Sur Gov. Perfecto Faypon; from Ilocos Norte, headed by former Gov. Damaso Samonte; and from Nueva Vizcaya, headed by Gov. Jose Espino.

The President received earlier another delegation from Ilocos Sur headed by Gov. Pedro Singson Reyes. The President received delegations till 1:30 p.m.

After a brief rest in the afternoon at the Poro Point resthouse, the President enplaned back to Manila, arriving at the Nichols Air Base a little after 6 p.m.

May 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia today was informed by Daniel Ma. Gomez, vice-president of the Philippine Air Lines, that the PAL Employees Association (PALEA) and the PAL management had come to an agreement on two basic points; namely, (1) the giving of an increase of ₱15 a month to PAL employees as a contingent supplementary pay and (2) the inclusion of a non-strike clause in the agreement between the PALEA and the PAL until the expiration of the present contract in January, 1959.

Gomez said that with this understanding, the impending strike of the PALEA members would be definitely averted, as the basic demands of the PAL workers were satisfactorily met by the management.

Gomez further said that President Garcia 'had been instrumental in bringing about this amicable solution because it was the President, who initiated the proposition which was accepted by the PALEA members.

President Garcia received hundreds of callers in his study room starting at a little before 9 a.m. and lasting until 2:30 p.m.

Among the delegations which called at Malacañang were those from the University of the Philippines and the Philippine Normal College which requested the President to veto the bill requiring the teaching of additional Spanish subjects in the schools.

The U. P. professors, delegation, headed by Prof. Jose V. Aguilar presented a resolution signed by 4,000 pointing out among other things that the bill "violates the principle of academic autonomy enjoyed by universities."

The delegation from the Philippine Normal College representing some 4,000 student teachers taking the summer sessions, made a similar petition. The delegation was headed by Gaudencio D. Aquino, Maximo Ramos, and Emigio Egypto.

The President said that in view of the fact that there had been contrary petitions he had received on the subject matter, he would study the bill very thoroughly before taking final action.

The Gas Workers Union of the Philippines headed by their president, Antonio Yanguas, and accompanied by Rep. Angel Castaño of Manila and Cipriano Cid, petitioned that they be given a preferential consideration in the sale of the government's interests in the Manila Gas Corporation and that they be given a chance to run and manage the business.

Their petition said that the employees had the ability and technical knowledge to do so as amply demonstrated in the 45 years of existence of the corporation.

The government owns 60 per cent of the firm's stocks and capital assets. In a recent Cabinet meeting, it was decided to sell the government's shares through public bidding.

The President informed the petitioners that he would refer the matter to the Cabinet for study and action, as it was the Cabinet which had acted on the sale of the government's shares of stock in the corporation.

The President received the Political Action Committee of Labor Organizations members who are also officers of the Labor Lawyers' League, composed of Carlos Santiago, Jose Espinas, and Pangilalo Gaerlan.

Espinas recommended to the President that Rep. Castaño be appointed secretary of labor. He said that there was an urgent need for appointing a permanent labor secretary in order to resolve some important pending questions in the department.

The President said that he was studying the matter of appointing a permanent labor secretary. He added that he would consult with party leaders in making the appointment and that he expected to act on this question soon.

The President received a delegation from Cotabato headed by Gov. Datu Udtug Matalam, Rep. Luminog Mangelen, Provincial Treasurer Nicolas Galvez, Mayor Timoteo Belarmino, and former Sen. Salipada Pendatun.

Gov. Matalam presented a resolution of the Cotabato provincial board which said among other things that it was the sincere feeling of the board that "there can be no man in the Philippines today better qualified to lead our country in the direction of progress and stability and to enhance our national prestige than President Garcia."

The resolution added that the board endorsed the election of President Garcia and pledged its uncompromising and unqualified support.

Another resolution presented to the President was that approved by the Cotabato Mayors League endorsing President Garcia's election.

The delegation discussed with the President problems of the province; such as, construction of roads, repairs of school houses, and construction of a bridge.

The President received Mayor Carlos Pawa of Manito, Albay, who presented the President with a joint resolution of the municipal council of his town, and the barrio councils league, endorsing the candidacy of President Garcia.

Mrs. Rosalina Navarrete, councilor of Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya, also headed a delegation which pledged to support the President's election.

The President expressed his thanks to all delegations which pledged their support to him.

The Chief Executive then inducted into office officers of the Garcia for President Organization, which presented a manifesto pledging "to render its unconditional support and to dedicate fully its efforts and endeavors to campaign for the election of President Garcia."

The officials of the organization are: Enrique E. Tan, president; Fernando Zamora, vice-president (Manila); Ben Ruiz, vice-president (Luzon); Benedicto Ma. Savillo, vice-president (Visayas); Romualdo Tecson, vice-president (Mindanao); Quirico S. Horca, executive secretary; Mrs. H. del Rosario, treasurer; Pedro Tolentino, auditor; Emiliano Siplon, liaison officer; and H. M. Cabilen, PRO.

The President also swore in officers of the Central Luzon Agricultural College Alumni Association as follows: Angel Mendoza, president; Jose Zarraga, first vice-president; Dionisio Orden, second vice-president; Antonio M. Fernando, treasurer; J. C. Cruz, secretary; Salvador M. Muerong, Melchor M. Sarmiento, Victoriano A. Gaborno, Bernardino M. Saplaco, Juan S. Arce, and Quintin Catabui, Jr., board members; Bernardino M. Cagawan, representative to the college council; Rustico G. Jinez, auditor; and Dominador Lagat, security officer.

The President also inducted into office the Photographers Association of the Philippines officers for 1957, as follows: Regalado Montemayor, president; Tomas Papa, vice-president; Regino Gonzales, secretary; Alejandro Manaba, treasurer; Jose V. Roldan, auditor; Flor Diolata and Pedro Austria, PRO; Salvador Gloria, Arsenio Veluz, Narciso Reyes, Sr., Romeo C. Ramos, Luis Masoy, and Dominador Cruz, board advisers; and Emilio (Fatso) Maglalang, sergeant-at-arms.

The Chief Executive received Eric E. Ward, resident representative of the United Nations technical assistance board, and Max Lacroix, principal adviser of the Philippine Government statistical center. The two officials paid a courtesy call.

Other presidential callers included Gov. Leon Fernandez of Sulu, who accompanied mayors of his province and discussed local problems, and Rep. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental.

IN the afternoon the President administered the oath of office to Alejandro Galang as public service commissioner in a ceremony held at the Malacañang study room.

Immediately after the oath taking, the President told Commissioner Galang to do his best in promoting the interest of the public.

Present at the oath-taking ceremony were Tarlac officials and immediate members of the family of the new public service commissioner, including Justice Undersecretary Jesus G. Barrera, Rep. Constancio Castañeda, Tarlac Gov.

Arsenio Lugay, Mrs. Apolonia Galang, and Mr. and Mrs. Hipolito Galang, wife and parents of Commissioner Galang, respectively. A delegation from Tarlac consisting of friends and admirers of the new commissioner also witnessed the oath taking.

Before the oath taking ceremony the President received Samar Gov. Fernando Veloso, who accompanied a large delegation of mayors and town officials from that province. The Samar delegation requested assistance for more aid for fire victims of Catbalogan, construction of pre-fab school-houses, and feeder roads.

Then the President received at the music room Frederic de Hoffman, vice-president of the General Dynamics Corporation, Texas, who paid a courtesy call following his arrival from a conference at Tokyo.

The noted American physicist was accompanied to Malacañang by Rep. Jose Puey of Negros Occidental, author of a bill on nuclear energy recently filed in Congress; Theodore Brings, chairman of the Philippine Physics Society; Professor Salvador Gonzalez and Amando Mirasol, secretary and member, respectively, of the PPS.

Then the President received officers and members of the Garcia-for-President National Youth movement. Headed by Ruperto Baliao, president of that organization, the officers were inducted by the Chief Executive.

May 21.—THIS morning the President had breakfast with Eugene R. Black, president of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, who paid a courtesy call following his arrival from Hongkong.

Present at the breakfast were Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr., Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, U. S. Embassy Minister Horace Smith, and ICA Director Harry Brenn.

The President discussed with his guests the general economic development of the country in the past three years.

PRESIDENT Garcia at the Cabinet meeting today alerted all rural health units to give medical assistance and attend to influenza victims in their respective jurisdictions.

At the same time the President directed:

- (1) Manila city health officials to give all-out assistance to “flu” victims, especially the poor and those in the crowded areas;
- (2) Price-control agencies to keep prices of needed drugs and antibiotics within authorized levels; and
- (3) Health authorities to adopt preventive measures in order to contain the spread of the disease.

The President took these steps after hearing acting Health Secretary Rafael Tumbokon, Manila Health Department Chief Mariano C. Icasiano, Dr. Jacinto Dizon of the Department of Health, PNRC Manager Feliciano R. Cruz, and Col. Manuel R. deLuna, AFP surgeon general, report to the Cabinet on the overall influenza situation.

The health officials, particularly Secretary Tumbokon and Dr. Icasiano, stressed that although there was an increase in the incidence of influenza, there should not be cause for undue alarm. They said that according to statistics, the number of cases for May, this year, was almost the same as the number in May of last year.

Dr. Icasiano said that there were an estimated 53,000 persons sick with influenza out of which only six per cent were registered in hospitals. However, he said that the influenza outbreak was expected to subside within the next two weeks.

Icasiano informed the Cabinet that in Manila, there were 25 “bed centers” situated in the crowded districts which served as emergency hospitals for “flu” cases and where medicines were given to the poor. He added that with an

additional appropriation for health services he had obtained from the city, physicians and nurses working in the poor districts of Manila could give more medicines to the needy.

Dr. Icaciano also said that he had secured the cooperation of all city hospitals and medical colleges regarding the use of their facilities, including the services of internes if necessary.

PNRC Manager Cruz said that the Red Cross was also extending all possible aid.

After hearing these reports, President Garcia said he was glad that necessary steps were being taken by the medical authorities to aid the influenza victims, and stated that there should not be undue alarm. He emphasized that all efforts be exerted to help the sick, especially the poor.

Upon inquiry by the President as to what other measures were being taken to help minimize the spread of the disease, Dr. Icasiano said that he had recommended to Manila authorities to enforce strictly the ordinance prohibiting overcrowding in Manila, theaters. He also recommended the temporary suspension of the holding of *Flores de Mayo* processions to protect the children from exposure to drafts and to big crowds. In the evening the President directed Philippine Charity Sweepstakes General Manager Eugenio E. Santos to recommend to¹ the board of directors a substantial sum for the purchase of medicines to be distributed free to poor and needy "flu" cases.

Invited to attend the Cabinet meeting were PAFLU President Cipriano Cid and Rep. Angel Castaño, who represented the workers of the Manila Gas Corporation in their petition to purchase the government's shares in that corporation.

It will be recalled that at a previous meeting, the Cabinet decided to sell the government's shares in this corporation through public bidding.

After hearing the verbal petition in behalf of the union workers, the Cabinet directed that after consultation with acting Economic Coordination Administrator Juan Concon, Cid and Castaño should submit the workers' concrete proposal to the Cabinet in two weeks.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room, starting at 10:40 a.m. At 11:45 a.m., the President left the Cabinet meeting to meet members of the National War College of the United States at the President's executive office.

In the President's absence, Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason presided over the meeting. Returning to the Cabinet after about 20 minutes, the President adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m. to preside over the traditional luncheon which he gave in honor of the senators and representatives at the Malacañang social hall.

THE President this noon received in his executive office members of the National War College of the United States, headed by Maj. Gen. R. W. Berry.

After greeting individually the members of the group, the President welcomed them and wished them all a pleasant sojourn in the Philippines. Gen. Berry introduced the members of his group to the President.

Answering a few questions asked by some members of the group, the President said that communist menace in the Philippines was already contained, and that the backbone of the local communist organization had been broken. He said there were sporadic raids by bandits foraging for food.

To a question as to whether there was any outside threat to the Philippines, the President replied that the threat was the communist ideology. The Chief Executive stressed that because of this threat, the Philippine Government was exerting all efforts to strengthen democracy as a way of life for the people.

Aside from Gen. Berry, other members of the group were: Col. G. F. Anderson, Dr. K. L. Anderson, Dr. R. W. Van Wagenan, Maj. V. Mergard, Maj. P. A. Baltes, Capt. K. A. Ano, USN, and Col. A. A. Irzyk;

Colonels (Army) D. O. Byars, Jr., F. W. Collins, J. T. Folda, Jr., R. W. Keyes, G. E. Pickett, and L. T. Jacobs; Colonels (Air) J. A. Brooks, H. E. Henderson, A. J. McChristy, W. J. Sherrard, and L. M. Thomas;

Commander F. P. Anderson, Captains (Navy) H. M. Avery, J. D. Craik (USCG), C. E. Gibson, J. M. Lee, and B. B. Pickett; Civilians: M. Baroll, H. B. Clark, W. A. Crawford, D. A. Flin, K. A. Hoyt, C. K. Nichols, and C. H. Opal.

IN the afternoon the President administered the oaths of office to Melecio R. Domingo, chief of the assessments division of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, and to Abdon Javier, division superintendent of schools of Rizal, as deputy collector of internal revenue and superintendent of city schools of Manila, respectively.

In inducting Domingo, the President congratulated the personnel of the Bureau of Internal Revenue for having increased revenue collection by ₱45 million over that of a comparable period of last year. He announced that according to estimates submitted by the Department of Finance this increase would mount up to about ₱60 million by the end of the current fiscal year.

Domingo filled the vacancy left by the promotion of Deputy Collector Jose Aranas to collector, while Javier replaced Manila Schools Superintendent Antonio Maceda, retired.

The induction ceremonies were held about 5:30 p.m. at Malacañang's reception hall. They were attended by a large delegation of ranking officials and employees of the Bureau of Internal Revenue headed by Collector Jose Arañas and by another large delegation from Rizal which included Gov. Isidro Rodriguez, and Board Members Amado Gervacio and Vicente Javier.

Domingo has served in the Bureau of Internal Revenue for the last 39 years, having started as storekeeper with a salary of P45 a month in October, 1918. He is a native of Laoag, Ilocos Norte.

Javier, on the other hand, started as classroom teacher some 41 years ago. He had for many years served as division superintendent of schools in various provinces of Luzon before his appointment to the city of Manila. He is from Tanauan, Batangas.

Presidential callers this evening included Reps. Felipe Abeleda, who requested the reservation of a hospital site in his district in Mindoro Occidental, and Natalio Castillo of Bohol

About 7 p.m., the President received delegations composed of mayors Surigao which presented him with a petition pledging their support the forthcoming election. Mayor Ricaredo Castillo of Bislig, vice-president of the Surigao Mayors' League, informed the President that the resolution had been approved at a recent meeting of the league. The delegation was accompanied by Rep. Reynaldo Honrado.

May 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia boarded the S.S. *Santa Maria* this morning to study several bills which required his certification to Congress.

Assisting the President were Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, Assistant Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Appointments Secretary Rolando Kagawan, and Lt. Melchor Fronda, aide; Commodore Jose Francisco was also aboard the yacht.

The Chief Executive went over administration measures under discussion in Congress; such as, the bill for the development of nickel and iron mines, the foreign investments bill, the National Development Authority bill, the reparations bill, and the tariff code bill.

He also studied Senate Bill No. 167 and the bill requiring the teaching of more Spanish units in the schools.

After cruising about an hour, the yacht anchored a few miles off the shoreline.

Earlier in the “morning, upon learning of the death of Carmelita E. Agudo, eldest daughter of Manuel Agudo, technical assistant in the Office of the President, and Mrs. Renee E. Agudo, the President ordered a wreath to be sent to the Funeraria Nacional, where the body of the deceased lay. The President also sent his condolences to Mr. and Mrs. Agudo.

PRESIDENT Garcia today said the Philippine Government was studying steps to be taken towards the restitution by the Japanese Government of the sum of ₱23,850,419.70 which had been confiscated by the Japanese forces in the vaults of the national treasury in the early days of the occupation.

The President told National Treasurer Vicente G. Gella, whom he summoned to the S.S. *Santa Maria*, that he would take the necessary measures in pressing the claim of the Philippine Government for the recovery of the confiscated amount.

Gella informed the President during their conference aboard the yacht that this matter had already been brought to the attention of the secretary of finance way back in 1954. It was explained, however, that owing to the then pending negotiations for the ‘reparations agreement, the claim could not be pressed at the time.

With the signing of the reparations treaty and since this matter is entirely different from the reparations, Gella said that it was time to press for the solution of this legitimate claim.

President Garcia said that he was studying this question very carefully and that after the congressional session, steps would be taken to raise this claim on a government-to-government level.

The national treasurer said there were authenticated records supporting the claim of the Philippine Government. He added that persons who had witnessed the confiscation are still alive and can personally testify.

Gella said that the amounts confiscated by the Japanese consisted of Philippine currency, United States currency, Philippine Treasury certificates, Philippine National Bank notes, and silver bullion bars.

President Garcia also began studying the request for the payment of backpay to legitimate employees of local free governments during the occupation who have not yet received their due payments.

May 23.—THE President, this day accepted the resignation of Agriculture Undersecretary Jaime N. Ferrer.

Ferrer had handed in his resignation some time ago, but the Chief Executive had it under advisement.

President Garcia also confirmed the acceptance of the resignation of Acting NARRA General Manager Luis Franco by the NARRA board.

The President was informed by telegram by Mrs. Remedios Fortich, chairman of the NARRA board, that Franco had verbally reiterated his resignation. Mrs. Fortich said that the NARRA board had accepted the resignation effective June 1, 1957.

President Garcia stayed the whole day today aboard the S.S. *Sta. Maria*. He spent most of his time going over additional bills which required his certification to the Congress.

He waited for Congress leaders to arrive for the luncheon conference which took place 12:30 p.m.

In the morning, Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson, Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, Legislative Assistant Secretary Vicente Logarta, and Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison boarded the yacht *Sta. Maria* which

was anchored way off the breakwater. They assisted the President as he went over the bills and acted on important papers.

PRESIDENT Garcia and legislative leaders had a luncheon conference this noon aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria* on the proposed constitutional amendments.

It was agreed that the House special committee on constitutional amendments and the Senate committee on code and constitutional amendments.

ments first discuss the proposed amendments to the constitution and then make a report on their study of the matter.

It was also agreed that the calling by the President of a special session to take up the proposed constitutional amendments would depend on the report of the two committees—Present at the luncheon conference which was presided over by President Garcia were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano Primicias, House Majority Floorleader Arturo M. Tolentino, Sens. Jose Locsin, Lorenzo Sumulong, and Edmundo Cea, and Reps. Ismael Veloso of Davao and Tobias Fornier of Antique.

Also present at the conference were Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona, and Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable.

The luncheon conference started about 12:30 p.m. and lasted until 3:15 p.m.

May 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia ordered NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin Estrella to make immediate shipments of prime commodities and construction materials to Iligan City with a view to heading off profiteering in that fire-ravaged city.

On arrival at Tagbilaran (Bohol) this morning, the President also wired Lanao Gov. Salvador Lluch to inquire whether there was need of declaring a state of calamity in the disaster area.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President was accorded a royal welcome on his first visit to his home province since his assumption of the presidency. Everywhere he went around the province today where he inaugurated bridges, feeder roads, municipal buildings, and the f 1,550,000 hydroelectric plant in Lobok, people received him with brass bands, parades, and fireworks display.

The President thanked the people for the splendid reception. He said he had longed to visit his province since his becoming President but that other duties had prevented him from going to Bohol earlier.

May 25.—THE people of Talibon have gone all out to celebrate their town fiesta with the presence there today of the town's most illustrious son. President Carlos P. Garcia.

Arriving in Talibon at 8 o'clock last night after motoring the whole day more than 100 kilometers along the northern coast of Bohol, the President and the First Lady were received royally with brass bands, a torch parade, and a colorful display of fireworks.

At the reception and ball given last night at the local market place, the President showed his appreciation for the wonderful reception given him and his party by dancing the *curacha*, a fast-moving native dance, acceding to popular request. Others who performed special native dances were Govs. Juan Pajo of Bohol, Jose Dinglasan of Capiz, and Marcos Malupa of Batanes, and Talibon Mayor Maximino Garcia.

This morning, after hearing mass at the town church, the President inaugurated the ₱150,000 municipal building. The President is scheduled to return about 2 p.m. to Tagbilaran after a conference with provincial and municipal officials at the new Talibon municipal hall.

May 26—PRESIDENT Garcia was accorded an enthusiastic reception by the people of Negros Oriental on his arrival at Dumaguete City at 9:45 a.m. today on the second leg of his four-day whirlwind inspection tour of Southern Visayas and Mindanao.

Accompanied by Gov. Serafin Teves, Rep. Lorenzo Teves, mayors, and other local political leaders, the President, and his party motored through 13 of 16 towns of Negros Oriental, culminating in Gihulngan, about 10 p.m. after traveling more than 100 kilometers from Dumaguete. Receptions in the towns visited included parades, fireworks display, and ringing of church bells.

In speeches delivered in Visayan, the President, asked the people to allow him to continue the program of the late President Magsaysay. The presidential party had lunch at Tanjay, where the President inaugurated the ₱80,000 municipal building.

The President will leave for Iligan City tomorrow morning to inspect the extent of damage wrought by the recent fire, then return to Manila in the afternoon.

May 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia told, the people of Iligan City that he had authorized the release of ₱200,000 for relief and rehabilitation of some 1,500 families rendered homeless by the recent conflagration in that city.

Addressing fire victims from the kiosk of the city plaza overlooking the still smoldering ruins of Iligan's business center, the President this noon said that the entire government machinery had been promptly put into motion to extend immediate aid to the disaster area.

"I have come here with the hope that my few hours with you would help wipe away some of the tears in your grief-stricken faces," the President told the people.

The President arrived in Iligan about 1:30 p.m. from Dumaguete City following a three-day tour of Bohol and Negros Oriental towns. He had intended to visit the fire-ravaged city early this morning and then proceed to Manila in time to fulfill some noon appointments in Malacañang but the PAL plane *Otter*, which flew him from Ozamis City to Iligan, developed engine trouble and delayed him a few hours while some repairs and adjustments were made.

The PAF C—47 plane, *Pagasa*, bearing the presidential party from Dumaguete had to land in Labo airport near Ozamis City, as the Maria Cristina airfield near Iligan was under repair and could only land smaller planes. From Labo, the President transferred into a DeHavilland *Otter* plane of the Philippine Air Lines which took him to Maria Cristina. The single-engined plane with a seating capacity of 10 passengers was piloted by Capt. Pedro Mallari.

On hand at the Labo airstrip to welcome the President were Misamis Occidental Gov. Diego Ty Deling, Board Member Genaro Bomediano, Mayor Angel Medina of Ozamis City, and other provincial, city, and municipal officials of Misamis Occidental. While adjustments were being made on the *Otter*, the President decided to make a side trip to Ozamis City, some five kilometers away, making several whistle stops enroute.

Arriving at Maria Cristina airfield about 1 p.m., the President was met by large delegations of Lanao political leaders which included Sen. Domocao Alonto, Gov. Salvador Lluch, Iligan Mayor Mariano Badolles and Baloi Mayor Geronimo Marave, president of the Lanao mayors league.

In Iligan about 30 minutes later, the President went around the area of the fire which had gutted 19 blocks of the city, including all of Iligan's commercial center. Col. Ramon Aguirre, deputy 4th MA commander, reported that a total of 282 buildings had been razed to the ground, including the City Hall, the PNB building, the public market, the city auditorium, the post office, and other government offices.

After talking individually with some of the fire victims he found in the area, the President was led to the plaza kiosk, where he addressed a large crowd which had awaited him for hours. Other speakers were Gov. Lluch and Mayor Badolles.

The President had lunch at the residence of the Iligan City mayor at 2:30 p.m., took off on the *Otter* at Maria Cristina airstrip at 4 p.m., and transferred to the PAF C-47 plane *Pagasa* at Labo airport for the return trip to Manila. He was back in Malacaiiang about 8:30 p.m.

May 28.—THIS morning President Garcia received individual pledges of support for his nomination and reelection from members of the Bicol Bloc with whom he had a breakfast conference.

The Bicol political leaders submitted a resolution to the President pledging to work for the election of whoever is nominated by the Nacionalista Party in the coming convention. After the resolution was given to the President, members of the bloc individually expressed their support for the President's nomination and reelection.

Sen. Edmundo Cea committed himself and his followers "at the service" of the President for his campaign for nomination and reelection "because we believe you are the right man to lead the party to victory in the coming election."

Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez also assured the President of her support. She said that she would work for the nomination and reelection of the Chief Executive.

Others who expressed their support to the President were Reps. Justino Nuyda and Pio Duran of Albay and Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, Govs. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon and Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, and ex-Governor Wilfredo Panotes of Camarines Norte.

Rep. Peralta told the President that the three leading officials of Sorsogon, Rep. Peralta, Rep. Salvador Encinas, and Gov. Frivaldo, "will support you for nomination and reelection because we believe that you are the most logical and the best candidate of the party."

Other resolutions submitted by the members of the bloc to the President during the conference pertained to local problems which needed national help.

Present at the breakfast conference were Sens. Cea, Gonzalez, and Pedro Sabido; Acting Defense Secretary Jose M. Crisol; Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona; Reps. Nuyda, Duran, and Peralta; Govs. Alberto and Frivaldo; ex-Gov. Panotes; MVO Chief Ruben Villaluz; Melquiades Fuentebella; Felix Imperial, Dr. S. Ortega; Nick Enciso; and Pedro Venida.

After the breakfast conference, the President received former President Sergio Osmeña, who paid a courtesy call. The President conversed with the former President, who came to Manila to attend the Council of State meeting, in the Malacañang music room.

Also received by the President were Tristan E. Beplat, vice-president of the Manufacturers Trust Company of New York, and Dwight G. Allen, assistant treasurer and deputy Far East representative of the same company. The two American business executives were accompanied by Acting OEC Administrator Juan Concon and Felix de la Costa, executive vice-president of the Philippine Bank of Commerce.

Other callers of the President before he presided over the Council of State meeting were Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez, Reps. Pedro Trono and Juan Aldeguer of Iloilo, and Gov. Jose Dinglasan of Capiz.

PRESIDENT Garcia and the Council of State at their meeting this day approved the issuance and sale of bonds by authority of various republic acts to finance public projects considered vital to the overall progress of the country.

These public improvements pertain to the construction of public buildings hospitals, and sanitaria; highways, including main feeders and secondary roads; artesian wells; waterworks; river control; irrigation; air-navigation; port works; low-cost housing; and school building program.

Also included in these projects are the resettlement of landless families, fostering the growth of scientific research and studies, survey and subdivision of public lands, development of the coconut industry, and expropriation of landed estates.

The prosecution of these projects is a further implementation of the government program initiated by the late President Magsaysay.

The Council of State meeting was the first presided over by President Garcia since his assumption of office. The items approved are as follows:

(1) For the balance of the National Land Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration appropriation (R. A. 1600), to carry on this agency's work of resettling landless families
(2) For the advancement of scientific research and development in the Philippines as requested by the National Science Board for the national scientific engineering and technological research fund under (R. A. 1606)
(3) For the payment of the obligations of the Philippine Government to the San Juan de Dios Hospital representing the balance of the promissory notes for the payment of the Tambo-bong-Buenavista estate, as requested by the Land Tenure Administration (R. A. 1400)
(4) For public works projects authorized under various Republic Acts
(5) For further implementation of the low-cost housing program of the Administration, as requested by the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation
(6) For intensification of the work of surveying public lands and subdividing them, as requested by the Bureau of Lands
(7) For encouragement and development of the coconut industry, as requested by the PHILCOA
(8) For the intensification of the government's program of expropriating landed estates in Manila, as requested by the Land Tenure Administration

The total of these bonds is ₱187,656,000.

The Council of State meeting started at 10:25 a.m. and lasted up to about 12:15 p.m.

Aside from the regular Cabinet members, those present were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez, House Majority Floorleader Arturo M. Tolentino, Senators Jose P. Laurel, Sr., and Jose Locsin, Cebu City Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., chairman of the Provincial Governors and City Mayors League; former President Sergio Osmeña, former Gov. Juan O. Chioco, and Alfonso Ponce-Enrile.

IN the afternoon the President took further steps to intensify and make more effective the government's overall anti-influenza drive.

The President, through Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, who presided over the Cabinet meeting in the President's absence, directed:

- (1) Acting Defense Secretary Jose M. Crisol and Acting Health Secretary Rafael Tumbokon to coordinate the anti-"flu" campaign of the health units of their respective departments; and
- (2) Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to release ₱200,000 to purchase anti-"flu" medicines for free distribution, especially to the poor and the needy.

(On the advice of his physicians, President Garcia rested the whole afternoon immediately after the Council of State meeting because of a slight fever due to cold.)

Upon the President's directive, Secretaries Crisol and Tumbokon immediately organized a combined defense-health team composed of physicians and nurses to be headed by Secretary Tumbokon himself. Dr. Amadeo Cruz, chief of the rural health units, will assist the health secretary. This team will enplane Wednesday for Legaspi, Albay, with an initial medicine load of ₱30,000 for free distribution to the needy. The team members will also minister to the needs of the sick.

Crisol and Tumbokon said that from Legaspi their combined health team will enplane for Iloilo and then to Cebu, Davao, Cotabato, and other places.

Tumbokon said that in Manila health authorities of his department and of the City have coordinated their efforts in making a house-to-house visit to influenza victims, especially in the poor and congested areas.

Crisol said that following the President's directive he ordered all available Armed Forces vehicles to be used in transporting needy influenza victims to hospitals where they could be treated.

Tumbokon said that he had reiterated his directive to all rural health units to extend all possible medical assistance in their respective areas. As a matter of fact, he said, Dr. Amadeo Cruz, rural health division chief was going with him to the field tomorrow to intensify the anti-"flu" campaign.

In the absence of the President, Secretary Tuason presided over the Cabinet meeting which started at 4:30 p.m. and lasted up to past 7 p.m. Mostly routine matters were taken up during the Cabinet meeting.

May 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia was confined to bed today on the second day of his bout with "flu" which he contracted yesterday.

While President Garcia was in bed, the First Lady and their only child, Linda, were busy preparing for the latter's wedding tomorrow morning with Fernando Campos, Jr., a Cavite lawyer.

Cakes, drinks, and wedding gifts poured into Malacañang today. Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, the First Lady, also invited the Campos family to Malacañang for a "get-together" today.

The First Lady said this was their custom. She pointed out that although the President was slightly indisposed, she wanted to keep up with their tradition. She recalled to newsmen that the tradition, was observed when she married the President.

The First Lady was slightly nervous on the eve of her only child's wedding. Asked how she felt, the First Lady said: "I could not describe my feelings. I hope I do not cry at the wedding."

She said that the President has recovered but expressed fears that the strain he would undergo during the ceremony at the San Agustin church and at the reception in Malacañang tomorrow may upset him. "He may have a relapse," she said.

Linda, on the other hand, was also nervous. She spent the evening in church with Campos for confession.

"I am nervous," she told newsmen. "I hope my father can make it."

Linda expressed the hope that it would rain on her wedding. "It's a good sign," she said. She recalled that the old folks in the provinces told her that rain brings good things to a newly-married couple.

"Rain is a sign of abundance," she said. "I hope it rains if not today tomorrow."

Linda said she and her husband would fly tomorrow afternoon for Hongkong, where they would spend the first days of their two-week honeymoon. They plan to go to Tokyo later.

PRESIDENT Garcia today issued the following statement on the death of Judge Roldan:

“The death of Judge Arsenio Roldan marked the passing of a devoted public servant who dedicated his life to the service of his country by dispensing justice in the best tradition of the bench. He showed great love for the working man and also saw to it that the public welfare was duly safeguarded. I join my countrymen in mourning Judge Roldan’s death.”

May 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia, looking happy despite a bout with “flu,” gave away his only child, Linda, in marriage to Fernando Campos this morning.

The fashionable ceremony was held at the historic San Agustin church in Intramuros.

After the rites, the President received the wedding guests at Malacañang and later posed for pictures with the newly-weds at his study room in Malacañang.

After bidding Godspeed to the couple who were to leave at noon today for their honeymoon in Hongkong, the President motored out of the Palace and proceeded to the presidential landing where he boarded the yacht, *Sta. Maria*.

The President was said to have taken to his yacht upon advice of one of his physicians, Dr. Alejandro Gaerlan.

Gaerlan was said to have told the President the sea air would help him gain the pounds he lost during his bout with the “flu” Tuesday and Wednesday.

With the President aboard the yacht were Gaerlan, Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo Sison, Appointments Secretary Agerico Palyapay, and Major Jose Estrella, aide.

After a short cruise in the bay, the yacht dropped anchor a few miles off the shore limits.

As soon as the yacht anchored, President Garcia dictated two notes of condolence, one addressed to acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Raul S. Manglapus on the death of his mother, and the other, to the deceased’s family.

A little before 4 p.m. the President received Sen. Roseller Lim, who called on him prior to leaving for Geneva, where he’ would head the Philippine delegation to the International Labor Organization’s conference.

At 4 p.m. National Treasurer Vicente Gella boarded the yacht and conferred with the President on what his office had done towards facilitating redemption of backpay certificates due to mature next year.

At 6 p.m. Alfonso Calalang, president of the Security Bank and Trust Company, called to present to the President a report of a Central Bank committee studying the effects of increasing dollar remittances to American movie exporters.

The President had supper with Ambassador Felixberto Serrano. Serrano’s call was “purely social.”

The President spent the night aboard the yacht.

May 31.—MRS. Leonila D. Garcia this morning received H. H. Swami Kumar Parivrajak, a Hindu holy man and founder of the Universal Religion Mission, who is presently on a universal peace tour. The Swami informed the First Lady that a local chapter of his organization had been formed.

H. H. Parivrajak was accompanied to Malacañang by Mesdames Lorenza Fabian, chairman of the local U. R. M.; Sarsati Sharma, Minda Vaswani, Carlos Ripoll, Miss Carmelita Fabian, Zosimo Draw, and Generoso Vidanes.

The First Lady also received Mrs. Geneva Link Winston of Iowa, who is traveling alone to fulfill her cherished wish to visit the Philippines. She informed the First Lady that her brother, Edwin, had been among the first batch of American teachers who had arrived in the Philippines at the early part of the U.S. occupation in 1898 and who had spent the greater part of his life teaching Filipino children in Cebu.

Mrs. Winston was accompanied to Malacañang by the children of Edwin, Emma L. Infante, Manuel Link, and Minnie Link, all Cebu residents.

The First Lady received presidential callers at the music room.

FIVE governors from Luzon called on President Garcia in the afternoon and reaffirmed their pledge to support the President's nomination in the convention and work for his election.

The governors who called on the President aboard the S.S. *Sta. Maria* were Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan, Alejo Santos of Bulacan, Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, and Bernardo Gapuz of La Union.

The governors in reiterating their pledge of loyalty and support to the President, said that they would exert all their efforts in insuring the victory of President Garcia. The President thanked them for their renewal of their pledge which they had given to him a few weeks ago.

EARLIER in the morning, President Garcia signed the bill liberalizing the retirement of government employees.

After signing the law aboard the S.S. *Sta. Maria* in the presence of Rep. Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, one of the bill's sponsors, GSIS officials headed by General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal, PGEA officials headed by Artemio E. Gesmundo, the President said:

"This is an important piece of legislation that gives to government employees and workers social justice."

The highlights of the new law are:

(1) It will qualify government employees to retire after 20 years of service regardless of age, and to receive one month's salary for every year of service, but not exceeding two years;

(2) It will allow government employees to retire after 30 years of service regardless of age, and to receive a life pension to be computed on the basis of actuarial tables.

The bill was sponsored in the House of Representatives by Reps. Peralta and Serafin Salvador of Rizal, and in the Senate, by Sen. Jose Zulueta.

Among other officials present at the signing of the bill were Gregorio S. Licaros, chairman of the board of directors; Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr.; Casimiro L. Dacanay and Miguel D. Velasco, members; Dr. Manuel O. Hizon, GSIS actuary; and Abdon Angeles, assistant general manager.

The President also signed a proclamation further extending up to May 31, 1958, the thrift campaign.

The President signed the proclamation because the result of the thrift campaign which had been extended up to May 31, 1957, under the sponsorship of the Bankers Association of the Philippines, required that it be further extended for another year.

The President also received James Bell of *Time-Life* who paid a courtesy call. He was accompanied by Tony Escoda of the *Manila Daily Bulletin*.

The President stayed aboard the S.S. *Sta. Maria* in order to speed up his full recovery from a recent cold. He returned to Malacañang in the evening.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: June 1-15, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

June 1 – HAPPY over last night's meeting in the residence of Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, President Garcia motored bright and early this morning to the home of Sen. Gil Puyat, his only remaining rival for the NP presidential nomination.

Last night he was assured by his party colleagues, particularly Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez and Sens. Jose P. Laurel and Quintin Paredes that he would eventually be left alone to win the nomination unopposed. The only stumbling block was Puyat, who was not present at the meeting because of illness and was, therefore, not bound by the agreement that all NP presidential contenders sacrifice their personal ambitions, in the interest of unity, so that the party could rally behind President Garcia's candidacy.

But, at the time, the President called on the Pampanga senator, the latter was still sick and he (the President) could not stay long to convince his rival to withdraw. It was reported that Puyat "politely but firmly" told the President he was staying in the race.

This did not prevent the Chief Executive from announcing in a press conference he held later in the afternoon aboard the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* that he was still confident he could make Puyat withdraw in his favor.

EARLIER in the morning, the President received in Malacañang Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, who had just returned from a trip to the United States. Balao made a preliminary verbal report to him on his mission.

At noon the President boarded his yacht where he inducted into office Mayor Paulino Ong of Naawan, Misamis Oriental. The newly-installed town mayor was accompanied to the President by Rep. Ignacio Cruz of Misamis Oriental.

AT 5 p.m., the President received aboard the yacht Malacañang newspaper reporters for his weekly press conference. In the conference, he expressed optimism he will win the NP nomination and that he might still run unopposed in the convention.

The President exuded confidence when he said his talks with Puyat were far from over, indicating that the Pampanga senator had indicated willingness to make the same sacrifice that his other rivals, Senators Laurel and Paredes, had done.

EARLY in the evening, he received members of the Barrio Lieutenants Association of the Philippines, officers of the Philippine Veterans Legion, and those of the PVL women's auxiliary whom he inducted into office.

President Garcia commended the members of the Barrio Lieutenants' Association of the Philippines for their civic consciousness in helping the government become more responsive to the needs and desires of the masses.

The President said that their personal sacrifices in attending their convention in Manila to discuss barrio problems and improve the living conditions there showed a growing strength of democracy in the Philippines and social consciousness among the barrio people.

The Chief Executive made these remarks to scores of barrio lieutenants who paid their respects to the President aboard the S.S. *Sta. Maria* on the last day of their three-day convention prior to their return to their respective barrios. The barrio lieutenants were accompanied to the yacht by Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez and Severino Luna, BLAP president.

In his brief extemporaneous speech, the President praised the efforts of the barrio lieutenants in helping uplift living conditions in the barrios. He said that they were extending great help in the building up of Philippine democracy

from the grass roots up which, he added, had been the objective of the late President Magsaysay and which he was implementing.

The President encouraged the barrio lieutenants to continue with their great work.

Luna introduced the President to the conventionists who greeted him with a warm applause. Secretary-Rodriguez also delivered a brief speech.

The President inducted the newly elected officials of the BLAP as follows:

Severino N. Luna, president; Salvador M. Buason, national vice-president; Hermogenes C. Sulpicio vice-president for Luzon; Bartolome Cagasan, vice-president for Visayas; Datu Saaban Muti, vice-president for Mindanao; Tiburcio R. Riva, secretary; Victor H. Gaza, treasurer; and the following members of the board of directors: for Luzon—Efren Dulay, Ursenio Maya, and Max F. Ubusan; for, the Visayas—Timoteo Ramirez, Benito Sombrero, and Santiago M. Peroy; and for Mindanao—Efren Dominguez, Alejandro Golob, and Efraen Musico.

After receiving the barrio lieutenants, the President received the officers of the Philippine Veterans Legion and the PVL Auxiliary whom he inducted into office.

The PVL officers were as follows: Francisco B. Offemaria, commander; Jose Ai Aranas, vice-commander, Luzon; Conrado J. Nofada, vice-commander, Visayas; Peregrino M. Andres, vice-commander, Mindanao; Tomas T. Nufable, adjutant; Philomeno P. Padilla, treasurer; Dominador A. Realon, inspector; Dante Q. Nagtalon, judge advocate; Rev. Fr. Pedro Hilario, chaplain; Manuel Abella, PRO; Magno Jamito, historian; Mariano S. Noriel, auditor; and the following committeemen: for Luzon—Eulogio D. Balao, Anatolio M. Bustamente, Elias P. Palma, Vicente O. Novales, and Fortunato Martin; for the Visayas—Atilano R. Cinco, Pepito G. Iyulores, Ernesto C. Vilfanis, Iluminado Tale, and Felizar.do Martir; and for Mindanao—Antonio Napili, Antonio Portugal, Ignacio Abragan, Eugenio Millado, and Mareelo T. Paiso.

THE PVL Auxiliary officers follow: Mrs. Luz Belen Sese, president; Mrs. Catalina Malanyaon, vice-president for Luzon; Mrs. Alnif Golez, vice-president for Visayas; Mrs. Jovita Macatol Waminal, vice-president for Mindanao; Mrs; Amelia S. San Juan, secretary; Miss Pat Beriho, sub-secretary; Mrs.. Helen Jamito, treasurer; Miss Clara Tudtud, PRO; Miss Teofila Nequin, liistorian, and the following committee women: for Luzon—Miss Nelie Arroyo, Miss Domihguita Seranilla, Mrs. Gregoria Urcia, Miss Leticia Lugo, and Miss Consolation Teoxon; for the Visayas—Miss Aquilina Aviado, Mrs. Catalina Estuya, Miss Dolores Collada, Mrs. Maria Villanueva, and Miss Carmelita Catedral; for Mindanao—Mrs. Marcela Gray, Mrs. Agapita A. Gallardo, Mrs. Caridad C. Madarieta, Mrs. Simeona Mediante, and Mrs. Cenencia T. Omahoy.

Other callers of the President were Regs. Jose Aldeguer of Iloilo and Carmen Dinglasan Consing of Capiz, and Gov. Jose Dinglasftn of Capiz.

June 2.—ON his physician's advice, President Garcia stayed the whole day this day aboard the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* in order to recover completely from a recent bout with the cold. The yacht steamed out of Pier 5 last night after the Chief Executive had inducted officers of the Philippine Veterans Legion and the women's auxiliary of the organization and of barrio lieutenants in convention here.

With President Garcia in the cruise along Manila Bay off Corregidor were Appointments Secretary Rolando Kagawan, Lieut. Melchor Fronda, presidential aide, and Dr. "Antonio Guytingco.

The President started his day by hearing mass sung aboard the yacht by Fr. Juan Tugade, Navy chaplain, at 7 a.m. Then the Chief Executive worked on pending state papers which he took along. He is scheduled to return to Malacañang early-tomorrow morning.

June 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, who reported that European countries were anxious to buy Philippine products like copra, abaca, sugar, and other items. Secretary Ledesma recently arrived from Hannover, Germany, where he had attended the Hannover International Fair.

The commerce secretary, however, said that trade with the European countries with sterling currency was limited because of the non-convertibility of the peso in sterling. The Philippines accepts payment for exports only in dollars.

Secretary Ledesma also extended to the President the blessings of Pope Pious XII.” The commerce secretary passed through Rome on his way back here.

AFTER receiving Secretary Ledesma, the President inducted the officers of the Garcia-for-President United Federation (GPUF) who promised to “do our best to insure your victory in the coming election.” According to the spokesman of the federation, the GPUF has an initial membership of 15,000.

Accompanied by Batanes Gov. Marcos Malupa, the officers of the GPUF who took their oath before the President were: Atty. Aurora A. Soberano, president; Manuel K. Andrade, executive vice-president and national overall coordinator; Luis Pimentel, 1st vice-president and vice-national overall coordinator; Vicente Oximana, 2nd vice-president; Glemente Soberano, 3rd vice-president; Claudio de Guzman, executive secretary; Rafael Sobenaro, treasurer; Miss Sofia Imperial, assistant treasurer; Felipe S. Llanes, auditor; Sol de Guzman, press relations officer; Licerio Laghit, liaison officer; and Manuel Calicdan, Felix Jimenez, and Mariano de los Reyes, directors.

A courtesy caller of the President was C. H. Goughlin, president of the Island Gas and Electric Company of New York. Coughlin was accompanied by former Justice Secretary Jose P. Bengzon.

Retired Maj. Gen. Calixto Duque, retired Brig. Gen. Florencio Selga, and Mrs. Pilar Normandy discussed with the President matters affecting Philippine veterans, particularly the bills passed in the last session of Congress. The retired generals and Mrs. Normandy were accompanied by Sen. Ruperto Kangleon.

Former Gov. Felipe Azeuna of Zamboanga del Norte pledged his all out support to the President in the coming election. Gov. Azeuna, who was earlier reported as supporting the candidacy of Sen. Recto, was accompanied by Rep. Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte.

Other callers of the President included Sen. Francisco Delgado, Govs, Dominador Chipeco of Laguna and Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, and ex-Rep. Dominador Tan.

June 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a busy day this day receiving hundreds of callers. He ate his lunch about 2 p.m. after receiving the Masbate delegation which was the last of many provincial delegations.

After breakfast with Don Andres Soriano, Andres Soriano, Jr., and Miguel Noel, the President proceeded to the study room, where he listened to the complaints and problems brought before him by his callers.

About 200 occupants of the Tambobong estate in Malabon, Rizal, belonging to the Tambobong Estate Actual Occupants Association, complained to the President that Senate Bill No. 644 was not in line, with the government’s policy for the landless people. Fernando Santiago, spokesman of the tenants/said that the bill was against the interest of landless people. The bill, according to Santiago, would give preference to lessees instead of to actual occupants in the sale of landed estates administered by the Land Tenure Administration. The President said that he would “carefully consider” the complaints of the tenants when he decide on the merits of Senate Bill No. 644.

Officers and members of the Democratic Army Veterans and Philippine-Civilian Social Security Organization (Dav-Philian) petitioned the President to approve Senate Bill No. 547, which seeks to create a commission to process and determine the unsettled claims of Philippine veterans. The Pav-Philiah officers and members were accompanied by Sen. Jose C. Zulueta, author of the bill. Col. Servando C. Miclat, national chairman, and Pedro Guerrero, executive secretary, told the President that their organization was working for the welfare of unpaid guerrillas.

A 200-man delegation, composed of members of the Federation of Free Farmers in Bulacan, petitioned the President for national aid for the construction and establishment of feeder roads, irrigation system, and artesian wells. The farmers were accompanied by Segundo Gonzales and Fernando Esguerra of the FFF. The President endorsed the resolutions of the farmers to the officials concerned for immediate action.

Members of the Philippine Jaycees, headed by out-going president Luis Araneta and incoming president Sotero H. Laurel, requested the President to give a small portion of Plaza Militar for the construction of their headquarters. The President said that he would discuss the matter with the proper officials.

A delegation from Masbate also requested the President for help. The delegation was composed of former Gov. Vicente Quisumbing, Dr. Efrén Valencia, Dr. Francisco Altarejos, and others.

Members of the Philippine Lawyers League, headed by Dr. Arturo Alafriz, president, also called on the President. They discussed with the President matters affecting their association.

Cithier callers of the President included Reps. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Augusto Francisco of Manila, Enrique Corpus of Zambales, Manuel Enyerga of Quezon, Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, Miguel Zosa and Ramon Durano of Cebu and Emilio Cortez of Pampanga; and Govs. Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan, Alejo Santos of Bulacan, and Bernardo Gapuz of La Union.

THE First Lady, Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, this morning turned over to Hospitals Director Tranquilina Elicaho anti-“flu” medicines which had been solicited by civic organizations for distribution to “flu” victims in the city and in the rural areas.

Only a very small portion of the medicines were given to the Malacañang clinic for free distribution to those who go there for treatment. In turning over the medicines to Dr. Elicaño, the First Lady directed that they be distributed free to where they are most needed.

The medicines which were donated by Winthrop and Stearns consisted of (1) 3,000 strips of novaldin, (2) 3,000 pills of gardan, (3) 600 libritos of flufavit, (vitamin pills), and (4) 300 bottles of deka syrup.

IN the afternoon, the President accepted the letters of credence of Charles E. Bohlen, new U. S. ambassador to the Philippines, in presentation ceremony held at Malacañang.

In presenting his credentials, Ambassador Bohlen pledged: “It shall be my constant endeavor to strengthen the deep ties of friendship which have always characterized the relations between our nations.”

The President, in his response, assured the new envoy that “in all our dealings, all problems which may arise between your country and mine shall be resolved under an atmosphere of cordially, understanding, and faith.”

Fetches by Jose Estrada, protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs, and Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo and Maj. Jose Estrella, senior and junior aides of the President, respectively, Ambassador Bohlen arrived at the Malacañang Palace grounds about 5:12 p.m. in the presidential Car No. 1. He was met by an honor guard formed by a unit of Company “B” of the Presidential Guards Battalion under the command of Lt. Egidio Gardose.

After acknowledging the raffles and flourishes offered by his honor guard, Ambassador Bohlen was led up the Palace stairs and into the ceremonial hall, where the President and ranking Filipino officials received him.

After presenting his credentials, the ambassador was introduced by Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus to other Filipino officials attending the ceremony; namely, Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbokon, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, Sen: Jose Locsin (acting

chairman of the NEC), Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, and Assistant Press Secretary G. V. Sison.

Ambassador Bohlen, in turn, presented members of his staff made up of Minister Horace Smith; Director Harry Brenn of the ICA, Counselors William Walker and Charles Hodge; Col. Henry Miller, army attache; Douglas Crawford, agricultural attache; Michael Cross, treasury attache; and George Aureli. Also present were Rear Admiral Edgar Cruise, commander of U. S. naval forces in the Philippines; Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, chief of JUSMAG; Maj. Gen. John Ackerman, 13th Air Force commander; and John Cooper, attache for veterans' affairs.

The ceremonies lasted about 20 minutes. After the traditional toast exchanged by the President and Ambassador Bohlen to continued friendly relations between their two countries, the new ambassador, followed by his staff, was led down to the Palace stairs and into the grounds where he again acknowledged honors by his honor guard despite a slight drizzle.

June 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning had breakfast with members of the Sugar Planters' Association of the Philippines who urged the approval of Senate Bill 167.

After listening to their oral, arguments favoring the approval of the bill, the Chief Executive told the sugar men to submit a memorandum as soon as possible "so that I can study the matter further."

Present at the breakfast were Jose Mapa Gomez, president of the association, Vicente Singson Encarnacion, Alfredo Montelibano, Arturo Piccio, Jose Poblador, Vicente Gustilo, Mariano Santos, Jose Mirasol, Antonio Aquino, Ciro Locshv Gerry Rodriguez, Rodolfo Lizares, Ramon de la Rama, Miguel Gatuslao, Gavino Moras, and Ramon Nolas.

Also present were Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, and Reps. Carlos Hilado and Jose Puey of Negros Occidental.

The breakfast lasted from 8 to 9 a.m.

THIS President and the Cabinet at their meeting today ordered the immediate release of ₱7.5 million to back up the implementation of the Fertilizer Subsidy Law, which enables farmers to buy fertilizers from the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration at practically one-half of the current market price.

President Garcia directed that the fertilizers be procured immediately and distributed to the farmers without delay in time for the planting season starting early next month.

This order was given upon representations made by ACCFA Administrator Osmundo Mondoñedo, who reported that out of the authorized appropriation of ₱18 million for this year, only ₱5 million has been released so far. As a consequence, he said, the ACCFA has rationed the distribution of the low-priced fertilizers to only five bags per farmer.

Mondoñedo explained to the Cabinet that the total fertilizer requirement of the country based on previous experience was approximately ₱25 million a year. On the basis of such figures, he said, the ACCFA would need a minimum of ₱12.5 million a year to take care of the farmers' fertilizer requirements all over the country. He asked the Cabinet for the immediate release of at least ₱7.5 million, in addition to the ₱5 million released previously.

Realizing the need for increased production and the direct benefits to be received by more than a million farmers, the Chief Executive at the Cabinet meeting directed Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytopa and Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez to make immediately available to the ACCFA the funds needed to implement the fertilizer program.

After consulting with Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., Acting Health Secretary Rafael Tumbokon, and Manila Health Officer Mariano C. Icasiano, on the "flu" situation as it would affect the opening of classes,

President Garcia and the Cabinet ordered that all classes be officially opened on June 10; It was however stipulated that enrollment be allowed to continue until the end of June, depending, on individual cases and circumstances to be decided by local school officials concerned.

The President made the decision on the announcement of the school opening in view of various proposals regarding this matter affecting the school system. Some official recommended the opening on June 10 while others proposed opening on June 17.

The Cabinet agreed with the President's decision that all classes officially open on June 10 but enrollment would be allowed until the end of June depending on individual cases.

In order to encourage and aid the construction of local vessels for the country's shipping needs, the President and the Cabinet approved the sending of 10 trainees to Japan, including engineers, technicians, and skilled laborers, to study the design and construction of 1,500-ton cargo-passenger vessels.

This proposal was recommended to the Cabinet by NASSCO General Manager Bernardo P. Abrera. Under this plan the training of the Filipino team costing \$80,000 will be chargeable against the Japanese reparations payment.

When the trainees come back to the Philippines, they will be employed in the construction of cargo and passenger vessels at the Mariveles shipyards of the NASSCO. It is believed that with the knowledge and skill to be acquired by these trainees, they 'will be able to contribute to the development of the country's shipping industry.

Implementing further the Government's policy of withdrawing from the business field where private enterprises are willing and ready to undertake the job, the President and the Cabinet approved the sale by public bidding of the Romblon marble project of the CEPOC.

After an explanation by Acting OEC Administrator Juan Concon of the conditions of the bidding, the Cabinet agreed that among the important provisions should be that the winning bidder should pay not less than 15 per cent down of the total cost, the balance to be paid in five years.

Another condition is to the effect that the successful bidder should give preference for the present employees and laborers in the matter of employment.

The projected sale of the Romblon marble project will be the sixth instance in which the government has withdrawn from business. The government in the past two months sold: (1) the CEPOC cement plant in Bacnotan, and (2) the NDC canning plant; and its share holdings in the (3) Philippine Electrical Manufacturing Company, (4) the Compania Celulosa de Filipinas, and (5) the Manila Gas Corporation.

President Garcia at the Cabinet meeting ordered the immediate release of the anti-"flu" medicines and assumed the payment of taxes and customs duties out of his personal funds, when apprised by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez that these medicines had been held up at the airport because of non-payment of dues as required by law.

Explaining the matter before the Cabinet, Secretary Hernandez said that there was no provision in existing laws which would exempt the Philippine Medical Association or any other private entity from payment of taxes on imported items.

The President than said that he would assume the payment of the collection dues on these medicines from his personal funds in order to uphold the law, and at the same time enable those sick with influenza to be benefited by these medicines which will be distributed free.

At this juncture the Cabinet members offered to share with the President the payment of whatever taxes and customs duties may be levied on the anti-"flu" medicines which had been sent by the American Medical Association to the Philippine Medical Association.

The Cabinet also recalled that during the time of the late President Magsaysay, taxes due on the donation given by CARE and the American Catholic Charities worth millions of pesos could not be waived by the late President unless a government entity was made the consignee of these goods.

It was revealed that consequently these goods were consigned to government agencies in order to be exempted from the payment of taxes and customs duties.

The Cabinet was informed by Secretary Hernandez that the Philippine Medical Association had refused to have these medicines consigned to the Department of Health and that therefore it was at first found difficult to let these medicines in tax free.

At the Cabinet meeting President Garcia signed an executive order terminating the collection of tolls on the following toll bridges: (1) Bahi, Camarines Sur; (2) Bauang, La Union; and (3) Marala, Rizal.

The tolls were lifted after the office of the President had been informed that the costs of the toll bridges plus interest had been fully recovered in accordance with law.

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 10:40 a.m. to 1:40 p.m.

THE President this afternoon received at the Malacañang music room members of the Far East Atoms-for-Peace Mission who paid a courtesy call.

Headed by W. T. Mallisor, head of the African-Asian branch of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D. C, the group consisted of Dr. George Boyd, assistant director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory; E. P. Lizard, reactor physicist; Dr. Kimball Attwood, senior biologist; and Dr. Marshall Brucer, head of the medical department of the national laboratory at Oak Ridge. All members of the group are connected with the National Laboratory at Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

The group arrived in Manila recently to implement an agreement between the Philippines and the United States Governments to cooperate with each other in harnessing atomic energy for peaceful uses.

The group will also advise the local committee on atomic energy regarding the setting up of a nuclear research reactor project here.

The American scientists were accompanied to Malacañang by U. S. Embassy Minister Horace Smith.

After receiving the group, the President received Indonesian Ambassador-at-large Ahmed Subardjo, who paid a courtesy call following his arrival from Jolo where he had attended the Muslim conference.

Subardjo was accompanied to Malacañang by Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Datuk Pamontjak, H. Mohammed Elyas, Indonesian minister of religious affairs, and Dr. A. F. Amrousi, Egyptian Ambassador to Indonesia.

PRESIDENT Garcia today awarded the Philippine Legion of Honor (Commander) to Gen. Lawrence S. Kuter in a simple ceremony held at the Malacañang reception hall.

Gen. Kuter was cited, among other things, for exceptionally meritorious and valuable services rendered to the Republic of the Philippines, particularly to the Armed Forces, while holding the positions of major responsibility as commander of the United States Far East Air Forces.

Present during the ceremonies were high officials of the Philippines and American governments, including Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Commodore Jose M. Francisco, Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal, Col. Pedro Q. Molina, PAF chief,

U. S. Embassy Minister Horace Smith, U. S. 13th Air Force Commander Maj. Gen: John Ackerman, U. S. Naval Forces Commander Rear Admiral Edgar A. Cruise, and Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, JUSMAG chief.

The President's senior aide, Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo read the citation.

PRESIDENT Garcia this day granted another 30-day reprieve to prisoner Crispin Verzo, who is scheduled to be executed on June 8, 1957, for the explosion of a PAL plane that took off from Daet, Camarines Norte, in 1947 resulting in the death of all the 13 passengers and crew;

The President granted the reprieve in order to have more time to study the case in connection with the petition for executive clemency filed in behalf of the prisoner.

PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered the airlifting to Manila of an emergency patient from Panacan, Palawan, by an Air Force plane.

Domingo Batoctoy, 32, a NARRA employee, suffered a ruptured appendix. Immediately upon his arrival this evening at the Nichols Air Base, he was rushed to the Philippine General Hospital by an Army ambulance.

The plane which airlifted Batoctoy was piloted by Capt. Jovencio Kintanar.

The President ordered Batoctoy's airlifting following receipt of a telegram from the NARRA project settlement informing the Chief Executive of the emergency.

IN the evening the President directed Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Yenke, Jr., to expedite all pending cases on suspended jockeys on appeal with Malacañang.

The President gave the order in the course of his conference with members of the Games and Amusements Board who called on him to pay their respects and at the same time discuss various pressing problems of the board. Headed by Manuel Nieto, Jr., GAB chairman, board members present at the conference were Commissioners Mariano Marfori and Esteban Mayo. Also present were Alfredo Guidote, GAB secretary; Narciso Pimentel, Sr., GAB racing expert and Secretary Yenke.

During the conference which lasted from 5 to 6:30 p.m., the President instructed the GAB to continue its strict supervision of the races, Jai-Alai, boxing, and other amusements.

Following the Conference, the President received other callers who called to pledge their support to his bid for election. Among the callers were Mayors Sofronio Avancena of Sinacaban, Liberato Bacayo of Aloran, Francisco Paylaga of Jimenez, and Gregorio A. Gamotin of Tudela, all of Misamis Occidental. The mayors were accompanied by Reps. William Chiongbian of Misamis Occidental and Manuel Zosa of Cebu.

June 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received Lions District Governor Eugenio Eusebio, who paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive prior to his departure for San Francisco, California, to attend the 40th Lions International Annual Convention.

Eusebio will represent Lions District 301, of the Philippines. During the call the President signed a message which he requested Eusebio to present to the Lions International Annual Convention. The President also signed citation to the California and Nevada Lions Clubs and to Lion Maurice Perstein and Lion L. Jack Block, the general chairman and coordinator of publicity and material handling, respectively, of "Operations Philippines".

The citation cited the California and the Nevada Lions Clubs for their initiative in helping transform into reality the Magsaysay program of resettling dissidents by supplying sometime ago some 25,000 tons of farm implements which were sent to the EDCOR through "Operations Philippines".

The citation said that the sending of these farm implements was an invaluable contribution in the fight against communism in the Philippines.

Eusebio told the President that he would request Lions International to continue extending help to the Philippines, especially in connection with the RM Educational Foundation Fund sponsored by the Lions.

President Garcia then received Gov. Leon Guinto and Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, who discussed with him the details of the President's trip to their province.

It was agreed that the President's projected visit to Quezon be postponed from June 20 to June 24. The President said that he would like to stay in Malacañang on June 20, 21, and 22 in order to study carefully the bills before signing them, the deadline of which is June 22.

A delegation from Cavite requested the President to proclaim June 12 this year as special public holiday in their province as well as in the cities of Trece Martires, Cavite, and Tagaytay. Rep. Jose T. Cajulis, who headed the delegation, said that this year's observance of the 59th anniversary of the declaration of the first Philippine Independence would be attended by U. S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, who would return to Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo the very flag which the American forces had seized from the Filipino revolutionists in Kawit, Cavite, in 1898.

A large delegation from Nueva Vizcaya made up of mayors, councilors, and barrio lieutenants called to pledge their support. With the group were some native Igorot settlers who requested the early issuance of titles to lands allocated to them. Headed by Rep. Leonardo Perez, the delegation included Mayor Castillo Tindang of Kayape, president of the Nueva Vizcaya mayors' league.

The Chief Executive received callers at his study up to 1:30 p.m. Other visitors included Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma; Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol; Reps. Ricardo Y. Ladrido, Pedro Trono, and Jose Aldeguer of Iloilo, Francisco Pajo of Leyte, and Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan.

THE President today directed National Civil Defense Administrator Alfredo G. Eugenio to work towards expediting the shipment of some 100 fire-engines which are expected from the Japanese reparation payment beginning this month of June.

This year's delivery is part of a total of 300 fire-engines which will be delivered to the Philippines in three years at 100 fire-engines a year.

The President gave this order to help prevent the repetition of uncontrolled conflagrations in the provinces, such as those in Catbalogan, Cotabato, and Higan City, which had resulted in the loss of an estimated ₱45 million.

The Chief Executive was informed by Eugenio that the National Civil Defense Administration has so far mobilized some 300 municipalities all over the country to organize fire-watcher teams known as ronda. The NCDA chief further said that his office had bought from its own funds and distributed some 59 portable fire pumps to many towns which had helped the organized *rondas* in controlling fire in their localities.

With the distribution of the expected fire-engines from Japan to provincial capitals, chartered cities, and towns, Eugenio said the NCDA would further mobilize the civilian population in those places in order to minimize the prevalence of fires in the Philippines.

EARLY in the evening, the President inducted into office Paciente Cubillas as mayor of the newly-created municipality of Matagob, Leyte. Present at the ceremony was Rep. Carlos Tan of Leyte, author of the bill creating the new town.

Up to 9:30 last night the President was receiving callers composed mostly of municipal officials. Among them were Mayors Gil Gaddi of Kida-pawan, Cotabato; Tranquilino Dalupang of Cagayan, Isabela; Agapito Gala-mida of Davao, Surigao; Porfirio Quinto of Malimono, Surigao; and Felipe Acinas of Kinoguitan, Misamis Oriental.

Also in the list of late callers were Gov. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga and Rep. Ombra Amilbangsa of Sulu.

June 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia today temporarily suspended the public bidding of labor services by the NARIC scheduled on June 12, following a complaint filed by leaders of the Philippine Trade Unions Council and the Confederation of Unions in Government Corporations.

The labor leaders told the President that the scheduled bidding of labor services was against the NARIC charter and the public policy and would tend to promote the *caho* system. The President contacted the NARIC by telephone for the temporary suspension of the bidding and said that he would confer with the members of the NARIC board of directors on the matter.

Regarding the request of the labor leaders for the appointment of labor representatives to the different boards of directors of government corporations, the President said that he would discuss with the Cabinet the adoption of a general policy on the matter.

The President also assured the labor leaders that he; would confer with Acting U. P. President Enrique Virata on the request of the PTUC officials for wage increases for the members of the U. P. Employees Welfare Association.

The labor leaders reminded the President about their request for a lot on which to construct a labor hall. The Chief Executive said that he would direct Lands Director Zoilo Castrillo to locate a lot for the proposed hall.

After thanking the President for the signing into law of the bill liberalizing the benefits for members of the GSIS, the labor leaders registered their stand against Senate Bill No. 167 and Senate Bill No. 560, which seeks to create the National Development Authority.

Bills recommended by the PTUC and CUGC for approval were Senate Bill No. 67, providing for the 40-hour a week for government employees; House Bill No. 3428, exempting employees of government corporations from the coverage of civil service rules and regulations; Senate Bill No. 625, amending the Social Security Act; and Senate Bill No. 387, establishing apprenticeship training system. .

Accompanied by Acting Labor Secretary Agapito Braganza, the labor leaders who saw the President were Ildefonso Remolona, acting general secretary of the PTUC; Vicente Arnieto, acting president of the PTUC; Guillermo Sambo, member of the PTUC executive board; Remberto Z, Evio, member of the PTUC executive board; Pangilalo Gaerlan, member of the PTUC executive board; Vicente T. Ocampo, legal counsel; Luis Mauricio, legal counsel; and Silvestre Himan, Geronimo Quadra, Arturo Buatarang, Arturo Tambolero, Mauricio Poblete, Tomas Tolibas, Daniel Galvez, Ramon Pugap, and Federico Valerio, representatives.

THE President started the day with a breakfast with United States Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, Lt. Gen. Charles Cabell of the United States Air Force, George Aurell of the U.S. Embassy, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, AFP Chief of Staff Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Col. Ismael Lapuz, Lt. Col. Atanacio Chavez, and Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, senior military aide to the President.

Chinese Ambassador Chen Chih-mai accompanied members of the Industrial and Commercial Group to Southeast Asia of the Republic of China who paid their respects to the President. The Chinese industrial and commercial executives told the President that the purpose of their trip here-was to get acquainted with local businessmen so that they could learn or offer any help in the country's industrial and commercial development.

Members of the group were Liang Chen, chairman of the board of the Shantung Industrial Corporation; Chen Wong, chairman of the board of the Taiwan Agricultural and Industrial Development Corporation; Chung-sing Wen,

general manager of the Chen Chung Book Co.; Hank Chuang, general manager of the Eurasia Travel Service; Siu Choong Chu, managing director of the Lock's Industrial Co.; Tze-hou Tao, general manager of the, Kuo Feng Flour Mill Co.; Sui-chi Wang, general manager of the Moon-Light Pencil Co.; Chia-chi Lin, assistant general manager of the Shantung Industrial Corporation;

Sin-heng Lin, general manager of the Yuan San Machinery Co.; S. F. Hong, general manager of the Fooher Dried Fruits and Canning Factory; Yu-h Hou, representative of the Shing Fu Hsing Cotton Mills; Pan-chih Chang, general manager of the Chu Nan Lumber Mill; Tseng-min Hsu, manager of the Chung Yuan Bleaching and Dyeing Factory; C. T. Chen, chairman of the board of the Tah Hwa Textile Co.; Ching-hsiao Chen, general manager of the Tung Ho Dyeing and Weaving Factory; and Chin-lu Huang, managing director of the Ta Hsin Industrial Co.

Representatives of the Philippine Association for Curriculum Development, Association of University Women, League of Women Voters, and the Philippine Association of Universities and Colleges requested the President to veto the Spanish bill. Leaders of the delegation were Miss Helen Benitez, president of the Association of University Women, Dr. Maria C Peralta, president of the Philippine Association for Curriculum Development; and Dr. Constanca Dumlao, president of the League of Women Voters.

Officers and members of the Philippine Band of Mercy, headed by Dr. Rodolfo Gonzales, called on the President and thanked him for having accepted the position of honorary president of the association. Officers and members of the Philippine Band of Mercy in the group included Alfonso Sycip, Valeriano Fugoso, Dr. Mariano Icasiano, Dy Huanchay, Ralph Hawkins, Jose P. Bautista, Dr. Basilia Taningco, Mrs. Consuelo Hervas, and Mrs. Paz Reyes.

A delegation of members of the Democratic Labor League, the Muslim Student Association, and the Mindanao Veterans Association pledged their support to the President and urged the appointment of former Sen. Felixberto Verano as secretary of labor. The President thanked them for their support. Regarding the proposed appointment of Verano, he said that it was his policy not to make any major appointment until after the election. Leaders of the group were Maj. Nicasio Masinon, Carterio V. Rosales, Bonifacio Legaspi, and Manioba Aguam.

Rep. Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon accompanied Mayor Francisco Bilbao and the councilors of Matnog, Sorsogon, who requested the President for aid for the completion of their various public works projects.

Other callers of the President included Rep. Esteban Bernido of Bohol, Rep. Godofredo Ramos of Aklan, Ignacio Cruz of Misamis Oriental with Mayors Alejandro D. Uy of Manticao and Paulino Ong of Naawan, and Mayor Teodulo Bernados of Tanay, Rizal.

IN view of fresh reports that the influenza epidemic is still taking tolls in the provinces and that there might be a new wave of influenza epidemic, President Garcia this day issued the following order by way of clarifying the Cabinet decision on the matter of opening of school classes:

Classes will open on June 10, 1957, and the enrollment period is extended to June 30.

However, school authorities after consulting with health officials in their respective jurisdictions, and subject to approval by the Secretary of Education, may delay within the said enrollment period (up to June 30) the opening of classes as the circumstances warrant.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon warned supporters of Senate Bill 167 not to make a political issue out of the legislation, which is now awaiting his signature.

He told a Malacañang press conference held at 5 p.m. that his action on the bill, which was approved by both Houses of Congress in the last congressional session, would be based on how it would affect the national economy.

But when a newsman informed him that certain members of Congress identified with the "sugar bloc" had threatened to oppose him. in the coming elections, the President issued this warning:

“They better not make that mistake . . . let them not make a threat to fight me in the elections.”

He said that those who are interested in the passage of the bill should “use arguments to convince me.” He added: “And the only argument that can convince me is that the bill would be for the good of the nation’s economy.”

In the same press conference the President:

1. Justified the Cabinet decision on the date of the school opening on June 10 in answer to criticisms against it in certain sectors;
2. Voiced confidence the Nacionalista Party would resolve the issue of the NP presidential nomination amicably and said he relied on the “good faith” of his rivals for the nominations;
3. Said that recent events in Taipeh and Tokyo concerning jurisdictional disputes over American serviceman “have strengthened” the Philippine position in the stalled US-PI base negotiations;
4. Refused to comment on reports that Jesus Lava, No. 1 Filipino communist, had offered to surrender to government authorities;
5. Said that the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee “has done all it could” in its investigation of the ₱12 million Chinese immigration lobby; and
6. Frowned on suggestions that the Philippines trade with Red China. Commenting on the controversial Bill 167, the President said he has not finished his study of the measure, indicating that political pressure was being exerted on him by both those against and those in favor of the legislation.

He said he has until June 27 to act on the bill under the provisions of the Constitution and hinted he might use “the full period” in deciding whether to approve or veto it.

The President recalled he had a breakfast conference with sugar planters in Malacañang last Wednesday who urged approval of the measure. He said he had given them until today to file a memorandum listing their arguments supporting acceptance of the bill.

Asked about the bill requiring college students to take at least 24 units of Spanish, the Chief Executive observed that there was mounting opposition to this measure.

He also indicated that has not formed a decision on whether he should sign the bill into law or reject it by his exercise of the presidential veto.

On the question of the NP presidential nomination, the Chief Executive said his understanding was that both Sens. Jose P. Laurel and Quintin Paredes had withdrawn their presidential bids in his favor.

However, he said he was confident that, should another “summit meeting” of NP leaders and presidential aspirants be held to resolve the the issue, he would clinch the nomination.

Regarding the bases negotiations, President Garcia said that since the arrival of the new US ambassador to the Philippines, Charles E. Bohlen, “nothing has been discussed about the bases.”

He did not believe the stalled talks would be resumed this year, in view of the coming elections, but asserted that should there be a “basis for the resumption of the negotiations, we may proceed any time.”

Asked about the case of an American employee of the US Navy in Sangley Point who figured in road accident recently in which a university professor and his wife were killed, the President said that Philippine courts have assumed jurisdiction.

He said the turnover by Constabulary authorities of the American employee to US Navy authorities was “a common practice.” But he said there was no question that local courts have jurisdiction over the American defendant against whom a criminal complaint had been filed.

The President commended members of the Blue Ribbon committee for their efforts in looking into the circumstances behind the reported ₱12 million Chinese lobby.

However, he said he sympathized with the senator-members of the committee because they “were up against hearsay evidence which has no probative value.”

The President was referring to the testimonies of several witnesses on what the late President Magsaysay had told them about the politicians behind the move to legalize the stay of overstaying Chinese visitors for certain monetary considerations.

FOLLOWING the press conference, the President received a large delegation of students from different universities in Manila and suburbs who had spent the summer months in government settlement projects in Mindanao to assist settlers in the fields of education, medicine, agriculture, engineering, and social work.

Headed by Louie Carbonell, director of the student summer work camp in Maramag, Bukidnon, and Benjamin Marte, director of the student work camp in Wao, Lanao, the delegation apprised the President of their accomplishments in the government settlement areas.

The President thanked them for their visit in Malacañang. He also congratulated them for their civic spirit in helping poor settlers in improving their ways of life in the settlement areas.

June 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning conferred upon James Mc-Neil Crawford the Golden Heart presidential award in a simple ceremony held at the Malacañang music room.

The award was conferred upon Mr. Crawford in recognition of his initiative and enterprise in the establishment of the Del Monte Pineapple Plantation and Cannery, and later the Philippine Packing Corporation, which represented exemplary endeavors in the agricultural development of this country.

Present during the ceremony were friends of the awardee, including Edward Self, Mrs. Robert Jande, Antonio Carrascoso, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Tarrassa, James T. Hodge, Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Crum, Helen Burke, James Ross, V. Yaptinchay, Emma Villabona, P. P. Lim, Jose Olbes, Hay Higgins, Augusto Sevilla, and Jose Fernandez.

The citation was read by Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, senior aide.

THE President today was requested by officials of the Philippine Public Schools Teachers Association to sign into law House Bill No. 6614, which seeks to appropriate ₱3,028,000 as subsidy for public secondary school teachers to implement their salary increases.

The PPSTA officials were Roman Lorenzo, president, and Ricardo Castro, executive secretary. The two PPSTA officials who are scheduled to depart for the United States and Germany to attend the centennial celebration of the National Education Association of America and the convention of the World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession in Frankfurt, also talked to the President about the offer of the Asia Foundation to donate 5,000 volumes of books a month to public schools through the PPSTA.

The books will be donated free to Philippine public schools, and the PPSTA officials requested the President to declare the donation free of customs duties and taxes.

The President wished luck to Lorenzo and Castro and reminded them that as Philippine delegates to the NEAA and the WCOTP conventions they would also be goodwill ambassadors for their country.

Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez and the bureau directors of his department requested the President authority to use the savings of the department for paying the salary differences of the department employees affected by the reorganization plan. About 500 employees were affected by the salary reduction as a result of the reorganization of the department. The department officials said that if the savings could be used for salaries, there would be no reduction of salaries.

The bureau directors in the group were Zoilo Castrillo of the Bureau of Lands, Benjamin, Gozon of the Bureau of Mines, Eugenio Cruz of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Heraclio Montalban of the Bureau of Fisheries, Domingo Paguirigan of the Bureau of Agricultural Extension, Laureano Marquez of the Bureau of Animal Industry, and Felipe Amos of the Bureau of Forestry. Rep. Isidro Kintanar of Cebu was also with the department officials.

Officers of the Philippine Mental Health Association invited the President to be the guest of honor at the premiere presentation of their stage production, *My Name Is Legion*, on June 24. They also requested that National Mental Health Week be held in the third week of September every year instead of January. Among the PMHA officials who saw the President were Domingo Bascara, president; Dr. Dalmacio Martin, Mrs. Eva Estrada-Kalaw, Miss Madeleine Klepper, Alberto Cacnio, Dr. E. Aldava-Lim, and Dolores Francisco.

Gov. Diego Ty Deling of Misamis Occidental accompanied a delegation from the town of Clarin composed of Mayor Jose U. Ochate, Mrs. Generosa B. Roa, president of the Clarin Women's Club; Mrs. Roman S. Hill, Mrs. Josefina Mintalar and Resunecio Villa. The delegation requested aid for the public works projects in Clarin.

Other callers of the President included Ray Higgins, P. Hyde, and Philippine Charity Sweepstakes officials headed by Eugenio E. Santos, general manager, Dr. Luis Alandy, Roman Lagura, and Favio Yatco. The PCS officials discussed with the President matters affecting their office. PRESIDENT Garcia will enplane for Legaspi, Albay, tomorrow morning to inaugurate public works projects in the Bicol region and at the same time to take anti-"flu" medicines to that area.

The President will be accompanied by, among other officials, Dr. Jesus Nolasco, acting director of the Bureau of Health; who will take with him anti-"flu" medicines. The President conferred with Dr. Nolasco this evening and told him to join the trip and to bring the necessary medicines.

The President took this step upon receipt of a telegram from Buluan, Sorsogon, informing the Chief Executive that the "flu" epidemic was still continuing in the barrios of Buluan. The President will take advantage of his trip to the Bicol region to take along Dr. Nolasco and the necessary medicines to be distributed not only in Buluan but in other places where these medicines will be needed.

The President this evening also received former acting CAA Administrator Arturo Sevilla, who made a preliminary report to the Chief Executive on his observations in the International Civil Aviation, AGA Division, conference in Montreal, Canada, participated in by 33 countries. Sevilla represented the Philippines in this conference.

Sevilla also informed the President of the negotiations that he had made for the acquisition of fire rescue trucks for airports in the Philippines. He said that he had also conferred with officials of the United States Civil Aeronautics Administration.

June 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia today demonstrated anew his determination to carry out the late President Magsaysay's program of rural development as he toured outlying areas of Albay today and inquired into the needs of farmers and laborers.

The President's inspection trip in this province was highlighted by the inauguration of the 27-kilometer Bonbon-Pantao barrio- feeder road costing ₱500,000, which opens for development large tracts of virgin lands from the eastern to the western coasts of Albay.

The President spent most of the day motoring through the hinterlands and "traversing erstwhile Huk strongholds from the Pacific coast on the east to Ragay Gulf on the west-coast. Accompanied by Sens. Pedib Sabido and Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Gov. Nicanor Maronilla Seva, Rep. Pio Duran, and other Bicol officials, the President reached up to barrio Pantao of Libon to inaugurate the Magsaysay feeder road, a 27-kilometer winding road, which cuts across mountains and is full of hairspiri turns perched on precipices 800 feet above sea level.

The President was accorded an overwhelming reception on arrival in Legaspi at 8:20 a.m. aboard the PAF plane *Pagasa* after more than an hour's trip from Manila. On hand at the airport to meet the President were large delegations from various towns of Albay and nearby provinces.

After acknowledging the cheers of his welcomers, the President was whisked to the Legaspi residence of Gov. Seva, where the President and his party had breakfast. Then at 9:20 a.m., the President, at the head of a 3-kilometer long motorcade, proceeded to Libon where a special mass was said and a *Te Deum* was sung.

En route to Libon, the President was stopped at six towns; namely, Daraga, Camaling, Guinobatan, Ligao, Oas, and Polangui. The Unscheduled stops were due to delegations made up of townspeople who formed human roadblocks and refused to budge unless the President went down a moment and shake hands with them.

From Libon, the entourage motored to the nearby barrio Bonbon, where the President witnessed the ribbon-cutting ceremony by Sen. Sabido at the starting point of the Magsaysay road. Also at the ceremony were Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Sen. Gonzalez, and Miss Evelyn Maronilla Seva, sister of Gov. Seva.

After other unscheduled stops in some barrios, the presidential party finally arrived at barrio Pantao on the west coast of Albay where another ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the end of the feeder road which had been constructed at a cost of a half million pesos. This road opens for development large tracts of virgin lands from coast to coast of Albay.

Stopping at several barrios, the President was cheered enthusiastically by farmers who surged forward to shake his hand and promised, "We will vote for you, sir, because you are very much like President Magsaysay."

Addressing a big crowd of farmers at barrio Pantao the President said it was the feeder roads such as the one just inaugurated which he intended to continue building. He asked the people to give him opportunity to carry out to a "happy conclusion" the noble program initiated by the late President Magsaysay aimed at helping the poor people in the rural areas.

The President had lunch at barrio Pantao. After a brief rest, his party motored back to Legaspi where he addressed a public rally in the evening.

THE President today suspended Celso Fernandez; as chief of police of Basilan City for a period of one month effective upon notice of the order. Fernandez was found guilty of (1) gross negligence in releasing an insane person under police custody resulting in the death of a policeman, and (2) violation of law and dereliction of duty in refusing to recognise the authority of the Basilan City mayor.

In his administrative order, the President warned Fernandez that a repetition of similar offense in the future would be more severely dealt with. The police chief was also directed to cooperate with the city mayor of Basilan City.

The President's order in suspending the Basilan City chief of police is in furtherance of his determination to implement the good government policy of the Administration.

The President said in his administrative order that the respondent in not giving effect to the city mayor's administrative order "by refusing to approve the salary of the patrolman affected by the said order, was guilty not only of violation of law but also of dereliction of duty."

SPEAKING on behalf of President Garcia, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon this morning said that it was due to the Magsaysay-Garcia administration and the Nacionalista Party that greater incentives for rural health development had been generated in the past three years.

Secretary De Leon spoke on behalf of the President on the occasion of the 1957 Alumni Homecoming and Reunion and the opening of the semicentennial year of the U. P. College of Medicine, at the Malacañang Park.

President Garcia could not attend the celebration because of a previous commitment to inaugurate government projects in the Bicol region.

De Leon said that during the Nacionalista administration rural health units, health officers, nurses, midwives, sanitary inspectors, and hospital beds have increased by leaps and bounds in the rural areas.

Comparing the rural health facilities in 1953 to those of the present, Secretary De Leon said that in 1953 there were only 81 rural health units as compared to 801 completely staffed rural health units, 233 incomplete units, and 66 junior units at present. He said that hospital beds increased from 7,475 in 1954 to 10,050 at present; and the number of rural health doctors increased from 342 to 629, and rural health nurses, from 770 to 1651.

Secretary De Leon, however, said that much was left to be done. He said that of the approximately 11,500 registered physicians in 1956, 10,446 were concentrated in Manila and other cities while only 1,134 were serving the much thicker concentration of population in 18,600 barrios of the 1,300 towns.

He said that the rural areas were critically in need of physician's services, demanding the ministering of doctors with missionary spirit and self-abnegation.

He called upon the physicians to go forth into the barrios and towns in order to minister to the needs of the common *tao*, "the base of the national pyramid and the mainstay of the nation."

He called upon the physicians to go forth into the barrios and towns in order to minister to the needs of the common *tao*, "the base of the national pyramid and the mainstay of the nation."

June 10.—THE President today laid the cornerstone of the 600-kilowatt Cauayan River hydro-electric power project and said that the electricity and power to be generated by the project would improve the economy of the province.

In his extemporaneous speech the President said that the Administration was putting emphasis on the rural development program. He said the power project would mean more irrigation systems and would increase the output of the cottage industries of Sorsogon.

After laying the cornerstone, the President proceeded to Sorsogon town where he heard a *Te Deumsung* at the church. From the church the President proceeded to the Sorsogon airport which he inaugurated. He pledged to give more aid for the completion of the airfield, saying that the airport was necessary for developing the economy of the province. The airport has a four hundred-foot runway. The President was assisted by Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez in cutting the ceremonial ribbon at the airport inauguration.

In his speeches at Cauayan and at the Sorsogon airfield, the President reiterated his commitment to continue with the program of the late President Magsaysay. He also reiterated that the Administration would devote his time to exploit the country's natural resources in order to develop industries and improve the country's economy.

In Cauayan the President was introduced by Rep. Vicente Peralta. Mayor Santos Dangan of Sorsogon thanked the President for the hydroelectric project. Another speaker was Gov. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon.

At the inauguration of the airfield, the speakers included Gov. Frivaldo, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, and CAA Administrator Urbano Caldoza.

Earlier the President conferred with mayors of Albay during a breakfast in Tiwi hot springs. Local problems were taken up. Eighty-seven thousand pesos was assured by the President for the waterworks of Libog.

The President also assured Albay officials he would send representatives to look into the possibility of improving the hot springs in Tiwi to make them tourist attractions. The President took a bath in the hot springs before breakfast.

On his way to Sorsogon the President and his party were met by officials of Sorsogon at the Albay-Sorsogon boundary. Officials were headed by Reps. Peralta and Salvador Encinas and Gov. Frivaldo.

June 11.—THE President this morning officiated at the ground-breaking ceremony for the ₱550,000-irrigation project in barrio San Ramon in Bulan. Also at the ceremony were Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Gov. Juan Frivaldo, Rep. Salvador Encinas, and Sorsogon mayors.

Arriving at the irrigation dam site about 8 o'clock this morning, the President found a large group of farmers who crowded around him and took turns in shaking his hand. He spent some 20 minutes chatting with them and inquiring into the needs of their communities.

Expected to be completed in four months, the irrigation system will service some 800 hectares and benefit about 600 families whose palay crop would be increased by an estimated 28,500 cavans. The ceremony also featured the President's lowering the steel capsule containing plans and other documents on the projected irrigation dam, into the commemorative marker to be opened after a hundred years.

The President took off at the newly inaugurated Bulan airport in Sorsogon shortly before 10 a.m. today aboard the plane *Pagasa* for the return trip to Manila following a two-day tour of Albay and Sorsogon.

Upon his arrival in Manila at 11:25 this morning, President Garcia directed Acting Health Director Jesus Nolasco to dispatch anti-"flu" medicines to Sorsogon. He issued the order after he had been informed in Sorsogon that there were still "flu" cases in the province.

He was, also, informed that the influenza cases had decreased by about one-fifth.

The President also conferred with Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus. Malacañang was silent over the Gareia-Manglapus conference. It was gathered that the President discussed with Manglapus the latter's testimony before the Senate Blue Ribbon committee.

THE President likewise instructed SWA Administrator Amparo P. Villamor to send immediately to Manila for free treatment and rehabilitation two Sorsogon indigent invalids.

Julia Balanoyos, 27, and Jose Camara, 41, a near-blind woman and an amputee of both legs, respectively, met the President in the course of his visit to barrio San Ramon, Bulan, Sorsogon, where he officiated at the ground-breaking ceremony for the San Ramon irrigation project.

The President's sympathy for the indigents was drawn when he noticed them having difficulty in wading through the crowd to shake the hand of the visiting Chief Executive.

Julia is the wife of a discharged veteran. She is on the verge of blindness but her sickness can be cured if treated early. She is expected to be treated in a government hospital.

The amputee will be sent to the SWA rehabilitation center. He is a laborer who had met an accident while doing his chores.

June 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning directed the Department of Education to instruct three private universities to accommodate 600 more medical students out of those who had been refused admittance this year because of the limitation of enrollment in the various colleges of medicine.

The President issued the directive after a conference with Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., and Private Schools Director Daniel Salcedo, and announced it to a group of medical students who had been refused admittance. The medical students marched to Malacañang and sought the help of the President.

Secretary Aguilar and Director Salcedo told the President that there were about 1,000 medical students who had not been admitted for enrollment because of the limit on enrollment for medical students.

The President was informed by the education officials that only 600 more medical students could be admitted without impairing the standards set up by the various private colleges of medicine. The private universities to be directed to accommodate the additional medical students are the University of Santo Tomas, the Far Eastern University, and the Manila Central University. They will apportion the number in accordance with their facilities.

Before talking to the medical students, the President created a committee of five to choose the site for the establishment of the University of Mindanao. Initial funds for the establishment of the university in the amount of ₱500,000 is included in the 1957-58 budget.

The creation of the committee followed representations made by Sen. Domocao Alonto, Gov. Salvador Lluch of Lanao, and Iligan City Mayor Mariano Badolles. The establishment of the University of Mindanao had been authorized by law passed two years ago. Members of the committee will be representatives from the Department of Public Works and Communications, the Department of Education, the Armed Forces, the Board of National Education, and the governor of Lanao.

The President signed into law House Bill No. 6096, creating the City of Silay in the province of Negros Occidental. Present when the bill was signed were Sen. Jose Locsin, Reps. Carlos Hilado and Jose Puey, Mayor Romulo Golez of Silay, and Nicolas Ledesma.

The President also received Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., and Mariano Laurel. During his conference with the Laurels, the President rejected the resignation of Mariano Laurel from the Board of Directors of the Philippine National Bank.

Other callers of the President included Rep. Angel Castaño of Manila and the members of the Commission on Elections.

THE President in his conference with members of the Commission on Elections discussed ways and means of insuring the holding of clean, free, and honest elections.

The President and the commissioners agreed that government agencies connected with the holding of elections, such as the Constabulary and the Department of Education, send representatives to confer soon with the members of the Commission on Elections on the implementation of the President's objective of seeing to it that the coming elections be held clean, free, and honest.

Present at the conference with the President held at the Malacañang music room were Domingo Imperial, chairman, and Gaudencio Garcia and Sixto Brillantes, members.

In the course of the conference, the question of the award for the manufacture of ballot boxes as reported in the newspapers, was taken up.

The commissioners denied all charges of discrimination and other alleged anomalies aired in the newspapers in connection with the ballot boxes award. As a matter of fact, the commissioners told the President that they would seek the vindication of their honor through the courts.

In view of this information given him, the President deemed it unnecessary to take further action on the case.

THE President today directed Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus to take up with the United States Embassy the expeditious sending to the Philippines of necessary equipment to detect the possibility of any nuclear fallout in this area. The President's directive was a purely precautionary measure.

Reports reaching Malacañang have not confirmed the presence in the Philippines of nuclear fallouts. However, the President said today Filipino scientists should be fully prepared to detect such fallouts if they should ever appear in the country.

According to the Civil Defense Administration, all provincial rain water samples so far tested for possible nuclear fallouts, have revealed negative findings.

FRESHENED by a day's rest after a gruelling political drive to Albay and Sorsogon, President Garcia enplaned this afternoon for Masbate.

The President was accompanied by Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora, and Benjamin Estrella, NAMARCO general manager.

The trip was marred by a walkout of Malacañang reporters who refused to join the presidential entourage in protest against what they said was a "shabby treatment" accorded them by presidential aides in the Bicol region.

Apprised of the matter before his departure, President Garcia pointed out he would see to it that the incident would not be repeated.

Newsmen said they will join President Garcia's trip to Nueva Vizcaya tomorrow.

The President took off at 1:30 p.m. and reached Masbate at 3:45 p.m. after a bumpy ride through inclement weather and cloudy skies.

The President was given a rousing reception at the Masbate airport by a large crowd headed by Gov. Jesus Almer and Rep. Mateo Pecson. President Garcia for the first time was "mobbed" by the crowd.

He conferred with national, provincial, and municipal officials and listened to their problems. At the same time these officials pledged to support his candidacy in the coming elections.

The President stayed at the residence of Mrs. Otila Vda. de Legaspi in Masbate. Mrs. Legaspi is a relative of the governor.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, the First Lady, accompanied the President to the airport.

When the presidential plane Pagasa was warming up, Secretary Moreno showed up at the Nichols Air Base and shouted to the pilots to allow him to board the aircraft Moreno had been previously reported missing aboard a Cessna plane.

IN the evening at a huge rally held at Masbate's Plaza Rizal the Chief Executive was lustily cheered as he reiterated his pledged to carry on the program of the Administration enunciated by the late President Magsaysay, particularly the upliftment of the people in the rural areas. He recalled that Masbate had always supported the Nacionalistas and expressed-hope this island province would continue to do so.

June 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia ordered the NARIC to dispatch rice to Masbate with the view to replenishing the island province, limited supply and lowering the price of this prime commodity in that area.

The President gave the order following his visit to the public market of Masbate capital this morning shortly before he boarded the PAF plane *Pagasa* for the return trip to Manila. On his way to the Masbate airport, after an overnight stay in the town, the Chief Executive dropped by the capital's market, where he found that rice was selling for as high as ₱1.50 a ganta.

The President also told the people of Masbate he would release the amount of ₱100,000 for the construction of a seawall in Masbate. This was due to representations made by Masbate Mayor Benjamin Magallanes, who informed the President that the town was being eaten up by the sea.

The Chief Executive was back in Manila about 10:45 a.m.

THE President this morning signed into law H. B. No. 7312, amending the law for charity sweepstakes races and lotteries.

Under the amended law, the general manager of the sweepstakes office shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and he can be removed or suspended only for cause as provided by law. He shall have the direction and control of the office in all matters which are not specifically reserved for action by the board.

This is interpreted to mean that the office of the general manager will be free from political interference.

Present at the signing in the bill were Executive Secretary Fortunate de Leon; Eugenio E. Santos, general manager; Dr. Luis Alandy, general field supervisor; and Fabio Yatco, secretary of the committee on races.

The President signed the bill a few minutes after arrival from his inspection trip to Masbate.

THE President also signed a proclamation declaring Wednesday, June 19, 1957, as a special public holiday. This year's June 19 celebration is the 96th birthday of Jose Rizal.

In his proclamation the President said it was desirable that the people be afforded full opportunity to celebrate the day with appropriated ceremonies in keeping with Rizal's ideals.

AFTER lunch President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the International Airport to join in the reception for the remains of Mrs. Corazon Locsin-Montelibano, wife of the former NEC Chairman Alfredo Montelibano, which arrived from Honolulu. It was transferred to a plane for Bacolod City. The President and the First Lady were accompanied by Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff.

From the airport the President motored to the residence of the widow of the late Chief Justice Ramon Avanceña to extend personally his condolences. The President had earlier wired a message of condolence in which he had said that the late jurist had helped "enrich in no small measure Philippine legal jurisprudence." The President added that Avanceña's official behavior was of a type worthy of emulation by all public servants."

IN the evening the President addressed the Georgetown University Alumni Association at the Philippine Columbian Clubhouse.

President Garcia expressed confidence this afternoon he could still prevail on Sen, Gil J. Puyat to withdraw and allow him to run unopposed for the Nacionalista presidential nomination.

Puyat has remained steadfast in his decision to contest the party nomination with the President, following the withdrawals made by Sens. Jose P. Laurel and Quintin Paredes.

But the Chief Executive told his-press conference in Malacañang this afternoon that he had a "formula" with which he/could convince the Pampanga senator to retire from the presidential race in his favor.

Withholding further comment, he said, "I am .not in a position to reveal what, that formula is at the moment."

The President appeared nonplussed over Sen. Laurel's denial he had withdrawn from the presidential race.

However, by way of comment on the Batangas senator's latest statement that he has not counted himself out of the race, the President said he even called Laurel by telephone yesterday to thank him for his withdrawal and "Laurel acknowledged my gratitude."

The President was referring to a published report yesterday which quoted a spokesman of the Laurel, "family council" as announcing the the senator's withdrawal to allow his son, Speaker Laurel, Jr., to seek the NP nomination.

After reading the report, the President indicated he telephoned Laurel to express his gratitude for withdrawing in his favor.

At the same time, the Chief Executive denied he has picked the Speaker as his running mate in the coming presidential elections.

"My position is clear on that matter," the President said, "and, as I have already stated, the question of the vice-presidency should be left to the convention to decide."

He said he could not deviate from the usual procedure of allowing the party convention to select his teammate. He added he would accept whoever was chosen by the convention.

The President also said he was "happy" over Sen. Paredes' announcement that he had given up his presidential bid, and expressed his gratitude to the Abra senator.

June 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received the first public pledge of support from Sen. Quintin Paredes, who sounded a general appeal to his political leaders and admirers in the Cagayan Valley to rally behind the Chief Executive in the forthcoming November elections.

At a mammoth rally held in Solano, Nueva Vizcaya, this noon, Sen. Paredes who had accompanied the President in a flying visit to that province today, said he had withdrawn his candidacy in favor of President Garcia because he thought that the latter who was already in office would be more in a position to help the country than himself, who would still be starting if elected President.

The Abra senator, who spoke extemporaneously in Ilocano, started his speech by saying he had readily accepted the invitation of President Garcia to accompany him in the trip to Nueva Vizcaya because of his desire to explain to the people in the North why he had decided to withdraw from the presidential race. He urged his followers to give President Garcia a full term within which to carry out the good plans he had for the country, particularly that of continuing the program of the late President Magsaysay.

Other speakers were Govs. Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, and Mariano Tajonera of Mindoro Occidental, who all assured the Chief Executive of overwhelming victory in their respective provinces in the November, elections.

In speeches delivered at Bagabag and later at Solano, Nueva Vizcaya, the President, in turn, thanked the people for the enthusiastic reception accorded him and his party. He reiterated his pledge to keep building feeder roads, irrigation systems, schoolhouses, artesian wells, waterworks and other public, improvements, especially in the rural areas.

Accompanied by Sen. Paredes, Rep. Leonardo Perez, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Acting Health Secretary Rafael Tumbokon, Hospitals Director Tranquilino Elicaño, and Gov. Tajonera, the President arrived at the Bagabag airport in Nueva Vizcaya aboard the PAF plane *Pagasa* after more than one hour's trip from Manila.

On hand to welcome the presidential party was a large delegation of local officials headed by Gov. Espino, Board Members Alejandro Silapan, Eficio Acosta, and mayors;

Then, at the head of a long motorcade, the President proceeded to Bayombong, making stops at Bagabag and Solano where public rallies were held and where he inaugurated the Magsaysay Highway, the Magsaysay Horseshoe Drive, and the ₱2 million grain elevator of the Nueva Vizcaya Federation of the EACOMAs.

At Solano the President also laid the cornerstone of a new municipal hall and stood sponsors at the christening of Baby Josephine Espino, daughter of the governor. Other sponsors were Sen. Paredes, Secretary Balao, Judge Jose R. de Venecia, fiscal Juari Aquino, and Engineer Julio Tongson.

The President and his party had lunch at 1:30 p.m. at the country home of Gov. Espino in barrio Sinafal, Solano. In the afternoon, after visiting the provincial hospital, the St. Mary's College, the capitol, and other public buildings at Bayombong, the President took off at 5:30 p.m. at the Bagabag airport, Arriving in Manila about 7 p.m.

Those who saw the President off at the Nueva Vizcaya airfield included municipal mayors headed by the president of the Nueva Vizcaya mayors league, who presented him with a resolution pledging their support in the coming elections.

PRESIDENT Garcia said today he will consult with the Cabinet on the fourpoint Japanese demands for "most-favored-nation" treatment of its nationals in doing business with the Philippines.

He told newsmen at Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya, that he had decided to take up the Japanese demands at the Cabinet meeting on June 26 owing to unofficial reports that Japan had poised retaliatory measures against the Philippines for allegedly "dilly-dallying" in current negotiations for a trade treaty.

However, President Garcia said that the Japanese charge d'affaires here had scotched the persistent dispatches from Tokyo on the alleged reprisals.

President Garcia also said that he plans to call his Cabinet to a meeting this morning. He had not met the Cabinet this week as he was in Masbate last Wednesday.

During an impromptu press conference with newsmen who accompanied him, the President also:

1. Said that he will not seek a reconsideration of the Cabinet decision opening public schools on June 10, despite reports that 12 Bohol school children died of relapses shortly after attending classes;
2. Called former Speaker Jose Yulo Liberal Party presidential aspirant, as a "spokesman of America;"

3. Disclosed he jestingly made overtures with Sen. Claro M. Recto at their chance meeting at the airport last Thursday to withdraw in his favor for the NP presidential nomination;
4. Announced the extension of the railroad lines to Aparri, Cagayan passing through Nueva Vizcaya and Isabela;
5. Said Sen. Quintin Paredes, who had withdrawn in his-favor, would “make a good vice-presidential running mate,” but that he would prefer to leave the matter up to the NP convention to decide; and
6. Hinted he might ask the Constabulary to police the elections, but he might dispense with the services of the ROTC cadets.

June 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning said he would go hard on all hoarders of prime commodities whose prices have been jacked-up and would see to it that those guilty of hoarding and profiteering get the full penalty of the law.

The President added that he was set to adopt strong measures in order to protect consumers against the unreasonable spiralling of prices of essential articles.

President Garcia today called a special Cabinet meeting jointly with officials having to do with implementing economic policies to be held at 5 p.m. Monday at the Malacañang Council of State room.

At the Cabinet meeting the President will discuss the adoption of stern measures to prevent hoarding of, and profiteering on, prime articles such as rice, corn, and sugar. The Chief Executive said he could not see justification for the jacked-up prices, for instance, of sugar of which there is an abundant local supply.

The President will also reconcile conflicting views of officials in charge of implementing economic policies and soon thereafter lay down the line to be followed after a thorough discussion of the subject matter.

The Cabinet will also take up the most-favored-nation clause relation of the proposed trade agreement between the Philippines and; Japan. The purely trade aspects of the agreement will be left for the technical panels to discuss.

President Garcia today ordered the lifting of Constabulary control over the towns of Mariveles, Bacaan, and of Naic, Cavite.

The President gave the order upon recommendation of Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal, PC chief; Govs. Delfin N. Montano of Cavite and Emilio Naval of Bataan; and Lt. Col. Laureano Marana and Maj. Simplicio Cristobal, PC provincial commanders, respectively, of the two provinces.

THE President this day directed the NARRA to attend to the immediate needs of government settlers in Masbate who were reportedly suffering from food shortage due to crop failure in their farms last planting season.

The President gave the directive following receipt of a petition from the settlers whom he recently visited in Masbate, informing him of some of the pressing problems in the settlement. After going over the petition, the President ordered George U. Alba, NARRA assistant general manager:

- (1) To continue rice rations for those settlers urgently in need until after the next harvest;
- (2) To provide materials for the construction of a two-room school-house in the settlement;
- (3) To dispatch additional seed palay to the settlers this planting season;
- (4) To purchase eight carabaos so as to provide all settlers with work animals;

(5) To coordinate with the Bureau of Lands with the view to expediting investigation and settlement of existing land conflicts affecting the settlement area; and

(6) To proceed to the settlement to look into other problems and other needs of the settlers.

The Chief Executive was informed that school facilities available in the area were not adequate to meet the requirements of the settlers' children. In ordering that materials be provided for a two-room schoolhouse, he appealed to the settlers that they provide the necessary labor as the government had very limited funds for the purpose.

The President was also informed that owing to the dry spell and the late rains, seed palay previously provided the settler-farmers did not germinate well. Aside from sending additional seed palay, the Chief Executive instructed Alba to provide coconut seedlings for permanent crop planting which is said to be highly suitable for the soil in the settlement area.

President Garcia said that he would request relief agencies to allocate clothing donations for the needy in the Masbate settlement project.

THE President this morning received at his study room members of the Cavite Mayors' League who pledged their support to his election bid.

Headed by Bacoor Mayor Benigno E. Guinto, the mayors presented a resolution which stated their "unqualified support" for the Chief Executive's election bid.

Then the President received American insurance men who consulted him on legislative matters affecting their business. Accompanied by Edward M. Milans, commercial attache of the U. S. Embassy, the group was composed of Robert A. Warren, Insurance Company of North America; Arthur Henderson, president, American Underwriters for the Philippines, Inc.; Victor Bello, American Farm Insurance Association; and Counsellor Charles Hodge of the U. S. Embassy.

Rep. Miguel Cuenco of Cebu accompanied three prominent educators, namely, Chancellor Jose M. Hernandez, Dr. Norberto de Ramos, and Francisco Cuerva, who presented a petition signed by prominent citizens supporting the approval of a bill regarding the teaching of additional Spanish units in all colleges and universities. After hearing their oral arguments, the President told the group that he would study the matter.

Then the President received Ilocos Sur Gov. Pedro Singson Reyes, who accompanied town officials of Cervantes, Ilocos Sur. The group, aside from asking funds for public works improvement, also requested the President's intervention regarding the boundary controversy in that area.

The President also received J. N. Morales, president of a corporation bearing that name, who, accompanied officials of the company. They presented a scroll expressing their support of the Administration's economic policies.

The President received callers until 1:30 p.m.

SEVENTEEN agreements were signed this afternoon by President Garcia, representing the Philippine Government, and Stanley Gilbert, manager, Philippine Office of Alien Property, covering the transfer to the Philippine Government of most of the property remaining in the custody of the Philippine Office of Alien Property of the U.S. Department of Justice. U.S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen witnessed the signing of the agreements.

The property transfer marks the closing phase of a program begun almost two years ago, based on an agreement between the two governments, providing that property of enemy aliens in the Philippines vested in the Alien Property Custodian, was to be administered for the benefit of the Philippine Government, and that the property or the proceeds thereof were to be transferred to the Philippine Government as rapidly as claims were disposed of,

litigation concluded, and administrative costs paid. Numerous previous transfers of property and cash have been made throughout the period of operation of this program.

Property transferred today includes 10,666,666 shares of Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co., bonds, interest in the salvage value of 136 ships, a tract of land for a railroad line with estimated area of more than 1,000,000 square meters, residential and commercial lands, and more than 1,800 items of personal property.

In his remarks regarding the transfer, Ambassador Bohlen praised the smoothness and efficiency with which the complex task has been done, calling it “an example of the cooperation which has characterized the relations between our two governments.”

The American Ambassador added that although the property transferred was of great value, the principle of cooperation under which the program had been carried out was of even more importance. He said: “It shows what can be done when two governments undertake to solve a problem so complex, in a spirit of mutual goodwill.”

President Garcia in response said that the transfer was made possible “only by the existence of the closest ties of friendship and of mutual interest and trust which bind our two nations together whether in times of war or of peace.”

Concluding, President Garcia said that the spirit of goodwill which gave rise to the agreements was even of greater importance to the Philippines than the properties transferred, for “it testifies in no small measure to the deep and abiding interest which the government and people of the United States feel towards the welfare and prosperity of the Filipino people.”

The Philippine Office of Alien Property will be closed on June 30, 1957, and the small amount of work remaining to be done will be handled from the Office of Alien Property, Washington, D.C. Two Manila attorneys, Juan T. Santos and Lino M. Patajo, will continue to represent the U.S. attorney general in litigations still pending in the Philippines. After litigation and claims are disposed of, further transfers will be made.

Among other officials present at the ceremonies were Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus, Minister Tomas de Castro, Counsellor Juan M. Arreglado, Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Appointments Secretary Rolando Kagaoan, Maj. Jose Estrella, Protocol Chief Jose Estrada, Protocol Officer Monico Vicente, Chief of Treaty Division, Enrique Bautista, and Board of Liquidators officials Eladio E. Enriquez, Mariano V. Ruiz, and Bartolome Fernandez.

Minister Horace Smith, Counsellor William Walker, Stanley Gilbert, and Richard Ely of the American Embassy were also present.

After the signing of the documents, Mr. Gilbert handed to President Garcia the certificates of the shares of stock of the Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co.

The ceremonies were held at the Malacañang Council of State room from 5:10 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Month in Review: June 16-30, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

June 16.— AFTER breakfast with the First Lady in Malacañang, the President motored to Pier 5 and hoarded the yacht *Santa Maria*.

While the President was in his yacht, the First Lady proceeded to Fulgueras, Tondo, where she was guest of honor at the annual fiesta of that district.

President Garcia tackled today the controversial Senate Bill No. 167. The President stayed aboard the *Santa Maria* and studied carefully the controversial bill.

The President denied reports: from opponents of the bill that he had already made up his mind to return the measure to Congress. He was alone as he went over the merits of the measure.

President Garcia also studied House Bill No. 3635, otherwise known as the Spanish bill.

THE President ordered his yacht docked near Mariveles where he had his lunch.

June 17.—UPON arrival at 9 a.m. this day in Malacañang from the yacht *Sta. Maria*, where he had worked on state matters the whole day yesterday, the President directly proceeded to the Palace porch, where he had breakfast with provincial officials of Agusan.

Discussed at the breakfast were vital public improvements of Agusan. Among those present during the breakfast were Gov. Felisberto Dagani, Eep. Guillermo Sanchez, and Democrito O. Plaza. Also present were civic leaders from Butuan City.

President Garcia this morning received the letter of credence of Morio Yukawa, the new Japanese ambassador to the Philippines, in a ceremony held at Malacañang.

Ambassador Yukawa replaces Ambassador Koichiro Asakai, who had been recalled to the home office.

In presenting his letter of credence, the new Japanese envoy said that the Japanese Emperor had always in mind the vital importance of promoting friendly relations between the Philippines and Japan. He added that the Japanese emperor had "commanded me especially to serve for such end."

In his responses the President assured Ambassador Yukawa the full cooperation of the Philippine Government "to insure the success of your mission for the benefit of our two peoples."

Ambassador Yukawa was escorted to the ceremonial hall by Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo and Major Jose Estrella, presidential aides.

Arriving at Malacañang grounds at 10:30 a.m., Ambassador Yukawa was given military honors by a unit of Company "C" of the Presidential Guards Battalion.

After presenting his credentials, the new Japanese ambassador was introduced by Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus to Filipino officials who were present during the ceremony; namely, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., Acting Labor Secretary Agapito Braganza, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Romualdez, Executive Secretary Forturiato de Leon, Acting Economic Coordination Administrator Juan Concon, Budget

Commissioner Dominador Aytona, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora, and Minister Tomas de Castro.

After receiving Ambassador Morio Yukawa, the new Japanese envoy to the Philippines, the President received at his study room heads of different missions from Spanish-speaking countries who donated books written in Spanish by noted authors of their respective countries, for the personal library of the Chief Executive.

Accompanied by Foreign Affairs Protocol Chief Jose Estrada, the group was composed of Spanish Ambassador Francisco Javier Conde, Argentine Minister Rogelio Tristany, and Consuls Jose del Prado, Ricardo Padilla, Pat Dayrit, and Eduardo Silva of Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, and Nicaragua, respectively.

THE President today proclaimed July 13 and 14, 1957, as Philippine National Soap Box Derby days.

The Philippine National Soap Box Derby is being sponsored by local business firms and will be held in Quezon City July 13 and 14 this year.

In his proclamation the President said that, in the holding of the derby, the youth of the country would compete in the spirit of true sportsmanship in this race of hand-made gravity-propelled racers built by boys in accordance with official Soap Box Derby rules.

The President also said that this event would bring about a sense of comradeship among civic organizations, business houses, and individuals, "all working for the welfare of our youth, developing friendship, goodwill, and cooperation."

The proclamation also said that one of the principal purposes of the holding of the derby was to stimulate ingenuity and enterprise among the youth of the country,

THE Cabinet, in a five-hour meeting in the evening, shelved a four-point Japanese demand for "most-favored-nation" treatment of its nationals doing business in the Philippines and directed the PI panel to carry on its negotiations with its Japanese counterpart in drafting a trade agreement with Japan.

It was understood that the negotiations would skip the Japanese demands.

In shelving the four-point Japanese demands, the Cabinet pointed out that to adopt them in the proposed trade agreement would give it the character of a treaty. This treaty, it was added, would require Senate ratification.

During the special Cabinet meeting the President attempted in vain to reconcile the conflicting views of government economists in an effort to resolve their controversies.

President Garcia did not commit himself on the disputes between Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno and Arsenio J. Jison, president of the Philippine National Bank, but he virtually upheld the National Rice and Corn Corporation in its dispute with the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration.

A Malacañang spokesman said the President listened to the conflicting views of Cuaderno and Jison. However, the discussions were said to be "preliminary."

It was hinted that talks would be resumed some other time, before the President announces his decision.

A Malacañang spokesman said President Garcia decided to continue with the late President Magsaysay's policy in upholding the NARIC in its rice dispute with the ACCFA.

NARIC sources pointed out that the rice agency had always followed Magsaysay's rice policy which had been criticized by Col. Osmundo Monnoñedo, ACCFA administrator.

In upholding the "Magsaysay rice policy" the President said the NARIC should continue with its price of ₱.85 a ganta of the Macan No. 2 variety.

The Macan No. 2 variety is rice mixture composed of the imported Super A-1 and the Macan No. 3.

Mondoñedo had opposed the importation of the Super A-1 and its mixture with the Macan variety, as this competes heavily with the products of the local farmers.

The President, however, told Mondoñedo that he would soon adopt measures which would serve as incentives to rice producers to increase their output, despite the sale of the cheap Macan No. 2 variety.

The President assured Mondoñedo that these incentives would be endorsed to Congress for legislative implementation.

Malacañang said the President counseled the government economist against carrying on their debates in the newspapers. He said the discussions should be confined within board meetings in order not to affect price stability of prime commodities.

The President had previously traced the artificial increase in the price of prime commodities to the long drawn debates among government economists.

In announcing the discussions between Cuaderno and Jison, Malacañang said the President asked them to explain their views.

Cuaderno pointed out that he had defended the actions of the Central Bank.

Jison, on other hand, said that he had criticized the CB policies which had failed to improve the dollar reserves of the country despite eight years of exchange controls.

Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, and Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto Laguio joined the discussions.

The discussions touched on exchange controls, bond issues, public borrowing, and the public development program.

Aytona told newsmen this evening he did not side with anybody but defended the administration policy as contained in the President's budget message to Congress.

President Garcia called members of Congress to a special meeting to study the Japanese demands for favorable treatment of its nationals engaged in business in the country.

He had also invited Cuaderno, Jison, Mondoñedo, Gov. Juan O. Chioco, chairman of the NARIC board of directors, and Vicente R. Concepcion, acting general manager of the rice agency.

The meeting started at 5:30 p.m. and broke up shortly before 11 o'clock in the evening.

THE President adjourned the Cabinet meeting as he was scheduled to go to the airport to meet his daughter, Linda, and his son-in-law, Fernando Campos, who returned from a two-week honeymoon to Hongkong and Japan.

June 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia was lustily cheered by the people of Capiz as he reiterated his determination to carry out the policies of the Nacionalista administration auspiciously started by the late President Magsaysay.

In speeches delivered at the Roxas City rally at noon and in President Roxas town in the afternoon, the President was roundly applauded as he enumerated the details of the Nacionalista program which he said he intended to continue to a happy conclusion.

The President arrived at the Loctugan airfield at 9:35 a.m. today. He was met by a large crowd headed by Govs. Jose Dinglasan of Capiz and Mariano Peñaflorida of Iloilo.

From the airport the President proceeded to the church of Roxas City for the *Te Deum* sung by the Vicar general of Capiz diocese. Afterwards, the President laid the cornerstone of the projected ₱650,000 airfield, visited the provincial hospital, and then spoke at the rally held at the public plaza which lasted until 1:30 p.m.

The President then motored to Rep. Carmen Dinglasan-Consing's residence in Hacienda Esperanza for lunch, and later conferred with local officials.

The President took off at 6 p.m. for Manila under a driving rain. The newsmen's plane was unable to take off owing to engine trouble.

June 19.—THIS morning the President received at his study room Leon Chatelain, Jr., president of the American Institute of Architects, who paid a courtesy call;

Mr. Chatelain is guest of the Philippine Institute of Architects. He was accompanied to Malacañang by officers of the PIA, including Francisco V. Fajardo, president, and Edmundo Lucero, Jose Ma. Zaragoza, and Mr. and Mrs. Conrado Espejo. Mrs. Chatelain was also present during the call.

Then the President received officers and members of the Knights of Rizal who paid a courtesy call in connection with the 96th birthday celebration of the national hero.

Headed by H. B. Reyes, supreme commander of the Knights of Rizal, the group thanked the Chief Executive for signing Proclamation No. 418, authorizing the lease of a lot for the use of their organization.

AFTERWARDS the President motored to the Independence Memorial Grandstand on the Luneta, where he delivered the main speech on Rizal's 96th birthday anniversary.

In his speech, the President said Rizal was entitled to be recognized by all the world as the father of Asian nationalism. The program, of which the President was the guest speaker, was sponsored by the National Youth Congress of the Philippines.

President Garcia in his speech advocated a new and constructive approach to Dr. Jose Rizal through a greater and deeper understanding of his life and work in order to "free him at last from the perennial controversies to which we have unwittingly subjected his memory, and establish him in his final exalted place, not only in our history but also in the history of all mankind."

In advocating a new and constructive approach to Rizal, the President said that we should adjust our attitude to Rizal by:

- (a) Adopting a more human and rational approach to the national hero;
- (b) Understanding the martyr's thoughts and ideas in their true historical contexts; and

(c) Evaluating his ideals and deeds in terms of their positive and significant consequences to the history of humanity.

The President was given the Distinguished Order of Rizal medal by the National Youth Congress of the Philippines for his distinguished public service and demonstrated leadership. The award was conferred on the President by Dr. Dominador S. la Madrid and Dr. Sofia Prudenciado, president and vice-president, respectively, of the youth congress.

The President also awarded medals to five young people for youth leadership. The awardees were Miss Corazon Yamzon of Negros Occidental, Antonio Tupaz of Agusan, Luis Villafuerte of Camarines Sur, Augusto Abogado of Samar, and Datu Conte Mangelen of Cotabato.

Accompanied by his aide, Maj. Jose Estrella, the President arrived at the grandstand about 9:30 a.m. The President proceeded to the platform where he was flanked by Executive Secretary Fortunate de Leon, Indian Minister Maj. Gen. Mahindra Chopra, Civil Defense Administrator Alfredo Eugenio, Dr. La Madrid, and Dr. Prudenciado.

IN the afternoon the President signed into law House Bill No. 6584, outlawing the Communist Party of the Philippines.

The signing of the bill took place at impressive ceremonies at the Malacañang social hall, attended by sponsors of the bill and members of both Chambers of Congress headed by Rep. Joaquin Rocas of Manila and Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez, principal sponsors of the bill in the House and the Senate, respectively, Cabinet members, members of the diplomatic corps headed by Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, defense and Armed Forces officials headed by Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao and Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, and various civic organizations identified against communism.

After signing the bill, the President in a prepared statement said that the passage of the law “reaffirms the position which our government has taken, and will take, vis-a-vis communism: a firm, unequivocal, and uncompromising stand against freedom’s most odious and implacable foe.”

“With this law,” the President said, “our people have not only officially made the fight against communism a matter of national policy but we have also acquired a potent weapon in the fight against subversion.”

He added: “In this vigorous and reasoned counter-offensive to communist aggression, I feel that we are serving the cause of the Free World as well as our own best interests”

However, the President emphasized that it was to the credit of the champions of civil rights in Congress that necessary safeguards were made such that the legitimate exercise of citizens of their rights should remain inviolate. He pointed out that “What the present law punishes is not dissent or heresy but subversion and conspiracy.”

The President said further: “I assure lovers of freedom and democracy’s friends everywhere that during my incumbency as President of the Republic of the Philippines, I shall not only see to it that the anti-communist program of my illustrious predecessor, Ramon Magsaysay, will remain intact, but I shall also push it through with the same dedication and with unrelenting vigor.”

The law, known as the Anti-Subversion Act, declares the Communist Party of the Philippines as an organized conspiracy to overthrow the government of the Republic for the purpose of establishing a totalitarian regime and placing the government under the control and domination of an alien power.

Under this Act, the term “Communist Party of the Philippines” shall mean and include the Communist Party and its military arm, the Hukbalahaps, and any successors of such organizations.

The Act provides that whoever knowingly, willfully, and by overt acts, affiliates himself with, becomes, or remains a member of the Communist Party, shall be punished by the penalty of *arresto mayor* and shall be disqualified permanently from holding public office and from exercising the right to vote.

In case of a second conviction, the principal penalty shall be *prision correccional*, and in all subsequent convictions the penalty of *prision mayor* shall be imposed; any alien convicted shall be deported immediately after serving his sentence.

The law further provides that if such member is an officer or a ranking leader of the Communist Party, or if such member takes up arms against the government, he shall be punished by *prision mayor* to death with all the necessary penalties provided therefor in the Revised Penal Code,

It is further provided that one who conspired with any other person to overthrow the government by force, violence, deceit, subversion, or other illegal means, for the purpose of placing such government or political subdivision under the control and domination of any alien power, shall be punished by *prision correccional* to *prision mayor* with all the necessary penalties provided therefor.

The President signed five copies of the bill, each time with different groups: first, with the sponsors of the bill and with members of both Chambers of Congress: second, with the foreign diplomatic corps which was in full attendance; third, with the officials of the Department of National Defense and the Armed Forces; fourth, with Cabinet members; and fifth, with different civic organizations known for their anti-communist stand.

Among the solons present were Sens. Pelaez, Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez and Pedro Sabido; Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez; House Majority Floor Leader Arturo M. Tolentino, Reps. Roces of Manila, Erasmo Cruz of Bulacan, Celestino Juan of Nueva Ecija, and Delfin Albano of Isabela, Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol, who is one of the outspoken spokesmen against communism, was present. Govs. Alejo Santos of Bulacan and Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija were also present.

President Garcia this afternoon, before signing the Anti-Communist bill, directed Land Tenure Administration Chairman Manuel Castañeda to speed up the implementation of the land tenure law in order to bring to full realization the late President Magsaysay's land reform program.

The President gave this directive in the course of the call of land tenure administration officials who informed the President of the progress of the work of their office. Other officials with Castañeda were Commissioners Julian de Vera and Numeriano Fabie.

In the course of their call Castañeda and the two commissioners urged the President to veto Senate Bill 644. They said that the bill would give preference to leasees instead of actual occupants of the land and this would retard the progress of the land program of the administration.

The President said that he would study the matter carefully.

June 20. —PRESIDENT Garcia today mobilized three government agencies and the Philippine National Red Cross to send aid immediately to Cauayan, Isabela, which was razed by fire at 2 a.m. this day.

On board the Navy speedboat *Alert*, where he is studying the bills passed by Congress in the recent regular session, the President was informed by the Cauayan mayor of the fire. The town mayor estimated the damage at ₱1 million.

The President ordered the Social Welfare Administration, the NARIC, and the PNRC to dispatch aid to the fire victims immediately. He directed the Department of Health to send medical teams to Cauayan to look after the health conditions there.

The President also directed Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal, Constabulary chief, to fly to the fire area and report immediately on the extent of the damage.

THE President stayed aboard the *Alert* this morning and later moved to the yacht *Sta. Maria*, where he busied himself going over the bills passed by the Congress waiting for his final action. In order that he could concentrate on the study of the bills, he did not receive any callers the whole day.

The President this day signed around 150 minor bills which are of local interest; such as, those changing the names of towns and barrios or creating new barrios from sitios. With the President the whole day were Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, Appointments Secretary Rolando Kagawan, and Maj. Jose Estrella.

The President worked on the bills in his bedroom.

Members of the interdepartmental committee chairmanned by Justice Undersecretary Jesus Barrera boarded the *Sta. Maria* about noon time and discussed bills which needed further study before final action of the President. The committee used the ship's saloon for their workshop.

THE President today accepted the resignation of Manuel J. Gonzale, chairman of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes board of directors.

Simultaneously, the President called for ACCFA Administrator Osmundo Mondoñedo to explain the latter's resigning anew as ACCFA chief.

A Malacañang spokesman said that the Mondoñedo resignation had been wired from Cotabato, and had been based on a press statement attributed to Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, charging Mondoñedo with disloyalty to the Administration.

The spokesman underscored the fact that Rep. Cabangbang had not been authorized to issue such a statement. The truth of the matter, the spokesman continued, is that the ACCFA has been and continues to be one of the main concerns of President Garcia.

The spokesman recalled that, only recently, the President had directed the release of ₱7,500,000 for the ACCFA's purchase of fertilizers as assistance to farmers.

On three occasions, the spokesman added, the President had personally asked Congress leaders to approve *in toto* the ACCFA's fiscal needs of ₱10 million. This sum was approved by the Congress and will be due for release after July 1.

The spokesman pointed out that as of October 11, 1956, the total budgetary releases to the ACCFA had already amounted to ₱30 million. In addition, about ₱39,600,000 in the form of loans had been released to the ACCFA.

The late President Magsaysay had asked Congress for ₱10 million from the general funds for the ACCFA in 1955, and a similar amount for the next year. The spokesman said that President Magsaysay's program for the ACCFA was being implemented when President Garcia personally indorsed this financial program.

Congressional support was also sought by the President for two other government corporations; namely, the NARIC and the NAMARCO, the spokesman said.

The first government corporation visited by President Garcia when he took over the reins of government-was the ACCFA, the spokesman recalled.

June 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today continued going over pending bills in an effort to meet the deadline at midnight tomorrow for his action on them.

The President kept himself secluded aboard the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* as he waded through hundreds of measures approved in the fourth and last session of the Third Congress.

A Malacañang spokesman said the President stayed up to midnight, mulling over the bills.

He woke up early and had his breakfast at 7:30 a.m. He immediately plunged into work, assisted by Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon and Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable.

THE President shied away from callers in order that he may not be disturbed. Delegations were reported to have sought audience with the President today. They went to Malacañang, to the presidential landing at the Luneta, and at Pier 5 in an effort to board the *Santa Maria*.

The President often stayed in his cabin to have privacy as he went over the bills. He had lunch at 1 p.m.

After a short nap, the President resumed his study of the bills. At 4 o'clock he had merienda consisting of a cup of coffee and *camote* fritters.

The President did not observe any let-up in his cramming. He ate supper at 9 p.m. and stayed up until past midnight.

THIS morning the President signed into law 50 bills passed in the recent regular session of Congress.

Among the 50 bills signed by the President on board the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* were:

- (1) H. B. No. 2156, increasing the number of letter carriers in Manila by 200 and granting them an extra allowance of ₱1.00 a day each;
- (2) H. B. No. 2742, requiring the printing and issue of semi-postal stamps for raising funds for the Philippine Tuberculosis Society; and
- (3) H. B. 4407, appropriating the amount of ₱10,000 for expenses in locating the remains of the late Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos in Mindanao and transferring the same to Pampanga or any other place the family of the late Chief Justice may decide for enshrinement.

According to H. B. No. 2742, the proceeds from the sale of the semi-postal stamps will be deposited in the national treasury as a special fund for the Philippine Tuberculosis Society. The Director of Posts was directed by the new law to order such semi-postal stamps of different dominations yearly from the period August 19 to September 30.

PRESIDENT Garcia tonight signed Senate Bill No. 64., extending the benefit of the five-day, 40-hour, a week of labor to government employees. A similar bill had been presented in Congress some four years ago. However, it did not go through despite enthusiastic endorsements of government employees. Resolution and endorsements had unanimously been passed by the annual conventions of Philippine Government Employees Association (PGEA) in 1950 and 1952.

The effectivity of the new law and the office hours will be fixed by the President in an executive order in accordance with the law's provisions. The executive order will be issued by the President later.

Other bills signed into law by the President tonight were:

(1) H. B. 5042, providing for the re-establishment and rehabilitation of the railroad line from Plandel, Bulacan, to Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija, and appropriating ₱3,800,000 for the purpose;

(2) H. B. 5043, increasing the annual vacation leaves of judges of courts of first instance from one to two months; and

(3) H. B. No. 6844, establishing a school of nursing in the provincial hospital of Rizal and authorizing an appropriation of ₱100,000 for the purpose.

The President, as of this writing, has signed about 200 bills. A total of 493 bills were passed by the Congress in its recent regular session. The President has not acted yet on 293 bills. Deadline for him is midnight tomorrow.

June 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up early this morning aboard the yacht *Santa Maria* to go over pending measures.

With him were Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, Malacañang Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson, Gov. Juan Pajo of Bohol, Commodore Jose Francisco, Navy chief, and Col. Nicanor Jimenez.

President Garcia vetoed in the evening Senate Bill. 167 with a three-page explanation to Congress of what he said was one “of the most momentous decisions in my life.”

“I cannot affix my signature to a legislative proposition that will make the rich richer and the poor poorer,” President Garcia said as he tried to justify his action in disapproving the controversial bill.

At the same time, the President pledged to create a committee of responsible officials and leaders in business “to study ways and means of attaining the objective of the said bill in a manner generally beneficial to our national economy.”

THE President returned to Malacañang this afternoon and intended to stay at the Palace to pass upon pending bills until midnight today when the deadline for his action on them would expire.

However, he rushed back to the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* after legislators and other lobbyists besieged him with pleas for approval of their pet measures.

Malacañang said that the President, until presstime this morning, was still going over most of the vital measures, including the public works measure, the ₱1.1 billion budget, and the controversial Spanish bill.

It was learned that the President’s action on some 100 bills would not be known until tomorrow morning.

However, a Malacañang spokesman reported that the President had signed into law House bill No. 4410, providing for the allocation, re-allocation, and administration of the absolute quota on sugar.

This measure provides for annual allocation of quotas on unrefined sugar.

THE President also signed H. B. 698, which appropriated ₱100,000 for Mrs. Ramon Magsaysay as grant to the widow of the late President. The amount is tax-exempt.

Among other bills signed today were:

1. H. B. 6753 and S. B. 520, creating the Reparations Commission and prescribing the national policy in the procurement and use of such payment from Japan;

2. A bill creating an independent electoral tribunal to decide poll protests involving presidential and vice-presidential elections;
3. H. B. 6175, exempting from the payment of amusement taxes all boxing exhibitions where a world championship is at stake if one of the contenders is a Filipino;
4. S. B. 482, increasing the penalty for the crime of reckless imprudence;
5. S. B. 625, known as the Social Security Act, amending Republic Act 1.161; and
6. H. B. 6906, creating a body invested with the authority to prepare a complete program on atomic research.

The President also vetoed H. B. 5158, known as the Medical Act of 1957, which would transfer the power to appoint medical board examiners from the President to the commissioner of civil service.

President Garcia returned to Malacañang this afternoon and met newsmen who had asked for an audience in order that the Chief Executive may be able to explain his action on Senate Bill 167.

Several newsmen, the biggest number yet to gather for a presidential press conference, showed up at the meeting with the President.

Malacañang newsmen noted that there were retired American newsmen who had attended the press conference and kept applauding the Chief Executive for his action on Senate Bill 167.

There were also solons and governors who brought personally their bills for the signature of the President.

The President went down to the social hall of Malacañang after the press conference, where he met various delegations which marched to the Palace, urging approval of some bills.

Among the officials who accompanied delegations to Malacañang early in the evening were Reps. Celestino C. Juan of Nueva Ecija, Wenceslao, Rancap Lagumbay of Laguna, Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, and Leon. Guinto, Jr., and Manuel Enverga of Quezon.

Asked by newsmen what he would do if proponents of Senate Bill 167 fought him in the elections, the President replied "It's up to them to do what they want."

He pointed out that the Senate bill, which would relax control of imports, has "laudable purposes."

But, he added, that after a study of the arguments of those in favor and those against the measure, "I came to the conclusion that Senate Bill No. 167 will not lead us to the attainment of its high objectives."

He said Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, whom he had relied upon mainly in vetoing the bill, told him that "approximately \$128 million will be removed from the control and disposition of the CB."

Newsmen pointed out that 75 congressmen had endorsed the measure.

The President said, "I am aware of what I have done."

He dismissed any political significance of his action. He said Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez had urged veto of the measure.

He also recalled that Sen. Cipriano Primicias, sponsor of the bill, had changed his mind on the bill.

President Garcia continued, "I have sought the advice of our older statesmen, many of whom are members of the Council of State, our highest advisory body, members of the Cabinet, and the interdepartmental committee. An overwhelming majority of them recommended veto of this bill.

President Garcia also said yesterday he will veto partly the tariff and customs code.

After meeting large delegations who carried placards and urged approval of some bills, the Chief Executive retired to his bedroom, where he went over pending bills until midnight. However, before midnight, the President left for the *Santa Maria*, where he spent the night.

There were still a number of important measures awaiting the President's signature.

June 23.—EARLIER this morning the President heard mass at the Camp Murphy chapel. After mass he proceeded to the clubhouse, where top ranking Armed Forces officers gave a luncheon in his honor on the last day of their three-day conference. He was introduced to the conferees by Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao. Others present included Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol and Lieut Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff.

In an address delivered before the annual conference of major AFP commanders and their staffs at the officers' clubhouse in Camp Murphy this noon, the President disclosed that he had approved and directed the prompt implementation of a plan for the activation of Headquarters, Philippine Army.

The Chief Executive exhorted the conferees to allow no let up in the fight against communism. He praised the achievements of the Armed Forces, particularly those in the field, for their successful efforts to secure the country against communist assaults.

He also counselled the Armed Forces to keep away from politics and to perform their tasks with a high sense of duty when called upon to assist the Commission on Elections.

Following his luncheon engagement, the President returned to an undisclosed place where he had sought refuge early this morning to rest after a hectic three days, trying to beat the deadline provided by law within which to act on bills.

THIS evening the President signed into law House Bill No. 3635, declaring obligatory the teaching of Spanish in all courses of public and private universities and colleges in the Philippines.

In approving the bill, the President pointed out that the measure did not seek to add 24 units of Spanish to the curriculum load of students but merely to increase the load by 12 units in a period of four years. Consequently, he said, the load increase amounts to only three units per academic year or one and one-half units per semester.

"There is every reason to believe that such an increase can easily be absorbed by students without seriously impairing their academic proficiency," the President said. "There is no need of sacrificing subjects of science or there need of prolonging the course by vocational subjects, nor is there need of prolonging the course by one semester. The additional units required by the act can very well be spread over four years."

"The purpose of this act is to enable our students to read in the original the literary works of our patriots like Rizal, Palma, and Apostol," the President added.

The President beat the deadline midnight today by acting on the 493 bills approved by Congress.

Among major administration measures signed by the Chief Executive before deadline were:

(1) H. B. No. 7133, otherwise known as the appropriation bill, providing for ₱639,063,711.00 for the expenditure of the National Government from July 1, 1957 to June 30, 1953;

(2) The Public Works bill;

(3) H. B. No. 5513, entitled “An Act to Revise and Codify the Tariff and Customs Laws of the Philippines.”

(4) H. B. No. 5914 and S. B. No. 483, exempting from payment of all taxes and duties all donations in any form and importations of articles which are donations to international civic organizations, religious, and charitable institutions, and providing penalties for violations thereof;

(5) H. B. No. 5323, entitled “The Philippine Coastwise Shipping Act of 1956,” appropriating ₱20 million to finance the local construction of coastwise vessels or watercrafts of not less than 100 gross tons, to be undertaken by the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation;

(6) H. B. No. 3268 and S. B. No. 596, “An Act Strengthening Health and Dental Services in the Rural Areas”, providing for ₱450,000 for additional dental units, and ₱1 million for the creation of additional rural health units;

(7) S. B. No. 589, “An Act Authorizing the Auditor General to Reorganize the General Auditing Office and for Other Purposes.”

PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered the deportation of four aliens convicted of various crimes ranging from illegal possession of opium to robbery.

Ordered deported through the recommendation of the Deportation Board were Yee Wing, Tiu Kian, Ang Seng Sek, and So Chong Tek.

June 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia was deeply touched by the enthusiastic reception accorded him on his whistle-stop tour of Quezon province today.

In speeches delivered in Tiaong, Agdanganan, Candelaria, Lucena, Unisan, Gumaca, and Lopez towns, the President thanked the people of Quezon who had turned out *en masse* and patiently awaited him for hours in the rain and under the heat of the noonday sun.

“I will remember this as long as I live,” he said. The spontaneous enthusiasm with which the people received him in all places he visited, was held significant as the province is generally regarded as Recto’s bailiwick.

Accompanied by Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Reps. Manuel Enverga, and Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of, Laguna, and several governors, the President left the Paco railroad station in Manila by a special train at 5:30 a.m. today. The first stop was at San Pablo City where delegations headed by city officials came aboard the train to greet the Chief Executive. City Mayor Cipriano Colago said the people of his city did not know of the President’s visit, but he read about it only in the newspapers this morning.

At Tiaong, Quezon, Recto’s birthplace, the President was surprised to find a big crowd braving a drizzle which developed as the train pulled up at the station, located some two kilometers from the town proper. The people cheered heartily and waved “Elect Garcia” placards.

The presidential train which had been scheduled to reach Lopez about 12 noon was two hours late owing to numerous unscheduled stops. Moved by the warm enthusiasm shown by welcomers, the President made several barrio stops and addressed the people from the train’s rear end platform, or alighted to shake hands with rural folks.

In Lucena the President attended a *Salve* sung at the Cathedral and inaugurated the ₱35,000 nursing school built at the provincial hospital grounds.

At Gumaca the President was introduced by Mayor Mariano Tañada, who told the townspeople he might support President Garcia's election bid. Mayor Tañada is the brother of Sen. Tañada.

The President had lunch at 2 p.m. in the home of Lopez Mayor Gregorio Yumul, president of the Quezon Mayors' League. After a huge rally held at the Lopez town plaza and a conference with municipal mayors, the presidential train left Lopez for the return trip to Manila about 6 p.m. The Chief Executive was accompanied throughout the province by Gov. Leon Guinto, Sr., mayors, and other local officials, including Provincial Auditor Luis Lagdameo.

Malacañang today readied for the President's signature the draft of an executive order fixing the office hours to be observed by government employees in compliance with the provisions of the "five-day, 40-hour," week law.

Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon said that two sets of office schedules were readied for the President's final decision. One sets office hours from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, then 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The other schedule fixes the working hours from 7:30 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. De Leon said that the President will make the final decision as to which office hours will be prescribed in the executive order.

Secretary De Leon added that the new office schedule, as provided for in the new law, will take effect on July 1, 1957, after signing by the President of the proposed executive order.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia headed an audience that attended a command performance of a play presented by the Philippine Mental Health Association entitled *My Name is Legion* at the Malacañang social hall this evening. Before the curtain rose, the First Lady gave a cocktail party at the Malacañang social hall, honoring the cast of the play and officers and members of the PMHA.

The guest list included members of the Cabinet, justices of the Supreme Court and of the Court of Appeals, heads of diplomatic missions, the Archbishop of Manila, heads of other high government officials

The President was originally scheduled to attend the performance, together with the First Lady, but he could not do so because of an inspection tour of Quezon province

June 25—PRESIDENT Garcia met with party leaders at a Malacañang breakfast conference this morning and the following points were agreed upon:

(1) That the previous ban on filling of important vacancies until after the November elections would be partially lifted. The conference agreed that pending vacancies would be filled where considerations of efficiency and public interest demand it. Among the important vacancies at present existing in the government are the secretaryship of labor and the secretaryship of education, as well as those of eight additional seats in the Municipal Board of Manila provided by legislation last year.

(2) That Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson will be invited to appear before the NP Executive Committee on Friday, June 28, to present whatever case he may have against attending this meeting.

(3) That the special committee under Sen. Jose P. Laurel created to study and make recommendations on NP intramural conflicts would tackle these problems immediately.

Members of this committee are Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez, Public Works Sec Florencio Moreno, Gov. Nicanor Maronilla Seva of Albay, and J. Antonio Araneta.

The Malacañang conference took place from 8:15 to 10 a.m. Present Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Sen. Laurel, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Speaker Protempore Romualdez, House Majority Floor Leader Arturo M. Tolentino, and Press Secretary J. V. Cruz.

AFTER the breakfast conference, the President received Rep. Jose R. Nuguid and Gov. Emilio Ma. Naval of Bataan.

Nuguid questioned the proclamation of Press Secretary J. V. Cruz as the NP congressional candidate for Bataan.

The President also received members of the Garcia-for President League headed by Eugenio Micalo.

President Garcia had a closed-door conference today with Gov. Juan Pako of Bohol, the Chief Executive's political chieftain. No announcement was made of the outcome of the conference.

He also conferred Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration. He summoned Mondoñedo to Malacañang after the latter had tendered for the second time his "irrevocable" resignation from the ACCFA.

IN the afternoon, Gov. Ragael Lazatin of Pampanga headed a delegation of school teachers to Malacañang. The teachers were led by Jose C. Reyes, principal of Pampanga High School.

The teachers thanked the Chief Executive for signing H.B. 6614, appropriating ₱3,028,000 to implement the standardization of the salaries of school teachers. Also with the Pampanga delegations were members of FACOMAs in the province

The President also met large delegation from Zambales headed by Gov. Manuel Barretto and Genaro G. Magsaysay, NP congressional candidate and son-in-law of Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

The group asked the President to proclaim Magsaysay as the NP congressional candidate. President Garcia said that "if I am the official NP candidate, I will proclaim him."

The President also conferred with former Justice Secretary Roman Ozaeta and Reps. Manuel Enverga of Quezon and Ricardo Y. Ladrido of Iloilo.

June 26.—THIS morning the President signed Executive Order No. 251, prescribing the office hours to be observed in the different bureaus and offices of the government, including government-owned or controlled corporations, in accordance with the new five-day working week law. The signing was made before the Cabinet meeting started at the Council of State room.

The President set the office hours from 8 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1 to 5 p.m., from Monday to Friday, and fixed the effectivity of the new law on July 1, 1957. All government bureaus and offices, including government-owned or controlled corporations, but except schools, courts, hospitals, and health clinics, will begin observing the new law on Monday, July 1.

The President said in the executive order that, when the interests of the public service so require, the head of any department, bureau, or office may extend the daily hours of labor for any or all of the employees under him, and may likewise require any or all of them to do overtime work, not only on work days but also on holidays.

The Chief Executive signed the executive order in the presence of the officers of the Philippine Government Employees Association headed by Pedro de Guzman, Jr., president. The PGEA officers were accompanied by Rep. Serafin Salvador of Rizal, author of the new law.

The PGEA officers submitted a letter to the President conveying their thanks to him for signing into law the five-day working week bill and Senate Bill No. 664, providing for optional retirement of government employees after rendering 20 or 30 years of service, regardless of age and under certain conditions. They also thanked the Chief Executive for the restoration in the 1957—58 budget of the ₱10,200,000 salary standardization fund to implement partially the position classification and pay plans.

The PGEA officers said that the mass of government employees and workers throughout the country were highly grateful to the President and to Congress for the enactment of the new laws. The officers claimed that the two days off granted to government employees under the five-day working week law will contribute to making them better

public servants and useful citizens because they are afforded added leisure time which can be devoted to cultural reading and enhancement, healthy forms of relaxation, more opportunities for home care and family needs, and greater participation in civic and religious endeavors.

Other PGEA officials present were Gregorio A. Q. Limjoco, vice-president; Domingo F. de Vera, organization chairman; and Marcelo C. Banog, Pedro M. Hernandez, and Maximino C. Lopez, council members.

Before signing the executive order, the President received Saburo Endo, member of the Japanese Diet, who paid a courtesy call. Endo was accompanied by Rep. Jose Roy of Tarlac, columnist Teodoro Valencia, F. Fukuye, and I. Ishiguro.

The President also received Korean Minister Young Kee Kim, who bade goodbye prior to his departure for his new post in Italy. The Korean minister was accompanied to Malacañang by Jose Estrada, chief of protocol, Department of Foreign Affairs.

After signing the executive order, the President presided over the regular Cabinet meeting.

PRESIDENT Garcia and the Cabinet at their meeting this day approved in principle the draft schedule of goods and services to be procured from Japan during the second year of the implementation of the Reparations Agreement covering the period from July 23, 1957, to July 22, 1958.

The Cabinet stamped its approval on the draft schedule amounting to \$57,697,000 upon hearing a report of the National Economic Council submitted by its acting presiding officer, Eduardo Z. Romualdez.

The draft schedule is broken down as follows: government sector, \$23,997,000; private sector, \$27,700,000; and other projects, \$6,000,000.

Items for the government sector include equipment and materials for the extension of the Manila Railroad line to the Cagayan Valley, improvement and expansion of the Bureau of Telecommunications facilities, NASSCO ship building projects, Iligan steel mills, National Development Company ramie plant, ACCFA agricultural machinery and home industries, and Bureau of Agricultural Extension projects. Also included is Portland cement for government construction works.

The amount for the private sector will include reparations goods for highly essential projects; such as, shipping, logging, mineral resources development, fisheries development, and a number of industrial development projects, including the establishment of a cement plant, two ceramics plants two pulp and paper plants utilizing bagasse and other locally available raw materials, and a wire-drawing plant.

Under the item, "Other Projects", the schedule includes amounts needed for the acquisition of a site for the chancery of the Philippine Embassy and for diplomatic and consular quarters in Tokyo and Kobe. This schedule also will include amounts for paying services for processing ramie fiber sent to Japan, fertilizers, and highly essential consumer goods to be recommended by the NEC.

Other amounts are for the continuation of salvage of sunken vessels, training of Filipino technicians and craftsmen in Japan, and expenses of the reparations mission in Tokyo.

During the discussion of the draft schedule as prepared by the NEC, the President insisted that more emphasis should be given for the acquisition of reparations equipment and materials for the country's home and cottage industries.

The President also said that he had asked Minister Caesar Lanuza in Tokyo to come to Manila for consultation in connection with the implementation of the Reparation Law.

The President and the Cabinet also approved the extension for another month of the barter trade and financial agreement between the Philippines and Japan beginning on July 1, 1957.

The new one-month additional extension was approved, considering that the panels negotiating the trade agreement between Japan and the Philippines are expected to reach an understanding soon.

During the Cabinet meeting the President directed MRR General Manager Salvador T. Villa to send immediately necessary buses to take care of the transportation requirements of the town of Bailen, Cavite.

The President took this action upon receipt of a letter from Fr. Leopoldo del Rosario, parish priest of Bailen, who reported to the President that owing to the strike of the Batangas Transportation Company, perishable products of Bailen, like vegetables and fruits, the people's sole means of livelihood, were going to waste.

Fr. Del Rosario said that prices of essential goods were going up beyond the reach of the laboring class and the wage earners.

Upon receipt of the letter during the Cabinet meeting, the President immediately directed Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon to order Manager Villa to make available the necessary buses for the transportation requirements of Bailen.

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting held at the Council of State room from 11:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

IN the afternoon the President had a merienda conference with members of the Rizal Centennial Commission who informed him that final plans of the construction of the ₱10 million Rizal Center are now underway.

To be constructed at the Wallace Field, the Rizal Center will be composed of the National Theatre, the National Museum, and the National Library and Archives, according to the members of RCC.

Headed by Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., chairman, the commission urged the Chief Executive to approve the plan and suggested that the entire Luneta Park be placed under the authority of the RCC.

The President told the RCC members that he was in favor of the plans of the commission. He suggested that a committee of three from among the RCC members be appointed to confer with the director of lands to look into the feasibility of placing the entire Luneta Park under the authority of the RCC.

The President was also informed by the RCC members that the fund drive for the raising of the ₱10 million had already started.

Present during the conference were Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., H. B. Reyes, Jose Bantug, Enrique Virata, Ernesto Rodriguez, Angel Tesoro, Daniel Salcedo, Eduardo Quisumbing, Geronima T. Pecson, Arsenio Luz, Lopez Rizal, and Jose Orosa.

June 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received a delegation of the *Tinig ng Kababaihan* headed by Mrs. Trinidad F. Legarda, association president, who presented a resolution endorsing the President's election bid.

The resolution said that this women's group has chosen the President as their candidate because of his abiding faith in God and devotion to country, his espousal of the cause of freedom and democratic principles and processes, his deep interest in the welfare of the common man, and his ample preparation for the presidency.

Mrs. Legarda said that the pledge of loyalty was given to the President "without any strings attached" and without seeking any concessions from the Chief Executive.

The women expressed their gratitude to the President for his action in vetoing Senate Bill No. 167. They said that he had acted wisely and

The President thanked the delegation for their resolution which was arrived at after due deliberation of the merits of the different presidential candidates. He said that he would continue working for the good of the women of the country.

Among those who signed the resolution and were present at its presentation were Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, Mrs. Paz R. Rodriguez, Mrs. Luisa Magsaysay-Corpuz, Mrs. Concepcion M. Frias, Mrs. Adelina Garcia-Diapo, Mrs. Nicolasa J. Tria Tirona, Mrs. Chuchi Planas-Pineda, Mrs. Zara Planas-Sarmiento, Mrs. Priscila Y. Chongbian, and Mrs. Dolores L. Gaerlan.

THE President told a large group of Manila residents that the Council of State had already approved the floating of bonds for the purchase of big landed estates by way of implementing the land tenure law.

He added that for Manila alone, the amount of ₱5 million had been earmarked for the purpose.

The Chief Executive made these remarks to the Manila residents who urged him to cause the expropriation of a certain estate in Manila. The delegation was accompanied to Malacañang by House Majority Floor Leader Arturo M. Tolentino.

The President said he would instruct CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno to see to it that the bonds necessary for the purchase of the estate be raised at the earliest possible time.

Then the President received a delegation from Bulacan and Nueva Ecija which gathered at the Malacañang reception hall.

Headed by Gov. Alejo Santos, the Bulacan delegation was composed of fishpond owners who expressed their gratitude to the President for signing into law a bill providing for the 5 per cent reduction of taxes on some industries, particularly fishing.

The Nueva Ecija delegation was composed of market vendors who sought the President's help in reducing the rents of stalls in the public market at Cabanatuan City. The delegation was headed by Gov. Amado Aleta.

The President told the NE market vendors that he would send an investigator to Cabanatuan to look into the matter. He added that he would base his action on the request on the report of the investigator.

Then the President received at the music room Rt. Hon. John McEwen Australian minister of trade, who paid a courtesy call in the course of his visit to Asian countries.

Accompanied by Australian Ambassador K. O. Shann, the visiting Australian Cabinet member presented the President with a landscape painting of a typical Australian countryside and a blue Australian woolen rug. McEwen's party included Dr. A. Westerman, deputy secretary of the department of trade, and E. Jarvis, trade commissioner attached to the Australian Embassy in Manila.

The President received at his study room officers of the Girl Scouts of the Philippines who informed him that three groups of girl scouts were soon leaving for England, Switzerland, and Canada to attend the regional centenary world encampment to be held in those countries next month.

Headed by Mrs. Concepcion R. Gonzalez, the Girl Scouts officials included Mesdames Trinidad F. Legarda, 2nd vice-president and international commissioner; Lourdes A. Laconico, Virginia O. de Guia and Josefa A. Marquez, chaperons of the delegates.

The President handed a Philippine flag to the delegation which will fly over the Philippine Camp during the jamboree.

Other delegations were composed of provincial and municipal officials who sought the President's help in government projects in their respective localities.

Naga City Mayor Monico Imperial headed one such delegation composed of councilors from Naga City, requesting help in some public works improvement, in their city.

Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez accompanied a large delegation from three Pangasinan towns; namely, San Carlos, Urbiztondo, and Sison, headed by Mayors Agripino Padua, Tranquilino Palisok, and Ignacio Aquino, respectively. The delegations reiterated their support to the President's election bid.

Earlier, the President had a breakfast conference with Sen. Jose Locsin and Rep. Jose Roy of Tarlac, who briefed him on their observation of the work of the Philippine Reparations Mission in Tokyo.

The solons also told the President that Minister Ceasar Lanuza chief of the mission in Tokyo, was doing impressive work in carrying out the work of his office.

The President received a group of employees of the Fertilizers Administration headed by Gregorio de Monteverde who complained to the Chief Executive that they have not received their salaries during the past three months. The President immediately gave a directive to Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona to pay the salaries of these employees.

The new officers of the American Legion (Philippine department) paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive. Those who made the call were Wilber R. Brucker, department commander; Rev. Thomas B. Cannon, S. J. chaplain; Ricardo C. Galang, adjutant; Inocentes G. Duerreros, representative; Charles A. Park, Phil-Americanism officer; Ernesto Deonaldo, second vice-commander; and Santos Oro and Ben G. Mendez.

The President received callers until 1:30 p.m.

IN the evening the President awarded the Order of the Golden Heart to Stanley Gilbert, manager of the Manila branch of the U.S. Office of Alien Property, "in recognition of his outstanding service to the Philippines" during his six years tour of duty in this country.

In the citation which was read by Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, chief presidential aide, in ceremonies held at Malacañang, the President said that Gilbert had always maintained a sympathetic and cooperative attitude and shown great interest, and had always been zealous in taking any action within his power to aid the Philippine Government.

Gilbert had been manager of the OAP since its establishment in Manila in June 1951. During his incumbency, he had turned over to the Philippine Government millions of pesos in cash and property, including shares of stock, and agricultural, residential, and commercial assets which formerly belonged to enemy aliens.

Gilbert, whose office will officially close tomorrow, said that the OAP also had handled claims of various friendly nationals from whom certain properties had been confiscated by the Japanese forces of occupation. He said that with the closing of the branch office in Manila, further claims would, henceforth, be entertained by the Department of Justice in Washington, D. C.

Among those present at the award ceremony this evening were Commodore Jose M. Francisco of the Navy, Protocol Officer Jose Estrada and Monico Vicente of the Department of Foreign Affairs, James Bowers and Charles Hodge of the U. S. Embassy, Mr. and Mrs. James Mewshaw, and Flavio Canuel, Lino Patajo, and Benjamin de Guzman. The last three are Filipino officials of the OAP.

Earlier this evening the President received a delegation representing some 40 domestic insurance companies who called to pay their respects. During their call the insurance representatives discussed the possibilities of their handling the insurance of reparations shipments from Japan, the importation of as many fire-fighting units from Japan under the reparations agreement, and the adoption of a "building code" in cities and municipalities with the view to preventing conflagrations which have been causing heavy losses in government and private property.

Accompanied by GSIS General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal, the delegation included Eduardo Viaplana of Metropolitan Insurance, Joaquin Garrido of Capital Insurance, William Dux of Alliance, Miguel Campos of Philippine American General Insurance, Julian Locsin, J. B. Olbes, and Ramon Zoza of the F.G.U. group, Tomas Benitez of the People's Surety, and J. J. de Guzman of Liberty Insurance.

New officers of the National Music Council took their oaths of office before the President. Inducted at a ceremony held at Malacañang's music room were Alfredo Lozano, president; Lucrecia Kasilag, Candida Bautista and Felipe de Leon, vice-presidents; Felisa Lardizabal, treasurer; Jose Lauchengco, executive secretary; and Trinidad F. Legarda, Pedro F. Abella, Ramon Tapales, Perla Saucó, and Juan Javier, members.

Newly-elected officers of the Defenders of Bataan also called to pay their respects and offer their support and cooperation to the Administration. Headed by Col. Antonio Varias, supreme defender, the delegation included Cols. Dionisio Ojeda, Isagani Campo, Cirilo Daza, Daniel Victoria, and Jose Arambulo.

Mamerto Besa, president of the Philippine ex-Boxers' Association, headed a delegation which thanked the President for signing H. B. 6175 (now R. A. 1812), providing for exemption from amusement taxes world championship bouts involving Filipino fighters and promoted by Filipinos anywhere in the Philippines. The delegation was accompanied by Rep. Serafin Salvador of Rizal, author of the bill.

Among the last callers this evening was a delegation composed of some 150 district, city, and irrigation engineers all over the country who called to pay their respects on the fourth day of their six-day convention in Manila. Public Works Undersecretary Rafael Contreras, who accompanied the delegation, informed the President that the convention was being held for the purpose of standardizing practices and procedures so as to achieve maximum efficiency in the implementation of the vast program of public works being undertaken by the government. Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno was also present.

During their call, the President took the opportunity to congratulate them for the efforts they had been exerting to accelerate the Administration's program of public improvement. He also thanked them for their pledge of support contained in a resolution recently passed by the conventionists and which was presented to him during their call at Malacañang.

Other callers this evening included Sens. Quintin Paredes, Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, and Domocao Alonto.

LATE this evening the President and the First Lady left Malacañang for Tacloban, Leyte, aboard the yacht *Santa Maria*. They were accompanied by newsmen.

Garcia said this morning he had an idea of some of the charges which Mayor Lacson threat-

June 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia said this morning he had an idea of the nature of some of the charges which Mayor Lacson threatened to expose.

The President made this statement in conversation with newsmen on board the yacht *Sta. Mariabound* for Leyte where he is scheduled to inaugurate several public works projects. Scheduled to arrive at Ormoc City early tomorrow morning, the President will meet with Leyte municipal officials.

The President woke up early this morning and heard mass. After the mass he had breakfast on deck of the yacht with the First Lady and guests, including Mesdames Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Angel Castaño, Augusto Francisco, Jose Aldeguer, and Rep. Angel Castaño.

The *Sta. Maria* pulled out of Pier 5 at 1:30 a.m. today.

THE President said this evening he had always wanted Mayor Lacson to come out with his expose as early as possible, when asked by newsmen to comment on reports that Lacson would make public his charges on or before July 10.

The President had a brief conference with newsmen inside his cabin. When asked to comment on Manahan's move to confer with opposition groups for clean elections, the President said that it was good but emphasized that the elections would be the cleanest possible. He also told newsmen he had approved the appointment of Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez to the NP Credentials Committee.

On the report that Lacson had been reinstated in the NP Executive Committee in order to gag him, the President said that gagging was not the purpose. He said that he was not even sure Lacson had been reinstated.

June 29.—THE President arrived at Ormoc City at 10 o'clock this morning and was received with a rousing welcome by a large crowd headed by Gov. Bernardo Torres, Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez, and provincial and city officials. While the yacht *Sta. Maria* was still 20 minutes away from the wharf, it was met by a fluvial parade, including a big interisland boat filled with people. Fireworks were set off and sirens sounded as the yacht approached the wharf. At the pier was placed a big V-shaped arch.

Following the reception and military honors at the wharf, the President proceeded to the city parish church where he heard a *Te Deum*. He is scheduled to meet with Leyte municipal officials this afternoon in Albueria town.

Before eating his breakfast, the President heard mass on board the *Sta. Maria* on the occasion of the Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul.

PRESIDENT Garcia reiterated that he would carry out to a successful completion the rural development program of the late President Magsaysay in his speech this morning in Albueria, Leyte, where thousands braved a heavy downpour to listen to him.

Accompanied by Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Health Under-secretary Rafael Tumbokon, Rep. Angel Castaño, and Leyte Gov. Bernardo Torres, the President went around well paved streets of Albueria and was impressed with the cleanliness of the town. He congratulated Albueria Mayor Aguilino Contiga for the accomplishment.

In a short speech, the President urged the townspeople to keep up the name of Albueria as a model town of Leyte. He recalled that he was instrumental, when he was a senator, in warding off a move to Albueria part of Baybay town.

Before having his lunch in Ormoc, the President received delegations from nearby towns at the city hall. Municipal officials discussed with the President local problems and pledged support for the President's election.

The First Lady extended financial aid to the family of a dead woman which the presidential party chanced upon in front of the Ormoc church where the President heard a *Te Deum* this morning. Mrs. Garcia gave financial aid to the children and nephew of the dead woman, Mrs. Ursula Ardaza-Naido.

ACTING on behalf of President Garcia, Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Yencko, Jr., this morning received at the Malacañang grounds a big delegation of the Laguna-Tayabas Bus Company employees association which requested the President's help in settling the strike at the LTBC.

Secretary Yencko told the delegation that he was calling to a conference in Malacañang on Monday, July 1, representative from the Department of Labor, the LTBC management, the strikers, and the non-striking employees in order to reach an amicable settlement of the strike.

Yencko was informed by the delegation that only some 20 of the LTBC employees were on strike and the rest of the strikers were ex-employees and non-employees of the company

The delegation also told Yencko: "We most emphatically wish to make of record that our association is not a party to the aforeseaid strike. The demonstration which we are conducting today is eloquent proof that we are not and have never been on strike. Our cessation from work has been brought by our desire as peaceful and law-abiding citizens, to avoid disturbance and violence that may ensue as a consequence of the threats and intimidations being perpetrated by the strikers."

The employees further said: "We now further make of record that we are willing to return to work and resume operations of trips in all the provinces covered by the lines operated by the Laguna-Tayabas Bus Co. We have staged this rally in early return to normalcy of transportation business in the said provinces."

The delegation of some 300 was headed by Toriano Alidio, president, and Enrique Amoda, vice-president.

PRESIDENT Garcia addressed one of the biggest rallies in his provincial trips tonight. He spoke before a mammoth crowd at the carnival grounds in Ormoc City. With him on the speaker's platform were Sen. Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez, Social Welfare Administration Amparo Villamor, Secretary of Public Works Florencio Moreno, Commissioner Sofronio Quimson, Susano Negado, head of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority, and Col. Urbano Caldoza, civil aeronautics administrator.

After his speech, the President joined the First Lady in the carnival auditorium, where Mrs. Garcia crowned the carnival queen. During the coronation ceremony the President was asked to recite an ode to the queen and he readily complied.

From the carnival grounds, the President and his lady returned to the yacht *Santa Maria* where they spent the night.

June 30. —AFTER waking up early in the morning, the President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass aboard the yacht *Sta Maria* and then motored to the residence of former Rep. Dominador Tan in Ormoc City where they ate breakfast. From Tan's house, the presidential party was taken on a motorcade to the city.

The President delivered five speeches on his way from Ormoc City to Tacloban.

The President told newsmen with him that he extended the ban on slaughter of carabaos for another six months ending December 31, 1957. The previous order on the ban issued by the late President expires today

In his speeches the President made mention of the Administration's program to construct more roads, irrigation systems, barrio schoolhouses, and artesian wells.

He also endorsed the candidacy of Tan for congressman against Rep. Domingo Veloso. From Kananga, the president went to Carigara where he delivered another speech.

Other towns at which the President spoke were Jaro and Palo. In Palo the President paid a call on Archbishop Lino Gonzaga and had merienda at the fishpond of Gregorio Montejo.

The President arrived at Tacloban at 5:30 p.m. and proceeded directly to the church where he heard a *Te Deum*. From the church, the President joined the First Lady in the procession of Sto. Niño, patron saint of Tacloban, which was celebrating the patron's feast. He joined the procession after receiving military honors and attending a reception given by a huge crowd in Tacloban City.

MALACAÑANG today took further action to pull down the prices of essential commodities. By order of President Garcia, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon directed the NARIC to distribute its rice stocks in places where rice prices have reportedly gone up.

In another order Secretary De Leon directed the NAMARCO to flood the market with essential commodities, especially sugar, to keep the prices of these commodities at reasonable levels.

PRESIDENT Garcia, Gov. Salvador Lluch of Lanao, the Civil Defense Administration, three amateur radio stations, and the Philippine Air Lines today played a dramatic role in an effort to save the life of a seriously ill two-year old child who had swallowed a T-shaped can opener.

Gov. Lluch sent an S-O-S message to President Garcia through DU-9WX, an amateur station in Iligan City, that a two-year-old child which had swallowed a T-shaped can opener was seriously ill and requested medical treatment at the V. Luna General Hospital.

The message was interpreted by another amateur radio station CD-14 at Roxas City, which flashed it and in turn was interpreted by radio station DUI-DLS operated by a student of La Salle College named Tristan Leviste, of 24 Buendia Street.

Leviste in turn transmitted the message and it was picked up by the Civil Defense Administration radio which relayed it to Malacañang.

Upon receipt of the message, President Garcia ordered the immediate airlifting of the stricken child for treatment at the V. Luna General Hospital.

The Philippine Air Lines generously offered free passage to the father and the child, who will take the 8:30 a.m. trip from Iligan City tomorrow morning for Manila.

Malacañang wired Lt. Col. Antonio Garcia, PC commander of Lanao, to inform Gov. Lluch that PAL would airlift the child and its father tomorrow morning, and to see to it that the airlifting is done without a hitch.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening approved the extension of the ban on the slaughter of carababaos for a period of six months up to December 31, 1957. The present ban ends today, June 30.

The ban on the slaughter of carabaos which was first put into effect by the late President Magsaysay has proved beneficial in providing enough work animals to be used by farmers in their farms which has greatly aided in the food production campaign of the Administration.

The President's order was wired from Leyte this evening.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Month in Review: July 1-15, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

July 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia last day in Leyte was a hectic one. Debarking in Tacloban City from the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* at 8 a.m. today, the President had breakfast at the residence of torist church in Tacloban, inaugurated the 100-bed capacity Leyte Provincial Hospital, inaugurated the puericulture center of the city inaugurated in Tigbao-Cebuans in Leyte, inspected the Leyte Trade School and laid then cornerstone of the Tacloban TB pavilion.

It was already dusk when the President re-board the *Sta. Maria*, for the home trip to Manila. He had been in Leyte for the past three days, appealing for “a full term” in Malacañang and inaugurating various ‘public works projects.

At the Tacloban wharf the President was given a warm send-off by the people. Among those who saw him off were Gov. Torres and Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez.

In his speeches in this city the President emphasized the fact that the Administration was carrying out successfully every program of the late President Magsaysay, especially the rural development program. He cited the irrigation systems, barrio schoolhouses, feeder roads, and artesian wells already constructed or being constructed by the Nacionalista administration.

In Tigbao barrio the President awarded the Presidential Golden Heart medal to Mrs. Enriquita C. Jocson, who donated more than one hectare of her land for the site of the community schoolhouse.

The President also gave presidential medals of merit to Donato Ripilda and his heirs, who donated the barrio Tagburo school site, Pedro Buclatan, who donated barrio Anibong school site, and Segundo Indik, who donated another barrio school site.

The President motored from one place to another in Tacloban the whole day, as he was kept busy by his tight schedule. The people applauded him in his speeches. From the Redemptorist church, where he laid the cornerstone of the future home of the Mother of Perpetual Help in Tacloban, the President went to inaugurate the Leyte Provincial Hospital which cost, P300,000.

Earlier in the morning President Garcia received delegations on board the *Sta. Maria*. Delegations included Liberal leaders from barrio Guindapunan and Carigara who pledged to support his election as President. LP leaders were accompanied by Councilor Reginaldo Pascual of Tacloban.

July 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed personal indignation over the manner the triplets were evicted from the Maternity Hospital in Cebu. He directed Acting Health Secretary Rafael Tumbokon to take immediate steps to reinstate the triplets in the hospital and to send a Department of Health investigator to check and report on circumstances surrounding the eviction of the triplets.

The President also instructed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor to send immediately material aid to the family of the triplets.

The presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* was tossed, swayed, and rocked by big waves the whole morning. Instead of arriving in Manila at 10 p.m. today, the yacht will arrive about 1 a.m. because its course was altered to avoid huge waves and strong winds. Every passenger, including newsmen, stayed in bed the whole morning to avoid dizziness. The President stayed in his bedroom after hearing mass and eating breakfast with the First Lady.

The President and the First Lady ate lunch at 2 p.m. after the big waves had calmed down a little. After lunch the President rested in his bedroom and went over state papers. Weather along the way of the *Sta. Maria* has been cloudy with slight rains, strong winds, and big waves.

July 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Malacañang at 2 o'clock this morning with a large entourage who were badly shaken by huge waves which lashed the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* at the China Sea before it entered Manila Bay.

It was an eventful trip, and President Garcia who had appeared unperturbed after taking two tablets to fight sea-sickness said, "It is part of the game."

At a few hours of sleep, the President motored to Camp Murphy where he had breakfast given in his honor by Army officers and their ladies at the officers' club.

Addressing officers and men of the Armed Forces on the occasion of the annual testimonial parade and review given in honor of their commander-in-chief at Camp Murphy this morning, the President said, "Our proud history has entitled us to the claim of guardianship over democratic institutions. That claim and duty of guardianship must be fulfilled even at the price of personal sacrifice so as to insure the integrity and purity of the ballot.

"If those who are in power must face defeat, let it be; but nothing must be done to tarnish the sanctity of the free man's vote," the President said.

Speaking in a voice that rang loud and clear to the men who stood in formation before him on the parade ground, the President, stressed:

"Friends and countrymen, on the eve of the national commemoration of the attainment of our independence, and at this historic hour, let me make this solemn pledge that as long as I am Chief Executive of our Republic and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, I will not tolerate nor countenance any pollution of the ballot, any frustration or perversion of the popular will as expressed through the vote, or any illicit, or unconstitutional interference of the military in the conduct of elections."

The ceremonies started promptly at 9 a.m. with the presentation of the award of the Philippine Legion of Honor (Chief Commander) to Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo "as the foremost military leader during the darkest hour of the Philippines' fight for freedom against the then existing Spanish regime, culminating in the establishment of the erstwhile Philippine Republic."

The award was pinned on the 87-year old revolutionary general by the President. He was assisted by Secretary Balao and General Arellano.

Then, boarding one of the staff cars, the President inspected two regiments which stood stiffly at attention at one end of the parade ground. The regiments were made up of battalions from the Philippine Military Academy, the Constabulary, ground forces, Navy, Air Force, artillery, the school for reserve commission, and the Presidential Guards Battalion under the command of Lt. Col. Romeo Honasan.

The parade started about 9:30 a.m. Enthusiastic applauses were received by each unit representing the different major services as they marched smartly past the reviewing stand. A squadron of PAF Mustang planes flew in formation over the parade ground.

With the President on the reviewing stand were Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, the First Lady, members of the Cabinet, chiefs of foreign missions and members of their staffs, senators and congressmen, and top military officials of the Philippines and foreign countries.

The Chief Executive and the First Lady were back at Malacañang about 10:15 a.m.

THE President this afternoon stressed the great importance of schools and colleges to the future of the country, emphasizing that "our schools and Colleges be brought up to the highest degree of efficiency of which our wisdom and our means are capable."

The President said the efficiency of our educational institutions would shape and determine the progress that could be attained by the Filipino people. He said: "If our schools are fifth-rate, they can only produce fifth-rate citizens; and if we have fifth-rate citizens, we can build only a fifth-rate nation."

The Chief Executive said: "If our people give me the necessary time to lead in the accomplishment of this vast and important task, I shall embrace the opportunity with energy, determination, and decision."

The President made these remarks at the formal inauguration and blessing of the University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center and the Science Building on Aurora Boulevard with President Garcia and Mrs. Luz Banzon-Magsaysay as co-sponsors. Mrs. Garcia, U.E. President and Mrs. Francisco Dalupan, and the U. E. Board of Trustees present were in attendance.

The U.E. Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center (College of Medicine) is a non-stock and non-profit institution named after the late President.

In his speech, President Garcia praised the U. E. founders of the college for their boldness and vision in their search for educational improvement. He said that by its inauguration, the institution announced its intention to pioneer in at least two important phases of education: the abolition of the profit motive and the limitation of enrollment.

With regard to the solution of the many shortcomings of the country's educational effort in general, the President said he was seriously thinking of the feasibility of creating a body of scholars and educators to conduct a thorough and comprehensive study of Philippine education as a whole and to "recommend to the Government such improvements and the means to those improvements as it may find wise and necessary."

The President expressed the hope that if the U. E. Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center succeed, it would "open to the schools and colleges of this country a new vista of service to the youth and to the Republic as the late President Magsaysay, whose honored name this medical college bears, envisioned it in his lifetime."

President Garcia congratulated President Dalupan and the U. E. Board of Trustees and the faculty for boldly embarking on this great pioneering adventure in Philippine medical education. The President felicitated Mrs. Magsaysay, who, because of her consent to the use by the college of the late President's name, "there has been added one more fitting memorial to our late President, my great predecessor, and the moral force of his name has been aligned with the cause of educational progress."

President and Mrs. Garcia were fetched from Malacañang by U. E. President and Mrs. Dalupan about 4:00 p.m. They rode together in the presidential car to the UERMMC. The President was given a 21-gun salute and full military honors. The program was held in one of the auditoriums of the medical college.

President and Mrs. Garcia returned to Malacañang about 5:30 a.m.

July 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning ordered all government relief agencies to extend immediate succor to the fire victims in Cabadbaran, Agusan.

The President, through Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, directed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, the Philippine National Red Cross, the Department of Health, and the relief units of the Armed Forces to mobilize their units in giving immediate relief to the sufferers of the Cabadbaran fire.

The President took this action immediately upon receipt of a telegram from Gov. Felixberto Dagani of Agusan, who informed the Chief Executive of the fire and requested relief.

According to Dagani, Cabadbaran was hit by the biggest fire in its history, with the whole commercial district razed to the ground. At the time of the sending of the telegram (8:26 a.m.), the fire was still raging.

PRESIDENT Garcia and President Eisenhower exchanged messages of felicitations on the occasion of the anniversary celebrations of the independence of their respective countries today, July 4.

In a message addressed to President Garcia received at Malacañang early this morning, President Eisenhower said: "It gives me pleasure to extend to Your Excellency and to the people of the Philippines the congratulations and sincere good wishes of the people of the United States on the national anniversary of the Republic of the Philippines.

President Garcia also received similar congratulatory messages from heads of state all over the world. Among such messages were those from Emperor Hirohito of Japan, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, King Baudouin of Belgium, King Bhumibol of Thailand, King Adolf Gustaf of Sweden; Presidents Izhak Benzvi of Israel, Rajendra Prasad of India, Adolfo Ruiz Cortines of Mexico, Hans Streuli of Switzerland, Theodor Heuss of Germany, Iskander Mirza of Pakistan, and Pedro Eugenio Aramburu of Argentina; -Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek of Nationalist China; and Giovanni Gronchi of Italy .

Meanwhile, Ambassador Felisberto Serrano wired from New York informing the President that the Philippine mission and the Filipino community in that city were cooperating to celebrate Independence Day with appropriate ceremonies.

UPON the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, President Garcia this day granted 50 conditional pardons, two absolute pardons, and two commutations of sentence.

THE President presented the posthumous award of the Quezon Service Cross on the late President Ramon Magsaysay in ceremonies held at the Malacañang social hall this evening in connection with the observance of the 11th anniversary of the Republic of the Philippines.

The award was presented to Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay, widow of the late President, in the presence of officers and members of the 11th civic assembly of women, Cabinet members, members of the diplomatic corps and their ladies, and representatives of various civic organizations gathered at Malacañang to witness this year's awarding of presidential medals of merit under the sponsorship of the CAWP.

Attired in black terno, Mrs. Magsaysay stood misty-eyed, apparently trying hard to fight back her tears, as the citation reviewing the achievements of Ramon Magsaysay, "soldier, statesman, patriot, protector of the poor, implacable foe of Communism, and leader of his people," was read before the assemblage. However, after the medal had been placed around her neck, the former First Lady broke down and wept silently.

Recipients of the presidential medals of merit were Mrs. Luisa Fernandez de Lichauco for home arts, Mrs. Flora Amoranto Ylagan and Dr. Ricardo C. Lacson for education, Richard T. Ely and Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason for public service, and the family of Dr. Jose de Jesus for exemplary family. The medals were pinned on the awardees by the President.

The presentation ceremonies started about 6 p.m. with Miss Helen Z. Benitez, CAWP president, presenting the awardees, on behalf of Mrs. Minerva Inocencio Piguing, chairman of the CAWP awards committee. Also present was Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, the First Lady.

In a brief extemporaneous speech delivered during the ceremonies, the President congratulated the officers and members of CAWP, whom he called the "quintessence of Filipina womanhood" for their valuable participation in the nation's affairs. He said that their contribution had been instrumental in making of this country what it is today.

After the ceremonies, about 7 p.m., the First Lady invited her guests to refreshments at the reception hall.

PRESIDENT Garcia and Mrs. Garcia gave an Independence Day state dinner at 8 o'clock this evening at Malacañang.

The affair was attended by leaders of Congress and the judiciary, heads of diplomatic missions, members of the Cabinet and the Council of State -and their ladies, top brass of the Philippine and the American Armed Forces, and prominent citizens and other high government dignitaries.

MALACAÑANG announced today the appointment of Dean Feliciano Jover Ledesma as a member of the National Board of Education to take the place of the late Jess Paredes, who died in an airplane crash with the late President Magsaysay.

July 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up late this morning after, his midnight caucus with some 35 solons who wanted to do away with provincial conventions and make the present congressmen automatically the official candidates of the Nacionalista Party in their respective districts.

The President engaged the solons in some political debates on the matter and finally told the solons bluntly he could not subscribe to their views which scuttle the rules and regulations of the party.

It was a tough night for the President, as he was forced to commit him-self on his choice of a running mate. The solons had asked the President to pick Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., as his running mate. After vacillating for some time, the President finally said “you can have the green light” to campaign for the Garcia-Laurel team.

PRESIDENT Garcia at the Cabinet meeting this day signed an executive order implementing Reorganization Plan No. 77, creating the Forest Products Research Institute.

This plan provides for an objective-organization to study and recommend the effective utilization of all forest products and their by-products and to give encouragement for the development of wood and lumber industries.

The Government Survey and Reorganization Commission said that the creation of this institute was one milestone toward the implementation of the Administration’s economic development program.

As organized, the Forest Products Research Institute will have one director and one assistant director. It will also have five divisions; namely, administrative services, chemical investigations, industrial investigations, wood technology, and wood preservation.

The implementation of this reorganization plan abolishes the forest products laboratory and the forest products research section of the Bureau of Forestry and transfers their functions together with the appropriate personnel, appropriations, property, equipment, and records to the FPRI. There will be no lay-off of personnel as a result of this reorganization.

Upon strong representations of Philippine Charity Sweepstakes General Manager Eugenio E. Santos, the President and the Cabinet approved the petition of PCSO employees for higher salaries, provided that these salary increases conform with the rates set down by the Wage and Position Classification Office.

The President and the Cabinet observed that the PCSO was an agency of the government exercising the regular functions of a government office and therefore it should follow the WAPCO standard of salaries.

Manager Santos explained to the President and the Cabinet that his employees deserved the increases given to them because of the good work they were performing, resulting in greatly increased sales of sweepstakes tickets. Santos said that although his employees now numbered 347 as against 370 in 1953, they produced better results.

Santos pointed out that whereas the sales in 1953 amounted to only P9,662,757, the sales in 1957 jumped to P28 million, and that while the aids given in 1953 were only P3,043,768, the aids given in 1957 amounted to P8,829,000.

He also said that in 1953 the sweepstakes office had a deficit of P250,936, but in 1957, it had a surplus of P706,188.

President Garcia directed that a cable be sent to President Eisenhower expressing the Filipino people's "deepest appreciation for signing the legislation handing back valuable historical documents and records seized during the Philippine Insurrection in 1898."

In his message the President said that President Eisenhower's signing of the bill on the eve of the anniversary of Philippine independence "will be cherished by the Filipino people, especially by our historians and scholars who are now provided with a veritable source of historical materials."

President Garcia added, "This is indeed another manifestation of the cordial and close relations existing between our two countries."

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 11 a.m. to about 2 p.m.

LATE In the afternoon the President received callers after working on state papers.

The callers who were received individually by the President were Sens. Edmundo Cea, Francisco Delgado, and Quintin Paredes, and Govs. Juan Frivaldo and Valeriano Gatuslao of Sorsogon and Negros Occidental, respectively.

Then the President received a group of labor leaders who presented a resolution pledging their support to his election bid. They also requested the Chief Executive to order the insular treasurer to resume payment of backpay claims of the labor battalion of the pre-war Civilian Emergency

Headed by Pablo Manlapit of the National Employees Workers Union and chairman of the United Labor Political Action Committee, the labor leaders informed the President that backpay payments to the CEA battalion had been suspended last year owing to an investigation which was conducted because of an alleged anomaly.

The labor leaders were composed of Alejandro Salazar, general president, International Labor and Marine Union; Hugo Retaga, president of the National Workers Brotherhood; Ildefonso K. Romey, president of the Union de Tabacos, Inc.; Filomeno Prudon, president of the Binangonan Labor Union; Arcadio Roxas, president of the PLAW; Pedro Advincula, president of the Gen. Log Workers Union; Eduardo Donato, president of the Union de Tabaqueros de Filipinas; Teodoro Pineda, Mechanical Technical Stev. Union; Juan D. Floras, Philippine Labor and Sailor Federation; Aniceto de Castro, Union de Tabaqueros de Filipinas; Aurelio Galvizo, president of the United Seamen's Union; Alfredo de Antonio, of the Construction Workers Association, Eusebio Queros, Furniture Workers Union; and Avelino Catolico and Isabelo V. Gandionco, lawyers.

The President expressed his gratitude to the labor leaders for their support to his election bid.

Regarding the request of the labor leaders to resume the payment of backpay claims of the CEA labor battalion, the President told them that he would study the matter seriously.

A group of Aklan municipal mayors also presented a resolution pledging their support to the President's election bid. The town mayors were Batan Mayor Mariano Pador, Lizo Mayor Catalino Prado, Malinaw Mayor Sancho Incierto, Tangdan Mayor Augusto Gaboy, Balete Mayor Apolinar Cleofe, and Makato Mayor Jose Legazpi.

Mayor Cristino Jimenez of Dasol, Pangasinan, accompanied prominent political leaders of his municipality who pledged their support to the President's election bid.

Other individual callers were Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez and ex-Governor Gulamu Rasul of Sulu.

The President received callers up to late at night.

July 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia, before enplaning for Baguio this morning, received Health Secretary Paulino Garcia, who submitted a report on the fruitful results of the work of the Philippine delegation to the Tenth World Health Assembly in Geneva and afterwards, in the United States.

In his report to the President, Secretary Garcia said that the Philippine delegation got from the World Health Assembly approval of the program of assistance for the Philippines for the fiscal year 1958m estimated at \$249 441 to be financed from the WHO regular budget, the U. S. technical assistance funds, and the UNICEF.

This assistance program consists of aids for tuberculosis control, leprosy control, influenza center, bilharzias pilot project, midwifery training maternal and child health, mental health, environmental sanitation, and the institute of Hygiene, U. P.

Secretary Garcia told the President that, as directed by the Chief Executive, he proceeded to the United States where he and Dr. Regala looked into tine exchange visitors program and the ICA health-assisted programs, and made technical observations and consultations.

Secretary Garcia said that he had talked with Filipino doctors in Mount Vernon Hospital and Lawrence Hospital in Westchester County, New York, whom he found happy in their work and satisfied with their placements. The directors of the two hospitals spoke well of the Filipino doctors and held them in high regard, according to the health secretary.

In Chicago the health secretary said he had met with Consul Abrera and with the executive directors of the American Hospitals Association and the American Medical Association. He had been given assurance that remuneration of Filipino nurses under the exchange visitors program would be increased.

Secretary Garcia said that he had extended an official invitation to Dr. Leroy Burney, the surgeon-general of the U. S. Public Health Service, and to Dr. Eugene Campbell, ICA health director in Washington, D. C, to come to the Philippines to observe on the spot the implementation of the mutual programs.

Garcia also observed the work and research being done in cancer control and in mental health at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, and conferred with directors of the respective institutes on the ever-all phases of activities in these fields.

The President congratulated Secretary Garcia for the good work he had done in his mission abroad.

IN the afternoon the President inducted Col. Marcos G. Soliman, superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy, as *ad interim* brigadier general in the Armed Forces at ceremonies at the Guest House.

Soliman's appointment was one of the three *ad interim* appointments signed by the President in Manila this morning before enplaning for Baguio City. The other two were those of Col. Climaco Pintoy, commander of the IV Military Area, and Col. Pedro Q. Molina, chief of the Philippine Air Force, as brigadier generals.

Present at the ceremonies were Rep. Ramon Mitra of Mountain Province; Baguio City officials, headed by Mayor Alfonso Tabora; Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, chief of JUSMAG; Maj. Gen. John Ackerman, commander of the U. S. 13th Air Force; Col. Jose Maristela, PC provincial commander of Mountain Province; Col. Harold Beck(commander of Camp John Hay; and ranking officials of Baguio City.

General Soliman has been in the Army for 27 years. He graduated from the P. C. Academy in 1933. He later graduated from the U. S. Infantry School in Fort Bennings, Georgia, and from the U. S. Command and General Staff School in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

The President arrived at the Loakan airport in Baguio aboard the *Pagasa* at 12:10 p.m. He was met by city officials headed by Mayor Tabora and a delegation from the Baguio police department headed by Col. Francisco Paraan,

chief of police. The delegation submitted to the President a resolution signifying their willingness to forego the benefits of the new law prescribing a five-day a week office schedule, for the good of service. The President thanked the Baguio policemen for their dedication to public service.

From the airport the President motored to the Guest House.

In the evening, the President motored to the Baguio Country Club, where he spoke at the installation of the Baguio Rotary Club officers.

PRESIDENT Garcia last night paraded the economic achievements of the Magsaysay administration and marshalled facts and figures to refute the charge of "rank mismanagement in the fiscal, financial, and trade fields" which former Speaker Jose Yulo had levelled at the ruling Nacionalista Party.

In what political observers considered his "fightingest" speech yet, the President took Yulo, Liberal Party presidential aspirant, to task for "misrepresenting the economic situation by erring either on the side of exaggeration or understatement."

President Garcia delivered the speech shortly after he had installed officers of the Baguio Rotary Club at the Baguio Country Club in Baguio City this evening.

It was the first major speech on economics he had delivered since succeeding "the late President Magsaysay last March 17.

It was also a rejoinder to a scathing attack on NP economic policies Yulo launched before the Manila Rotary Club on June 27.

Among others, Yulo had charged the NP with exhausting the country's dollar reserves with foisting on the people "fantastically unbalanced budgets," and with rank mismanagement in the fiscal, financial, and trade fields.

President Garcia said: "The Liberal charge is not only unfounded and improved; it is also gratuitous and ridiculous. It is, as I have said, a desperate attempt to convert defense into- offense, a last ditch try to make the red herring trick work."

The President told the Rotarians that Yulo, in hurling those charges at the NP, recited "half-truths and inaccurate figures or no figures at all to support premeditated and self-serving fuminations."

He said the presidential aspirant twisted and tortured economic data "for political effect" and in so doing, "sacrifice the national welfare to personal ambition."

The President cited facts and figures which he said were "of public record" to throw back Yulo's charges to the LPs themselves. See *Historical Papers and Documents*, pp. 4059-4066, for the full text of the President's speech.)

July 7.—THE President had breakfast at 7:30 a.m. with Miguel Velasco, "Malacañang financial assistant, who consulted him on the implementation of the new budget, particularly in the office of the President.

Sen. Edmundo Cea gave the President a favorable report on the latest political developments in the Bicol region. He said he was working for the complete solidification of Bicol political leaders to rally behind the President.

Other callers this morning included a delegation of the Citizens Committee for Garcia headed by Florendo Aquino and Rep. Ramon Mitra of Mt. Province.

Shortly after 10 a.m., the Chief Executive motored to the Baguio Cathedral, where he heard mass. After the mass he motored around the city.

Returning to the Guest House shortly before noon, the President received Gov. Marcos Malupa of Batanes, who reassured him that except for four or five congressmen, there was really no “revolt” in Congress. Malupa reported that Reps. Angel Castaño and Augusto Francisco of Manila and himself had canvassed 40 alleged rebels. Malupa also reported that governors and city mayors from the First Military Area and the Bicol bloc were scheduled to meet at the Manila Hotel tomorrow. Also invited to the meeting were Govs. Leon Guinto, Sr., of Quezon, Mariano Tajonera of Mindoro Oriental, and Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Occidental.

Among the last callers was Gov. Bernardo Gapuz of La Union, who appraised the Chief Executive on the latest political developments in his province. After having his lunch at 2 p.m., the President stayed in his bedroom the whole afternoon and evening.

PRESIDENT Garcia woke up this afternoon after a short nap feeling slightly indisposed; so he postponed his scheduled return to Manila for tomorrow noon.

The President was scheduled to go down by car at 4 p.m. today to board the plane at San Fernando. La Union, as the Loakan airfield in Baguio is closed in the afternoon owing to the weather. He expects to take off at Loakan before noon tomorrow and fly direct from Baguio to Manila.

The President received several delegations which called on him at the Guest House this morning. The first of these delegations was composed of some 50 Igorot farmers from nearby Trinidad and Tublay towns who requested the early adjudication of titles to the public lands they were cultivating.

Two delegations called to pledge their support. They were the Benguet Balatoc Workers Union delagation headed by Vicente Osemana and the Romblon provincial and municipal officials delagation who told the President they would support him whoever would be his running mate in the coming election.

Accompanied by Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, the Romblon group included Gov. Manuel Solidum, Board Members Francisco Benedicto and Vicente Tanciangco, and Mayors Isidro Mallorca of Romblon, Pablo Bargete of Badajos, Francisco Fernando of Odiongan, Li Umali of Cajidiocan, Elias Baranda of San Fernando, Teofisto Nepomuceno of Magdiwang, Dionisio Fetalvero of Jones, Gaudencio Molina of Sta. Fe, and” Vidal Tolieria of Corcuera.

July 8.—THIS morning President Garcia did not receive any caller at the Guest House in Baguio. He spent the whole morning in conference with Miguel D. Velasco, Malacañang financial assistant, on the implementation of the new budget. He also conferred with Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, who consulted him on pending matters.

Shortly before 12 noon, after an early lunch, the President motored to the Loakan airfield where he boarded the plane Pag-asa for the return trip to Manila. He took off at the Baguio airport under a heavy rain, and landed at Nichols Field one hour later.

ALIGHTING from the presidential plane *Pag-asa* at 12:20 p.m. from his two-day stay in Baguio, the President saw Col. Molina, who headed a large group of top ranking airforce officers who welcomed him at the air base. He decided to swear in the air force chief right at the base canteen where he sought shelter from a slight drizzle.

Col. Molina was one of three *ad interim* brigadier-generals whose appointments were signed by the President last Saturday morning shortly before he enplaned for the Pines City. The other two were Cols. Climaco Pintoy, commander of the IV MA, and Marcos Soliman, superintendent of the PMA. The latter was sworn in at the Guest House in Baguio Saturday afternoon.

July 9.—THIS morning the President inducted six mayors of Tarlac who formally affiliated with the Nacionalista Party and pledged to support his candidacy. The six mayors were among 15 mayors of Tarlac who called on the President and collectively pledged their loyalty to the Administration.

The six mayors, who were DP's before their affiliation, were Felipe Obillo of Moncada, Pedro Pascasin of Pura, Silvestre Sabado of Anao, Florencio Molioc of Sta. Ignacia, Esteban Mangabat of Ramos, and Amado Roldan of San Clemente.

Taken up by the Tarlac mayors with the President were their respective local problems, including the boundary dispute between Tarlac and Pangasinan which involved six barrios between San Clemente, Tarlac, and Mangatarem, Pangasinan. The President instructed Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon to look into the dispute and work out a solution as soon as possible.

Aside from the six newly affiliated mayors, others who saw the President were Mayors Hipolito Castañeda of Tarlac, chairman of the Mayors' League, Enrique Sison of Bamban, Francisco V. Nogoy of Capas, Eufonio Subara of Gerona, Patrocinio Garrido of Victoria, Eliodoro Castro of Paniqui, Dioscoro Felix of San Manuel, Rosendo Tomas of Mayantoc, Benigno Aquino, Jr., of Concepcion, and Vice-Mayor Jaime Vigilín of Camiling.

Other callers in the morning included Gov. Romulo Garrovillo of Zamboanga del Norte and Ambassador Francisco Javier Conde of Spain. In the evening, callers of the President were delegations headed by Rep. Salvador Enemas of Sorsogon and Rep. Constancio Castañeda and Governor Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac.

Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon this morning inducted the officers of the Department of Public Services Union in Manila. The officers were headed by Bernabe Juguilon, president; Hipolito Santos, 1st vice-president;

Nicasio Masangkay, 2nd vice-president; Bernabe Aguado, secretary; Anastacio Soriano, assistant secretary; Hermogenes Vigos, treasurer; Benjamin Padilla, assistant treasurer; and Genaro Galvez, auditor. The union officers were accompanied by former Bataan Rep. Medina Lacson de Leon and Mariano de Joya, Jr.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon paid tribute to the youth of the land whose determination to do their best for the government will redound to the betterment of the Filipino people.

The President made the remarks before officers and members of the League of Young Professionals who pledged to support his re-election. The young professionals also informed the President that they realized "the necessity of active participation in all phases of national endeavor—economic, political, and social."

The league was formed by young professionals all over the country, with the purpose of actively being "instrumental in the betterment of our people and in the moulding of our nation's destiny."

Thanking the young professionals for their pledge of support, the President paid tribute to their active spirit and recalled that the history of the country was replete with the heroism and patriotism of young people.

In a resolution submitted to the President, the young professionals said that "we are convinced that the man who can truly live up to the role demanded by the imperatives of our time is President Carlos P. Garcia, whose integrity as a man, devotion as a public servant, and greatness as a leader, have already been tested."

They pledged "to exert all efforts to the end that President Carlos P. Garcia be elected by the Filipino people as the fourth President of the Philippine Republic and to support his administration and policies in the interim."

The officers of the league included Santiago F. Dumlaog, Jr., Juanito R. Remullo, Augusto E. Villarin, Pablito J. Enano, Teodoro G. Bonifacio, Mariano C. Ereso, Jr., Ernesto T. Duran, and Teodulo Fra, Arriola.

THIS afternoon the President ordered Vicente G. Bunuan, chief of the Sugar Quota Office, to release immediately out of the “A” sugar, which is for export, the amounts necessary to meet requirements of local sugar consumption.

The President took this step in order to flood the market with enough sugar stocks and bring the price of this commodity to normal levels.

He issued the order during a 30-minute conference which he had with Bunuan in the President’s anteroom this afternoon.

PRESIDENT Garcia, in a conference with Gregorio S. Licaros, chief of the Import Control Division of the Central Bank, directed the Monetary Board to study immediately the lifting of the suspension by the Monetary Board of the granting of dollar allocations to Filipino exclusive distributors. The President’s directive followed the complaint last night of Benjamin R. Medrano, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, that the Monetary Board had not implemented the President’s directive of May 8, giving dollar allocations to exclusive distributors.

The President said he wanted a report on the Monetary Board’s study of this matter at the earliest possible time.

MALACANANG announced today that a satisfactory understanding for the solution of the problem of the American film industry in the Philippines has been arrived at.

The announcement was made after an early morning conference among the president, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, and Leo Hochstetter, representative of the Motion Picture Export Association of America.

It was agreed at the conference that: (1) the sum of \$1,800,000 representing part of the profits of U.S. films here will be allowed to be remitted to the United States; and” (2) the matter of levying back taxes on American movie films will be submitted to the proper court for final determination as to the legality of the action.

RECENT news reports stated that the President, in his speech before the Rotary Club of Baguio on July 6, claimed that the international reserve in 1950 was \$130 million. Evidently, this is a misinterpretation of the following statement:

“In 1950, the fiscal authorities of the Liberal Administration did not consider \$130,600,000 as ‘dangerously low.’ For the \$260,000,000 which they fixed as a safe level, \$130,000,000 would consist of funds borrowed from abroad. Our position today is certainly sounder and better than this, for our international reserves are nearly \$200,000,000 of which only \$15,200,000 consists of borrowed foreign fund.”

For purposes of clarification, this statement does not mean that the international reserve as of 1950 was \$130 million. The above paragraph was intended to point to the fact that the Liberal administration recognized that to carry on the development program of the country, balance of payments deficits would have to be incurred so that after 1953, the international reserve would have to be depleted to \$130 million unless foreign assistance were availed of. This recognition was expressly stated by the 1950 Report of the Philippine Economic Survey Mission of which Mr. Yulo was the Chairman. This report stated:

“... Within the framework of assumptions made, the international reserve after 1953 would be reduced from the present level to about \$130.6 million. The Commission believes that the international reserve should be maintained at the present level of \$260 million in order not to impair confidence in the value of the peso. The country, therefore, would need a foreign assistance to carry out this program to the extent of \$130 million.”

Despite heavy outlays for industrialization, the international reserve as of July 2, 1957, amounted to \$198.11 million, which is definitely better than the \$130 million anticipated by the Liberal Administration if the development program were to be pursued vigorously. Of this, only \$15 million represents repurchase obligations with the International Monetary Fund which is much lower than the \$130 million proposed to be availed of from foreign sources as loans, grants, and assistance in the Yulo Report. Hence, if we were to incur a total foreign obligation of

\$130 million, the international reserve level will be about \$300 million which exceeds the \$260 million considered as a safe level in the Yulo Report by \$40 million.

July 10.—THIS morning the President received NP ward leaders from Pasay City who informed him they would rally solidly behind him to insure his victory in the November elections.

Headed by Francisco Victor, president of the NP directorate in that city, the ward leaders recalled that the defeat of the NP mayoralty candidate in Pasay last election was due to the lack of unity of the NP's who had put up no less than three strong candidates for the post.

The 14 ward leaders who were at Malacañang this morning included former Acting Mayor Adolfo Santos, Nena Herrera, and Francisco Jalbuna.

The President also received Msgr. Egidio Vagnozzi, papal nuncio, who delivered a message from His Holiness Pope Pius XII extending the Holy Father's "cordial good wishes for your personal health and well-being and for the peace and prosperity of the people of the Philippines."

The President was deeply touched by the papal message and said he would keep it among his most treasured collections. It was in reply to a previous message sent to the Vatican recently by the President through Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma.

Mons. Vagnozzi also presented the President with a book entitled: "First Asian Meeting of the Apostolate of the Laity," a report of the apostolate congress held in Manila in December 1955. The Chief Executive thanked the Nuncio for the gift and promised he would read the book.

About 10 a.m., the President received Mayor Teopisto Cordova of Bacolod City, who reiterated his pledge of loyalty and at the same time denied reports he had committed himself to support an LP presidential aspirant. The Bacolod mayor explained he had met the LP presidential bet at the airport during the latter's recent visit to Bacolod simply because he was a member of the Lions Club which had invited the aspirant to that city.

Aurelio Montinola and Gerald Wilkinson, president and vice-president of the Republic Cement Corporation, respectively, also called to invite the Chief Executive to inaugurate their new cement plant in the latter part of this month.

The President convoked the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet at 10:45 a.m.

FOLLOWING up his order last evening to flood the market with A sugar in order to keep sugar prices at normal levels, President Garcia at the Cabinet meeting today took steps to insure that this sugar would not fall into the hands of combines and hoarders and that it be placed within the reach of all the people.

To achieve this end, the President created a committee composed of Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason as chairman, with Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, and National Economic Council Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez, as members.

The President charged the committee with studying ways and means of insuring that the "A" sugar which was to be dumped into the local markets, found its way direct to the consuming public and not hoarded by speculators.

The President said that it was necessary to take precautions in safeguarding this sugar from falling into the hands of combines or hoarders, because otherwise it would not accomplish the purpose for which it was intended.

He discussed at length with the Cabinet the sugar situation. He reviewed the steps already taken by the government in seeing to it that there were enough sugar stocks in the market.

The Chief Executive recalled that the 220,000 tons of sugar for domestic consumption had been augmented three times recently, first by 10,000 tons, then by 25,000 tons, and still later by 25,000 tons. He said that with his order last night, an additional 30,000 tons of sugar would be dumped into the market to make an all-time high of 310,000 tons of sugar for local consumption during the present year.

It was believed that the increase in local sugar prices was artificially generated. It was also held possible that other causes could be the hoarding of the commodity or the smuggling of sugar out of the country.

With the President's order to increase the local supply of sugar by an additional 30,000 tons and with the precautionary measures to be taken by the government, the price of sugar can be expected to return to normal levels.

The President and the Cabinet took another step in implementing the Administration's land reform program and in removing one of the causes of social unrest in Central Luzon when they approved the purchase of the 2,255-hectare Hacienda De Leon in Talavera, Nueva Ecija at P2, 746,000. The hacienda has 450 tenants with 1,929 dependents cultivating it.

After the purchase of the hacienda by the Land Tenure Administration, and after adding interests at 6 per cent per annum, including cost of survey subdivision, and registration, the hacienda will be sold to the tenants at an estimated cost, of P3.077 per hectare, payable in 25 equal annual installments of P123 annually.

The President and the Cabinet finally approved the purchase of the hacienda after a lengthy discussion of the merits of the purchase and after hearing Land Tenure Administration Administrator Manuel Castañeda and Commissioner Julian C. de Vera clear up some doubts regarding the vital information surrounding the purchase.

The President called Castañeda and De Vera in View of a complaint filed regarding alleged unreasonable price of the hacienda. After hearing the explanation regarding the cost price of the hacienda, its productivity, and the manner of its sale to the tenants, the President and the Cabinet gave their approval to its purchase.

The President and the Cabinet were informed that out of the 2,255 hectares, 1,805 hectares were irrigated ricelands, 101 hectares were unirrigated ricelands, 301 hectares were cornland, 29 hectares were wasteland, and 19 hectares were eroded by a river.

Upon learning that some portions of the hacienda were unirrigated and that some were not riceland, the President made it clear to Chairman Castañeda that in the distribution of the land to the tenants, the selling price should be proportionately adjusted in accordance with the nature and productivity of the land being sold to each tenant.

NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco, who is from Nueva Ecija himself and who was consulted on the purchase of the land, said that the expropriation of the hacienda was a forward step in eliminating one of the causes of social unrest in Central Luzon, because this hacienda was formerly a Huk territory. He said that its purchase was a wise move of the government and that it would contribute to the maintenance of peace in Central Luzon. The President and the Cabinet, approved a recommendation submitted by a Cabinet committee concurring with a previous recommendation of the National Economic Council and the Cabinet regarding the approval of the establishment of an incandescent lamps factory proposed by the Philips Electrical Lamps, Inc.

The establishment of the proposed factory was protested by the Philippine Electrical Manufacturing Company.

Among the reasons given by the Cabinet committee in stamping its approval were that the establishment of the company would result in benefits that would accrue to the consumers in particular and to the country in general, in terms of better quality lamps at lower prices to be brought about by competitive forces.

The committee was composed of NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez as chairman, with Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, and Acting OEC Administrator Juan Concon, as members.

The Cabinet meeting presided over by President Garcia was held at the Council of State room. It lasted from 10:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

MALACAÑANG explained today that President Garcia had vetoed the National Development Authority bill because it required congressional approval of corporate budgets which tend to reduce the effectiveness of government corporations as instruments for economic and social betterment.

In his veto message to Congress the President pointed out that the provision in the measure that the budgets of the proposed NDA and of the corporations under it shall be effective only after their approval by Congress, would give rise to serious adverse repercussions and implications. Operations of government corporations under the NDA would be paralyzed beginning July 1, 1957, he said.

“This requirement is not necessary for Congress to exercise broad powers of control over government corporations to make for efficient administration of the corporations,” the Chief Executive said. “Congress has the power to investigate the operations of government agencies, including the corporation. Moreover, the financial statements of the corporations are appended to the budget submitted by the Chief Executive to the Congress.”

The President also expressed objection to the Dill (S. B. 560—H. B. 6459) because it did not adequately meet the twin objectives set forth by the late President Magsaysay; namely, (1) to serve as a central implementing arm for economic development and (2) to supervise government corporations.

He said that the proposed NDA was “confined primarily and mostly to the supervision and coordination of government corporations, and, even at that, only of those corporations that may be placed under the Authority.” According to the President, the bill contained no other provision on how the NDA shall serve as an effective central implementing agency for economic plans, policies, and projects.

PRESIDENT Garcia designated Gregorio Rasalan as acting deputy commissioner of civil service, Malacañang announced this day.

Rasalan, who holds the degrees of Bachelor of Arts (1918) and Bachelor of Laws (1923) from the University of the Philippines, was the chief of the Investigation and Law Division of the Bureau of Civil Service until his designation.

His designation was recommended by Civil Service Commissioner Amado del Rosario. He replaces Ruben Ledesma, who was transferred to the Central Bank.

July 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed confidence that the NP arbitration committee would be able to solve all party local conflicts.

At a breakfast conference this morning with Nacionalista councilors and Vice-Mayor Jesus Marcos Rocas of Manila, the President said that the arbitration committee headed by Senator Jose P. Laurel, Sr., “has a very good batting average, and I am sure it will be able to solve all the local conflicts.”

The President also said that he was referring to the NP executive and arbitration committees all the protests and conflicts brought before him. He made it clear that he never intervened nor did he take a hand in any local conflict in Manila or anywhere else. He said that all local conventions must be held in accordance with the rules and regulations of the party.

The President made the announcement when he was told by some of the councilors of their problems in their respective districts. Three of the councilors informed the President about their intention of running for Congress under the NP banner. The three councilors were Fausto Alberto of the first district, Hermenegildo Gonzaga of the second district, and Gonzalo Santos Rivera of the fourth district.

The Manila councilors assured the President that they were going to work for the victory of whoever is nominated by the coming NP national convention. Most of them expressed the belief that the President would win the nomination.

During the conference, which lasted from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., the councilors also:

- (1) Unanimously expressed their stand against the appointment of the additional eight councilors of Manila, calling it “a waste of public funds.”
- (2) Suggested the establishment of a cooperative in the City Hall to handle the distribution and sale of NAMARCO goods to the employees and laborers of the City Hall;
- (3) Requested national aid for the establishment of more playgrounds in the city; and
- (4) Requested the early release of the RFC loan for the construction of the City Hall annex.

The President said that he would refer the establishment of the cooperative to the NAMARCO officials for study and action. He also said that he would talk to RFC officials about the loan for the City Hall annex.

Present at the breakfast conference were Vice-Mayor Roces, Councilors Gonzaga, Eriberto Remigio, Alberto, Antonio Barredo, Leonardo Garcia, Angel Linao, Rivera, Pablo Dio Cruz, and Apolonio Gener, and Municipal Board Secretary Paredes Tinoco.

After the breakfast conference, the President received callers. Among the callers were Gov. Salvador Lluch of Lanao and his delegation, Rep. Alberto Ubay and former Gov. Felipe Azcuna of Zamboanga del Norte, and the Ilocos Norte delegation of NP leaders composed of former Gov. Damaso

Samonte, former Rep. Ramon Campos, former Rep. Vicente Lazo, NP Provincial Chapter President Abraham Leaño, Dr. Rizalino de Peralta, official NP candidate for Congress in the second district of Ilocos Norte, and Carlitos V. David, national vice-coordinator of the Garcia for President Movement.

At 12:30 p.m. the President motored to the Manila Hotel, where he addressed the members of the Manila Rotary Club. The President was guest of honor at the inaugural luncheon-meeting of the Rotary Club of Manila at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel. His speech lasted about 15 minutes.

Fetches from Malacañang by Juan J. Carlos, Rotary outgoing president, and Joaquin B. Preysler, incoming vice-president, and accompanied by Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, the Chief Executive arrived at the Manila Hotel promptly at 12:30 p.m. The President and the First Lady were greeted with a prolonged standing ovation as they entered the Rotary meeting hall.

The inaugural program started about 1 p.m. with the National Anthem played by the Philippine Army band under Col. Laureano Cariño.

President Garcia was introduced by Francisco (Paco) Delgado, Rotary president. The Chief Executive finished speaking about 2 p.m.

In his speech before the Rotary Club of Manila at the Manila Hotel, the President cited facts and figures to defend the actions of the Nacionalista Administration in contrast to that of the Liberals.

President Garcia scored the previous Liberal administration for failing to solve substantially the country's economic and budgetary problems during its eight years of administering the nation's affairs.

Replying to the charges made by former speaker Jose Yulo, Liberal Party presidential aspirant, in another Rotary Club speech, President Garcia denounced the Liberals for “all the fallacies foisted upon the people concerning the budget, public indebtedness, and American aid.”

The Chief Executive pointed out that the previous Liberal government, “from 1946 to 1953, foisted annual budgets upon the people with fantastic deficits”.

In contrast to these, he explained, the Nationalista budgets from 1954 to 1956 have always shown surpluses.

Regarding loans, the President said the “past Liberal administration record borders on recklessness” with a total of P208.2 million borrowed to spend on ordinary operations of the government and some P152 million “illegally” taken from the fiduciary trust, special, and sinking funds of the government.

On the other hand, the President stressed, the Nacionalista administration has been able to pay off P157,915,000 of the Liberal government’s budgetary loans “and return all the pilfered funds” from the government coffers.

PRESIDENT Garcia received a 500-man delegation from the Philippine Veterans Legion which marched to Malacañang this afternoon to express their gratitude for his “deep and abiding concern for the welfare of the country’s veterans.”

In a resolution written on laminated wood and unanimously approved by the national directorate, the PVL thanked the President for the sympathetic attitude he had shown in their behalf, particularly his approval of four bills passed during the last session of Congress in which veterans were interested.

The four bills which were signed into laws were (1) that providing for the establishment of a Veterans Claims Commission, (2) that increasing the monthly pensions of permanently disabled vets from P50 to P100, (3) that creating a Reparations Commission and setting up policies to be followed in the disposition of war indemnities from Japan, and (4) that outlawing the Communist Party in the Philippines.

The President said that having fought the Japanese invaders himself during the dark days of the Occupation, he knew the sacrifices the veterans had undergone in defense of their homeland. They could, therefore, always count on him to advance their interest and welfare, he said.

The PVL delegation which staged a gratitude. rally at Malacañang this afternoon included Francisco Ofemaria, national commander; Jose Aranas, national vice-commander “for Luzon; Conrado J. Norada, national vice-commander for the Visayas; Peregrino Andres, national vice-commander for Mindanao; Tomas Nufable, national adjutant; Filomeno Padilla, national treasurer; Dominador Realon, national inspector; and Dante Nagtalon, national judge advocate.

Among the callers at Malacañang in the evening were 11 regional supervisors of the Social Welfare Administration who called to pay their respects, Ambassador Chen Chih-mai of Nationalist China, Rep. Celestino Juan and Gov. Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, and other political leaders from nearby provinces.

July 12.—THE President this morning had a breakfast conference with Manila officials headed by Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson with whom he discussed public improvements in the city.

Discussed extensively by the President with the city officials was the exchange of lands between the National Government and the City Government. The exchange involves the City’s land near the Manila Hotel and a government land in Intramuros. It was agreed at the meeting to expedite the exchange of the lands.

The land near the Manila Hotel, will be used by the National Government for the building of a Manila Hotel annex, while the land in Intramuros will be utilized by the City Government for the construction of a P1 million city high school.

Also taken up during the conference which lasted from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., was the establishment of additional playgrounds and recreational centers in Manila. The President agreed with the city officials that there was a necessity for additional playgrounds and recreational centers, and assured them of national aid.

Political matters were not taken up during the conference. With Mayor Lacson at the meeting were Rep. Joaquin Roces, Vice-Mayor Jesus Marcos Roces, and Jose W. Diokno, the city mayor's legal counsel.

AFTER the conference the President ordered Commissioner of Customs Eleuterio Capapas to release immediately the rice imported by the NARIC from Thailand in order to peg down the price of rice in the areas where this prime commodity is short. The Chief Executive ordered the immediate release of the rice during his conference with NARIC General Manager Vicente Concepcion at Malacañang. Concepcion said that the rice which arrived last July 8 was being held by the Bureau of Customs because of Republic Act No. 2017, which requires the NARIC to pay duty and tax for all rice imported by the government corporation. Concepcion informed the President that the rice imported by the NARIC from Thailand was 2,710 metric tons or 27,000 sacks.

The President ordered Capapas to release the rice and settle later with the NARIC about the payment of duties. The Chief Executive called Concepcion to Malacañang and inquired into the status of the imported rice.

After his conference with Concepcion, the President received Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Sen. Edmundo Cea, Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol, and Gov. Jose Dinglasan of Capiz.

Gov. Nicanor Maronilla Seva of Albay was also an early caller of the President. He called on the Chief Executive before the breakfast conference. IN the afternoon the President, received some 50 governors and city mayors who presented him with a scroll endorsing his candidacy. Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., who has been reported as supporting the Liberal Party presidential candidate, Jose Yulo, reiterated that he was with the governors and mayors for President Garcia.

After meeting the governors and mayors, the President presided over his weekly press conference. He inducted the new officers of the Malacañang Press Association; namely, Silvino Caparas, *Daily Mirror*, president; Celestino M. Vega, *BagongBuhay*, vice-president; Mabini Rey Centeno, *Liwayway*, secretary; Richard Po, Great China Press, treasurer; and Jesus Ortiz, *Voz de Manila*, sergeant-at-arms.

In the press conference the President discounted the possibility of a "dark horse" being nominated for the presidency in the NP convention.

He said he was optimistic he would get 60 per cent of the delegates' votes.

The President likewise dismissed as speculations that Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez would also seek the presidential nomination.

He blamed the report on intriguers. However, President' Garcia refused to name those intriguers within the NP.

Answering Sen. Pelaez' blast that the NP would break up if he won the nomination, the President said that the Misamis solon could not speak for the party. "If that is his view," the President said, "he is entitled to his own opinion."

Asked about the charges Lacson aired in his weekly radio broadcast against Yulo, LP presidential bet, the President said he was familiar with the P2 million loan the former speaker allegedly secured without sufficient collaterals.

He said he believed the loan was anomalous and recalled he picked it up in the campaign in 1953 as an issue against Yulo, then the LP vice-presidential candidate. However, he refused to say whether he would do anything about the loan.

The President told newsmen he was not familiar with Lacson's charges on the tax liabilities of the LP presidential standard bearer.

On the matter of his vice-presidential running mate, the President reiterated he was leaving the choice of the vice-presidential candidate to the convention.

After the press conference, the President received delegations from Ilocos Sur, headed by former Gov. Perfecto Faypon, and from Batangas, accompanied by Rep. Apolinario Apacible.

The Ilocos Sur delegation included Board Member Faustino Tobia and. Mayors Godofredo S. Reyes of Sta. Maria, Nicolas Bello of Santa, and Juan Ines of Sinait. The Batangas group included Mayors Leon Sangalang of Lemery, Pedro Diokno of San Luis, Gregorio Brotonil of Aguinaldo, Olimpio Sayo of Calatagan, Quirino Lejano of Lian, and Conrado Macatangay of Calaca.

The President also received a delegation of 50 NP provincial governors and city mayors who presented him with a resolution, unanimously approved at their convention, pledging to work for his nomination in the convention.

Mayor Osmeña of Cebu City, president of the governors and mayors league, presented to the President a scroll signed by the governors and mayors.

Elated by the pledge, the President expressed optimism he would win the convention with their support.

A Malacañang spokesman pointed out that the governors have many delegates who could swing the convention in favor of the President.

Osmeña, in presenting the scroll, told the President that not all the governors signed the resolution because of their inability to attend the convention.

The provincial executives also explained that governors who were not at the convention had previously pledged their support to the President.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao to investigate immediately the alleged hazing of Cadet Juanito Rimando, who is now confined at V. Luna General Hospital.

The alleged hazing of Plebe Rimando was brought before the attention of the President by the cadet's mother, Mrs. Maria R. Rimando, who said "I was promised by the officers of the PMA that they would take action against the guilty cadet, but I don't know if they have already investigated and taken action against the cadets mentioned by my son to have participated in the hazing."

Mrs. Rimando told the President that her son was hazed by upper classmen on June 15, 1957, and as a result he was operated on last June 17 at the PMA hospital. Cadet Rimando, was later transferred to the V. Luna General Hospital, where he is still confined. Mrs. Rimando said she finds no progress" in her son's recovery. The President talked to Mrs. Rimando for about 15 minutes.

July 13.—NACIONALISTA political leaders from all six provinces of the Bicol region converged upon Naga City today, to give President Garcia a rousing welcome and to reassure him of their solid support in the forthcoming NP convention as well as in the November polls.

Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, who accompanied the President to Naga this morning, said he had been authorized to inform the Chief Executive that all 128 delegates of the Bicol bloc to the NP convention would support his nomination and work for his election.

Secretary Hernandez explained that his fellow Bicolanos were subordinating whatever local differences and divergence of views they might have on other political questions in order to put up a solid front behind the candidacy of President Garcia.

“The provinces of Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Albay, Sorsogon, Catanduanes, and Masbate have a total of 128 delegates to the NP convention, and we are giving it all to President Garcia,” Hernandez said. “If we had more delegates, we would give more to the President.”

In an informal interview with newspapermen who were with the presidential party in Camarines Sur, Sen. Pedro Sabido this noon also said he was quite certain that neither Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., nor Senator Jose P.-Laurel, Sr., would submit their names for nomination against the President.

“Why should we put up a candidate other than President Garcia and place our opponents on equal footing with us? Sen. Sabido asked. He explained that it would be more advantageous for the NP’s to have an incumbent president as their standard bearer.

Practically all NP senators, congressmen, governors, mayors, and other political leaders in all six Bicol provinces were on hand to receive the President on his visit to Naga today. Accompanied by Sens. Sabido and Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez; Reps. Felix Fuentebella of Camarines Sur, Justino Nuyda of Catanduanes, and Angel M. Castaño of Manila; and Gov. Bernardo Torres of Leyte, the President landed at the Pili airport near Naga at 8:15 a.m. aboard the presidential plane *Dagohoy*, formerly the *Laong-Laan*, used by the late President Quirino.

Among his welcomers at the airport were mayors’ delegations from Camarines Norte headed by Rep. Fernando Pajarillo, from Camarines Sur headed by Gov. Juan Triviño and Ambassador Jose Fuentebella from Albay led by Gov. Nicanor Maronilla-Seva, and from Sorsogon headed by Gov. Juan Frivaldo and Rep. Salvador Encinas.

After acknowledging the cheers of his welcomers, the President was whisked in an open car to Naga City, some 12 kilometers away, at the head of a three-kilometer long motorcade of cars, jeeps, and buses. In Naga city he heard a *Te Deum* at the Nueva Caceres cathedral. Then he had breakfast at the residence of Ambassador Fuentebella, where he conferred with Bicol political leaders.

In a mammoth rally held later at the city plaza, the President thanked the people of Bicolandia for their pledge of support as well as for the lavish reception accorded him and members of his party. “I fervently hope I shall continue to deserve this Bicol hospitality showered upon me today” he said.

The President expressed regret for his inability to prolong his visit in the locality because of pressing engagements in Manila. He, however, promised to return and visit other towns in the Bicol region which, he said had always stood by the NP administration in the past.

It rained hard during most of the President’s brief stay in Naga, but at 10 a.m., the time the public rally was scheduled, the rains stopped. It resumed pouring again after the President had spoken.

There were fireworks display during the rally. A huge plastic balloon with the inscription, “Long Live President Garcia,” was released amidst cheers of *Mabuhay* from the mammoth crowd gathered at the plaza despite inclement weather.

After luncheon at the University of Nueva Caceres, the President took off at the Pili airport for the return trip to Manila under a driving rain. The presidential plane had to leave as early as possible in order to head off a fast-approaching typhoon.

The President was back in Malacañang about 3:30 p.m.

He conferred this afternoon with provincial governors and city mayors headed by Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., at Malacañang.

PRESIDENT Garcia extended a 30-day reprieve to three prisoners who are scheduled to burn Monday (July 15), Malacañang announced this day.

The three prisoners are Bautista Ragandan, Hilario Mendova, and Alfredo Mendova, on whom the death penalty had been imposed for the crime of robbery with double murder.

The President in his order said that the report and recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole on the petition for commutation to life imprisonment of the death penalty imposed upon said prisoners had just been received in Malacañang and some time was needed for a thorough and careful consideration of the merits of the petition.

The 30-day reprieve expires on August 13, 1957.

July 14.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia today stayed aboard the yacht *Santa Maria* with a rowdy group of guests—newspapermen and their ladies.

The Garcias, together with their son-in-law, Fernando Campos, dined, wine, and even played and danced with their guests.

“We shall have another affair like this,” President Garcia said in brief remarks to the reporters. “And it will be after the elections.”

The *Santa Maria* was converted into a floating casino as the hosts and their guests played dice and mahjongg. The President played chess with several newsmen and beat all of them.

The President and the First Lady, who were in high spirits, danced to the tune of Calypso music furnished by an Army band while the boat rocked and roiled as it was lashed by huge waves outside the breakwater.

A number of newspapermen and most of the ladies got seasick, forcing Commodore Jose Francisco, Navy chief, to order the yacht to return to Pier 5.

Mrs. Garcia left the boat at 3 o’clock in the afternoon in order to catch up with an engagement, while the President stayed aboard the boat with the newsmen until sundown.

July 15.—THE President this morning took steps to encourage the cotton industry by approving the lease of a government land in Mindanao to the Cotton Plantation, Inc., a corporation 80 per cent Filipino, through the National Development Company.

NDC General Manager Jose Panganiban, who recommended approval of the lease, said that the terms of the lease would be similar to that which had been granted to the Philippine Packing Corporation.

Panganiban pointed out that one of the provisions of the contract of lease provides for profit sharing between the corporation and the government.

The President approved the lease at a breakfast this morning with Jose Fernandez, Cielito Zamora, Romeo Villongco, and Harry Stonehill, board members of the Cotton Plantation Corporation. After the breakfast, the President proceeded to his study to receive his callers.

Gov. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga accompanied Candaba Mayor Godofredo Gatus, who requested aid for public works improvements in his town.

Also present were Mrs. Constancia Maglalang and Jose Jecson, head teacher and teacher of the Sta. Ana Primary School and the Candaba Elememary School, respectively, who requested prefab schoolhouses in their respective localities.

Then the President received Sultan Batu Ali, a political leader from Dansalan City. Accompanied by former Mayor Cesar Bendigo of Sta. Cruz, Davao, the sultan denied reports that he had pledged his support to a Liberal Party presidential candidate. Batu Ali reiterated his pledge to support President Garcia's election bid.

Then the President proceeded to his private chamber, where he conferred with defense and AFP officials.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the AFP judge advocate general to review the report of Philippine Military Academy authorities which had investigated the alleged brutal hazing of the 4th Class Cadet Juanito Rimando.

Giving his directive through the AFP general staff, the President directed the JAGO to submit its recommendations within 48 hours.

The President issued his directive after receiving the report of the PMA board of officers which was submitted by PMA Superintendent Brig. Gen. Marcos Soliman. General Soliman was accompanied to Malacañang by Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol, and AFP Chief of Staff Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano.

At the conference with defense and AFP officials this morning, the President recalled that certain improvements in the PMA administration had been undertaken by the late President Magsaysay during whose time a hazing case reached the late Chief Executive. President Garcia ordered that further efforts be exerted to correct whatever defects may yet be found in that military institution.

The PMA authorities investigating the hazing case recommended the dismissal of nine cadets, the suspension for one year of seven, and disciplinary action for three.

Recommended for dismissal were Second Class Cadets Jesus N. Alcordo, Rudy B. Enojas, Primitivo V. Lara, Diosdado Cunanan, Bernabe Oreña, Jose S. Capa; and Third Class Cadets Eduardo Enriquez, Oscar Florendo, and Urso D. Bello.

Recommended for one-year suspension were Second Class Cadets Manuel Oxales, Gumersindo Yap, Jose Filio, Virgilio Blas, Elias Sta. Clara; and Third Class Cadets Mateo Buwagas and Rolando Guzman.

Recommended for disciplinary action were Second Class Cadets Jose Commendador and Hermogenes Peralta, and Third Class Cadet Armando Garcia.

THIS evening President Garcia received a delegation representing local producers and importers who protested against a resolution of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank reducing their regular foreign exchange allocations for the current semester.

The delegation informed the President that the reduction of their dollar quotas had caught them by surprise, as Resolution No. 950 of the MB was passed last June 26 without warning nor prior hearing. They expressed fear that it might result in the paralyzation of industries affected and the laying off of thousands of workers.

Jesus Cabarrus, president of the Base Metals Association, who acted as spokesman, said that 44 private producer and importer firms were affected by the MB ruling. He said that the withdrawal of exchange allocations would keep producer firms from importing much-needed machinery, spare parts, and supplies for their factories.

The President said he would confer with members of the MB sometime tomorrow and find out their reasons for adopting the resolution. He said he would decide on the protest as soon as he had heard the side of the board.

The disputed MB resolution provided that “regular foreign exchange allocations for the second semester of 1957, of quota holding firms which have been granted barter permits by the No-Dollar Import Office, Department of Commerce and Industry, shall be reduced to the extent of the amount of such barter permits granted during the first semester of 1957.” The resolution was published in a circular issued by the Central Bank last July 3.

Cabarrus said that the new ruling would automatically reduce the importation of much-needed machinery replacements from the United States. Since barter could only be made with Japan, which does not have the required machinery, the curtailment of the importation would impair the operation of the firms, he said. Among those affected are mining, lumber, abaca, copra, and importer firms.

Other members of the delegation which called at Malacañang this evening were Jose Cuyugan, general manager of the Philippine Iron Mines; P. B. Dionisio, Ramon Bagatsing, and Dominador Ramos, vice-president, treasurer, and director, respectively, of the Producers and Exporters Association; and Sebastian Ugarte, secretary-treasurer of the Base Metals Association.

Source: **National Library of the Philippines**

President's Month in Review: July 16-31, 1957

Official Month in Review: August 1 – August 15, 1957

August 1.— THIS morning the President had his eyes examined by EENT experts of the Veterans Memorial Hospital on the occasion of the opening of the Sight Saving Week.

The EENT experts, Dr. Noe Legasto, chief of the EENT department of the VMH, and Dr. Terencio Gener, EENT specialist of the VMH, said that the eyeglasses being used by the President were still all right for his eyes.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia's eyes were also examined by Dr. Legasto and Dr. Gener. The EENT specialists told the First Lady that she should get a new pair of eyeglasses with a higher grade.

Present during the examination of the President's and the First Lady's eyes in the music room of Malacañang were Acting Labor Secretary Agapito Braganza, Sight Saving Week Committee Chairman Ernesto Runno, Philippine Eye Bank Chairman Leopoldo Rovira, Jr., VMH Director Joaquin Sanchez, Dr. Guillermo Ilano, Dr. Marcelino Angangco, VMH assistant director, P.E.B. co-Chairman Henry Tang, Director Jose S. Alfonso, Ramon Zosa, Mrs. Benjie Kosloff, Mrs. Amparo L. de Guzman, Mrs. Dominador Aytona, and others.

After the examination of his eyes, the President received the Earl of Bandon, commander-in-chief of the British Royal Air Force in the Far East. The Earl of Bandon, who paid a courtesy call, was accompanied by Christopher Ewart-Piggs, charge d'affaires of the British Embassy.

Other callers of the President were mostly provincial delegations headed by political leaders. The callers renewed their pledges of support to the President's election bid. Among those who saw the President were Gov. Bierivenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur and his delegation; Mayor H. de Pedro of Koronadal, Cotabato, and his followers; Gov. Diego Ty-Deling of Misamis Occidental and Mayor Angel Medina of Ozamis City; Rep. Jose Nuguid of Bataan; Rep. Godofredo Ramos and Gov. Jose Raz Mehes of Aklan and their delegation; Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental; Rep. Tobias Former of Antique, and Gov. Juan Alberto of Catanduanes. Another courtesy caller of the President was retired U.S. Navy Capt. Richard Gaines.

The President also received Enrique Soriano of Iloilo, who was a delegate to the recent Nacionalista Party national convention. Soriano reported to the President that because of the lack of irrigation system in Iloilo there was a draught in the towns of Balasan, Estancia, Carles, and Batad. The President assured Soriano that he did instruct, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno to look into the possibility of constructing an irrigation system to serve the, four towns.

PRESIDENT Garcia conferred with a number of city and provincial executives who called on him at Malacañang this afternoon to air their views and suggestions, regarding the political situations in their respective localities and requested him to transmit those suggestions to the executive committee of the Nacionalista Party.

At an impromptu press conference following his meeting with the city and provincial officials, the President did not reveal the views and suggestions aired.

Those who met with the President at the Council of, State room in Malacañang from 6 to 7 p.m. were Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., of Cebu City and Govs. Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, Alejandro Almendras of Davao, Bernardo Torres of Leyte, Felixberto Dagani of Agusan, Marcos Malupa of Batanes, and Romulo Garrovillo of Zamboanga del Norte.

August 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia, who has been kept busy by crowds of delegates and other callers who visited him the whole week after his first ballot victory, slipped out of Malacañang early this morning.

He boarded the Navy ship *Alert*, together with his aide, Maj. Jose Estrella, and cruised around Manila Bay for a three-day rest.

The President is planning to stay aboard the ship until Sunday. He may extend his cruise until Monday, as he plans to shy away from the Nacionalista Party executive committee meeting to give that body “a free hand” in choosing his running mate. President Garcia has refrained from throwing his support behind any of the vice-presidential aspirants.

President Garcia said he wanted to stay alone. He has previously told his aides to cut down on callers but many visitors trooped to Malacañang just the same. Most of them claimed they were delegates to the NP convention which had endorsed his nomination on the first ballot.

The President decided to board the *Alert*, as his hideout in Fort Wm. McKinley has been too well-known for him to seek refuge from callers.

Before motoring to the wharf, the President directed Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon to accept the resignation of Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol and sign it.

He likewise directed Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, and Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson to proceed to Pangasinan to check up on the progress of the reconstruction and relief work in the flooded areas.

Before leaving Malacañang to board the *Alert*, the President received Rep. Maximino Noel of Cebu.

On board the *Alert*, the President conferred with Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno on matters affecting the Central Bank. After Cuaderno left, President Garcia held a breakfast conference with a group headed by former Sen. Felixberto Verano which included Aproniano Borres and Guillermo Anton.

At 11 a.m. the President received Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and discussed with the latter routine matters involving the budget.

He then received Rep. Manuel Zosa of Cebu and Gov. Juan Trivifio of Camarines Sur, after which he worked on pending state papers.

Up to late at night, the President was still on board the *Alert*. Malacañang could not say whether or not he was spending the night on board the Navy ship.

August 3.—THE PRESIDENT stayed aboard the Navy ship *Alert* for the second consecutive day today, cruising around Manila Bay.

The President was reported to have relaxed the whole day, napping and playing chess aboard the *Alert*.

President Garcia used the *Alert*, as the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* is under repairs after it had been used by newsmen and their ladies a few days before the convention.

A brief report reaching Malacañang said that the President received the report of a presidential team which had enplaned for Mabini, Pangasinan, this day to survey the progress of relief and reconstruction operations in the flooded areas.

The report was submitted to the President by Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, and Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson.

The President had ordered the trio to fly to Mabini early this morning to check on the relief brought to the flooded areas.

Malacañang also said the President had lunch aboard the *RPS Ifugao*, one of the Navy cruisers. It was not known why the President transferred to the light cruiser for lunch.

However, after his lunch, the President was reported to have returned to the *Alert*, where he took a short nap and then played chess with an ill .Identified playmate.

President Garcia may return to Malacañang tomorrow evening, although there were reports that he may stay aboard the *Alert* till Monday afternoon and let the N.P executive committee choose his running mate.

While aboard the *Alert* this day, the President was reported to have listened to the progress of the Liberal Party convention proceedings through a radio set.

The President was accompanied by Maj. Jose Estrella, his aide.

August 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning heard mass aboard the *RPS Ifugao*, anchored a short distance from the Navy headquarters, where he had been staying since Saturday to study state papers.

After breakfast he read the Sunday papers and received a few callers. Among the callers were Gov. Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, who discussed problems affecting his province, and GSIS General Manager Rodolfo Andal, who took up GSIS matters.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia and a few members of the President's family went aboard the *RPS Ifugao*, where they ate lunch with the President. About 2 p.m., Mrs. Garcia and her companions returned to Malacañang.

Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, Gov. Juan Pajo of Bohol, and Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison also boarded the ship and conferred with the President. The President gave his order summoning heads of several government agencies to attend the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

Among the office chiefs summoned to the Cabinet meeting were Ernesto Jimenez, acting ACCFA administrator; Juan O. Chioco, NARIC chairman; Benjamin F. Estrella, NAMARCO general manager; Manuel Castaneda, land tenure administrator; and Fernando Santiago, Agricultural Tenancy Commission chairman.

The President said that he would like to know from these officials their progress in implementing the government's objective of attending to the primary needs of the people. He added that if these officials had problems in carrying out their work, the President and the Cabinet members would discuss the problems and seek their solution.

The Chief Executive said that he wanted to know personally from Jimenez and Chioco the present rice and corn situation, and the working agreement between these two agencies regarding their previous difficulties.

President Garcia would like to be informed how the ACCFA head was implementing a recent presidential order on the improvement of the mechanics of fertilizer distribution and increased allocations of fertilizers to meet the requirements of farmers.

With regard to the NAMARCO, the President would like to have a report on the present sugar situation and to know if this agency was supplying the local retailers with enough prime commodities needed by the consuming public.

President Garcia said that he was interested in receiving a progress report of the Land Tenure Administration as to the number of landed estates already bought and subdivided and the number of tenants who have been benefited.

He would like also to be informed by the Agricultural Tenancy Commission on the progress it was making in the promotion of better relationships between the landowners and the tenants.

Mrs. Amparo Villamor, social welfare administrator, and a member of the Cabinet will also report on the work of her office in helping ameliorate the living conditions of the people.

The Chief Executive said that he wanted the heads of various government agencies to apprise him and the Cabinet of what they were doing and to present their problems so that these could be solved. He added that he wanted to know these reports so that he could vigorously implement the government policy of attending to the people's needs more effectively.

ON learning about former Speaker Eugenio Perez's death, the President sent the following message of condolence:

"I join the Filipino people in mourning the death of former Speaker Eugenio Perez. Fondly called 'The Manong', he was an outstanding leader of his party. In my long years of association with him, I found him both a worthy opponent in politics and a sincere friend. Mrs. Garcia and I extend our heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Perez and her family and pray to the Almighty for his eternal repose."

IN the afternoon, the President worked on state papers. He is expected to be back to Malacañang tomorrow morning.

August 5.— AT a luncheon this noon tendered by Speaker Jose B. Laurel Jr., at the Filipinas Hotel after his proclamation as the Nacionalista official vice-presidential candidate, President Garcia reiterated his appeal for NP unity in order to insure the party's victory in the coming elections.

At the same time, the Chief Executive expressed his appreciation over the results of the NP national convention and the deliberations of the NP executive committee in reposing their confidence in him and in Speaker Laurel.

"I am sure of one thing—the masses of our people have faith and confidence in the Nacionalista Party, and we shall not fail the people who have already pronounced a favorable judgment on the Nacionalista Party, as shown in public manifestations, especially in the 18 provinces I have visited recently," the President said.

Among those present at the luncheon were Sens. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., Pacita M. Gonzalez, Manuel C. Briones, Pedro Sabido, Cipriano Primicias, Jose C. Locsin, Roseller T. Lim, Alejo Mabanag, and Domocao Alonto; Secretaries Jaime Hernandez, Florencio Moreno, Fortunato de Leon, and Eulogio Balao; Reps. Jose Aldeguer, Arturo M. Tolentino, Bartolome Cabangbang, Angel Castaño, Tobias Fbrnier, Francisco Ortega, and Ramon Mitra; Govs. Nicanor Maronilla Seva, Arsenio Lugay, Bernardo Torres, Alejandro Almendras, and Dominador Chipeco; Ambassadors Felixberto Serrano and Jose Fuentebella; and Cebu City Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr.

After lunch the President, together with Speaker Laurel and other NP stalwarts, motored to the residence of former Speaker Eugenio Perez to condole with the widow, Mrs. Consuelo Salazar-Perez, and immediate members of the family.

UPON arriving at Malacañang early this morning from *RPS Ifugao*, the President started receiving callers, among them Secretaries Oscar Ledesma, Eulogio Balao, and Florencio Moreno; Ambassador Serrano, CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sen. Roseller T. Lim, and Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao.

Then he proceeded to the Malacañang lawn where he reassured about 1,000 recognized and unrecognized guerrillas belonging to the Talbac Regiment that the Veterans Commission as provided for in R. A. 1889 would be created soon. Screening of guerrilla applications for veterans benefits would also start soon, he said.

At the study room, the President received members of the Batangas Lawyers Association, led by Mario Gutierrez, who requested him to be their guest speaker at the induction of their officers.

Soon after this, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., arrived with Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez, to inform officially the President of Speaker Laurel's selection as official vice-presidential candidate of the Nacionalista Party.

Speaker Laurel also invited the President for luncheon at the Filipinas Hotel to celebrate his selection.

THE President today accepted “with the utmost regret” Press Secretary J. V. Cruz’s resignation, “effective upon the appointment of your successor.”

In submitting his resignation, Secretary Cruz said that as he had been nominated and confirmed as the official candidate of the Nacionalista Party for the lone congressional seat of Bataan, “I will have to begin campaigning for your victory and mine, and that of our party’s entire ticket in the coming November elections.”

Cruz said that it had been a pleasure and a privilege for him to have served with President Garcia, “not only as your press secretary since your succession to the Presidency but long before that, at the various SEATO conferences which I had attended as a member of the Philippine delegation under your wise guidance and leadership.”

He expressed confidence that the people would renew their faith and confidence in President Garcia’s stewardship of their affairs at the November elections. He expressed the hope that he would have the “opportunity to continue serving you as a member of congress.”

President Garcia praised J. V. for having discharged the responsibilities and functions of his office with high distinction. The President said that this fact had been recognized early “during your tenure by the most appropriate and severest possible judge of your work, the National Press Club, when it unanimously recommended to the late President Magsaysay that your position be raised to Cabinet rank, and the late President readily acceded.”

The President gave assurance that he would contribute in every way he could to J. V.’s election to Congress, “not only because of your obvious qualifications to serve in that august body but because I will need, assuming my own re-election, your continued service and support.”

The President thanked J. V. for his pledge of assistance, and he expressed high hopes that “our cause will meet with the enthusiastic endorsement and approval of an overwhelming majority of our people.”

August 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia received numerous callers the whole morning today.

After a breakfast conference with Sens. Jose Locsin and Cipriano Primicias, the President received former Sen. Salipada Pendatun and Rep. Luminog Mangelen. He also received Sens. Quintin Paredes and Francisco Delgado and PNB President Arsenio Jison.

Two separate delegations from Iloilo, one headed by Gov. Mariano Peñaflorida and the other, by Sen. Jose C. Zulueta, saw the President.

The delegation led by Peñaflorida included Reps., Pedro Trono and Ricardo Y. Ladrado; Domitilo Abordo; Mayors Toribio Barredo of Barotac Nuevo, Rafael Lacuesta of Lambunao, Severino Fernandez of Calinoc, and Florentino Perez of Pototan; Dr. Ricardo Provideo; and Esteban Debuque.

Zulueta’s delegation included Provincial Board Member Guadalino Mosqueda; Ceferino de los Santos and Nicolas Centeno; and Mayors Juanito Pondon of Dumangas, Nicolas Tarrosa of Banate, Potenciano Imperial of Lucena, and Simplicio Carreon of Oton.

Eligio J. Tavanlar, past president of the Manila Lions Club, led a delegation of fellow Lions to ask the President to be the guest speaker at a banquet to be given at the Manila Hotel on August 19, birthday of the Late President Manuel L. Quezon. Other Lions present were Eduardo Escobar, president; Dr. Climpio Villacorta, immediate past president; Leon Lopez, first vice-president; Domingo Arcega, secretary; and Mike Campos, director.

Rufino G. Gache led a delegation of officials and members of the Bicol Youth for Garcia Campaign Committee. Other members present included Juan E. Verdad, Carmelisa Reyes, Jose Montanez, Napoleon Fulay, Guadalupe Basco, Wilfrido Panotes, Jr., Jose Tayato Ester Cater, Lourdes Balce, and Dr. Restituto Valentin.

In response to the wire for aid of the 360 workers of the Philippine Rubber Project Company in Kabasalan, Zamboanga del Sur, who are on strike, President Garcia contributed P500 from his personal funds as aid for the purchase of 20 sacks of rice. Alfredo R. Gomez, president of the Labor and Tenant Movement for Garcia, together with Ricardo Z. Buyco, president of the Inter-island Labor Organization, and Dominador S. Sustento, ILO legal counsel, told the President that they would enplane tomorrow for Kabasalan to deliver the presidential aid.

Gomez said that President Garcia proved he was a true friend of labor.

PRESIDENT Garcia today granted another 30-day reprieve to death convict Crispin Verzo, who was scheduled to burn on the electric chair tomorrow.

Verzo, who had been sentenced to death for planting a time bomb in a Philippine Air Lines plane, had been previously given a 30-day stay of execution by the President. The first reprieve expires today.

The President, in granting another reprieve, said that "some time was considered still necessary for a thorough and careful study of the merits of the petitions for executive clemency filed in behalf of prisoner Crispin Verzo."

IN the afternoon, the President conferred for several minutes with Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., the Nacionalista Party's vice-presidential candidate, and later presided over a press conference.

Speaker Laurel was grilled by Palace newsmen on the Batangas electoral reaction in the coming polls. He declared that "no Batangueño can say Sen. Claro M. Recto will lose in Batangas."

However, he added that his election as President Garcia's running mate has greatly improved the chances of candidates in that province.

"Senator Recto is not the only Batangueño. I am a Batangueño and so is my father," Speaker Laurel said.

It was one of the most well-attended press conferences, with a number of "rah-rah" boys from several Garcia-for-President clubs present to furnish the line for the President to follow.

President Garcia also announced he was naming Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison as acting press secretary to replace Secretary J. V. Cruz, who resigned the other day.

THE following is the text of the joint statement of President Garcia and Speaker Laurel as presidential and vice-presidential candidates, respectively, of the Nacionalista Party:

"In this our first joint press conference as official candidates of the Nacionalista Party, we would like to offer our greetings to the people of the Philippines through the press and radio.

"We are deeply grateful to the Nacionalista Party for its overwhelming manifestation of confidence in choosing us to be its standard bearers in the coming national elections.

"Drawing strength from this mandate of our Party, we are determined to push onward to victory our campaign for the entire Nacionalista Party ticket. We will go to the people whose will is sovereign in a democracy—in the barrios, on the farms, in the factories, and everywhere else—and remind them of this truth: That the Nacionalista Party Administration has been faithfully implementing the program of government as initiated by our beloved late President Ramon Magsaysay.

“We will ask them to reaffirm their faith in the Nacionalista Party because it has proved itself the genuine guardian of Magsaysay’s ideals for good government. For it is through the Nacionalista Party that the people can realize the fulfillment of the late leader’s dream of improving their lot.

“We are confident that with the aid of Divine Providence and the solid support of our Party and the people, all Nacionalista candidates will be given an impressive verdict of victory at the November polls.

“We also would like to take this opportunity to convey our gratitude to the press, radio, and television for their splendid cooperation in the holding of a democratic convention as well as an honest and orderly nomination.”

IN the evening the President received a delegation of five provincial governors who suggested the inclusion of provincial governors in the NP senatorial ticket and in the Cabinet.

The governors who called on the President were Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, Alejandro Almendras of Davao, Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Oriental, Juan Triviho of Camarines Sur, and Diego Ty-Deling of Misamis Occidental.

The President assured the governors that he would transmit their request to the Nacionalista Party executive committee.

The President also received the San Juan, Rizal, councilors headed by Vice-Mayor Sofronio Veloso. The councilors and Vice-Mayor Veloso pledged their support to the President’s election bid. They also invited the Chief Executive to inaugurate the San Juan GPM (Garcia-for-President-Movement) headquarters where Vice-Mayor Veloso is the coordinator.

Other callers of the President included Rep. Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao and his delegation, Rep. Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental and his delegation, and Gov. Manuel Solidum of Romblon and Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno.

August 7.—THIS morning the President had breakfast with political leaders from Lanao with whom he discussed local problems like public improvements and the province’s political situation.

Present at the breakfast were Sen. Domocao Alonto, Lanao Gov. Salvador Lluch, Mardki Alonto and Laurentino Badolles, a congressional aspirant. Also present at the breakfast was Olimpio Villacorta, former Liberal Party stalwart of Lanao, who pledged his support to the entire Nacionalista Party ticket in the coming elections.

The Lanao leaders reiterated their pledge of support for all the Nacionalista official candidates in the coming elections. They assured the President that the Nacionalista Party will win in Lanao.

After the breakfast, the President proceeded to the Council of State room, where he presided over the regular Cabinet meeting.

PRESIDENT Garcia and his Cabinet in a 4-hour meeting this day attended by six heads of government agencies:

- (1) Discussed ways to pull down the prices of essential commodities and provide incentives for better production; and
- (2) Received a progress report on what the government has already accomplished in providing lands and homes for the landless and the homeless, and in promoting better relations between tenants and landowners,

The need for lowering the price of rice and maintaining it at the authorized ₱.85 level and the necessity of providing incentives to producers in order to increase rice production and thereby assure its steady local supply, were resolved by adopting the following measures:

(1) Aside from the expected arrival of some 40,000 tons of rice at about the end of August, the President and the Cabinet approved an additional importation of 20,635 tons. This will cover up the expected shortage of rice caused by pests and typhoons which hit the Bicol region, Visayas, Mindanao, and Central Luzon, including the poor second rice crop in Central Luzon.

NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco explained to the Cabinet that the first NARIC importation of 39,365 tons of rice this year had already been exhausted and the expected 40,000 tons was due to arrive at the end of this month. He, however, stressed that in view of the anticipated rice shortage, there was still necessity to import the additional 20,635 tons in order to cover the 100,000 tons of rice importation originally intended for this year as approved by the late President Magsaysay.

The President and the Cabinet agreed that with these steps, together with the harvest of upland and other early palay varieties in September, the price of rice would gradually drop to a normal ₱.85 per ganta of Macan *ordinario* and remain steady until the year's end. It was believed by the Cabinet that these measures could solve the immediate rice problem.

However, the President and the Cabinet adopted a measure designed to solve the rice problem on a long-range basis by means of increasing the production of this staple commodity.

Upon the suggestion of Acting ACCFA Administrator Ernesto Jimenez, the President and the Cabinet approved that the NARIC buy all palay, Macan No. 2, at prices ranging from ₱10 to ₱10.50 a cavan. This was calculated to give an incentive to rice producers to increase their volume of production. The President at the same time said that he would soon create a committee to study ways of giving further incentives to producers. It was believed that the ultimate solution to the shortage in the production of staple crops, was production and that this could only be realized when the proper incentives were given to producers.

The President, through Jimenez, thanked all FACOMA members for their cooperation with the government in selling to the NARIC through the CCE all their palay which amounted to some 500,000 cavans.

Regarding the corn situation, Chioco said that the price of corn in consuming areas was now ₱.50 to ₱.55 a ganta of grits. This price is considered normal.

The lowering of the price of corn grits from ₱70 per ganta during the months of May, June, and July to the present level was, according to Chioco, brought about by the NARIC sale of corn grits direct to the consumer at not more than ₱40 a ganta, as originally ordered by the late President Magsaysay. Chioco added that the harvest of corn in Davao, Cotabato, and Pagadian (Zamboanga del Sur) had already started.

However, Chioco called the attention of the Cabinet that as a result of its selling of corn at ₱40 a ganta, the NARIC had, as of June 31, suffered a total loss of ₱1,182,000.

(2) Regarding sugar, NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin F. Estrella reported that the NAMARCO, upon a previous order of President Garcia, had procured sugar for distribution to the public. He said that the NAMARCO had enough golden brown sugar stocks that would last until the end of September, to be sold at from ₱.30 to ₱.35 a kilo.

Estrella explained that the price of sugar could not go down immediately because sugar distributors had first to dispose of their old sugar stocks which had been procured at a higher price. He said the new and lower prices would be felt in a week or so.

In order to control more effectively the price of sugar, Estrella recommended that the government take an active participation in the procurement and distribution of sugar. He said that as the milling season would be around October and November, action should begin immediately with regard to the procurement of this commodity.

(3) Regarding the lowering of the cost of other essential commodities, the President and the Cabinet approved that NAMARCO officials hold a conference with Monetary Board officials in order to thresh out differences as to the interpretation of the NAMARCO law allotting \$20 million to the NAMARCO for the importation of controlled goods, in addition to the \$14 million for decontrolled items.

It was explained by Estrella that his office was facing difficulty in getting additional dollar allocations from the Central Bank because amounts already drawn by the NAMARCO against its \$14 million allotment for decontrolled items were being charged against the \$20 million as allowed by the NAMARCO law. Estrella said that in view of this difficulty in get the full dollar allocations for the NAMARCO, his office could not import enough prime commodities to flood the market and bring down prices to reasonable levels.

Estrella, however, pointed out that if the NAMARCO could also utilize its \$34 million total allocation for the importation of goods it would have sufficient stocks to stabilize prices.

President Garcia and his Cabinet heard PHHC General Manager Vicente Orosa report on the progress of the government's low-cost housing projects; Land Tenure Administration Chairman Manuel E. Castañeda, on the number of landed estates already acquired and distributed to landless tenants; and Agricultural Tenancy Commissioner Fernando Santiago, on the progress his office was making in promoting more harmonious relations between tenants and landowners.

Secretary Orosa informed the President and the Cabinet that the government's low-cost housing projects have been progressing at appreciable speed with eight projects in Manila and Quezon City fully completed; Project 7, Area B, in Quezon City, 60 per cent completed; Tagaytay City project, 30 per cent completed; Tacloban City project, 30 per cent completed; the Iloilo, Bacolod, and Roxas cities projects, five per cent completed; and Project 8 in Quezon City, about to be started.

Orosa said that in the Government's desire to provide the lowest possible rentals to its low income employees, reductions in rentals have been effected in some projects. He added that an additional area was being acquired in Novaliches in order to accommodate more squatters from Manila who are due for resettlement.

Orosa said that in the eight low-cost housing projects already finished, some 9,335 families had already been settled.

Land Tenure Administration Chairman Castañeda reported that out of 536 petitions for acquisition of landed estates, 42 estates involving more or less 26,095 hectares of agricultural land and 1,514,741 square meters of residential properties have been programmed. The total number of tenants to be benefited is 11,782 with about 59,420 dependents. Of these 42 estates programmed, 12 have already been acquired and/or fully negotiated. There are 15 estates under expropriation in court and 15 are pending final negotiations.

Castañeda said that his office had already subdivided and/or still subdividing the following estates: Fabie estate, Tibaguin estate, Buenavista estate (partial), Juanito estate, Valdez estate, Lichauco estate, Dimson area (Dinalupihan estate), and Tucop area (also Dinalupihan estate).

He added that distribution of the lands subdivided had been accelerated by enhancing investigations of conflicts of claims among tenants.

Castañeda pointed out that a total of ₱2,126,478.92 had been collected by his office, representing an increase of ₱546,050.68 over the amount collected by its predecessor for a like period representing the fiscal year 1954-55, and half of fiscal year 1955-56.

He also said that the LTA had already screened about 8,000 house owners or occupants of lands in Tondo Foreshore and about 2,000 occupants are to be screened. He added that the LTA had executed deeds of sale or agreements to sell in favor of 2,369. tenants, virtually making them owners of the land they actually till or occupy.

Commissioner Santiago, reporting on the tenant-landowner relations, informed the Cabinet that for the six months of the fiscal year 1957 alone, 1,844 cases involving 6,001 tenants had been handled. Some 1,647 or 89 per cent of these involving 5,518 tenants had been settled.

Regarding the enforcement of the security of tenure and crop sharing provisions of Republic Act 1199, Santiago said that a great majority of tenancy conflicts handled by the Commission involved these two issues. He said that the tenants who were victims of illegal sharing arrangements and whose cases were mediated by the ATC last fiscal year, 13 per cent were able to secure as additional shares from 25 per cent to 55 per cent of the net yield, 68 per cent received as additional shares from 10 per cent to 24 per cent of the net yield, and 19 per cent received below 10 per cent of the net yield.

These tenants who secured these additional shares will enjoy these benefits every harvest time henceforth, he added.

Santiago also reported that the ATC was able to secure the reinstatement or compensation of 78 per cent of 281 out of 381 tenants who complained during the past six months that they had been illegally ejected.

The President was pleased with the reports of Orosa, Castañeda, and Santiago. He urged them to exert more efforts in completing the program of their respective offices for the benefit of the majority of the masses of the people.

During the Cabinet meeting President Garcia signed a proclamation reserving for a branch office site of the Social Welfare Administration parcels of land situated in Malate.

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 10:30 a.m. to past 3 p.m.

THE President today endorsed to the Commissioner of Civil Service for immediate appropriate action the findings and recommendations of the special committee designated "to look into alleged inefficiency, incompetence, and negligence at the Philippine General Hospital."

In a report to the President, the committee recommended the following with the full concurrence of Health Secretary Paulino Garcia:

- (1) That Dr. Polleno Cespon, adjunct resident on duty in pediatrics, be required to resign immediately;
- (2) That Miss Clarita Rubica, staff nurse in Ward 9, be required to resign immediately;
- (3) That Miss Juanita Sereho, staff nurse in Ward 9, be fined an amount equivalent to one-month salary or suspension for two months without pay with the warning that repetition by her of the same or similar offense shall be cause for dismissal;
- (4) That Dr. Juanita Esguerra-Arcilla, physician on duty, be suspended for one month without pay and warned that repetition by her of the same or similar offense shall be dealt with more drastically;
- (5) That Manuel Silao, interne on duty in pediatrics, be suspended for one month and warned that repetition by him of the same or similar offense shall be dealt with more severely; and
- (6) That Dr. Salud Buquir, ambulance surgeon on duty in the admitting section, be reprimanded for her failure to demonstrate such solicitous and humanitarian interest for the relief of the patient's suffering.

The finding and recommendations of the committee were made following an investigation of the case of 13-year child Rosalinda Angeles for which the committee had been instructed to submit a report, within five days. Child Rosalinda was admitted at the PGH on July 23, 1957, and died owing to alleged negligence on the part of the hospital staff.

The committee reported to the President that Dr. Salud Buquir did what was expected of her as ambulance surgeon but should have shown more interest and concern by administering a medication that might have relieved Rosalinda's symptom.

The committee said that Manuel Silao, who was only a fifth-year medical student, arrogated to himself almost full responsibility for the patient while he was not matured or experienced enough to do so.

Miss Rubica was found by the committee grossly negligent in the performance of her duty to the patient, inefficient in her work as a nurse, and showed acts of indifference and discourtesy unbecoming of her position as staff nurse.

The committee said that Dr. Cespon was grossly negligent in the discharge of his duties in regard to child Rosalinda and in the supervision he was to exercise on Silao. The committee also said that Dr. Cespon did not have adequate experience to have assumed the responsibility he did in the case of Rosalinda.

The committee was of the opinion that Miss Sereño violated established procedures in the PGH pertaining to her duties and responsibilities and that she was wanting in the concern and solicitude which one in her position was expected to give to the child patient.

Dr. Esguerra-Arcilla did not display proper diligence and care of her responsibility according to the committee.

The report was submitted to the President during the Cabinet meeting by Health Secretary Garcia, who said that the committee was already at work on the second phase of the probe: Fundamental causes of public dissatisfaction regarding conditions and services in the PGH. Secretary Garcia said that a report on the second phase of the investigation would be submitted within two weeks.

The committee is composed of Dr. Arsenio Regala, special assistant in the Office of the Secretary of Health, chairman, and Dr. Gumersindo Garcia, Dr. Ricardo Alfonso, Dr. Antonio Rodriguez, Dr. Manuel Arambulo, Dr. Trinidad Gomez, and Isabelo Zapanta, members.

PRESIDENT Garcia accepted today the resignation of Solicitor General and concurrently Government Corporate Counsel Ambrosio Padiila from all the government positions he was holding.

Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon signed the President's acceptance of Padilla's resignation. Padiila was considered resigned effective at the close of office hours yesterday.

August 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received more pledges of support for the Nacionalista Party and his election bid. He signed the affiliation papers of three former Liberals.

Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, official NP congressional candidate in Bataan, accompanied Mayor Romulo Albelda of Samal, Bataan, who formally signed his affiliation papers before the Chief Executive. Former Gov. Adelmo Camacho and other Bataan political leaders were present at the ceremony.

The President also signed the affiliation papers of Datu Punjungan Indal of Suru and Jose Ponce de Leon of Bacolod City in the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Amonio Lozada, Col. and Mrs. Jose B. Teruel, and Mesdames Luz Medel, Nena Locsin, Nemio Poe, and Maria Vicente.

A delegation of the Iloilo Lawyers Association, led by Tomas Concepcion, called on the President to submit its report on the political situation in Iloilo. Other members of the delegation were Rafael D. Lavente, Agustin Misola, Engracio Areño, Edgardo Villalobos, Roberto Dineros, and Emilio Eligio, all lawyers.

Other callers included Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Gov. Alejo Santos of Bulacan, and former Labor Secretary Jose Figueras.

THE President this morning signed Proclamation No. 430, authorizing the Philippine Tuberculosis Society to conduct a national fund and educational drive from August 19, 1957, to September 30, 1957.

The proclamation was signed in the presence of Manolo Elizalde, general chairman of the campaign, and ranking officials of the society, among them Drs. Jose Capistrano, Fernando Duran, and Miguel Cañizares, and Antonio Bengzon, Mrs. Norberto Amoranto, and Pedro Lopez.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed acting ACCFA Administrator Ernesto T. Jimenez to implement fully and immediately the provisions of the Fertilizer Law and speed up the distribution of fertilizers to all farmers in order to step up production of staple crops and find a more permanent solution to the lowering of their prices.

President Garcia issued this directive as a follow-up to the measures already discussed and approved at the Cabinet meeting yesterday in seeking a solution to the lowering of prices of prime commodities and increasing production. He gave the order after a conference today with Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma; Jose Ma. Gomez, president of the Federation of Sugar Cane Planters Association; and Carlos Ledesma, president of the San Carlos Planters Association.

Upon learning of the immediate requirements for fertilizers estimated to exceed the ₱7 ½ million previously released on his authority, the President asked Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona to seek ways and means for the release of an additional outlay of P8 million before September this year, to cover the deficiency. Under R. A. 1609, the ACCFA is charged with the distribution of subsidized fertilizers to farmers applying for them.

The President recently ordered the release of ₱7 ½ million for the purchase of fertilizers to be sold at half the procurement cost. The President told the ACCFA executive to do everything within his means to hasten the shipment to the Philippines of some 10,000 metric tons of fertilizers ordered from abroad so that they could be distributed soon to the farmers.

He also directed the National Power Corporation to increase the rate of shipment of fertilizers earmarked for the ACCFA from the Maria Cristina plant of the corporation.

Numerous representatives of farming groups, including the rice and sugar growers, have asked the President and ACCFA officials for earlier distribution of the subsidized fertilizers to catch up with the weather conditions now existing, which are favorable for planting. It was learned from ACCFA Administrator Jimenez that agreements had already been made with representatives of sugar planters with regard to the allocation of fertilizers to sugar people and the manner of distribution.

It was further learned that practically all sugar planters are members of associations affiliated with the ACCFA.

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia in the afternoon witnessed the field demonstrations and the "Philippine Constabulary in Review" at Camp Crame presented by the PC on the occasion of its 56th organization day.

The President and the First Lady, accompanied by AFP Chief of Staff Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, arrived at Camp Crame about 3:30 p.m. A 21-gun salute boomed as the President entered the gate of the camp. After saluting the colors, the President proceeded to the platform from where he witnessed the demonstrations.

Top ranking officers of the AFP and PC, retired generals, foreign military top brass, and the ladies of the officers met the President and the First Lady as they ascended the stairs of the platform in front of PC headquarters building.

The Chief Executive enjoyed the field demonstrations which included a silent drill exhibition, cavalry exhibition, commando exhibition, dog exhibition, and an exhibition of a daylight commando raid with cavalry and dogs in support. "The Philippine Constabulary in Review," where the PC was shown in different uniforms from 1901 up to the present, drew an applause from the President and the audience.

The President was invited by the PC as guest at their celebration. Speakers during the program were PC Chief Brig. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal and Maj. Gen. Mariano N. Castañeda (ret.), former PC chief and AFP chief of staff.

The Chief Executive was flanked on the platform by Lieut. Gen. Arellano, Brig. Gen. Cabal, and Gen. Castañeda, General Emilio Aguinaldo, Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas (ret.), JUSMAG Chief Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, Maj. Gen. Basilio Valdes (ret.), AFP Deputy Chief of Staff Brig. Gen. Diosdado Rodriguez, and other top brass of the AFP and the PC were among those present at the demonstrations and programs.

The President returned to Malacañang about 7 p.m.

AN accident victim, who was seriously injured when the jeep he was riding fell off a cliff near the NARRA Maramag settlement project in Bukidnon, is now in the care of expert hands at the National Orthopedic Hospital after being airlifted to Manila by the order of President Garcia.

The victim, Victorino Mangalindan, NARRA field auditor, was with three others who were not seriously injured. Mangalindan was airlifted by an Air Force plane which took off for Bukidnon at 4:30 this morning. The plane came back about seven hours later and the patient was whisked by a PAF ambulance to the NOH.

The President ordered the airlifting of Mangalindan and the three others yesterday upon being informed of the matter by Acting NARRA General Manager Jorge Alba and NARRA Board Chairman Remedios Fortich. The plane was not able to get to Bukidnon on the same day because of bad weather. The plane passed by Virac, Catanduanes, for another emergency patient also by order of the President.

August 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning paid homage to the late former Speaker Eugenio Perez. He and Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia motored to the Legislative Building, where joint Senate-House necrological services were held in honor of the departed former Speaker. The President was greeted by Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez upon arrival at the Capitol at exactly 9:05. He immediately proceeded to the session hall of the House of Representatives, where the remains of the former Speaker was lying in state.

The necrological services commenced after the President took his seat at the rostrum with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez and Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr.

After the necrological program, the President and the First Lady condoled with the family of the late Speaker Perez. Then they returned to Malacañang.

On the way to Congress this morning to attend the necrological services in honor of the late Speaker Eugenio Perez, the President received a resolution approved by the Faculty Club of the University of Santo Tomas to suspend the application of the Social Security Act to the UST faculty members.

ON his return from Congress, the President received all the PC provincial commanders and members of the Constabulary general staff, headed by Col. Ricardo G. Papa, PC deputy chief.

The President also received Rep. Manuel Enverga of Quezon, Dr. Generoso Nadres, and Mayor Ricardo Macasaet of Infanta, who accompanied two Liberal leaders, Mayor Felix Oria of Candelaria and former Mayor Eligio Manalo, who took their oath as Nacionalistas.

PRESIDENT Garcia this day directed Benjamin Estrella, NAMARCO general manager, to stop the importation of printed textiles, upon the representations of P. L. Lim, spokesman of the Philippine Textile Mills Association.

A delegation of the PTMA called on the President to complain against the NAMARCO importation, alleging that there was no increase in the price of cotton printed textile.

In his directive to Estrella, the President said that NAMARCO should spend its dollars to import other essential goods and not to prejudice local textile production.

The President announced his determination to give his all-out support to the local raw cotton industry as a step to save dollars and ease unemployment.

Other members of the PTMA group were Jesus Yujuico, Martin Tinio, Felix Lirag, Antonio Assad, and C. B. Lim.

The President said that he would announce shortly the members of the committee he would create to study ways and means of giving incentives to producers, including agriculturists and manufacturers, in order to increase the country's production of prime commodities and eventually reduce prices. The Chief Executive said that he had several persons in mind for this committee but was weighing very carefully the qualifications of each prospective member, adding that he wanted to be sure the committee would not in any way reflect political color and detract from the high objectives of the committee.

The President said that the committee would be composed of representatives of the different segments of the country's economy, including consumers. He added that once the committee was formed, it would be authorized to call on technical men to assist it in its deliberations.

The creation of the committee was first announced by the President last June 22 when he vetoed Senate Bill No. 167. In that veto, the President said that he was desirous of seeing to it that the country's producers and manufacturers be provided positive and practical incentives in order to increase the production of the major crops. He believed that the permanent solution to the stabilization of prices of prime needs lay in the production of enough of these commodities.

THE President this morning told 53 PC provincial commanders and members of the PC general staff to be "good referees" during the coming elections so as not to give the impression that they favored any political party. The Chief Executive made this remark in the course of a courtesy call made by the Constabulary officers led by Col. Ricardo Papa, PC deputy chief; Col. Santiago Concepcion, C-1 chief; Lt. Col. Manuel Yan, C-2 chief; Col. Lucas Cauton, C-3 chief; Col. Fortunato Racelis, C-4 chief; and Col. Angel Magallanes, deputy area commander for PC affairs, 2nd MA. Brig. Gen. Manuel C. Cabal, PC chief, could not accompany the PC officers because he was kept in bed owing to an indisposition.

President Garcia expressed confidence that Constabulary officers would be able to resist any political pressure which might be exerted by those who might want "to gain advantage over opponents."

However, the President counselled the officers to handle the situation with tact and to avoid incidents that might destroy the prestige of the Constabulary.

"The role of the Constabulary in the coming elections is to uphold the law, keep peace and order, maintain free, orderly, and clean elections, and maintain its impartiality," the President said.

THIS noon the President ordered the Social Welfare Administration to extend immediate assistance to some 20 families rendered homeless by a fire which broke in the commercial center of Cagayan de Oro City about 10 a.m. today.

The President gave the order following receipt of a message from City Mayor Justiniano Borja of Cagayan de Oro, who estimated the damage caused by the conflagration at ₱200,000. Two messages were received in Malacañang from the city mayor; the first at 11:30 a.m. when he reported that the fire was still raging and the second at 2:30 p.m. when he said that the conflagration had been put under control.

The President also ordered the Philippine Airforce to have a plane ready to ferry relief supplies from the SWA and the PNRC. Social Welfare Administrator Amparo S. Villamor said she was releasing ₱1,000 for the local purchase of

relief goods in the disaster area for immediate distribution to sufferers. This was to augment the assistance already extended the fire victims by government social workers in the area.

AT noon President Garcia had a luncheon conference with members of Congress, headed by Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., NP vice-presidential candidate.

The President and the congressmen discussed plans for the carrying out of an effective campaign in the provinces once the entire Nacionalista senatorial line-up is decided.

Others present at the conference were Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez; Majority Floorleader Arturo M. Tolentino; and Reps. Tobias Fornier of Antique, Francisco Ortega of La Union, Ismael Veloso of Davao, Jose Aldeguer of Iloilo, and Justino Nuyda of Albay. Also present were Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona and Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno.

LATE in the afternoon the President conferred with finance officials of the American motion picture industry during which a satisfactory solution was found for the problem of payment of taxes by American movies.

It was agreed during the conference that American movies would pay the taxes for the year 1956. It was also agreed that the question of paying back taxes by the American movies be submitted to the tax court for final decision.

The President conferred with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Internal Revenue Collector Jose Arañas, Leo Hochstetter of the American Movie Exporters Association, and R. Ogermann, lawyer for the association.

MALACANANG announced today that the initial shipment of 150,000 Magsaysay mourning stamps was finally released by the commissioner of customs after President Garcia had intervened in the matter.

President Garcia this morning upon reading newspaper reports that customs officials allegedly refused to release the stamps unless customs duties were paid, directed Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison to tell Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas that the President was paying from his personal funds the customs duties due on these stamps amounting to ₱237.

Malacañang Financial Assistant Miguel D. Velasco sent an employee of his office to the Manila International Airport with the money to pay for the customs duties.

It was however found out that the Bureau of Posts had been able to get an exemption from the payment of such duties from the office of the Auditor General. However, President Garcia was asked to pay only ₱2.05 for customs stamps instead of ₱237 for customs duties. The Magsaysay stamps were then released.

August 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today fired his first broadside against his political counterpart, without mentioning his name, when he told, the people of Tarlac:

“Do not trust so called economists who have used their knowledge in economics to enrich themselves and not their country and their countrymen.

“Do not elect such men who are perpetuating the tenancy system in the Philippines.

“Let us trust and elect those who are doing everything in their power to bring about the economic development of our country, those who are giving lands to the landless and homes to the homeless and who are eradicating the tenancy system in our country.”

Although the President did not mention names, his audience knew to whom his tirade was directed, and the people applauded.

The President made these remarks in the course of his speaking trips to nine towns of Tarlac jointly with Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., when the two of them, as the Nacionalista official presidential and vice-presidential tandem, opened their first salvo and brought the case of the Nacionalista candidates direct to the common people and barrio folks of Tarlac.

In his speech at the inauguration of the ₱4,700,000-Magsaysay Irrigation Dam at Mayantoc, Tarlac, the President emphasized that the completion of this project which would irrigate 10,500 hectares, would contribute to the overall production of the country's staple crops in connection with the government's long range program of pulling down the prices of these commodities.

In speaking at the towns of Bamban, Santa Ignacia, Mayantoc, Camiling, Moncada, Paniqui, Pura, Gesona, and Tarlac, President Garcia and Speaker Laurel took turns in explaining to the people that it was the Nacionalista Party and the present administration which has faithfully implemented the late President Magsaysay's program of uplifting the lot of the masses of the people.

President Garcia and Speaker Laurel said the Administration has constructed irrigation systems, highways and feeder roads, pre-fabricated school-houses, bridges, and artesian wells; has quadrupled the rural health facilities for the common people; has given lands to the landless and homes to the homeless; has given peace and order to the country; has given social justice to those who need it; and has restored the people's faith in their government.

They stressed to the people that this gigantic task was only one-fourth completed at the death of the late President Magsaysay and that only the Nacionalista candidates should be entrusted in completing the work. They pledged that, if elected president and vice-president, they would bring to a successful conclusion the Magsaysay program of good government to the people.

The Garcia-Laurel tandem was royally welcomed in all the towns visited by them. "People rushed to the streets to meet them and shake their hands, while girls tossed flowers on their way. In Mayantoc, President Garcia and Speaker Laurel were borne on the shoulders of the townspeople from the entrance of the town to the town kiosk, where the tandem addressed the cheering crowd.

In his speech in Mayantoc, President Garcia said that the act of the townspeople was symbolic of the people's support of the Nacionalista administration which would be surely shown in the coming November polls. The people shouted their approval.

After delivering his speech at the Magsaysay Irrigation Dam, President Garcia, accompanied by Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Gov. Arsenio Lugay, Reps. Jose J. Roy and Constancio Castañeda, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, and other officials, walked to one of the water gates of the dam and pulled a lever which let the water flow into the different canals of the system.

The President arrived, at Bamban, Tarlac, about 9:25 a.m. He was on the go the whole day, as he and Speaker Laurel visited the eight other towns and made their speeches. The other officials who accompanied them were Govs. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, Alejo Santos of Bulacan, and Manuel Barretto of Zambales.

The President also laid the cornerstone of the one million-peso provincial hospital in Tarlac town.

In their speeches. President Garcia and Speaker Laurel praised the work of Reps. Castañeda, and Roy in the Congress, calling them truly dedicated servants of the people.

August 11.—THE President retired to the residence of Public Service Commissioner Alejandro Galang in Tarlac, Tarlac, at 3: 30 this morning for a much-needed rest.

The President woke up 8:30 a.m. and had breakfast 30 minutes later.

After thanking his host for a good night's rest, President Garcia and his party proceeded to the Tarlac parish church, where they heard mass. From the church, the presidential party motored out of Tarlac for Manila. A big crowd saw them off.

The President arrived at Malacañang shortly before noon. He had barely arrived when he left the Palace again.

Palace aides said the President repaired to his "hideout" to work on state papers.

He is expected to return to Malacañang late tonight.

ON orders of President Garcia five emergency patients were airlifted to Manila from different parts of the country. One of the patients is a survivor of a fatal vehicular accident which claimed seven lives in Nueva Ecija recently.

The patients were flown to Manila for treatment following representations of the respective provincial authorities who either wired or called by Long distance to Malacañang about the patients' condition.

The list of the emergency patients follows:

- (1) Miss Florentina Santillan, Nueva Ecija high school teacher, who is suffering from a brain contusion as a result of an accident in San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija.
- (2) Romulo Okaba, from Davao City, who is suffering from infantile paralysis;
- (3) Miss Felicidad Tugot, also from Davao City, who has brain tumor;
- (4) Gregorio Moralita, from Tacloban City, who suffered fractures after an accident; and ;
- (5) Florentino Amoy, a three-year old child from Dapitan, Zamboanga del Norte, who swallowed a coin.

All patients were rushed to different Manila hospitals upon arrival at the airport.

Yesterday President Garcia, while in Bamban, Tarlac, directed that Ernesto Manalo, an eight-year old boy be sent to the V. Luna General Hospital for possible surgery. The boy, son of Abelardo Manalo, is suffering from systolithiasis.

August 12.—THE President this morning said he was confident that the NP five-man nominating committee would recommend to the executive committee the men that would compose the winning senatorial ticket in the coming elections.

He reiterated that he would support to the limit all official candidates of the Nacionalista Party.

The President made this statement before a delegation composed of former Gov. Juan Chioco's sympathizers who marched to Malacañang and urged the Chief Executive to take a hand in the selection of the NP senatorial candidates so that the former governor could be included in the line-up.

The President explained that the NP executive committee, which created the five-man nominating committee, had the blanket authority to name the eight official senatorial candidates who would be selected from the 73 aspirants.

The President told the delegation that he had known Chioco to be a good man and that he as Vice-President had campaigned for Chioco extensively in Mindanao in the last elections when the former governor was an NP official senatorial candidate.

After receiving Chioco's sympathizers, the President proceeded to the music room where he received Ambassador Manuel Alzate, who paid a courtesy call following his arrival from his post at Karachi, Pakistan.

Then the President repaired to his study where he received a few callers, including Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbokon, Rep. Celestino Juan of Nueva Ecija, Manila Councilor Antonio Barredo, Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Sabarre, Sixto and Salvador Esquibas, and Mateo Encarnacion.

IN the afternoon the President received Mr. and Mrs. Constantin Brown, who called at Malacañang to pay their respects following their arrival in Manila in the course of a world tour "to find out how many good friends America still have."

Brown who is foreign editor and foreign news analyst of Washington's *Western Evening Star* and whose columns are syndicated by 60 American newspapers, said of the President after a 20-minute chat at the Palace music room. He impressed me as a very capable man."

Arriving in Manila last Saturday from Bangkok, Thailand, the Browns leave for Taipeh, Formosa, on Friday and, thence, to Hongkong, Seoul, (Korea), and Tokyo (Japan) before returning to Washington. Brown said he had been a newspaperman for the last 44 years.

Other callers this evening included Rep. Serafin Salvador of Rizal and Deputy Internal Revenue Collector Melecio Domingo. Domingo has just returned from a two-month stay in Switzerland. .

The President today issued Proclamation No. 431, declaring Monday, August 19, 1957, as a special public holiday throughout the Philippines to celebrate the 79th birthday of the late President Manuel L. Quezon.

In declaring August 19 as a special public holiday, the President said it is desirable that "our people be given full opportunity to render homage to the memory of our illustrious leader."

As this day coincides with Citizenship Day under Proclamation No. 331, President Garcia enjoined the observance of the day with appropriate ceremonies designed to inculcate upon the people, especially the youth, the rights and duties of good citizenship to the end that they would consecrate themselves to the ideals and traditions of the Republic.

The President also signed Proclamation No. 432, declaring the third week of January of every year as National Mental Health Week.

The President said that sound mental health is necessary to the attainment of individual happiness and efficiency, to the establishment of peace and order, and to the promotion of economic and cultural progress. The Philippine Mental Health Association was designated to take charge of the celebration.

The Chief Executive called upon all government and non-government entities and all residents in the Philippines to lend their cooperation and support to the observance of the week.

The President, moreover, signed Proclamation No. 433, declaring the last week of August of every year as Barrio Lieutenants' Week.

In the proclamation the President said that the barrios are the foundation of the country's economic and democratic way of life and that the progress and welfare of every barrio depends to a large measure upon the leadership and devotion to duty of the barrio lieutenant.

The President added that the role of a barrio lieutenant is "a continuous process of self-sacrifice."

He said that in recognition of the constant sacrifices of barrio lieutenants for the welfare, progress, and prosperity of the barrio people, he declared the last week of August of every year as Barrio Lieutenants' Week. He enjoined every mayor to hold programs during the week honoring the barrio lieutenants, and to create a citizens' committee to select during the week the most outstanding barrio lieutenant of his city or town.

PRESIDENT Garcia this day granted another reprieve for prisoners Bautista Ragandan, Hilario Mendova, and Alfredo Mendova, who had been convicted of robbery with double murder and sentenced to death.

The previous reprieve granted to these prisoners on July 12, 1957, expires on August 13, 1957.

The President in his order said that some time was considered still necessary for a thorough and careful study of the merits of the petition for executive clemency filed in behalf of the prisoners.

The new reprieve granted to the prisoners expires on September 12, 1957.

August 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning administered the oath of office to Leopoldo Rovira, Jr., of Dumaguete City as acting member of the social security commission. Among those present at the ceremony was Rep. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, who accompanied Rovira to Malacañang.

The induction ceremony was held at the Malacañang study room, where the Chief Executive received callers who took turns in consulting him on various matters.

The callers consisted mostly of provincial governors who reported to the President on the political situation in their respective localities.

Such callers were Govs. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Felixberto Dagani of Agusan, and Delfin N. Montano of Cavite.

The President also received Sen. Domocao Alonto and Rep. Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan.

Consul Consuelo Arranz of the Philippine Embassy in Rome, Italy, called to pay her respects following her arrival recently.

Then the President received movie actor Jose Padilla, Jr., who took his oath as a member of the Nacionalista Party.

Individual callers included Vicente Neri, Tereso Dumon, and Benigno Angeles.

The President received callers until 2 p.m.

THE President today received Matias Taniaga, a 27-year-old former guerrilla courier from Naic, Cavite, who sought the President's assistance for the restoration of his sight.

Taniaga informed the President that he had become blind as a result of the tortures he had received from Japanese soldiers during the Occupation.

Upon learning of Taniaga's plight, the President wrote a directive to the commanding officer of the V. Luna General Hospital, ordering that an eye specialist examine Taniaga's eyes and if possible restore the guerrilla's eyesight by operation.

The blind guerrilla courier was accompanied to Malacañang by Joy Francisco, a radio commentator, through whose radio program Taniaga learned about the President's concern for the poor and the afflicted.

August 14.—THIS morning the President gave a *despedida* breakfast in honor of the Philippine Ambassador to the Vatican, Jose Ma. Delgado, who is scheduled to leave for his post on Friday, August 16.

The affair was purely social although the President, in the course of the breakfast, gave his final instructions to the departing, ambassador to do his utmost in promoting, “better understanding” between the Philippines and the Vatican.

Present at the breakfast were members of the Catholic hierarchy, including Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, Manila Archbishop Rufino J. Santos, Auxiliary Bishops Vicente Reyes, and Hernando Antiporda.

Also present at the breakfast which lasted from 8 to 9 a.m. were Sens. Francisco A. Delgado and Francisco Rodrigo and Executive Secretary Fortunate de Leon.

Ambassador Delgado was accompanied to Malacañang by his son, Francisco.

PRESIDENT Garcia today lashed at “men or parties” who wish to perpetuate the tenancy class in the country, and reiterated his vigorous determination to push through the “land for the landless and home for the homeless” program initiated by the late President Magsaysay.

The Chief Executive made these remarks during the turn-over ceremonies of the De Leon Estate at the Malacañang Social Hall.

“Far from being an accomplishment, the purchase of the De Leon Estate is only a big step forward in the objective of the administration to have every tenant own the farm he is tilling,” the President said.

“Toward this end,” he added, “the Administration is seeking through negotiated sale or through expropriation proceedings to acquire other landed estates.”

The President said that in Nueva Ecija alone there are six other estates already acquired or due for payment as follows: Lichauco, 58 hectares, in Cabanatuan City; Del Rosario, 667 hectares, in Cabanatuan City; Tuala, 838 hectares, in Guimba; Halili, 235 hectares, in Cabanatuan City; Uson, 26 hectares (for homesite purposes), in Jaen; and Juanito, 673 hectares, in Cuyapo.

The President warned against those who were trying to perpetuate the tenancy class in the country. He added that he was happy to have been an instrument in helping eradicate the tenancy system here. “I wish more of our countrymen will become home owners, home builders, and home defenders,” the President said.

Comparing a tenant to a bird in a cage, the President said that no matter how well fed a bird was, it could never be happy and contented in the cage because it wanted to be free,

The President acknowledged that Doha Sisang Vda. de Leon, owner of the estate, acceded to the acquisition of the estate as a sincere gesture of cooperation with the government in its “land for the landless” program.

Alejandro Clemente, spokesman of the De Leon estate tenants, in his brief remarks told his fellow tenants gathered at the Social Hall to vote for the re-election of President Garcia so that he could pursue the “land for the landless” program and give other landless tenants a chance to have their own farms.

Manuel de Leon, son of Dona Sisang, in his brief remarks said that the De Leon family had agreed to the sale of their estate in their wish to cooperate with the government in accomplishing its land reform program. He expressed the wish that the tenants would continue cultivating their new parcels of land industriously.

Mrs. Amado Q. Aleta, in representation of her husband, the governor of Nueva Ecija, expressed her thanks for the acquisition of the estate. She met with applause when she asked the tenants to vote for President Garcia in the coming elections.

The tenants who were present at the Social Hall bore placards one of which said “Ngayon Tayong Maliliit Ay Nagkaroon Din Ng Sariling Lupa.”

Luis V. de Leon, another son of Dona Sisang, signed the sales document in the name of the owners of the estate, while Manuel Castaneda, head of the Land Tenure Administration, signed in the name of the government.

President Garcia handed over to Manuel de Leon, a treasury warrant W the amount of ₱1,374,000 as one-half payment of the total price, the rest to be paid in land certificates cashable after five years. The hacienda has an area of 2,255 hectares.

At the average price of ₱1,213.72 a hectare the government paid for the land, the tenants will have to pay an annual installment of ₱96.57 a hectare for 25 years, which payment can be easily made by the tenants if they set aside 25 per cent of their regular harvests. There are about 500 tenants with some 2,000 dependents who will be benefited by this purchase.

After the subdivision of the land, each tenant is expected to be given four hectares of land which he will own.

Among those present at the ceremony were Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Rep. Emilio Cortez, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Rep. Enrique J. Corpuz, former Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, LTA Commissioners Numeriano Fabie and Juan Vera, and Mrs. Amado Aleta, wife of Nueva Ecija governor.

AT their meeting today President Garcia and his Cabinet adopted measures to insure the early remittance of the 85 per cent of export proceeds to the dollar reserves in order to strengthen the dollar position of the country.

At the same time, the President appointed a committee composed of Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, as chairman, and Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, as members, to look into ways to hasten the bringing in of commodities being imported under the 15 per cent privilege granted by the No-Dollar Import Law.

This measure was believed necessary in view of the fact that according to reports some \$25 million worth of these import commodities had not arrived yet. It was pointed out that if these commodities were delivered here as they should have been, there would be less drain on the dollar reserves for additional importation of these commodities and that the prices of these goods would considerably go down.

After considering the recommendations of the Philippine Bankers Association, presented to the Cabinet by Alfonso Calalang, association president, and Jose D. Fernandez, also of the association, Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, Finance Secretary Hernandez, and Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, the President and the Cabinet approved supplementary rules governing barter under R. A. 1410. These regulations are designed to insure the prompt remittance of the 85 per cent of export dollar proceeds to the Central Bank.

One of the rules adopted was that proposed by Commissioner Aytona, who recommended that the exporter of any commodity will be granted his barter permit for 15 per cent only upon certification by the Central Bank that the full dollar proceeds from the exportation of the applicant had been remitted to the C. B.

It was believed that this regulation would insure that the dollar proceeds of all exports from the Philippines would be promptly remitted to the Central Bank and thus strengthen the dollar position of the country.

The supplementary rules and regulations governing barter, as approved by the Cabinet follow:

1. Notwithstanding contrary provisions in existing regulations, all barter transactions shall be based on back-to-back letters of credit which shall be in accordance with the following conditions:

a. The export of goods must be covered by an export letter of credit from the foreign importer and such letter of credit must specifically provide for drawings at sight in dollars against shipping documents.

b. The import letter of credit that may be opened by the domestic producer-exporter must have as its beneficiary the same party opening the export letter of credit and negotiations under the import letter of credit shall be restricted to the country of destination of the Philippine products exported and to commodities originating from the country of destination of the corresponding Philippine exports, "originating" to mean that the commodities to be exported are covered by a certificate of origin duly signed by a consular officer as having originated from the country of the port of embarkation.

2. No import letter of credit may be issued by Philippine banks under Barter Permits issued by the NDIO until satisfactory evidence is presented that the full proceeds of the export corresponding to such credit have been actually credited to the negotiating Philippine bank.

3. The No-Dollar Import Office shall issue two types of barter permits: Type A for minor exports, surplus goods in excess of quotas set in the Laurel-Langley Agreement, and low-quality marginal-cost commodities; and Type B for fifteen per cent of major exports.

Type A permits shall be sub-divided into Type A-1 for minor ex-, ports, Type A-2 for surplus goods in excess of quotas set in the Laurel-Langley Agreement, and Type A-3 for low-quality marginal-cost goods. No Type A-2 permit shall be issued for any commodity before the U.S. quota for said commodity has been filled.

The No-Dollar Import Office shall attach to every Type A barter permit it issues specific documents evidencing the prior shipment and the receipt of proceeds by the negotiating bank of the exportation of commodities on the basis- of which the barter permit is issued. Type B permits shall be issued only to the same parties who have made the export shipments, during the six months immediately preceding, on which the barter permit is based.

Shipments made to countries without exchange controls and to free ports shall be counted as part of the base on which Type B permits are given.

4. Barter permits shall be valid only:

a. For exports, 60 days after date of permit.

b. For imports, 90 days after negotiation of the corresponding export. If the corresponding export under the permit is not made within 60 days of issue, the barter permit lapses completely and becomes invalid.

If the collateral import under the permit is not made within 90 days after the negotiation of the corresponding export, the right to import shall lapse and the agent banks holding the foreign exchange corresponding to the export previously made shall within 24 hours sell such exchange to the Central Bank.

5. Agent banks negotiating exports under barter permits shall make a segregation in their accounts of the proceeds of exports under NDIO barter permits and shall, when reporting to the Central Bank, clearly distinguish their free foreign balance from foreign bances acquired under barter exports.

6. Agent banks may open letters of credit under barter permits only upon prior certification by the Central Bank as to price accuracy.

7. The No-Dollar Import Office shall submit to the Central Bank at the end of each week a report of all barter permits issued during the week.

8. The previous Cabinet decision limiting the issuance of barter permits to producers of the commodities sought to be bartered shall be strictly enforced.

9. These supplementary rules and regulations shall govern all barter transactions, including those already approved but not yet consummated.

10. That no extension of existing barter permit which has expired shall be granted.

THE President and the Cabinet approved a proposal of the World War II Veterans Enterprises, Inc., to undertake the sale and distribution of specific items of goods coming from the \$20 million reparations goods earmarked, for the veterans, at a profit of not more than 15 per cent in order to provide more benefits in the form of civic projects and to create job opportunities for war veterans war widows, and orphans.

Under the plan, the corporation will pay in cash for the reparations goods coming from Japan. Then it will sell and distribute these goods to consumers, thus transforming the goods into cash, to be turned over to a bank designated by the Philippine Government, as a trust fund, as envisioned in the new enactment of Congress. The corporation will undertake the sale of these goods at a gross profit about 15 per cent.

The corporation proposes to utilize this expected profit as follows:

(1) Set aside a certain sum to be determined and agreed upon later, for the expenses of a veterans mission to Washington, D.C., to work for more benefits for veterans, war widows, and orphans;

(2) Set aside a sum to be determined and agreed upon later, to be spent in the unification of all veterans organizations in the Philippines and in the establishment of an adequate headquarters complete with the necessary working personnel for the purpose; and

(3) Set aside an amount for investment in deep sea fishing, fish canning, and other allied dollar-producing industries which will employ exclusively veterans, war widows, and orphans.

The corporation will file a performance bond to guarantee the faithful performance of its obligation.

The corporation, with Maj. Gen. Calixto Duque (Ret.) as president and general manager, has the support of the following organizations: the CONVETS, the PVL, the Cold Star Mothers and War Widows, the Marking's Guerrillas, the United Disabled Veterans Association of the Philippines, the USAFIP, the Philippine Association of War Widows, the Parents and Orphans, and the Banal Guerrillas Organization.

The corporation claims that it has the support of veterans organizations comprising at least 95 per cent of all veterans of the country.

UPON recommendation of Carlos P. Ramos, director of the Institute of Public Administration, University of the Philippines, the Cabinet authorized the I. P. A. to conduct in Manila in December, 1957, a Southeast Asian regional conference with special reference to economic and social development.

Eighteen countries in Southeast Asia, including the Philippines, will participate in the conference; namely, Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Federated States of Malaya, Hongkong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Laos, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of China, Republic of Korea, Republic of Vietnam., and Thailand. Some 120 delegates and observers will attend the conference to be conducted over a period of 14 days.

The representatives will be composed of governmental administrators and professionals in the field of public administration.

The objectives of the proposed conference are:

(1) To help advance the cause of our economic and social development, through the interchange of experience and information, with a view to more effective administration of developmental programs among countries in this region.

(2) To establish communications among countries in this region as a basis for mutual cooperation in the advancement of public administration.

(3) To provide us with much needed information on, and insights into, the status and progress of public administration among our sister nations in Southeast Asia, thereby enriching our training and educational programs at the Institute of Public Administration.

(4) To help improve administration of public affairs, through the mutual exchange of information and ideas on education and through professional training for the public service.

(5) To join hands with representatives of countries in this region having common cause. with us in advancing the career service, especially in key administrative, technical, and other staff positions involved in the planning and implementation of economic and social development programs.

(6) To stimulate studies in practical methods and procedures for the improvement of the conduct of governmental business in the light of local conditions.

(7) To lay the groundwork for providing for a permanent and continuing organization on public administration in this region.

FINANCE Secretary Jaime Hernandez informed the President and the Cabinet that the Philippines became the fiftieth member of the International Finance Cefspiration last Monday morning, after Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo had signed the articles of agreement in a special ceremony in Washington, D. C.

The information was sent to the finance secretary by Jorge Mejia Palacio, executive director of the IFC.

It was pointed out that the membership of the Philippines in the IFC would benefit the country as citizens of member countries are entitled to ask financial assistance in the financing of business enterprises.

PRESIDENT Garcia at the Cabinet meeting appointed a committee to take charge of the observance of the late President Magsaysay's birthday on August 31.

Appointed chairman of the committee is Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., with Acting Labor Secretary Agapito Braganza, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, and Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, as members.

The President said that he would like that Magsaysay's birthday be celebrated fittingly in memory of the late President.

THE President and the Cabinet approved the following policy on the question as to whether or not the status of an employee who has reached retirement age of 57 may be changed from temporary to permanent, for purposes of retirement insurance benefit under Republic Act No. 660, as amended:

I. Classified employees—

(a) Those who have already fulfilled the age and service requirements to be entitled to retirement insurance benefits under Republic Act No. 660 should be issued *regular* and *permanent* appointments for purposes of retirement insurance, subject to the provisions of the Civil Service Law and Rules. The physical examination provided for in Section 663(c) of the Revised Administrative Code as a prerequisite for permanent appointment should be waived

with respect to those who are leaving or have already left the service on account of old age, physical incapacity, or death, but whose appointments have remained temporary for failure to undergo the prescribed physical examination.

(b) Temporary teachers are entitled to retirement insurance benefits without the necessity of permanent appointment.

(c) Substitute teachers are not eligible to insurance membership.

(d) In all cases of temporary employees in the classified service, the appointing official should propose the change of status of the employee concerned from temporary to permanent, if qualified under the Civil Service Law and Rules.

II. *Unclassified employees*—

(a) Retiring employees in the unclassified service occupying fixed or permanent items shall be entitled to permanent appointments for retirement purposes. The requirement of physical examination is waived in favor of those who are leaving or have already left the service on account of old age, physical incapacity, or death, but whose appointments have remained temporary for failure to undergo physical examination.

(b) Casual or emergency employees without fixed items are not eligible to retirement insurance.

(c) Retiring employees, whether classified or unclassified, who left the service or were separated therefrom on account of old age prior to June 16, 1956, may be entitled to retirement insurance benefits if the period they were actually out of the service does not exceed one year from the date of their separation to June 16, 1956, the date of approval of Republic Act No. 1573.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room. The meeting lasted from 11 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia formally opened the 1957 Anti-TB National Fund and Educational Campaign by contributing ₱1,000 in a ceremony held at Malacañang's social hall this afternoon.

In opening the drive, the President called upon every citizen and resident of this country "to intensify their united crusade against the White Plague, giving the enemy no quarters until every man, woman, and child need not shudder with dread from the spectre of tuberculosis." (See *Historical Papers and Documents* in the next issue of the *Official Gazette* for the text of the President's speech.)

After the President handed his check to Manuel Elizalde, general chairman of this year's drive, other donors came forward with their contributions in amounts ranging from ₱100 to ₱10,000. Donors consisted of government and business firms as well as civic-spirited private citizens. Total collections at the ceremony amounted to ₱79,500.

The kick-off ceremony attended by members of the Cabinet, senators, representatives, members of the diplomatic corps and their ladies, and representatives of various civic organizations, started at 5:30 p.m. It began with an overture by the PC band with Lt. Col. Antonino Buenaventura, conducting.

The President's speech lasted about five minutes. Among those with him on the speaker's platform were the First Lady; Dona Julia de Ortigas, Gen. Basilio Valdes, and Dr. Miguel Canizares, president, vice-president, and executive vice-president, respectively, of the the Philippine Tuberculosis Society; and Miss Conchita Sunico, vice-chairman of this year's campaign.

Following the ceremony which lasted until 6: 30 p.m., the President repaired to his study where he received several callers, including Reps. Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon and Enrique Corpus of Zambales.

August 15.—THIS morning the President told a large group of housing project residents that negotiations with a view to selling outright the lots in join PHHC-ICA projects to their respective occupants are now in progress.

The President made this statement at the Malacañang study room this morning when the residents of the joint PHHC-ICA housing projects called to request the President to grant them the outright sale of the lots which they are occupying, in these projects. Rep. Serafin Salvador of Rizal acted as spokesman of the group.

The President said that he is not against the outright sale of the lots to occupants because such action would be in consonance with the policy of the Administration. He pointed out that those housing projects which were undertaken solely by the PHHC would amount to an outright sale because titles to these would eventually be issued to occupants.

Referring to the joint PHHC-ICA housing projects, the President said that he knows of no provision in the agreement of these two entities regarding the sale of lots to their respective occupants: He said that PHHC and the ICA authorities were exerting efforts to find means of effecting the outright sale of the lots in the joint projects to occupants.

Earlier, the President received governors and congressmen who requested assistance for public improvements. They discussed with the Chief Executive political developments in their respective localities.

The callers included Govs. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, and Delfin N. Montano of Cavite.

The President also received Sen. Quintin Paredes and Rep. Lucas Paredes of Abra. They discussed the political situation in Abra.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., to take immediate steps in order that the Iloilo Normal School teachers would be paid their salaries for the month of July.

The President gave this directive upon receiving news reports that teachers of the Iloilo Normal School had not received their salaries for July because the treasury warrant covering the amount for the operation and maintenance of the school had been wrongly credited to the city treasurer of Iloilo instead of to the provincial treasurer.

According to Santiago Villaluna, president of the Iloilo Normal School Teachers Association, the treasury warrant had been transmitted to the city treasurer through the Philippine National Bank, but the salaries of the teachers had not been paid because the city treasurer would not transfer the money to the provincial treasurer without an express authorization from his superiors in Manila.

The President told Secretary Aguilar to take the necessary steps and see to it that these salaries of the teachers were paid immediately.

THE President also directed the Department of Foreign Affairs to wire immediately Minister Jose D. Ingles in Hamburg, West Germany, to get in touch with Catalina Zandueta, soprano, who had appealed to the President for financial aid to further her mission of "selling" the Philippines to Europe.

Miss Zandueta made her appeal in Munchen, Germany.

The President told the department to direct Minister Ingles to submit his findings and recommendations on Miss Zandueta's case as soon as possible.

In the evening President Garcia; Administered the oath of office to Ildefonso J. Remolona as member of the board of the Social Security Commission in a ceremony held at Malacañang.

Vice-President of the Mindanao Federation of Labor and assistant general secretary of the Philippine Trade Union Council, Commissioner Remolona will represent labor in the commission. He replaced Ignacio Lacsina whose nomination to the SSC had been bypassed at the last regular session of the Third Congress.

Present at the induction were Acting Labor Secretary Agapito Braganza; SSC Chairman and Administrator Rodolfo P. Andal; Ricardo Manalad, president of the Association of Port Checkers Union; Gaudencio Antonio, president of the Producers and Exporters Association; Mrs. Remolona, wife of the new appointee; and other relatives and friends of the inductee.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1957). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 53(15), ccclxx-cccxciv.

President's Month in Review: August 16-31, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

August 16.—THE President was in bad humor this morning after reading newspaper reports that he was heading for a “showdown” with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

“This is no longer objective reporting,” the President was reported to have told Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison whom he summoned to the Palace after reading the newspaper account.

The President told Sison to issue a denial to the story and later called Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable to do something about it.

President Garcia told his early callers today he had never been at loggerheads with the Senate President and described their conference in Malacañang last Thursday as “cordial and devoted to drafting campaign plans.”

It was learned that the President had summoned the Senate Leader, who is concurrently president of the Nacionalista Party, on becoming the general campaign manager in the coming political drive. However, Rodriguez was reported to have said that his designation would depend on the senatorial candidates who have to ratify the President's choice.

President Garcia later conferred with his running mate, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., for almost two hours. The conference was held behind closed doors.

However, a Malacañang spokesman told newsmen last night the President and the Speaker discussed campaign plans and decided to devote more time in campaigning in Tagalog provinces.

Laurel conceded that the President may lose in these areas unless a concentrated campaign was waged.

Sison disclosed part of the subjects taken up in the conference and said that if these matters were kept under wraps again, newsmen may speculate on another Garcia-Laurel “showdown.”

After the President's conference with Laurel, he received Lirio Tongson, vice-chairman of the board of directors of the UNICEF.

AT noon the President swore in former Director of Labor Agapito Burgos as member of the Nacionalista Party, before ranking political leaders of the Cagayan Valley who witnessed the ceremony at the President's study room.

Burgos, who had launched his candidacy for Congress in the first district of Cagayan, announced his withdrawal from the race in order to dedicate his time in campaigning for the entire Nacionalista ticket.

He also expressed the hope that his withdrawal from the Cagayan congressional race would help solidify the North and boost the leadership of Secretary Eulogio Balao in Cagayan.

Burgos rose from the ranks and served as director of labor under the late Presidents Quirino and Magsaysay. He said he retired from the government service when the Department of Labor was reorganized.

Sponsors of the new Nacionalista were Secretary Balao, Gov. Ramon Caro of Isabela, former Gov. Vicente Formoso of Cagayan, Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela, and ex-Rep. Domingo Siason of Cagayan.

The President also received Rep. Ismael Veloso and Gov. Alejandro Almendras, both of Davao, in separate conferences. Earlier in the morning he received Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Occidental Negros and Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal.

Then the President received a delegation of sanitary inspectors, led by their president, Carlos E. Cabantac, who promised to support the Administration's rural health program. The sanitary inspectors are at present holding their fifth national convention at the San Lazaro Hospital compound.

August 17.—UPON the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, President Garcia before leaving for Baguio this morning granted 22 conditional pardons, four absolute pardons, one special absolute pardon, and two commutation of sentences.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon was guest speaker at the graduation ceremonies of the Harvard Second Advanced Management Program in the Far East, held at the St. Louis College auditorium in Baguio City.

Conducted by faculty members from the Harvard University's Graduate School of Business Administration, the advance course which lasted eight weeks had been attended by businessmen from seven Asian countries; namely, Burma, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, Thailand, and the Philippines.

The President's speech lasted about 40 minutes. He was introduced to the cosmopolitan gathering by Pablo R. Suarez, Jr., one of the graduates from the Philippines.

Other speakers were Mons. William Brasseur, vicar apostolic of Mt. Province, who gave the invocation; Faustino R. Lozada, president of the graduating class; and Dr. Harry L. Hansen, dean of the Advanced Management Program, both of whom delivered welcome addresses; Ramon V. del Rosario, chairman of the program's executive committee; and Amir Chiney, from Pakistan.

The President arrived in Baguio about 2:15 p.m. after more than six hours' motor trip from Manila. The presidential car had to proceed slowly along the highway the whole morning, sometimes, at not more than 20 miles an hour, owing to heavy blinding rains.

Originally intending to take a plane for Baguio, the Chief Executive finally decided to take a car on the insistence of Col. Urbano Caldoza, Civil Aeronautics Administrator, because of the inclement weather.

At Marilao, Bulacan, at 9:10 a.m., the presidential car figured in a near mishap when a jeepney with a Manila license plate, running at a fast clip from the opposite direction, suddenly swerved and smashed into a security car driving a few feet ahead of the presidential car.

The accident was attributed to a mechanical defect of the jeepney, as its front left wheel flew off, hitting the presidential car. The Chief Executive alighted from his car and proceeded only after ascertaining that no one in the jeepney was hurt.

AT exactly 12 noon, while going through a barrio in Moncada, Tarlac, a two-year-old child suddenly emerged from one of the houses and raced across the street. The slow moving traffic jeep from the IMA which had offered to lead the presidential motorcade through Tarlac province, had to ram into a fence on the opposite side of the street to avoid the child.

The President again alighted and in no time found himself surrounded by barrio folks who were pleasantly surprised to find the head of the nation suddenly in their midst. He talked to the people and expressed gratification over the fact that the child, except for light bruises for having stumbled on the street, was otherwise unhurt.

Finally arriving in Baguio early in the afternoon, the President proceeded direct to the St. Louis College auditorium for the graduation ceremonies. Without having his lunch, he stayed at the auditorium until the graduation rites ended

at 4:30 p.m. The President saw the program through. He shook hands with each of the 108 graduates, along with the Harvardian faculty members who conducted the advanced business course.

The President arrived at the Guest House at 5:30 p.m. and, after a brief rest, received several callers.

August 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia had a heavy schedule of callers at the Guest House today.

The President started the morning by hearing mass at the Guest House. Following breakfast the President started receiving callers.

A big delegation of La Union mayors and political leaders, accompanied by Rep. Francisco Ortega, called on the President to reiterate their pledge of loyalty “in order to erase any misunderstanding about their stand in the forthcoming national elections.”

Top officers of the Philippine Military Academy also called to pay their respects. They were accompanied by Col. Oscar Rialp, acting PMA superintendent. In the course of their call, the PMA officers discussed with the President new policies being adopted by the Academy to further improve that military institution. The President expressed his belief that the traditional hazing had no longer a place in modern education, particularly because in the Philippine Military Academy the cadets are being subjected to rigid mental and physical examinations prior to their admission. He said that the practice of hazing was already outdated.

A delegation headed by Rep. Luis Hora of Mountain Province called on the President and requested improvements for their respective barrios in the suburbs of Baguio.

Another delegation from the barrios of Hillside and Dagsi-an, accompanied by Rep. Ramon Mitra and Mayor Alfonso Tabora, saw the Chief Executive. The group thanked the President for giving them their school building and feeder roads.

The President had luncheon with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, who consulted him on problems of his office.

IN the afternoon, the Chief Executive received Mons. William Brassour, vicar apostolate of Mountain Province, who accompanied a delegation from the PACDAL Catholic Council which paid their respects.

The President is expected to return to Manila tomorrow morning to fulfill a speaking engagement with the PTUC at 11 a.m. at the National Press Club Building.

August 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed awake in Baguio all of last night and caught up with his sleep aboard the presidential train that brought him and a group of newsmen to Manila this morning.

Mansion House sources said the President stayed late into the night with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and discussed contingent fund allocations to flood-stricken areas.

Just before dawn, the President switched from state papers to chess. He played with Col. Nicanor Jimenez until four o'clock in the morning.

After drinking a cup of coffee, the President motored to Damortis where a presidential train awaited to take him to Manila.

President Garcia had planned to fly to Manila but was advised against doing so owing to the inclement weather.

The President arrived in Damortis at 6:30 a.m. and immediately the presidential train pulled off for Manila.

President Garcia gave a brief press conference aboard the presidential train and later repaired to his suite where he slept throughout the way to Manila.

The presidential train arrived at the Sta. Mesa station at 10:30 a.m.

After a brief rest in Malacañang, the President motored to the National Press Club where he addressed the Philippine Trade Union Council.

He went down to the third floor of the NPC and joined newsmen at the bar. He offered drinks to newsmen and paid the chits.

From the NPC, the President returned to Malacañang.

After a few minutes' rest, the President motored to Quezon City where he led the nation in observing the 79th birthday of the late President Quezon.

He read a prepared speech which started in the national language and later switched to English.

President Garcia's speech left no doubt in the minds of his listeners that he had a hand in drafting the five-page opus.

Notable portion of his speech was as follows:

"The whole nation offers to his (Quezon's) memory the most beautiful flowers of a thousand fragrance culled from the very heart of the people's Garden of Love and Gratitude.

"It was his cherished dream to send the sunbeams of contentment and happiness into every hut and heart.

"But I would like to add that in our preoccupation for charting the course of our Ship of State amidst the Sargasso Sea of international relations

"He dipped his insight into the mechanics of the human heart and the dynamics of the human soul"

IN the evening the President delivered his third address of the day at the Manila Hotel before the Manila Lions.

The President delivered today three speeches on the occasion of the celebration of the late President Manuel L. Quezon's birthday anniversary.

He delivered his first address before the Philippine Trade Union Council at the National Press Club Building at 11 a.m.

In the afternoon the President was the principal speaker in Quezon City which celebrated President Quezon's birthday anniversary.

In the evening the Chief Executive addressed the Manila Lions Club which held a Quezon birthday anniversary banquet at the Manila Hotel.

August 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received the pledge of the officials and members of the Moslem Pilgrimage Association of the Philippines to support his candidacy.

Sheik Abdul Racman Pacasum, president of the association, transmitted the pledge to the President in the course of his call on the Chief Executive.

Pacasum also informed the President that the association would conduct a pilgrimage to Mecca sometime early next year. For the last three years there had been no pilgrimage to Mecca, Pacasum added.

Officials of the President Magsaysay's Rural Organization accompanied former PPP organizers in Mindoro Oriental who were sworn in as Nacionalista members by the President.

Socorro Veloria, provincial coordinator and organizer-at-large of the Progressive Party of the Philippines (MPM), told the President that she had been convinced that there could be no other candidate better fitted for the presidency than the present incumbent.

The other new Nacionalistas were Roberto Tenorio, Ofelia Acedillo, and Serenidad Acedillo. They were accompanied by Tereso Dumon, Capt. Sofronio Tagaro, and Jose Sarte, a lawyer.

A group of Japanese businessmen, accompanied by Jose A. Laurel, III, paid a courtesy call on the President. The Japanese group was composed of T. Ando, president of the Onoda Cement Company, T. Nakao, O. Hirano, Susumu Kajita, S. Fujimaki, and S. Hanada.

After receiving Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., NP vice-presidential candidate, and Sen. Francisco Delgado in the Malacañang music room, the President went down to the social hall to receive a big delegation of Caviteños led by Mayor Benigno Guinto of Bacoar, president of the Cavite Mayors' League, Mayor Isaac Tolentino of Tagaytay City, and Mayor Fidel Dones of Cavite City.

THE President today signed a proclamation declaring Friday, August 30, 1957, a special public holiday only in the province of Bulacan.

Marcelo H. del Pilar, who used the *nom de plume* Plaridel in his struggles in Spain to obtain reforms for the Philippines during the Spanish regime, was born in Bulacan, Bulacan, on August 30, 1850.

The *Samahang Bulacan* requested the President to sign the proclamation to give the people of Bulacan the opportunity to celebrate Del Pilar's birthday with fitting ceremonies.

PRESIDENT Garcia received the credentials of Ministers Ty Kim Sour of Cambodia and Phouvong Phimmasone of Laos in separate ceremonies held at Malacañang this afternoon.

The ceremonies marked the formal opening of the first diplomatic relations between the Philippines and those states, in line with the Administration's policy of establishing closer economic, cultural, and diplomatic ties between this country and its neighbors in the Far East.

Laos and Cambodia are the last sovereign states in this part of the world with which the Philippines has heretofore not established diplomatic relations. Phouvong who is concurrently ambassador to Vietnam and Ty, who is concurrently minister to Thailand, are accredited here as non-resident ministers of their respective countries. Their Philippine counterpart is Minister Mariano Espeleta, Philippine minister to Vietnam, who had been also accredited as non-resident envoy to Laos and Cambodia.

In presenting their credentials, the new envoys pledged to devote their utmost efforts to the accomplishments of their mission; namely, the furtherance of friendly relations between the Philippines and their countries.

The President in his response welcomed the new diplomats on behalf of the Filipino people and assured them of full cooperation on the part of the Philippine Government in the accomplishment of their missions.

The credential-presentation ceremony for the Cambodian minister started about 4 p.m. Then followed that for the Loatian minister at 5 p.m. Each of the ceremonies which were held at Malacañang's ceremonial hall lasted not more than 15 minutes.

Present at the rites were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Yenke, Jr., Ministers Tomas de Castro and Juan Arreglado, Counsellors Benito Bautista and Jose Ma. Espino, Manuel Zamora and Jose Estrada, protocol officers of Malacañang and the foreign office, respectively, and Pedro Angara, assistant protocol officer.

IN the evening the President received a large delegation of political leaders from Surigao which presented him with a resolution informing him that all the Nacionalista factions in their province were united in support of his candidacy.

In the course of the call, Ex-Gov. Pedro E. Escuyos, a Liberal, was inducted into the NP by the President. The delegation included Gov. Bernardino Almeda, Ex-Govs. Fernando Silvosa and Vicente Pimentel, and former Sen. Felixberto Verano.

Another delegation from Ilocos Norte headed by Dr. Rizal Peralta also called in the evening. The group included Ex-Gov. Damaso Samonte and Mayors Vicente Hernando of San Nicolas, Esmeraldo Agabin of Badoec, Conrado Llaguno of Paoay, and Apolinario Madarila of Pinili.

Other delegation this evening were those from Laguna headed by Gov. Dominador Chipeco and Rep. Wenceslao Lagumbay and from Lopez, Quezon, led by Mayor Gregorio Yumul.

August 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning held a three-and-a-half hour conference with government and private financial and business experts to study means for laying the groundwork of implementing legislation passed by the Congress designed to bolster the country's economy.

Among the matters discussed were the exploitation of the nickel and iron deposits in Surigao, the development of NASSCO's steel mill project in Iligan, and the implementation of the Reparations Law.

As the conference was preliminary in nature, no details were revealed. However, the President stressed that he discussed with his conferees means to exploit the country's mineral resources and the expansion of the NASSCO steel mill plant with a view to accelerating the country's economic development through the generation of allied industries and providing jobs to thousands of the unemployed.

With regard to the Surigao mines which are reputed to be one of the most extensive in the world, it was pointed out that the Surigao mainland reserve alone is approximately 56,900 hectares while Nonoc Island has 4,321 hectares with a potential ore reserve for iron alone of about one billion tons or more. The other islands within the entire reserves are still unexplored.

In the exploration of about 336 hectares of the mainland area, the blocked-ore reserve estimates ran to 17 million tons positive and 50 million tons probable. A previous preliminary estimate of minable iron ore in the same area covering 10,000 hectares was 430 million tons, which included 275 million tons within easy hauling distance to the nearest harbor.

The nickel-bearing ore reserves in Nonoc Island have been estimated to date at 29 million metric tons of ferruginous laterite and serpentine containing 1.38 per cent nickel.

The President said that the implementation of the law providing for the establishment of a giant steel mill in Iligan City would start the establishment of other allied factories engaged in the manufacture of steel or which would use steel products.

The five-year expansion program of the NASSCO is divided into three phases with a goal to produce 200,000 tons of pig iron and to be converted to about 186,000 tons of steel.

The President said that the expansion of the steel mill in Iligan would contribute greatly to the development and growth of allied industries.

It was also pointed out at the conference that the development of the Surigao iron and nickel mines, together with the expansion of the NASSCO steel plant, would provide job opportunities to thousands of the unemployed.

The President also discussed ways and means of effectively implementing the Reparations Agreement with Japan.

The President said that he had asked the opinion and advice of government and private experts in economics and finance in his desire to speed up the implementation of the country's economic development program.

Those who were present at the conference were Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr.; RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez; Alfonso Calalang, president of the Philippine Bankers Association; Monetary Board Member Vicente G. Sinco; Andres Soriano, Sr.; Andres Soriano, Jr.; Sebastian Ugarte; and Miguel Noel, a lawyer.

PRESIDENT Garcia at the Cabinet meeting this day signed a proclamation declaring Saturday, August 31, as a special public holiday throughout the Philippines to celebrate the 50th birthday anniversary of the late President Magsaysay.

The President and the Cabinet members also approved a tentative program to celebrate fittingly the occasion.

As submitted by Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., chairman of the committee in charge of the Magsaysay Day celebration, the observance starts at 7:30 a.m., Saturday, August 31, with a field mass to be said by Manila Archbishop Rufino Santos at the tomb of the late President at the North Cemetery.

After the mass, the official portrait of the late President will be unveiled. President Garcia will lead government officials, the family of the late President, admirers, and friends, in attending the ceremony which will also be featured by the laying of a wreath.

Lt. Col. Nicolas Ortega, chief of Army chaplains, will be in charge of religious rites while Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao will take charge of the wreath-laying.

At 12 noon, Saturday, a one-minute silence will be observed throughout the country in prayer for the late President. Sirens will be sounded all over the country to mark the start of the one-minute silence observance.

At 4 p.m. a Magsaysay youth rally will be held on the Luneta with President Garcia as the guest speaker. The rally will be featured by the conferring of awards on the medical students and the NARRA Consultative Council of Students volunteers, by Health Secretary Paulino Garcia and Mrs. Remedios Fortich, respectively.

Other numbers of the rally will include an invocation by Mons. Vicente Reyes, welcome address by Ignacio Debuque, Jr. (in charge of the affair), opening remarks by Rafael M. Sales, and introduction of the President by Secretary Aguilar.

During the rally a tape recording of the late President's last speech will be rebroadcast.

In the evening, at six o'clock, a popular band concert will be held on the Luneta with the PC, the AFP, and other bands assisting.

UPON representation of Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma and Carlos Quirino, in charge of the No-Dollar Import Office, the President and the Cabinet approved some revisions in the supplementary rules and regulations governing barter under Republic Act 1410, which had been approved by the Cabinet in its last meeting on August 14.

Features of the revised supplementary rules are that the rules should not be made retroactive in nature, and that the period for the validity of barter permits for exports was increased from 60 days to 90 days after the date of the permit.

Only Rules Nos. 4, 9, and 10 have been revised to read as follows:

“4. Barter permits shall be valid only:

a. For exports, ninety (90) days after date of permit.

b. For imports, ninety (90) days after negotiation of the corresponding export. If the corresponding export under the permit is not made within ninety (90) days of issue, the barter permit lapses completely and becomes invalid.

If the collateral import under the permit is not made within ninety (90) days after the negotiation of the corresponding export, the right to import shall lapse and the agent banks holding the foreign exchange corresponding to the export previously made shall within 24 hours sell such exchange to the Central Bank.

“9. These supplementary rules and regulations shall apply to all barter permits which may hereafter be granted.

“10. That no extension may be granted to barter permits issued under supplementary rules.”

PRESIDENT Garcia and the Cabinet approved in principle the immediate settlement of gratuities to retiring employees of the Manila Railroad Co. as soon as the gratuities were due.

A hitch developed in the payment of the gratuities of these employees because of the fact that the MRR had failed to pay to the GSIS its corresponding share of premiums for the retirement of employees. Upon explanation of Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona that these employees had religiously paid their premiums, the President said that it was unfair for the government to withhold the payment of gratuities to these employees because of the MRR's default.

The President said that the government should meet its obligation to the employees and that arrangements should be made in the settlement of the MRR's deficit payments to the GSIS.

The President appointed a committee, with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez as chairman and Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and OEC Administrator Juan Concon as members, to study the mechanics of the payment of gratuities to the employees and the manner the MRR could make up for its defaulted payments incurred during the last administration.

UPON representation of Health Secretary Paulino Garcia, the President and the Cabinet agreed that the appointments of some 100 physicians already approved for position at the National Mental Hospital be subject to a screening of a committee which had been created for the purpose before these new appointments are made effective.

Secretary Garcia informed the President that before he left for his recent trip abroad, he had created a screening committee which had gone over more than 3,000 applicants for 280 openings available at the National Mental Hospital.

He said that the prospective appointees to these positions had to be screened for their suitability for their specialized kind of job in order that they could perform their duties effectively.

The Health Secretary, however, said that during his absence some 100 applicants who had not undergone the necessary screening to determine their technical suitability for the job had been appointed.

He added that it was not fair that those who had undergone the screening and had been certified to as suitable should not receive the proper consideration they were entitled to. This, he remarked, was not fair to the patients, either.

The President said that in justice to the 3,000 applicants who had undergone the screening tests and in order that those to be finally appointed to the National Mental Hospital would be really competent for their technical work, the 100 new appointees should be screened by the committee.

Secretary Garcia said that those who would pass the test would be given permanent appointments.

THE Cabinet granted to Antonio V. Arizabal, Jr., metallurgical engineer of the Iligan Steel Mills, an extension of his leave of absence without pay to enable him to pursue advance courses and research in metallurgical engineering in the United States. Young Arizabal graduated with an M.S. in metallurgical engineering last June with one of the highest scholastic records from Carnegie Institute of Technology Graduate School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is at present working for his Ph. D. in metallurgical engineering in Carnegie Institute of Technology.

Iligan Steel with a capital of P50 million has recently entered into a series of contracts with European and American firms for the establishment here of the most modern integrated steel plant. The multi-million peso steel mill will process Philippine iron ores to supply billet requirements of the five rolling and blooming mills now operating in the country.

A STEADY increase in profits in the operation of government corporations since 1954 was reported by Juan Concon, acting administrator of the Office of Economic Coordination, at the Cabinet meeting.

Concon reported that the fiscal year ending in June 1957 alone gave a net increase of P4,647,824.93 over that of the preceding fiscal year. He attributed the favorable trend in the results of corporate operations to the following factors:

- (1) Improved methods of operations;
- (2) Scientific and efficient management;
- (3) Rigid economy through effective budgetary control;
- (4) Effective implementation and coordination of economic measures; and
- (5) Increase in the volume of business and proportionate decrease in the total cost of production and other operating expenses.

The administrator pointed out, however, that the comparison was only for 12 corporations instead of 17 in the preceding fiscal year, as five corporations had been transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources on January 16, 1957. Corporations transferred were the Abaca Corporation of the Philippines, the Philippine Coconut Administration, the Philippine Sugar Institute, the Philippine Tobacco Administration, and the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration.

A statement of statistical data on the combined results of financial operations of corporations in the OEC group for eight fiscal years under the past and present administration was also presented by Concon.

Concon noted that the fiscal year 1953–54 belonged to both the past and the present administrations, that is, the first half from July 1, 1953, to December 31, 1953, belonged to the former administration, and the second half from January 1 to June 30, 1954, to the present administration.

“So it can be safely stated that the big loss of more than P17 million was incurred during the last year of the past administration on account mainly of mismanagement,” Concon added.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 12 noon to 2:30 p.m. Before the President's arrival, Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason presided over the meeting.

THE President issued Executive Order No. 263, creating the Pinaglabanan Commemorative Commission charged with the erection of an appropriate monument or memorial to commemorate the first battle for the emancipation of the Filipino people which took place in San Juan del Monte, Rizal, in August 1896.

In issuing the executive order, the President entrusted the commission with soliciting voluntary contributions from the public, selecting the site of the monument or memorial, and supervising its construction and erection.

The President pointed out in his executive order that a campaign to enlist public support in the project had already been launched on the initiative of "The Spirit of 1896," a patriotic organization many of whose members had given up their lives for the freedom of the Philippines. He added, however, that the perpetuation of the memory of the Battle of Pinaglabanan was the concern not only of any locality or entity but of the entire nation. [See Executive Order No. 203, p. —, for the composition of the Pinaglabanan Commemorative Commission.]

The Provincial Treasurer and the Provincial Auditor of Rizal shall act as treasurer and auditor ex officio, respectively, of the Commission.

THE First Lady today was given a warm reception in Bulacan where she officiated in the inauguration of five government projects.

The projects inaugurated were the following:

- (1) The Longos pre-fabricated schoolhouse in Calumpit and the Calumpit-Iba-Hagonoy feeder roads;
- (2) The Pinagtulayan and the Paombong elementary schools;
- (3) The NAWASA pumping stations at barrios Concepcion and Sabang, Baliuag;
- (4) The SWA administered Bulacan Boys' Welfare Home at Pinaod, San Ildefonso; and
- (5) The Rural Health Center at Pulong Buhangin, Sta. Maria.

Traveling under a heavy rain, the First Lady's car plowed over muddy barrio roads while school children and barrio folks stood by the roadside cheering the First Lady's party.

At the inauguration of the Iba-Calumpit-Hagonoy barrio road, the First Lady braved a drizzle. She cut the ceremonial ribbon under umbrellas held for her by barrio folks.

In her brief speeches the First Lady expressed gratitude for the warm welcome afforded her. She said she would continue to support the Administration's rural uplift program.

Mrs. Garcia was accompanied to Bulacan by Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, Mrs. Eulogio Balao, and Mrs. Dolores Gaerlan. She was fetched from Malacañang by Mrs. Alejo Santos, wife of the Bulacan governor.

Arriving at the Bulacan provincial capitol in Malolos at 9:30 a.m., the First Lady was greeted by Bulacan Governor Alejo Santos, Rep. Rogaciano Mercado, and other provincial and municipal officials. They escorted the First Lady to the sites of all projects she inaugurated.

The First Lady was back at Malacañang about 8 p.m.

REGARDING Col. Osmundo Mondoñedo's retirement from the Army, a Malacañang spokesman said today:

"President Garcia believes that it is the privilege of every qualified Filipino to run for public office. The President will not in any manner stand in the way of Col. Mondoñedo to seek an elective position. After the colonel has filed his certificate of candidacy, his retirement is a matter of course, unless he has committed anomalies while in the military service."

August 22.—COMPLAINING of slight indisposition, the President cancelled his appointments this morning, including the scheduled induction of four new Cabinet members at 10 o'clock. His physician said he was suffering from a bad cold.

However, he had breakfast with other leaders, and after a brief exchange of views with them, the President motored out of Malacañang to an undisclosed place. It was learned he went to his hideout at Fort McKinley.

THIS afternoon, feeling somewhat better, the President administered the oaths of office to Ambassador Felixberto Serrano as acting secretary of foreign affairs, Rep. Angel M. Castaño as *ad interim* secretary of labor, Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Yenke, Jr., as *ad interim* undersecretary of national defense, and Col. Nicanor Jimenez as *ad interim* assistant executive secretary.

The ceremonies which were held at the social hall in Malacañang were witnessed by senators and representatives; ranking officials of the Departments of Foreign Affairs, Labor, and Defense; and labor leaders, relatives, friends, and admirers of the new appointees.

In inducting Ambassador Serrano to the premier Cabinet portfolio, the President expressed confidence that Serrano would "conduct the affairs of the nation in such a way as will give glory and honor to the Filipino people." Serrano succeeds Raul Manglapus, who had been holding the foreign affairs secretaryship in an acting capacity since March when the then Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs Garcia assumed the Presidency on the death of President Magsaysay.

On the induction of Rep. Castaño to the labor portfolio, the President pointed out that the role of labor had grown in importance in the economic security of the country. He said that the Philippines was trying to establish an example to Asian countries in ideal labor-management relations, and expressed hope that Castaño's leadership would be instrumental in bringing labor and management to work "not *against* one another but *with* one another to enrich the economy of the nation and the Filipino people." Castaño succeeds Eleuterio Adevos, resigned.

Regarding the appointments of Assistant Executive Secretary Yenke to the undersecretaryship of defense and Col. Jimenez to the assistant executive secretaryship, the Chief Executive, likewise, expressed confidence that the two men with their long and distinguished military service behind them, would be assets to the offices to which they were just inducted. Yenke succeeds Jose M. Crisol, resigned, while Jimenez takes the post vacated by Yenke in Malacañang.

Despite the inclement weather, hundreds of people trooped to Malacañang and jam-packed the spacious social hall to witness the ceremonies. First to be inducted was Ambassador Serrano at 4:35 p.m. Then he was followed by Rep. Castaño, Secretary Yenke, and Col. Jimenez. The induction rites ended about 5 p.m. with the President's brief remarks.

Among those present were Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez, House Majority Floor Leader Arturo M. Tolentino, Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Gov. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas, Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal, Counselor Tomas de Castro of the Department of Foreign Affairs, and labor leaders.

IN the afternoon President Garcia received Archbishop Rufino J. Santos, who brought to the President's attention a petition of the professors and employees of the University of Santo Tomas requesting the suspension of the application of the Social Security Act to the U.S.T.

According to the petition, the U.S.T. professors and employees prefer their own social security system because it is more beneficial to them than that of the government.

The President told the Archbishop that this matter had been discussed in the Cabinet meeting on August 21 and it was the consensus that there was nothing in the law which would empower the President to postpone the effectivity of the Social Security Act. The President, however, said that an opinion was voiced in the Cabinet that it might be possible for a private corporation to choose between the retirement system of the government or the corporation's own system, depending on which is more beneficial to the employees.

The Chief Executive told Archbishop Santos that this opinion was referred to Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason for a more careful study.

The President and the Archbishop Conferred for about 30 minutes in the music room immediately after the Chief Executive had officiated at the induction ceremonies at the social hall.

August 23.—PHYSICIANS of the V. Luna General Hospital pronounced President Garcia “fit as a fiddle” for the exigencies of the political campaign after a thorough check-up this morning.

President Garcia spent a great part of his day at the V. Luna General Hospital checking up on the progress of the recovery of patients he had sent for treatment there. At the same time, he had a thorough physical check-up preparatory to his taking to the field to campaign.

The President was heartened to know that the patients, most of them emergency cases, whom he had sent to the V. Luna General Hospital for treatment were fast regaining their health.

Upon reading in a local magazine an article on the condition of a ten-year old schoolboy, Delfin Bayan, whom he had ordered treated at the VLGH, President Garcia decided to visit the boy, including all the other patients whom he had sent to the hospital.

President Garcia was surprised to see little Delfin, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Maria Bayan, and his uncle, Carlos Pascua, very much improved in health, able to walk and speak, and able to see with his left eye which had been damaged. Delfin greeted the President, saying, “Mr. President, I thank you for sending me to the hospital for treatment. I am well now.”

Delfin, a 10-year old schoolboy from barrio Tangil, Laoag, Ilocos Norte, had suffered from grenade shrapnels inbedded in his skull, with his left eyesight affected. First taken to the North General Hospital, he was later on transferred to the VLGH by order of the President for observation and possible brain surgery.

Lt. Col. Melchor M. Javier, one of the leading brain surgeons of the hospital, who had attended to the boy, said that nature had taken its course in relieving Delfin of his illness, adding that for the present there was no need for a brain surgery. However, the boy is still under further observation and treatment in order that he would recover completely. The boy's mother and uncle thanked the President.

While in the hospital, the President decided to have a medical check-up and was given a thorough looking over by Army physicians under the supervision of Col. Luis Martinez, VLGH commanding officer.

After being given X-Ray tests and electro-cardiography, the Army physicians, in consultation with the presidential physicians, Drs. Luis Gaerlan and Antonio Guytingco, gave the Chief Executive a clean bill of health.

Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison said that according to the President's physicians, the President “is fit as a fiddle and is ready for the exigencies of the campaign.”

The President underwent medical examination from 9:45 a.m. to 11 a.m. From the examination room, the President walked up to the second floor of the hospital and proceeded to Ward I, where he visited Second Lieutenants Augusto Flores and Jesus de la Cruz, who had been victims of two ambushes in Sulu last August 17.

Flores had been shot through the thigh while De la Cruz had suffered gunshot wound in the chest. The two lieutenants figured in two separate ambushes, the first in sitio Baono in Panamau District while the second in barrio Pantao, Biloan, Sulu.

The President congratulated the two officers who are on the way to recovery, for their bravery and directed that good care be given to them.

From there the President proceeded to the Surgical Ward for officers, where the Chief Executive greeted the patients and wished them good luck and fast recovery. Among those in the ward was Cadet Juanito Rimando, who had been one of the hazing victims at the Philippine Military Academy.

From there, the President proceeded to Ward II, where patients requiring brain surgery and orthopedic treatment were confined. While in the ward, the President went from one bed to another, greeting each patients and inquiring into the progress of the recovery of each. He was pleasantly surprised to find in this ward several of the patients whom he had ordered brought to the hospital for emergency treatment.

Among these was four-year old Aniceto Manalo, whom the President had ordered brought to the hospital, for surgery to remove a stone in his bladder. The President was happy to know that the operation was over and the little boy was well on the way to recovery.

The President wondered at the skill of the VLGH surgeons and physicians who had treated these patients who are now on the way to health, although they were in an almost hopeless condition at the time they were brought to the hospital.

The Chief Executive spent about an hour visiting the patients in the wards, leaving the hospital at 12:30 p.m.

The President was accompanied from Malacañang by Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and Drs. Guytingco and Gaerlan. The President later on was joined at the VLGH by Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke, Jr., and Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez.

From the hospital, the President motored to the residence of Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas (ret.) where he ate his lunch about 1:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE Secretary Fortunato de Leon this morning inducted into office Primitivo Ballesteros and Mariano Ledesma as acting director and assistant director, respectively, of the Bureau of Printing.

Ballesteros replaces Director Mateo Ferrer, who retired recently.

Present during the ceremony which was held at Secretary De Leon's office at Malacañang were relatives and division chiefs of the Bureau of Printing, including Mrs. Ballesteros, Superintendent of Works Cristino de Guzman, Composing Division Chief Zoilo Nasal, Administrative Officer Eutropio Floresca, and Power Plant Chief Nicasio Ramos.

President Garcia received the credentials of Minister Lincoln Hoon Kim of Korea in a simple but impressive ceremony held at the Malacañang Ceremonial Hall this afternoon upon his return from the V. Luna General Hospital.

After presenting his credentials, Minister Kim pledged to maintain and strengthen the close and friendly relations existing between the Philippines and Korea. These close ties of friendship are based on the common dedication of the two peoples to the ideals of freedom, independence, and democracy, he said.

The Korean minister recalled the part played by Filipino soldiers during the communist aggression in Korea and pointed out that because of developments of recent history, the peoples of the Philippines and Korea play a most vital role in preserving freedom and democracy in Asia.

The new envoy stated that the national unification of Korea, which is the prime objective of the United Nations' effort in Korea, is the most pressing task to be accomplished with the continued positive support of the free world alliance, of which the Philippines is an important member. He added that the economic rehabilitation of Korea to cure the ills of communist aggression is the next important task.

In his response the President said that the close ties linking both peoples must be maintained and solidified further if they are to play a vital role in the preservation of democracy in Asia.

Present at the ceremony were Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Sens. Cipriano Primicias and Alejo Mabanag, Ministers Juan Arreglado and Tomas de Castro, and Counselor Jose Ma. Espino.

President Garcia today received from Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona a report on the comparative statements of annual expenditures of the office of the President during 3½ years under the Liberal Party administration, from fiscal years 1951 to 1954, and those of the Nacionalista Party administration from 1954 to 1957.

In submitting his report to the President, Aytona said that he would like the people to know that the Office of the President during the Liberal administration spent in 3½ years for such items as travel abroad, discretionary fund, Belo fund, and salaries for miscellaneous and emergency employees and laborers the total sum of P3,224,799.99 as against P1,949,932.09 spent during the Nacionalista administration. Aytona emphasized that the previous administration spent P1,274,867.90 more than the present administration has spent.

In his itemized report to the President, Aytona revealed that during the 3½ fiscal years of the Liberal administration, the total spent for travel abroad was P396,923.25 as compared to P213,067.13 spent by the Nacionalista administration.

The other items were compared as follows: Discretionary fund, P998,763.23 (LP) as against P534,778.67 (NP); Belo fund, P1,637,417.20 (LP) as against P1,102,966.29 (NP); and salaries for miscellaneous and emergency employees and laborers, P191,696.31 (LP) as against P99,120 (NP).

Aytona said that among these four items, the expenditures for the Belo fund was the biggest item in which the Liberal Party administration had exceeded the Nacionalista administration by P534,450.91.

IN the evening the President administered the oath of office to Gonzalo Gonzalez as member of the Social Security Commission at a simple ceremony held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

The appointment of Gonzalez to that body completes the membership of the commission. Other SSC members are GSIS General Manager Rodolfo Andal, chairman, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, Health Secretary Paulino Garcia, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, Ildefonso Remolina, representing labor, and Leopoldo Rovira, Jr., representing management. Gonzalez represents business interests.

Present at the ceremony were SSC Chairman Andal and Sens. Cipriano Primicias and Pedro Sabido.

Earlier, the President received Sens. Cipriano Primicias and Alejo Mabanag, who accompanied political leaders from Ilocos Norte, including Sarat Mayor Gabriel Reyes, former Congressman Vicente Lazo, and former Gov. Damaso Samonte.

Then the President received Bulacan Gov. Alejo Santos. Rep, Rogaciano Mercado, and Board Member Tomas Martin, who headed a large delegation composed of town mayors and political leaders from that province. Aside from reiterating their pledge to support the President's election bid, the delegation requested assistance for public improvements in Bulacan.

August 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia expressed optimism over the victory of the Nacionalista Party in the coming election, saying that the people would support the NP straight ticket because of the achievements the party has accomplished the last three years of administration.

In six speeches delivered since his arrival in Negros Occidental today, the President said the foremost accomplishment of the NP were the restoration of peace and order and the people's faith in the government. He said these were important because without peace and order and the people's faith in the government, all other programs of good government which the NP sought to undertake would have been impossible of implementation.

The President recalled the late President Magsaysay's promise to stamp out lawlessness when he ran under the NP banner in 1953. On assumption of office, President Magsaysay in no time fulfilled the promise and later proceeded to carry out the NP program of building artesian wells, barrio roads, prefab schoolhouses, and other projects designed to uplift conditions in outlying areas, he said.

He added, however, that the NP program was only one-fourth finished when RM died last March. He expressed the belief that the Filipino people would retain the NP in power in order to let it continue the program started by President Magsaysay.

The President received a royal welcome upon his arrival in Bacolod. Everywhere he went, people turned out *en masse*, cheering and waving "We are for Garcia" placards.

Landing at the Bacolod airport at 10 a.m. aboard PAF plane *Dagohoy*, the President met hundreds representing all towns of the province. He was met by Sen. Jose C. Locsin, Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, and other local officials.

The President mounted the platform at the airfield and thanked the people for the spontaneous reception. He was introduced by Mayor Teofilo Cordova of Bacolod City. Speaker Laurel, who was with the party also spoke and defended himself from charges leveled against him and the Nacionalista Party.

Then the President and the Speaker headed a long motorcade to Bacolod City. All along the way, people from all walks of life lined the streets and cheered heartily as the presidential car passed by. Entering the city, the presidential party was forced to stop owing to large crowd in front of the Negros Occidental High School. The crowd refused to disperse until the President climbed on the hood of one of the escorting jeeps and said a few words to the enthusiastic welcomers.

At the city hall, the President had a brief conference with city officials. Then he proceeded to the University of Negros Occidental, where he and the Speaker addressed the student body in an open auditorium under the heat of the noonday sun.

About 1 p.m. the President and the Speaker again addressed a gathering of local officials who gave a luncheon in their honor at the University Club. About 3 p.m. the President and his party boarded a car and started the scheduled tour of northern municipalities of the province. The next stop was Talisay where people awaited him patiently for hours. The President and the Speaker addressed a huge crowd from a gaily decorated platform erected at the entrance of the Talisay market.

He arrived in Silay City about 6 p.m. for the inauguration ceremonies. He proceeded with a tour of northern towns after an evening stay in Silay.

August 25.—THE President resumed his stumping tour of northern Negros Occidental towns after hearing an early morning mass at Silay City, where he had spent the night. He delivered a total of five speeches in five public rallies in five municipalities.

The Presidential party was welcomed with parades, brass bands, and fireworks in all the towns visited. The people turned out by the thousands and waited patiently for hours under the heat of the noonday sun all along the Presidential route.

In his speeches the President appealed for a straight Nacionalista ticket. He said it was the best way to insure a continuation of the NP economic development program.

The first stop this morning was at Saravia. The President was introduced to the big crowd gathered at the public plaza by Mayor Luis Magalona, a Liberal and son of former Sen. Enrique Magalona, who pledged the support of his town to the President's bid for election.

Other towns visited today were Victorias, Manapla, Cadiz, and Sagay which is about 90 kilometers from Bacolod. The President ate lunch at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Dr. Vicente Gustilo in Cadiz.

PRESIDENT Garcia said today he would try to prevail upon Justice Undersecretary Jesus Barrera to stay in his post.

In an impromptu press conference this afternoon, the President discounted reports that Barrera's resignation had any political significance. He said it was only due to misunderstanding between Secretary Tuason and Barrera. He expressed hope that he would be able to thresh out the misunderstanding.

IN the evening the President returned to Bacolod City, where another rally was scheduled at 10:00 p.m.

The President was accompanied during the tour by Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, Sen. Jose Locsin, and Sen. Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez. The President is scheduled to fly back to Manila tomorrow morning.

August 26.—BEFORE leaving Bacolod City this morning for Bohol to fetch the First Lady, the President expressed his confidence at a press conference that in Negros Occidental the Nacionalista Party would have a "repeat performance of the 1953 overwhelming victory."

In his last speech delivered last night at the Bacolod plaza, the President said that he was seeking re-election not for power nor for wealth but because of his desire to complete the economic development program initiated by the late President Magsaysay.

He appealed to the Bacolod electorate to vote the straight Nacionalista ticket on the basis of the achievement of the Nacionalista administration, like the re-establishment of peace and order and the restoration of the people's faith and confidence in the government.

He also said that one of the issues was whether or not the people wanted to preserve the democracy which the Nacionalistas had retrieved in 1953 after it had been lost in the maladministration of the Liberal regime.

Arriving at Tagbilaran, Bohol, at 10:45 this morning, the President was accorded a rousing welcome at the airport in spite of his wish for a quiet homecoming. People lined up both sides of the road from the airport to Tagbilaran and cheered him lustily.

Gov. Juan Pajo informed the President about the results of the NP congressional conventions held yesterday. Proclaimed official NP candidates for Congress were following: Rep. Natalio Castillo, first district; Rep. Bartoleme Cabangbang, second district; and Mayor Maximino Garcia of Tabilon, third district.

PRESIDENT Garcia returned this afternoon to Manila after a two-day stumping tour in Negros Occidental, quite confident that the Nacionalistas would sweep the province in the coming November elections.

The President and Mrs. Garcia enplaned for Manila about 3 p.m. and arrived at the Nichols Air Base at 5:25 p.m. From the airport the President motored to the Archbishop's Palace in Mandaluyong, Rizal, to greet Archbishop Rufino J. Santos on the occasion of his birthday. However, the Archbishop was not in.

August 27.—THE President, who had just returned from a two-day stumping tour of Negros Occidental, was kept busy today by visiting United States Undersecretary of State Christian Herter.

He received the American Undersecretary in the morning and feted him at a dinner at this Palace dining room in the evening.

In between his appointments with Undersecretary Herter, the President conferred with political leaders in an effort to strengthen his bid for votes in the coming elections.

With Herter was Ambassador James P. Richard and Ambassador Charles Bohlen.

Earlier this morning, the President received former Sen. Justiniano S. Montano and his son, Gov. Delfin Montano of Cavite. The Montanos protested the exclusion of the former Cavite senator from the NP slate.

However, the President told the Montanos that their protest was under consideration by the NP executive committee.

The President also received the newly-elected officials of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines. The CCP officials invited the President to induct them on September 3.

The President accepted the invitation. With the CCP group were former Secretary of Labor Primitivo Lovina, Marcelo Balatbat, Benito Medina, Ben Medrano, Ramon V. del Rosario, P. E. Domingo, Jose Y. Orosa, former Justice Manuel Lim, Gil Carlos, E. V. Mendoza, and Luis Ablaza.

Justice Lim later conferred with President Garcia and raised speculations that he had been apprised of his coming appointment as secretary of education.

IN the afternoon the President conferred with the eight senatorial candidates of the majority party.

At the meeting held at the family dining room of the Palace were President Garcia Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sens. Cipriano P. Primicias, Manuel Briones, Gil J. Puyat, and Roseller T. Lim; Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma and Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao; and Rep. Arturo M. Tolentino, Gov. Juan C. Pajo, Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson, Bulacan Gov. Alejo Santos, Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, Mayor Benigno Aquino, Montano Nazario, and Tomas Arquiza. The meeting lasted for two hours.

PRESIDENT Garcia today cabled President Eisenhower expressing confidence that the U.S. President would sign into law the bill passed by the U.S. Congress providing backpay for Filipino scouts.

President Garcia added that President Eisenhower's "favorable action will bring great joy to many thousands of Filipinos and strengthen the bonds of friendship between our countries."

In his message President Garcia said that the Filipino people “have been greatly impressed by the news of the U.S. Congress having passed H. R. 5807, providing backpay for Filipino scouts during the period between their release from prison camps and return to service with their respective units.”

In this connection, President Garcia said that the government and the Filipino people, especially the veterans, were grateful to Defense Eulogio Balao and Col. Bernard Anderson, whose dedicated efforts in presenting the case of the Filipino veterans before American leaders contributed much to an understanding of the justness of their case and finally led to the passage of the bill.

A veterans mission headed by Secretary Balao, and of which Col. Anderson was a member, was sent recently to the United States to help in securing greater benefits for Filipino veterans through enactment of favorable legislation. Col. Anderson was particularly active in contacting veterans in the U.S. Congress. The passage of the bill providing backpay for Filipino scouts was one of the tangible results of their work.

The full text of President Garcia’s message to President Eisenhower follows:

“The Filipino people have been greatly impressed by the news of the Congress having passed H. R. 5807, providing backpay for Filipino scouts during the period between their release from prison camp and return to service with their respective units. Being fully cognizant of your good will toward our Republic and its people, I am confident you will sign this bill into law and your favorable action will bring great joy to many thousands of Filipinos and strengthen the bands of friendship between our countries. With wishes for your continued good health and success.”

August 28.—THIS morning the President continued his conferences with his financial and economic advisers in his determination to strengthen further the country’s economy. He met separately with RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr.

In his conferences the President took up with his advisers such matters as the needs of local industries, the rice problem, prices of prime commodities, and reparations. No details were given.

Romualdez and Cuaderno also briefed the President on the forthcoming annual conference of the International Monetary Fund to be held in Washington, D. C., on September 21 to 28, 1957, which they will both attend.

The Philippine delegation to the conference is composed of Miguel Cuaderno, Sr., governor; Eduardo Z. Romualdez, alternate governor; and Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Felix de la Costa, Vicente G. Sinco, Alfonso Calalang, and H. B. Reyes, as members.

The President conferred separately with Romualdez and Cuaderno up to a few minutes before 12 noon. After the conference, the President met with General Emilio Aguinaldo and then proceeded to the Council of State room to preside over the Cabinet meeting.

PRESIDENT Garcia and his Cabinet members today directed the NARIC to sell its special and fancy varieties of rice at not more than P0.95 a ganta.

This step was taken as a means to lower immediately the price of rice pending the arrival of the 500,000 cavans of rice on September 15 and an additional 400,000 cavans of rice toward the end of the month. This latter importation was approved today by the Cabinet in addition to the September 15 shipment in order to insure enough supply of rice and to stabilize its price.

The President and his Cabinet spent a greater part of their meeting tackling the rice problem. Aside from deciding on the sale of the special and fancy rice varieties at not higher than P.95 a ganta as an immediate remedial measure and approving the additional 20,000 tons (400,000 cavans), the President and the Cabinet directed:

(1) The FACOMAs, through the ACCFA, to step up their milling of palay and to sell all their available rice to the NARIC so that this agency would have more stocks to sell to the public; and

(2) The NEC Presiding Office Eduardo Z. Romualdez to make arrangements for the expeditious arrival in the Philippines of the 10,000 metric tons of rice already ordered from the United States.

The President said that in his trips to the provinces, he received complaints about the soaring price of rice. For this reason, he said, he had summoned to the Cabinet meeting NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco and NARIC General Manager Vicente Concepcion, together with acting ACCFA Administrator Ernesto Jimenez and NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin F. Estrella, in order to adopt practical measures of easing up the rice situation.

Chairman Chioco said that with the arrival of the 900,000 cavans of imported rice during the month of September and the forthcoming harvest, the country would soon have enough rice stocks to enable the NARIC to maintain the sale of this commodity at P0.85 a ganta.

The President turned down Chioco's resignation as NARIC chairman and instead authorized him to leave immediately in order to insure the early arrival of the additional 400,000 cavans of rice expected at the end of September.

The President said that this additional importation is necessary because September is a critical period and that it is imperative that the government has enough rice stocks in order to insure the sale of this staple food at authorized levels.

Acting ACCFA Administrator Jimenez informed the President and the Cabinet that the FACOMAs had sold to the NARIC 21,000 cavans of rice which already distributed. The President said that the FACOMAs should intensify their milling of palay, if possible, on a 24-hour basis so that they could sell more rice to the NARIC, which in turn would sell it to the consuming public.

The Chief Executive told Romualdez to make representations for the speedy shipment to the Philippines of the 10,000 metric tons of rice which had been ordered sometime ago from the United States. The arrival of these additional rice stocks, the President said, would further normalize the rice situation here.

Romualdez said that this U.S. rice is expected to come in two months. By that time, rice harvests will be in full swing throughout the Philippines.

The President's directive for the NARIC to sell special and fancy varieties of rice at not more than P0.95 a ganta was made after consultation with Chairman Chioco, Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, and NAMARCO General Manager Estrella. It was agreed during the discussion that if losses would be suffered by the government as a result of the sale of these fancy rice varieties, the NARIC and the NAMARCO should share in the losses. The President directed Chioco and Estrella to work out the details regarding this matter.

UPON recommendation of Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, the Cabinet approved the request of Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., for the creation of 206 additional extension teaching positions for elementary schools in various school divisions throughout the country. This will accommodate more school children who could not be admitted before. The money for this purpose was taken from the savings in the appropriations for extension classes.

The recommendation for the filling up of these additional positions had been taken up in a previous conference among Commissioner Aytona, Secretary Aguilar, and the director of public schools.

UPON recommendation of Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia, the Cabinet approved the Philippine participation in the eighth session of the World Health Organization Regional Committee for the Western Pacific to be held in Kowloon, Hongkong, from September 5 to 11, 1957.

The Philippine representatives to the conference are Dr. Jesus A. Nolasco, officer in charge of the Bureau of Health, and Dr. Antonio Ejercito, project director of the Malaria Control Division, Public Health Research Laboratories.

Dr. Nolasco was likewise designated Philippine representative to the Travel Study Tour in Public Health Administration of the WHO for two weeks, one week in Taipeh and one week in Japan, immediately following the close of the eighth session of the WHO in Hongkong.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting from 12 noon to 2:30 p.m. The Cabinet meeting was held at the Council of State room.

Owing to other important conferences which the President attended prior to the Cabinet meeting, Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason presided over the meeting until the President's arrival.

The Cabinet meeting was attended for the first time by the newly appointed members, Foreign Secretary Felixberto Serrano and Labor Secretary Angel Castaño.

THE President at the Cabinet meeting approved the official program to be held on the 50th birthday anniversary of the late President Magsaysay on August 31.

Mrs. Luz Banzon Magsaysay accepted the invitation of the committee headed by Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., to be present at the ceremonies to be held in honor of her late husband. The Magsaysay children will also be in attendance.

Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon recently sent out a circular to all provincial governors and city mayors enjoining them to cooperate wholeheartedly in the national observance of President Magsaysay's 50th birthday anniversary which had been proclaimed a national holiday throughout the Philippines by President Garcia.

IN the afternoon the President inducted Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas (Ret.) as *ad interim* secretary of national defense in an but impressive ceremony at the reception hall of Malacañang.

Gen. Vargas replaced Eulogio Balao, who resigned to run for the Senate under the NP ticket. The President inducted Vargas at 3:15 p.m., a few minutes after the regular Cabinet meeting had been adjourned.

Among those present at the induction were Senator Jose P. Laurel, Sr., Balao, Justice of the Court of Appeals and former National Defense Secretary Sotero Cabahug, AFP Chief of Staff Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, top brass of the Armed Forces and other ranking AFP officers and their ladies, and close relatives of Secretary Vargas.

August 29.—AT breakfast this morning President Garcia took further steps to implement the economic development of the country during a long conference with the Fiscal Policy Council which lasted from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The President, with the unanimous endorsement of the members of the Council, decided that the nickel deposits on Nonoc Island in Surigao, the development of which had been long planned, should be fully exploited under the terms provided in the enabling legislation recently passed by Congress.

The President directed the director of mines to take up immediately with the National Economic Council the laying down of the conditions to be complied with by bidders who wish to participate in the exploitation of these mines. It was stipulated that these conditions should be acceptable to the Philippine Government.

The Council believed that from the nickel deposits on Nonoc Island alone, the country's foreign exchange position would be considerably strengthened, considering that aside from the initial outlay estimated at \$100 million, the products from this extractive industry would yield a considerable amount to augment the country's international reserves.

The Fiscal Policy Council, which was created by Executive Order No. 236, met for the first time this morning. With the President as chairman, the members are: Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez, and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr.

The Council considered the recommendations made by the screening committee for the Council of State on bond issues for the fiscal year 1957–58 intended for the country's economic development. It was decided that the broad categories included in the listing made should be considered after a system of priorities have been adopted.

The categories included bond issues for irrigation, main highways, secondary and feeder roads, pre-fabricated school buildings, artesian wells, hospitals, airports, portworks, river controls, telecommunications, waterworks, and public buildings.

Among the points approved by the Council were:

(1) Authorizing the Manila Railroad to proceed with its expansion plans by releasing through bond issues P1,500,000 for the Plaridel, Bulacan, to Cabanatuan railway line. The Council also authorized the MRR to spend P100,000 to start the survey of the extension of the Sorsogon railway line.

It was believed that with the expansion of the MRR lines, more areas of the country would be brought under development and products in these regions could be easily transported to where they were needed.

(2) The release of needed amounts from bond issues to support the accelerated acquisition by the Land Tenure Administration of landed estates. The President said that the Administration's land tenure program should be stepped up in order that more landed estates could be acquired, subdivided, and sold to the tenants at cost.

(3) The Council gave financial support to the NARRA in order to enable more landless settlers to acquire and own lands and homes and to become independent farmers. It was stressed that the full programming should be undertaken jointly by the NARRA and the NEC to insure the widest possible results.

(4) Continuing the late President's program of providing pure drinking water to all the people, more water systems in the provinces are to be constructed with funds amounting to about P8 million. The construction of artesian wells in all barrios will be prosecuted.

(5) The work on reforestation will be intensified in order to conserve the forests and, aside from providing employment to more people, to prevent erosion and floods.

(6) The manufacture of more pre-fabricated school buildings should be accelerated. For this purpose, the sum of P1,500,000 was released in addition to an equal amount already spent for the purpose. The Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces was asked by the President to increase the output of pre-fab schoolhouses for distribution to more areas needing them.

THIS morning the President administered the oath of office to Madki Alonto as acting chairman of the Commission on National Integration, at the Malacañang social hall.

After the ceremony, the President lauded the objectives of Republic Act 1888, which created the Commission, in helping in the upliftment of the non-Christian tribes of the country.

The President foresaw a better era for the non-Christian tribes in the country under the Nacionalista administration and promised to continue his policy of educational, cultural, and economic upliftment of the minorities.

After inducting Madki Alonto as acting chairman of the Commission on National Integration, the President swore in former Liberal Cavite Governor Dominador Camerino, and about 5,000 members of his faction, including seven municipal mayors, as members of the Nacionalista Party.

The President then inducted Fortunato Sazon and ex-Mayor Roman Kabilang, both of Lubao, Pampanga, as Nacionalista members. One mayor, two vice-mayors, and six councilors of Isabela also took their oath of affiliation as Nacionalistas before the President.

Manuel Rodriguez, national chairman of the Philippine Federation of Labor and formerly national chairman of the Quirino for President Club in the 1949 and 1953 elections, was also inducted as a Nacionalista by the President, together with Pedro Grande, secretary general of the club.

Luciano Millan, former newspaperman and official NP candidate for the fifth district of Pangasinan, called on the President to ask for help for the typhoon-damaged public works installations in several towns of his district. Millan obtained the assurance of the President that help would be extended to the towns.

NARIC employees, led by acting General Manager Vicente R. Concepcion, called on the President to express their gratitude for the retention of Gov. Juan O. Chioco as chairman of the Board of Directors of the state firm.

ACTING on the appeal of presidential candidate Manuel P. Manahan, President Garcia today directed Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia to have three women allegedly suffering from mental ailment in Dipolog, Zamboanga, to be attended to immediately and airlifted to Manila for confinement and treatment at the National Mental Hospital, if necessary.

Manahan, who learned of the plight of these three women during his stumping tour in the South, appealed to the President to help them.

President Garcia lost no time in directing the health secretary to have the health officer in Dipolog, Zamboanga, examine these women. He directed that should it be necessary for these women to be confined and treated at the National Mental Hospital, he would immediately send a plane to fetch them.

The President expressed his thanks to Manahan for calling his attention to this case which needed the government's help.

The President said: "Continuing with as much enthusiasm and vigor the policy initiated by the late President Magsaysay in extending the government's help to our unfortunate countrymen, I have always immediately acted in giving succor to those who are in distress, especially the oppressed and the sick. I thank Mr. Manahan for calling my attention to the case of these three unfortunate women. Steps have already been taken to help them."

In another directive, President Garcia this day told Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., to attend immediately to the case of the 106 public school teachers of Jaro, Leyte, who claimed that they had not been paid their salaries in July.

The teachers, through their president, Sofronio Marmita, wrote the President saying that, because of their financial difficulties, some of them had applied for salary loans from the Government Service Insurance System.

The President told Secretary Aguilar to act on this case with dispatch and to see to it that the teachers receive their salaries beginning July. He said that arrangements should be made so that henceforth they would receive their salaries regularly. The Chief Executive told Aguilar to report the result of this directive.

IN the evening the President led the nation in the observance of the 61st anniversary of the Battle of Pinaglabanan. He motored to Pinaglabanan, San Juan, Rizal, where he was guest of honor at a civic-educational-military parade and a literary-musical program held in connection with the two-day celebration.

Arriving at the Pinaglabanan monument at exactly 5 p.m., the President was greeted by a large crowd headed by Rizal Gov. Isidro Rodriguez and San Juan Mayor Nicanor Ibuna.

After inspecting an honor guard made up of a unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion, the President proceeded to an improvised grandstand erected at the foot of the Pinaglabanan monument.

The program started at 5:30 p.m. with the singing of the Philippine National Anthem by the Teachers' Club school children, with Miss Constanca Alva, directing. Other features of the program included floral offerings made by civic, social, and school groups; a *Kundiman* sung by Miss Adelina Cruz; and giving of donations for the improvement of the "Pinaglabanan Heroes Monument." Judge Guillermo Guevarra was master of ceremonies.

In his speech this afternoon President Garcia pledged to harness all the resources of his administration to promote the happiness of the people, saying that the "government has no business to exist if it cannot enhance the general welfare."

He spoke before the monument erected to the memory of the heroes of the battle.

The President recalled that the first shots against Spain and later against the United States were fired at San Juan.

After extolling the heroes of Pinaglabanan, the President called attention to "thousands of other heroes who have made this country what it is today."

He said he referred to farmers, laborers, teachers, social workers, and thousands of other civil servants who have all dedicated their lives to the service of their people.

"These heroes never carried guns, nor took to a bloody battlefield, though history records that they too were ready to pick a bolo if need be in defense of their country," the President said.

He then pointed out that the "challenge of Pinaglabanan rings much clearer today" and that the opportunities for sacrifice and heroism that sparked our heroes sixty-one years ago to deeds of valor are all about us."

President Garcia urged the people to work together for the prosperity and freedom of the country.

"To make this country strong, we must stand together," he said. "All of us should be ready to give up something of ourselves for our country."

The President's speech lasted for about 20 minutes. He was introduced by San Juan Mayor Nicanor Ibuna, (See the next issue of the *Gazette* for the complete text of the President's speech.)

The President returned to Malacañang about 7 o'clock in the evening.

August 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to release the full amount for the implementation of the salary standardization of public secondary school and city intermediate school teachers.

The President gave the directive during a courtesy call of academic supervisors and principals of normal schools who are terminating their seminar on cooperative education.

Jose del Rosario, president of the Academic Supervisors Association, informed the President that the salary standardization insofar as the secondary school and city intermediate school teachers were concerned was not being implemented.

Under the law, the sum of P3,028,000 was appropriated to cover salary differentials.

Earlier, the President received three officials of the International Bank who were accompanied by General Manager Filemon Zablan of the National Power Corporation.

During the courtesy call the President and the IB officials discussed various details of the \$25 million loan being applied for by the Philippine Government for the dollar requirement needed for the construction of the Binga Hydroelectric Project in Mt. Province.

The International Bank officials were informed by the President that the Nacionalista administration will pursue vigorously the program of construction of hydroelectric projects.

Rep. Tobias Fornier, chairman of the appropriation committee of the House of Representatives, informed the President that after a thorough research he found out that the release of discretionary funds is not covered by the provision under the Public Works Act which prohibits the release of funds under said act 45 days before elections.

Augusto J. Lopez called on the President to present one of his "Magsaysay clocks of democracy". Lopez in making the donation expressed the hope that "the ideals of our late President will be forever preserved for our country and people".

Other presidential callers were Sens. Decoroso Rosales and Pedro Sabido, Govs. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga and Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Rep. Manuel Zosa of Cebu, and former Defense Undersecretary Teodosio Diño.

THE President today ordered the airlifting and admission in Manila suburban hospitals of four emergency patients from different parts of the country on urgent requests of members of the patients' families and the local provincial doctors.

The patients were Vicente Daruca from Cebu, Nelita Pescador from Tuguegarao, Cagayan, and Genaro Edquilang and Vicente Talibong from Bukidnon.

Daruca, who was suffering from "intracranial hematoma secondary to trauma, was admitted at the V. Luna General Hospital on the request of his wife, after having been brought to Manila on a Philippine Air Lines plane.

Pescador who was also brought here on a PAL plane was considered an emergency case by the Cagayan provincial doctor, as the case needed the removal of a foreign body in the trachea. She is now confined at the North General Hospital.

Edquilang and Talibong were brought to the city from Bukidnon on a mercy plane of the Philippine Air Force. They were victims of a car accident. They were admitted to the National Orthopedic Hospital on the request of the chief of the Bukidnon provincial hospital.

THE President also directed that President Magsaysay's favorite portrait be hung among the portraits of past presidents on the walls of the reception hall of Malacañang Palace, on the eve of Magsaysay's birthday.

The portrait is a new copy recently made of the one presented as a gift by Mrs. Vicky Quirino-Gonzalez, daughter of the late President Quirino, when Magsaysay was still secretary of national defense. It was President Magsaysay's favorite picture hung in Mrs. Magsaysay's bedroom during their stay in Malacañang.

Recently, President Garcia had ordered a new copy made by Garcia-Llamas, the famous Filipino painter who did the original which was returned to Mrs. Magsaysay, it being a personal property of the family.

The copy was delivered to Malacañang today in time for the observance of the late President's 50th birthday.

THIS afternoon President Garcia was presented with a cover of the first issues of the eight-cent Ramon Magsaysay "Champion of Liberty" U. S. postage stamps by Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen. Accompanied by Minister Horace

Smith of the U. S. Embassy, Ambassador Bohlen during his brief call at Malacañang this afternoon, informed the Chief Executive that the stamps were to be the first of a series to be issued by the U. S. Department of Post in memory of the great Filipino leader.

Following the call, the President repaired to the state dining hall where he gave his regular weekly press conference. Then he resumed receiving callers which included a delegation headed by Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., of Cebu City.

At the press conference, the President said, "I would like to take up with you this afternoon the following points:

"(1) I have been in constant conference with my financial and economic advisers regarding what points in the Administration's economic program can be immediately implemented to bolster our economy and quicken the country's economic development.

"Following my meeting with the Fiscal Policy Council yesterday I told Mines Director Gozon to discuss with the National Economic Council the laying down of the conditions to be complied with in the bidding for the exploitation of the nickel deposits on Nonoc Island in Surigao, which would be acceptable to the government.

"I am glad to inform you that today the NEC Presiding Officer, Eduardo Z. Romualdez, said that Mines Director Gozon would submit on Tuesday all the needed papers preparatory to the opening of bids for the exploitation of these mines. It is needless to say that the development of these mines will provide employment to thousands of our countrymen and bolster tremendously our dollar reserves.

"We will exert all efforts in seeing to it that work on these mines can be started at the earliest possible time. The initial outlay needed for the exploitation of these mines is estimated at \$100 million.

"(2) As I announced about two months ago, I am organizing very soon a committee which will study ways and means of providing incentives to producers. I believe that in order to increase production in our country, the Government should provide real and substantial incentives to our producers. Only through increased production can we solve on a permanent basis the high cost of essential commodities. I believe that incentives which do not go directly to producers but to middlemen and speculators, are not the right kind of incentives which will produce the desired results.

"I have been going over a list of prospective members of this committee representing all the segments of our country's economy. I have been extra careful that the committee is not influenced in one way or another by political considerations, in order that it can accomplish successfully the task assigned to it. I expect that in a day or so I shall be able to release the membership of this important committee.

"(3) This morning I had a most cordial conference with Justice Undersecretary Jesus Barrera, during which I asked him to defer his resignation until the paramount questions involved in the bases talks between the Philippines and the United States, in which he has played a very important role, would have been fully resolved.

"Undersecretary Barrera said that he would defer his resignation and abide by my wishes and decision.

"(4) In the interest of contributing to the holding of clean and free elections, I ordered today the director of telecommunications to reduce press rates from three centavos to two centavos during the period from November 5 to 19, 1957. I believe that one effective means of preventing frauds in elections is to make the results public as fast and as complete as possible and also to report fully news which are conducive to the holding of free elections. This can be achieved if the present rates are reduced for very obvious reasons. The observance of these reduced press rates is only experimental in nature, but if the experiment proves to be a success, I shall order its continuance.

"(5) As you know, there have been adverse reports in certain U.S. magazines and newspapers concerning our activities in the recent convention. These criticisms are completely false and groundless.

"I resent any suggestion that the Filipinos cannot do a magnificent job in self-government. It is my declared purpose to make this a clean and model election. I am asking your cooperation to this end.

"In countries like the United States, for example, the constant check on the functioning of representative government is a free and informed press. Happily, we have such a press here in the Philippines. I am not sure that some of our critics in other parts of the world are fully aware of this fact.

"Not only to make this plain, but also to provide the additional safeguards of the democratic process that a free press can offer, I wish to extend an invitation that may be unusual from the point of view of governments but that is, in my judgment, right and wise.

"Will those of you who represent non-Philippine newspapers and news agencies kindly extend to your principals, and through them, to other newspapers and agencies, our cordial invitation to "cover," as you say, this election to the extent of their capacity? We will extend to them every facility within our power to get the facts and to report them promptly. They can be assured of a warm and friendly welcome in this country and an understanding of the fact that their job is to present the news, fairly and freely.

"We do not shun the spotlight of close scrutiny. We want an election that will be an honor to our country, and, when we have it, we want it reported."

August 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia this day led the nation in the observance of the 50th birthday anniversary of the late President Magsaysay.

Leaving Malacañang at 7:20 a.m., the President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to the tomb of the late Chief Executive where a mass was said by Manila Auxiliary Bishop Vicente Reyes.

Upon arriving at the North Cemetery, the President inspected the honor guard and then proceeded to the pew where Mrs. Luz Banzon Magsaysay was seated, and greeted her. In the next pew were seated the Magsaysay children, Ramon, Jr., Milagros, and Teresita.

After the mass the President offered a wreath at the Magsaysay tomb. He was followed by Sens. Cipriano Primicias and Emmanuel Pelaez who represented the Senate; Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., in representation of the House of Representatives; Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano; and Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, in representation of the Armed Forces. Other wreaths were offered by other high government officials and friends of the late President. After the mass, taps were sounded.

THE President then motored to the Nichols Airbase Officers' Club where he ate his breakfast. After breakfast the President, on behalf of the Philippine Government, received from Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, aircrafts for the PAF at turnover ceremonies held at the Manila Domestic Air Terminal.

In his speech the President stressed the need for a coordinated and integrated US-PI air defense effort in the Philippines and in this part of the world.

He expressed the hope that this latest increment in the program of modernization of the PAF "may also serve as a deterrent to communist resurgence in our country and as a prop to the defense of our institutions and our way of life."

At the same time, he pointed out the triple significance of the occasion because it showed that the United States was concerned over the safety of the Filipino people; that she believed in our innate capacity to resist aggression; and that, despite the smallness of the Philippines, the United States considered her a partner in a common cause to help preserve the free world by further strengthening its defenses against communism.

The President expressed confidence in the ability of the PAF officers and men to make effective use of the new equipment and facilities. He added that as a tangible manifestation of his confidence, he had authorized the immediate release of P200,000 for the housing project of officers and enlisted men at the Basa Air Base.

In his speech Ambassador Bohlen said that the aircraft turnover gave substance to the US-PI Mutual Defense Treaty. He stressed the ever-increasing role that air power played in the modern world in the preservation of peace.

The planes transferred consisted of 30 F-86F Sabrejets, four SA-16A Albatross, and eight T-6G Advance Trainer aircraft.

Among those present at the ceremonies were Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Senator Pacita M. Gonzalez, Justice Sotero Cabahug, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Rep. Numeriano Babao; Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff; Brig. Gen. Diosdado Rodriguez, AFP deputy chief of staff; Brig. Generals Pelagio Cruz and Leoncio Tan; Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, JUSMAG chief; Maj. Gen. John Ackerman, commanding general of the US 13th Air Force; and Rear Admiral Edgar Cruise.

PRESIDENT Garcia appealed this noon for support to the senatorial slate of the Nacionalista Party at the national convention of the Democratic Labor Party at a Plaza Santa Cruz restaurant.

In appealing for labor support, the President stated that by comparison with the senatorial ticket of the opposition parties, the NP line-up was formidable. He pointed out that the Nacionalista senatorial candidates were men who had rendered long and distinguished public service.

The DLP, headed by former Labor Secretary Jose Figueras, is supporting the entire Nacionalista ticket.

Genaro Magsaysay, brother of the late President Magsaysay and official NP candidate for Congress in the lone district of Zambales, was the keynote speaker.

Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., NP candidate for vice-president, and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., also spoke. They were introduced by Figueras and Rep. Arturo M. Tolentino, respectively.

IN the afternoon the President swore in as a Nacionalista Diosdado Reyes Delima, who had already been proclaimed as the Liberal Party congressional candidate for the third district of Bohol.

Delima was formerly a provincial board member of Bohol. He was accompanied to Malacañang by Bohol Governor Juan Pajo, Lorenzo Piquero, secretary of the Bohol provincial board, and Mayor Maximino Garcia of Talibon.

The President also signed the *ad interim* appointment of Domingo Cordoba as justice of the peace of Hinundayan, Leyte.

President Garcia today directed the airlifting of Mrs. Asuncion de Castro of Iba, Zambales, to Manila for medical treatment.

The President ordered the airlifting upon request of Zambales Governor Manuel Barretto and Pastor de Castro.

Mrs. De Castro is suffering from stones in the kidneys. She was airlifted this morning to Manila and was taken by an Army ambulance to the North General Hospital, where she will be confined and treated.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, President Garcia today granted four conditional pardons and two absolute pardons, and commuted the sentence of one.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon reiterated his determination to push through the numerous projects launched by the late President Magsaysay, particularly “the redemption of our fellowmen in the barrios, the achievement of their prosperity and self respect, and the restoration of their human dignity.”

Speaking at the Magsaysay youth memorial rally held at the Independence Grandstand on the Luneta this afternoon to commemorate the 50th birthday of the departed leader, the President said: “We carry on, with his memory guiding and prodding us onward to push through the great reform he had traced out for the redemption of our fellowmen in the barrios, that they may at last regain in full measure the substance of their Christian heritage.”

Present at the rally were Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay, widow of the late President; her children, Teresita, Milagros, and Ramon, Jr.; and Genaro Magsaysay, brother of the departed Chief Executive. Also present were members of the Cabinet, other high ranking government officials and large student delegations from various colleges and universities in Manila and suburbs.

The memorial rites were featured with the replay of a recorded speech last delivered by President Magsaysay at the commencement exercises in San Carlos University in Cebu City last March 16. For 10 minutes, the mass assemblage of students listened with rapt attention to the voice coming through the public address system, as President Magsaysay, in his extemporaneous speech, underscored the role of the youth in his program of rural improvement.

Mrs. Magsaysay, who sat misty-eyed throughout the program, was seen to have passed a handkerchief over her eyes several times while listening to the voice of her late husband. However, she could not help laughing when, at one point of the recorded speech, President Magsaysay was talking about his grey hairs and adding, “They are not only greying but falling.”

The program started at 5:15 p.m. upon the arrival of President Garcia at the Independence Grandstand. The Magsaysays arrived a few minutes earlier in a Malacañang No. 1-C car with motorcycle escorts. Mrs. Magsaysay wore a black terno with a cattleya orchid on her left breast. Her children Teresita and Milagros were also in black dresses, while Ramon, Jr., wore a white suit with black tie and shoes.

Other speakers were Ignacio Debuque, Jr., who gave a welcome address, Rafael M. Salas, who delivered the opening remarks, and Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., who introduced the President.

Another feature of the program was the presentation of a presidential plaque to members of the Consultative Council of Students Summer Work Camps for “outstanding and unselfish services rendered to NARRA settlers in Wao Lanao, and Maramag, Bukidnon. Another presidential plaque was awarded to the Medical Students Rural Volunteers headed by Dr. Narciso Monfort, for services rendered to people in the rural areas while performing duties as assistants to rural health officers last summer.

During the presentation of the awards, Debuque, who was master of ceremonies, disclosed that the student work camps last summer had been approved by the late President Magsaysay on the eve of the latter’s departure for Cebu City on March 16, and later ratified and given full support by President Garcia.

President Garcia returned to Malacañang about 6 p.m.

Source: Supreme Court Library

President's Month in Review: September 1-15, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

September 1.— PRESIDENT Garcia said today that in seeking a valid solution to the country's problems, the government should form policies based principally on morality and Christian precepts.

He emphasized that whether it be in solving economic ills or in pursuing foreign policy, the government should be guided by moral principles.

He quoted: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven and everything else would be added unto you."

The Chief Executive made these remarks in a brief, extemporaneous speech after having breakfast with the Knights of Columbus, Capitol Council, at the Camp Murphy club house on the occasion of the organization's fourth anniversary celebration.

Congratulating the members of the K of C Capitol Council, the President said that they belonged to a universal organization which imposed upon its members clean living, among other things. This, he added, was a factor which would contribute much to the administration of good government.

He warned unscrupulous persons against spreading calumnies and lies about their fellowmen. He said that if one did this, "he will ultimately become a victim of his own folly." He reminded his audience of another quotation: "If you sow the wind, you will reap the whirlwind."

He lauded the members of the K of C for their work in promoting better understanding among their fellowmen. This, the President said, would contribute to making this world and the Philippines a more peaceful and a better place to live in.

The President arrived at the Camp Murphy club house shortly before 9:00 a.m. He was welcomed by Grand Knight Faustino Turla and other officers of the organization. 6

Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, who introduced the Chief Executive, said that President Garcia was one public official whom the people could implicitly trust.

After delivering his Extemporaneous speech, the President motored to Tanay, Rizal, to fulfill another speaking engagement.

THE President this morning said that the Nacionalista Party ticket was composed of men who have rendered the country more than a quarter century of dedicated public service.

He said, "They are heads and shoulders over the candidates of other parties."

The President made this statement at a rally in Tanay, Rizal, where he motored this morning to attend a reunion of Class '23 of the Philippine Law School of which he had been a member. The reunion was organized by the President's classmates, headed by Protacio Amoroy.

Speaking at an improvised platform a few meters away from the Tanay church, the President said that the art of government should not be entrusted to inexperienced hands like movie stars and radio comedians.

The President said that the Nacionalista Party had a splendid record since its founding in 1907 and had produced men like Quezon, Osmeña, and Palma. In less than four years, the President said, after the Nacionalista Party

returned to power following eight years of Liberal Party misrule, the Nacionalista administration has achieved among other things the following:

(1) Launched an unprecedented program to uplift the living conditions in the rural areas by building more artesian wells, feeder roads, schoolhouses, irrigation systems, and by establishing health units in the rural areas; (2) Restored peace and order;

(3) Restored the people's confidence in their government by bringing it closer to them and making it more responsive to their needs;

(4) Freed the small farmers from the clutches of usurers by organizing the ACCFA; and

(5) Gave land to the landless by creating the NARRA and the Land Tenure Administration.

In giving his reasons for his election bid, the President said that he was committed to finishing the "grandiose task" which had been auspiciously started by the late President Magsaysay.

He said that while it was true that he had received the highest gift of the people by operation of the Constitution, it was wrong to believe that his ambition was to enjoy the prestige and power of the presidency. He said that after 32 years of public service he considered it his greatest challenge to complete the unfinished projects started by the Nacionalista Party in 1954. He emphasized that the ultimate goal of these projects was to promote the general welfare of the people and to preserve democracy in this part of the world.

Before delivering his speech, the President swore in Mariano Floresca, who affiliated with the Nacionalista Party. Floresca was formerly Liberal Party president of the Tanay local chapter.

Among those who accompanied the President to Tanay were House Majority Floor Leader Arturo Tolentino, NP senatorial candidate, Rizal Governor Isidro Rodriguez, Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto, and Batanes Governor Marcos Malupa.

The President returned to Malacañang at 6 p.m.

IN the evening the President inducted the officers of the senior class of the Manuel L. Quezon Educational Institution at Malacañang Park.

He also swore in Camilo Cabili, son of the late Tomas Cabili, who perished with President Magsaysay in the *Mount Pinatubo* plane crash in Cebu, as a member of the Nacionalista Party. Young Cabili, who is a practising lawyer, told the President that he will urge the followers of his late father to join the Nacionalista camp. He was inducted into the NP at ceremonies at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

September 2.—THIS morning the President received Msgr. Edward E. Swanstrom, director of the Catholic Relief Services-US National Welfare Conference, who gave assurances that 5,000 tons of rice and another 5,000 tons of relief supplies were due to arrive in the Philippines before the end of the year.

Msgr. Swanstrom is touring the Far East. He arrived yesterday from Korea and Japan. He will leave for Vietnam, Tuesday.

The visiting Catholic prelate was accompanied by Msgr. Joseph J. Harnett, Far East director; Edward Kinney, director of purchase and supplies; and Lee Sanborn, Manila chief of the same organization.

Earlier, the President received Gov. Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank, who called for last-minute instructions before leaving to attend the International Monetary Fund Conference in Washington, D.C. Cuaderno is the head of the Philippine delegation.

THIS noon the President promised labor leaders that, if re-elected, he would recommend to Congress at its next session in January the amendment of the Social Security Act in order to correct certain defects of the law.

The Chief Executive said that one of his proposed amendments would provide that any employee who would retire before retirement age could get back all his deposits plus the contribution of his company to the benefits plan.

Another amendment to be recommended by the President would give employees the right to decide whether to join the Social Security System or continue under their present company benefits plan provided that the latter plan would give at least equal or more benefits than those provided for by the Social Security Act.

The President bared his plan to seek the amendment of the Social Security Act before members of the Philippine Labor Organization headed by Dr. Marcelino Enriquez, who asked exemption from the compulsory coverage of the Social Security Act.

The PLO members, mostly employees of the Caltex, Tidewater, and Shell oil companies, alleged that they were now enjoying better benefits under the plan of their companies than those provided for by the law. They also alleged that their companies' plans did not require them to contribute their share in the retirement benefits.

The President told the employees of the oil firms that he was not empowered by law to postpone the implementation of the Social Security Act or to exempt employees from coverage because the law was very explicit in this respect.

Among those with the delegation were Clemente Gonzales, president of the Shell Employees Association, and Jesus R. Mata, adviser of the Shell Employees Association.

The President also received former Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, a Nacionalista Party candidate for senator, Jose Fernandez of Compania Maritima, and Highways Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog.

The President receipted callers up to 3 p.m.

IN the evening the President entertained a delegation from Cebu headed by Gov. Jose Briones and City Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., and a delegation from Misamis Oriental headed by Gov. Vicente de Lara and Rep. Ignacio Cruz.

He also received Dangold Milk Company executives headed by Santiago Syjuco, company president.

Before motoring to the Manila Hotel to attend a dinner that several Northern ward leaders were giving for Balao, the President conferred with Sen. Edmundo Cea and Rep. Manuel Zosa of Cebu.

PRESIDENT Garcia today signed Proclamation No. 440, declaring Saturday, September 21 1957, as Children's Day.

In the proclamation the President said "it is necessary to set aside a day dedicated to children in the hope of arousing greater concern for their welfare."

He added. "We are all vitally interested in the well-being of children, especially in these times when they are exposed to so many temptations to stray away from the straight and narrow path."

He said that the future of the nation demanded that children be given all the care and attention necessary to make them good and useful citizens.

The President designated the Children's Library and Museum, Inc., to take charge of the celebration of the day.

September 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning ordered the release of ₱5,230,000 for various public works projects at a breakfast conference with Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, and Acting Secretary of Education Martin Aguilar, Jr.

At the conference, the President:

- (1) Directed Secretary Moreno to release ₱1,330,000 appropriated under Republic Act No. 917 for restorations and repairs of highways damaged by the recent typhoon;
- (2) Directed Secretary Aguilar, Jr., to release ₱2,900,000 appropriated under Republic Act No. 1613 for the construction of school buildings to house about 3,706 new classes accommodating around 200,000 school children; and
- (3) Authorized the release of ₱1,000,000 from his highway discretionary funds for various continuing projects, among which are the Tumawini Diversion of the Cagayan "Valley road, the Tagudin-Cervantes road in Ilocos Sur, and the Iloilo-Molo boulevard in Hollo.

The President also instructed Secretary Moreno to start the dredging of Sorsogon Bay as soon as possible.

THE President administered the oath of office to former Justice Manuel Lim as secretary of education in a ceremony held at Malacañang this afternoon.

At the induction the President took occasion to thank Education Undersecretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., for "the splendid service he had rendered as acting secretary the past few months." The President at the same time expressed hope that the educational system in the country would be further improved with the appointment of Lim as new head of the department.

Secretary Lim, for his part, thanked the President for the opportunity accorded him again to be in the public service. He pledged to do his utmost to implement the educational policies of the Administration.

The new education secretary was formerly undersecretary of justice and concurrently solicitor general. He was at one time also associate justice of the Court of Appeals. Present at the ceremony were ranking officials and employees of the Department of Education headed by Undersecretary Aguilar, Justice Pastor Endencia of the Supreme Court, and friends, relatives, and admirers of the new appointee.

Following the induction, the President had a conference with NEC Chairman Eduardo Romualdez, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, and Mines Director Benjamin Gozon, who submitted to him for consideration the proposed terms and conditions" under which the Nonoc nickel mines in Surigao would be exploited by private parties.

After the conference, the President said he would study the proposed terms more thoroughly and would make them public after consultation with his Cabinet. Also at the conference were Leopoldo Abad and Pascual Bautista, chiefs, mining division and petroleum division, respectively, of the Bureau of Mines.

The President also received Gov. Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan, who presented to him the official congressional candidates of the Nacionalista Party in his province. Presented were Aguedo Agbayani of the first district, Teofilo Guadiz of the second district, Cipriano Primicias, Jr., of the third district, Ramon Saura of the fourth district, and Luciano Millan of the fifth district.

A 300-man delegation composed of political leaders from Bulacan also called to reiterate their pledge of loyalty. Accompanied by Rep. Erasmo Cruz, the delegation also asked the President to exert his influence in the NP to have the first district of their province declared a free zone.

Chinese Ambassador (Mien Chih-Mai headed the long list of scheduled and unscheduled callers of President Garcia today. The Chinese Ambassador's visit was purely a courtesy call.

Rep. Apolinario Apacibjle of Batangas led a delegation of mayors, councilors, and barrio lieutenants who saw the President to inform him of the progress of their political campaign. The mayors were Gregorio Pretonel of Agoncillo, Olimpio Sayo of Calatagan, Quirino Lejano of Lian, Angel Lasala of San Luis, Luis Ramos of Balayan, Pedro Macalalag of Tuy, Pedro Renosa of Nasugbu, Exequiel Caringal of San Nicolas, and Leon Sangalang of Lemery.

Others who called on the President were PHHC General Manager Vicente Orosa, Santiago Syjuco of the Darigold Milk Company and the 7-UP Bottling Company, Senator Decoroso Rosales, Reps. Ramon Mitra of Mountain Province, Lucas Paredes of Abra, and former Sen. Justiniano Montano.

Among other callers were Sen. Alejo Mabanag and a delegation from Ilocos Norte headed by former Gov. Damaso Samonte.

IN the evening, the Chief Executive motored to the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel, where he inducted the new officers and board members of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines.

President Garcia this evening declared, that the "resiliency and spirit of survival" among Filipinos have encouraged him to take an optimistic attitude about the economic future of the country.

He spoke extemporaneously before the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines at the induction of its new officers at the Manila Hotel.

The President laid aside a prepared speech and went into a defense of the economic structure of the country after it came under criticism from former Secretary of Labor Primitivo Lovina, new president of the chamber.

Lovina preceded the President to the rostrum and delivered his inaugural speech. The new CCP president is also a member of the Liberal Party's national executive committee.

President Garcia explained that the national economy reflects three and a half centuries of foreign domination and it would take "superhuman efforts" to shake off Spanish and American influences.

"This is a reality which we cannot afford to overlook," the President said.

He told the businessmen that in their trips abroad, they must have noticed that even countries in Europe are tightening their belts to prevent the collapse of their economies.

But in the Philippines, he pointed out, "despite the ravages of the past war, we were not so unlucky." He then reviewed the rapid rehabilitation of the country from the liberation era in 1945.

"With the resiliency of the Filipinos, their capacity to rise above reverses, and their spirit of survival," President Garcia declared, "I cannot help but face the future with optimism."

He called on the members of the chamber to share his optimism.

In his prepared speech the President had intended to call on businessmen to exploit new productive fields, increase production, and provide employment opportunities for the unemployed.

September 4.— AT the Cabinet meeting today President Garcia approved the proposed terms and conditions under which the government would Accept bids of private parties for the operation of the Surigao Mineral Reservation.

(See *Department and Bureau Administrative Orders and Regulations*, p. 5594, for full text of proposed terms and conditions.)

The terms and conditions had been prepared by a committee recently for the purpose of studying the implementation of President Republic Act No. 1828, authorizing the exploitation of mineral deposits in the Surigao reservation. The committee was composed of NEC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez as chairman, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, and Mines Director Benjamin Gozon, as members.

In approving the proposed terms, the President pointed out that the exploitation of the minerals in Surigao should be left to private entities, as the Government could not undertake the project for it involved a highly technical and most expensive process. He said that the exploitation of the mines would greatly enhance the economy of the country, because the Surigao reservation was said to contain an estimated ₱2 billion worth of mineral deposits.

The President at the regular weekly Cabinet meeting this noon also:

(1) Approved the sending of four groups to represent the Philippines at a series of SEATO conferences to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, this month and next month; and

(2) Received the report of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno on financing arrangements for the Marikina River multi-purpose project.

The four SEATO groups which had been authorized to leave for Thailand soon are the Information, Cultural, Education, and Labor Committee composed of four members; the Economic Experts Committee composed of five members; the Security Experts Committee also composed of five members; and the delegation to the seventh meeting of SEATO military advisers composed of eight representatives.

With Dr. Rafaelita H. Soriano as chairman, the ICEL committee is composed of Demetrio Andres, Felina Reyes, and Major Jose Ma. Guerrero, members.

Chairmanned by Dr. R. Tarcelino Bernardo of the NEC, the economic experts committee is composed of Benito Legarda, Jr., of the Central Bank as co-chairman, and Jose Fernandez, Anastacio Bartolome, and Pobustiano, Espiritu, members.

The security experts is composed of the following: Col. Rigoberto Atienza, chairman, and Lt. Col. Manuel Yan, Major Isabelo, Castro, Major Rizal de Umaly, and Prudencio del Castillo, members.

The Philippine delegation to the seventh meeting of SEATO military advisers is made up of Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Brig. Gen. Pelagio A. Cruz, Brig. Gen. Tirso Falardo, Cols. Flaviano P. Olivares, Rigoberto J. Atienza, and Victor M. Osias, Navy Capt. Ramon A. Alcaraz, Lt. Col. Godofredo F. Mendoza, and 2nd Lt. Constante R. Quiaoit, Gen. Arellano's aide.

Secretary Moreno recommended in his report that the second year reparations schedule which had previously been approved by the Cabinet and which is now being discussed in Tokyo, be amended so as to include an amortization plan of repayments which would enable the Marikina Coordinating Committee, through the Central Bank, to negotiate a loan for the project from the Export-Import Bank of Japan in an amount not exceeding \$50 million. No further details on the report were available.

Preliminary discussions were held on Moreno's report at the Cabinet meeting. The President, however, decided to defer action on the matter and instructed members of his Cabinet to go over the 25-page report more thoroughly, copies of which had been furnished each of them. The President expected to act on the report at the next meeting of his Cabinet.

The Chief Executive convoked today's Cabinet meeting at 11 a.m. It lasted until 2:30 p.m. Most of the matters taken up were routinary in an effort to clear the Cabinet agenda of pending cases; such as, the appointments and the retirements of individual government employees.

Attending the meeting for the first time were Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, and Chairman Madki Alonto of the National Integration Commission, recently created under Republic Act 1888 to effectuate the economic, social, moral, and political advancement of non-Christian Filipinos or relational cultural minorities. The law creating the commission vests its chairman with a Cabinet rank.

PRESIDENT Garcia received few callers today as it is a Cabinet meeting day.

He received former Agriculture Secretary Mariano Garchitorena, former Liberal Party leader in the Bicolandia. Malacañang said the Bicol LP chieftain pledged to support President Garcia and the NP senatorial candidates in the coming elections.

President Garcia also received a delegation of Cebu officials, headed by Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco. It was not known what the Cuenco leaders took up with the President.

It was speculated that the Cuenco men briefed the President on the visit the Chief Executive would make to Cebu next week.

With Sen. Cuenco were Reps. Miguel Cuenco, Manuel Zosa, and Ramon Durano.

After the conference with the Cebu political leaders, the President presided over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

IN the afternoon the president conferred with Deputy Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo and officials of the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation (NASSCO).

The President and his guests took up the immediate establishment of the proposed integrated steel mill in Iligan City.

The President has said that the establishment of the steel mill will open job opportunities for the unemployed.

Among the NASSCO officials present were Bernardo Abrera, general manager; Ulpiano Sarmiento, board chairman; Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Maximo Calalang, Mlarion Henares, Jr., Jose Dorado, Eligio Herrera, and Aniceto Crisostomo, board members.

He received former Agricultural Secretary Mariano Garchitorena.

September 5.—AFTER having his breakfast, the President received Juan 1 H. Imperial, son of former Gov. Jose Imperial; Aquilino Bonto, Jr., and Jose Estevez, all of Albay, who took their oath of affiliation as members of the Nacionalista Party, in the presence of Sen. Pedro Sabido and Rep. Justino Nuyda.

The President also received Ricardo Navarro, Jr., son of former Rep. Navarro of Surigao, who informed the Chief Executive that he and his father had switched to the Nacionalista Party and were actively working for the victory of the entire NP ticket. Navarro assured the President of an overwhelming victory in Surigao.

The President gave a check for ₱10,000 to Miss Helen Benitez, overall chairman of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines and the Workshop as initial aid for the celebration of the First of the Filipino Family.

Miss Benitez was accompanied by Mrs. Concepcion Gonzales, Mrs. Paraluman S. Aspillera, Rev. Hilario Lim, S.J., Cesareo Grau, Mrs. Flora Ylagan, Dr. Conrado Pascual, and Dr. Felisa Garña.

The President also gave ₱5,000 as charity relief to a group of blind men headed by Carlos C. Garcia, president of the Philippine Association for the Sightless, Inc.; and Nicomedes Maligat, president of the Foundation for the Blind of the Philippines, Inc.

PRESIDENT Garcia this day continued receiving pledges of support from former LP stalwarts from Surigao, Albay, and La Union, all of whom officially switched over to the Nacionalista Party.

Municipal officials of Rosario and Tubao, La Union, who bolted the Nacionalista Party in the 1953 elections in order to support former Sen. Camilo Osias, called on the President to promise their support to the NP ticket.

The officials who were brought to Malacañang by Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora, were Mayor Jose B. Madriaga, Vice-Mayor Eusebio Cacayuran, and Councilors Guillermo Estabillo, Gregorio Hipolito, Benigno de Guzman, Pio Asperin, Mauricio Sanchez, and Luis Padilla of Rosario; and Mayor Florencio Baltazar of Tubao and some barrio lieutenants.

The President did not receive any caller in the afternoon. He spent his time in his private study, working over a pile of state papers prior to his departure for the southern provinces.

September 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today with Richard W. Reuter, CARE executive director; Paul W. Gordon, CARE chief of mission in the Philippines; and Ramon Binamira, presidential assistant on community development, plans to give some 1,312,000 elementary school children a glass of milk each school day for a ten-month period.

Reuter told President Garcia that CARE agreed to request from the U.S. Government 26,250,000 pounds of skim milk powder and a pilot quantity of cheese for distribution to needy school children in public schools throughout the Philippines with the cooperation of the Department of Education.

The program was submitted to the U.S. Government and a favorable decision is expected shortly.

The President took up routine matters with Executive Secretary Fortunate de Leon, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, and Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez before receiving callers.

Officers of the Association of Public Secondary Schools Administrators called on the President to urge the implementation of WAPCO salary schedules. They expressed their gratitude for the presidential release of the sum of ₱3,028,000 for the salary adjustments of high school and intermediate teachers.

APSSA officers who called on the President were Jose G. Reyes, president of the association and principal of the Pampanga High School; Cesareo C. Bandong, vice-president for Luzon; Mrs. Conmemoracion Concepcion, secretary-treasurer; Bernardo Fajardo, auditor; and Victor Hernandez, past president. Dr. Frederick Shipp, guest consultant of the association and UP exchange professor, accompanied the group.

A delegation of the "Garcia-Laurel Crusade" accompanied two former Liberals who took their oath of affiliation as Nacionalistas before President Garcia. The defectees are Mayor Pablo C. Hernandez of Calaca, Batangas, and special coordinator Ambrosio Lipana, of Malabuyoc, Cebu.

The delegation was led by Vicente S. Boiser, Ernesto B. Bahia, Crisostomo Diokno, Celestino Hallazago; E. Tapiru, and Felix Borja.

After inducting the officers of the National Movement for Free Elections the President ate his lunch and afterwards left for the Nichols Air Base to enplane for Masbate, Masbate, for a six-day tour of Samai, Negros Norte, and Misamis Occidental.

THE President reiterated today his pledge to insure free, clean, and honest elections in November before NAMFREL officers whom he inducted into office in Malacañang before enplaning for Masbate.

The President donatedd ₱5,000 to the NAMFREL. At the same time, he enjoined NAMFREL officers to continue the good work started by the organization in the past tolls.

President Garcia lauded the efforts of the organization during past elections when it succeeded in eliminating from the official lists of voters thousands of fake voters in Lanao, Negros Occidental, and Cavite.

In accepting the ₱5,000 check, Vicente D. Gabriel, NAMFREL national coordinator, pledged to keep faithfully the trust and confidence imposed on the civic organization to keep the elections clean, honest, and free.

Gabriel stated that his pledge was inspired by the statement of President Garcia in accepting the the nomination of the Nacionalista Party when he said “I would rather be right than successful. I would rather keep faith with justice than have power. . . .”

The NAMFREL head assured the President that the organization will continue to delegate watohers in all precinct to prevent the repetition of the 1949 elections.

THE Air Force plane *Dagohoy* bearing President Garcia, flew out of Manila at 2:15 this afternoon and landed in Masbate, Masbate, an hour and a half later.

From the town proper, the President motored to the wharf to board the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria*, which will be his headquarters for his seven-day stump of Samar, Negros Oriental, Misamis Occidental, and Zamboanga del Norte.

Upon “popular” request, the President deigned to address Masbate folks from the *Sta. Maria*. He promised to free rural folks from the clutohes of usurers and unscrupulous landlords.

With President Garcia were Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, and Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson.

UPON the request of President Garcia, Chinese merchants in the Philippines would sell, effective immediately, rice and sugar at the same prices that the NARIC and the NAMARCO are selling these essential products, Malacañang announced today.

This announcement was made upon assurances made today by Ambassador Chen Chih-Mai, who informed President Garcia that Chinese merchants in the Philippines have gladly responded to the President’s appeal to cooperate with the Administration in keeping down the prices of prime commodities. The President had made the appeal to the Chinese merchants through the Chinese ambassador.

Ambassador Chen told the President that the Chinese merchants would even be willing to reduce further their prices of rice and sugar the moment the NARIC and the NAMARCO lower their prices. At present the NARIC has pegged the price of rice at 85 centavos a ganta of *Macan* ordinario No. 2, and at not higher than 95 centavos a ganta of the fancy varieties. The NAMARCO is selling sugar at 33 centavos a kilo of golden brown and 45 centavos a kilo of refined sugar.

Ambassador Chen further told the President that Chinese merchants would try their best to sell other essential commodities as close as possible to government prices.

The President expressed the gratification of the Philippine Government to the Chinese merchants for this gesture of cooperation with the Administration in its effort to mill down the prices of essential commodities to reasonable levels. He told Ambassador Chen to convey his personal thanks to the Chinese merchants saying that their cooperation would go along way in strengthening the friendship between the Philippines and Nationalist China. The President expressed the hope that with the steady cooperation of the Chinese merchants, the government’s efforts in keeping down the prices of essential commodities would succeed.

Malacañang today directed all local officials, particularly provincial governors and city and municipal mayors, “to see to it that all candidates, including their supporters and followers, irrespective of party affiliation, are granted the same and equal opportunity to hold political meetings in public plazas”.

The Malacañang directives, contained in an unnumbered provincial circular signed by Executive Secretary Fortunate de Leon, warned that drastic action shall be taken against any local official who will refuse, for flimsy and whimsical reasons, to grant permits to hold political meetings to interested persons or parties or discriminate against any candidate or political party in favor of another

The circular said that the directives was prompted by complaints from existing political parties, candidates, and political leaders against local officials, particularly provincial governors and city and municipal mayors, for - refusing to grant permits to hold meetings in favor of certain individuals or candidates who are not affiliated with the same party to which the local official concerned is affiliated.

The circular also emphasized the importance of free and untrammelled discussion of political issues. It cited section I (8) of the Bill of Rights of the Constitution, which guarantees freedom of speech and the right of the people to assemble peacefully and petition the government for red-dress of grievances.

It was stated in the implementing the great d directive was issued.

September 7.— PRESIDENT Garcia called upon the people of Samar today to vote the straight Nacionalista ticket as the only means of ensuring continuation of the late President Magsaysay’s program of administration.

In no less than 10 speeches delivered at public rallies in northern Samar towns the whole day today, President Garcia said: “If you want more irrigation systems, feeder roads, artesian wells, prefabricated schoolhouses, waterworks, health centers, and other projects of rural improvement, vote for Nacionalista president, vice-president, senators, and representatives.”

The Chief Executive was royally received in Samar today. During his tour of the first congressional district, which required him to travel by car through more than 100 kilometers of narrow dirt roads, the President was invariably met by large noisy crowds, complete with fireworks, brass bands, and parades.

The President’s schedule gave him 11 hours to traverse over 100 kilometers from Laoang to Allen. However, owing to numerous unscheduled stops, the presidential party negotiated the distance in over 16 hours, almost five hours behind schedule.

Towns and principal barrios along the way which erected their own colorful arches put up human roadblocks which forced the presidential car to slow down at a snail’s pace, with the President constantly waving to cheering crowds which lined the streets as flowers were showered upon him from houses.

People from all walks of life who turned out in large numbers, jammed public plazas and overflowed into side streets and nearby buildings. Many people cheered heartily from tree branches, church steeples, and roof tops.

The President durhijg his tour was accompanied by Sens. Decoroso Rosales and Pacita M. Gonzalez, Gov. Fernando Veloso, and Rep. Eladio Balite, whom he proclaimed official NP candidate for re-election.

Among the towns visited were Laoang, where he was welcomed by Mayor Romulo Giray; Pambuyan, by Mayor Ramon Servo; Mondragon, by Mayor Filemon Pahunmayan; Catarman, by Mayor Eusebio Moore; Bobon, by Mayor Conrado Carpena; San Jose, by Mayor Agaton Pondenera; Lavezares, by Mayor Gabriel Querobiles; and Allen, by Mayor Maximo Manooc.

Sen. Rosales, who introduced the President in public rallies, assured the Chief Executive that the 17 mayors in Samar’s first district were for t the Nacionalista ticket.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening barely escaped injuries when an “atomic” firecracker was exploded near him reportedly by town policemen who were apparently excited over his arrival at Lavezares town about 9:30 p.m.

Alert execution of protective measures by Malacañang security units prevented what might have been an injury to the President. Lt. Leon Decayo of the MSU suffered burns on his back while trying to screen with his body the President from burning powders which flew wildly a few seconds after the explosion.

The incident happened a few minutes after the President got out of the car he was riding in to acknowledge greetings of a large crowd of torch-bearing welcomers who lined the road leading to the poblacion.

Sen. Decoroso Rosales, who was walking beside the President, suffered superficial burns on his face.

THE President today ordered the airlifting of 20,000 units of antitetanus serum for a patient in Tuguegarao, Cagayan, who was reported to be hovering between life and death.

AN Air Force plane dew early this morning for Tuguegarao with the medicine which was procured from the Bureau of Health through Hospitals Director Tranquilino Elicano immediately after the President gave the order.

The patient, Alejandro Perez, was reported to be in a serious condition. His case was brought to the attention of the President by Mrs. Cristina Perez of Quezon City.

September 8.— PRESIDENT Garcia today reiterated his appeal for a straight Nacionalista vote, saying it was the only means of insuring the prosperity of the country.

In mammoth rallies and in Catbalogan, Samar, feeder roads, artesian wells, irrigation systems, school buildings, and other public improvement projects, vote straight Nacionalista ticket.”

Colorful fluvial parades met the presidential party on arrival ad Calbayog City at 7 a.m. today. A fleet of gaily decorated motorboats circled around the *Sta. Maria* while a bigger boat carrying a brass band escorted the ship as it maeuvcered to port. One of the placards borne by welcomers on landing, read “We are not stupid to vote for Yulo.”

With the crowd of enthusiastically cheering welcomers trailing behind him, President Garcia walked to the church plaza where five masses were said simultaneously by Cebu Archbishop Julio Rosales, Domestic Prelates, Luis Gonzaga, Manuel del Rosario, C. Urgel, and Vicente Figueroa. Then the President laid the cornerstone of the new seminary which will be constructed near the church.

The presidential party had breakfast at the Calbayog residence of Sen. Decoroso Rosales. During breakfast Liberal Mayor Hilario Carpena of Bobon pledged support to the President’s candidacy.

At 9:30 a.m. the President inaugurated the ₱80,000 City Hospital. Then he proceeded to the town plaza where a big cheering crowd awaited him.

Other speakers at the Calbayog rally were Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., the President’s vice-presidential running mate and senatorial candidates Jose C. Locsin and Cipriano Primicias.

After a late luncheon at the house of Calbayog City Mayor Jose Roño, the presidential party, which now included Laurel, Locsin, and Primicias, shove off for Catbalogan, arriving there about 5:30 p.m.

The President addressed a rally at the Catbalogan plaza this evening.

THE President this day wired Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon to direct government relief agencies to extend immediate assistance to the victims of the ₱600,000 fire in Baliuag, Bulacan.

Secretary De Leon immediately directed the Social Welfare Administration, the Philippine National Red Cross, the NARIC, and the Department of Health to send representatives to the fire area and give the needed relief.

MALACANANG today took steps to prevent injustices in connection with the suspension of municipal elective officials by provincial governors during pre-election days.

Executive Secretary De Leon issued an unnumbered provincial circular requesting provincial governors to exercise utmost care in the suspension of municipal officials in order to prevent the injustices that are often committed as election day approaches when municipal elective officials, who do not belong to the same political party as the provincial governor, are suspended for slight and transient causes.

The provincial circular said that except in cases of final conviction by the final judgment for a crime involving moral turpitude preventive suspension should be effected only after the governor is satisfied that the charge or charges are so serious and the probabilities of guilt so strong as to warrant removal from office after the investigation.

However, the circular said that administrative cases against municipal elective officials now pending investigation, or which may be filed, shall be given due course in accordance with the provisions of the Revised Administrative Code.

The circular was issued by Secretary De Leon in order to prevent injustices to the elective municipal officials as election day approaches, and to protect them and/or their party from being discredited in the eyes of the electorate.

TWO patients from Zamboanga City were airlifted to Manila today following an order of President Garcia.

AN Air Force mercy plane brought to Manila the patients, Serlyne Maravilla, who is suffering from serious mental ailment, and Justiniano Miguel, who is suffering from an advanced tumor.

The two patients were brought to the attention of the President by Rep. Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte. Maravilla is now at the National Mental Hospital while Miguel is at the Philippine General Hospital.

September 9.—ON his arrival at Dumaguete City at 5:30 p.m. today, on the third leg of his six-day stumping tour of the Visayas and Mindanao, President Garcia was accorded a royal welcome.

Thousands of people jammed the pier, lined the shore, and cheered heartily to the accompaniment of blaring sirens, fireworks, and brass bands.

The President was mobbed as soon as he went down the gangplank. He had to forego the ceremony offered by an honor guard because of the onrushing crowd which had become unmanageable as soon as he stepped on the pier.

It was some time before the local police and security officers could restore order. The President then boarded a car, and at the head of a long motorcade, drove slowly to the town plaza where more people awaited him.

The presidential party left Catbalogan, Samar, about 2 a.m. today, following a huge rally.

The President spent the morning in his cabin reading some state papers he had brought along, as the yacht *Sta. Maria*, steamed from Catbalogan to Dumaguete City.

With him on board are Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., vice-presidential candidate, and Sens. Cipriano Primicias, Jose Locsin, and Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez.

Two big rallies are scheduled in Negros Oriental tonight, one in Dumaguete and the other in Bais, where they are celebrating the town fiesta. The President will proceed to Zamboanga tomorrow after the rallies.

President Garcia this morning felicitated former President Sergio Osmeña on the occasion of the latter's 70th birthday anniversary.

The text of President Garcia's birthday greetings to former President Osmeña follows:

"Please accept my warmest felicitations and that of Mrs. Garcia on this your natal day anniversary. The Filipino people, who can never forget your services of half a century to the nation, hail you and Mrs. Osmeña on this day and pray to God that He continue to shower upon you the abundance of His blessings. The Nacionalista Party, which you founded and led gloriously and which you continue to inspire as long as you live, wishes you many happy returns of the day."

MAYOR Ricardo O. Macasaet of Infanta, Quezon, who was profusely bleeding from the mouth because of advanced pulmonary tuberculosis, was airlifted to Manila today following an order of President Garcia.

Mayor Macasaet was brought to Manila by a United States Navy helicopter from Sangley Point. Sangley Point was contacted by the Manila Rescue Coordinating Center after representations made by Malacañang.

President Garcia learned of Mayor Macasaet's condition from the Infanta municipal health officer, Dr. Pablo Utulo; J. Corsilles, secretary to the mayor; and Dr. F. Gurango, president of the Infanta Civic League. Mayor Macasaet is now being treated at the Quezon Institute.

September 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took another positive step in hastening the exploitation of the country's mineral resources by authorizing the publication of invitations for bids for the operation of the Surigao Mineral Reservation on Nonoc Island.

In a letter to the chairman of the National Economic Council, writing by authority of the President, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon extended the authority to publish invitations for bids.

De Leon said in the letter that the committee created by the President, composed of the NEC acting presiding officer as chairman and the secretary of agriculture and natural resources and the director of mines as members, for the purpose of recommending the terms and conditions under which the government would accept bids from private parties for the operation of the Surigao Mineral Reservation, "is hereby authorized to publish invitations for bids."

Mines Director Benjamin Gozon was authorized by the committee chairman and the agriculture secretary to publish invitations for bids in the name of the committee. Notice for the bids will be published immediately and the bids will be opened on October 31.

The President authorized the committee to conduct the bidding, study and negotiate for the best and most advantageous terms and conditions for the government, and submit its recommendations to the President.

Director Gozon said that some 100 interested parties in the United States, Europe, Canada, and Japan would be sent copies of invitations to participate in the bidding. He said that the notices of the bidding, aside from being published in metropolitan papers in Manila, would be sent to the Philippine embassies and legations abroad which in turn would have them published in their respective jurisdictions.

Those steps are taken in order that the greatest possible publicity for the invitation for bids would be made possible.

Gozon said that many of the prospective bidders have a general idea of the terms and conditions of the bidding, adding that he believed they would have sufficient time to submit their offers up October 31.

A Malacañang spokesman said that the President decided to have the Surigao Mineral Reservation developed as soon as possible in order to implement the Administration's economic development plan which had been under study for some time. The development of these mines, the spokesman added, would go a long way in bolstering the dollar reserves, strengthening the country's economy, and helping solve the unemployment problem.

PRESIDENT Garcia today took time out from his hectic campaign tour and made a side trip to Dapitan, Zamboanga del Norte, to pay homage to Dr. Jose Rizal, the place where the great martyr hero had stayed in forced seclusion for four years.

The President this afternoon spent about one hour visiting the relief map of Mindanao made by Rizal in front of the town church, the bamboo house at the foot of the mountain which had been the hero's home for years, the brook where Rizal had spent many afternoons in contemplation, and other scenes of Rizal's banishment. The President was accompanied by Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Zamboanga del Norte Gov. Romulo Garrovillo, Rep. Alberto Ubay, Ex-Gov. Felipe Azcuna, Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, and Mayors Francisco Bamoy of Dapitan, and Pastor Bahamonde of Dipolog.

The presidential yacht docked at the Dapitan wharf at 4 p.m. today. While motoring to the Rizal shrine several kilometers away, the President noted along the road a young woman being borne on the shoulders of some men who apparently were taking her to the hospital in great haste. The President ordered the motorcade to stop and had one of the security cars rush the woman to the hospital.

The young woman was Avelina Bahian, 19 years old, married. The woman was on her way Home to barrio Sawang about nine kilometers from Dapitan poblacion when suddenly she fell ill. Hospital doctors registered her case as abortion.

THE President in his speeches today reiterated his confidence in a Nacionalista victory in the forthcoming elections. He said the people would vote straight NP ticket, because they knew that the party was committed to the promotion of the welfare and prosperity of the common man.

The Chief Executive delivered three speeches today in public rallies held in Larena, Siquijor sub-province, about 10 a.m., in Dapitan town plaza at 6:30 p.m., and in Dipolog at 10 p.m. He said that Yulo, who is essentially a businessman and a big landowner, would likely be more inclined to work for his own interests and perpetuate the tenancy system which is against the policy of the NP administration.

The yacht *Sta. Marty* bearing the presidential party arrived at 6 a.m. today at the bustling little port of Larena, capital of Siquijor, a rocky island sub-province. The party; stayed on the island about five hours, during which a number of local j Liberal Party leaders took their oath before the President as new Nacionalista affiliates.

Shortly before 12 noon, the yacht pulled out of the island and proceeded to Dapitan. The party expects to leave Dipolog about midnight.

UPON instructions of President Garcia, an emergency patient was airlifted from Roxas City to Manila aboard an Air Force plane this morning.

The patient, Tomas Torado, 39, is suffering from broken ribs as a result of his fall from a coconut tree at Kalibo, Aklan, a few days ago. He was airlifted following request of hospital authorities of that province.

Upon arrival at Nichols Air Base, Torado was rushed to the National Orthopedic Hospital.

September 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia today urged the people of Misamis Occidental to plant rubber, saying that the rubber industry had a bright future in the Philippines.

In seven speeches of Misamis Occidental are most adaptable to for local consumption delivered in public rallies held in different towns today, the President said that the rubber supply in the neighboring countries is fast dwindling and that it would be well for Agusan, Zamboanga del Norte, and Misamis Occidental provinces, which rubber planting, to produce this commodity not only but also for export. The President assured the people of full government support to rubber planters.

The Chief Executive spoke in Oroquieta, Aloran, Jimenez, Sinacaban, Tudela, Clarin, and Ozamis City. The people turned out in large numbers for hours under the rain and the sun in towns and route. The local Nacionalista leaders estimated that get about 90 per cent of Misamis Occidental votes. Chiongbian, who was among those who welcomed the presidential party, conceded that the President would carry the province by a landslide.

Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., who usually preceded the President in delivering speeches, appealed for popular support by informing the people that his father was retiring after many years of service in the government. Laurel asked the people that he be given the opportunity to continue in the service of the country.

The presidential party arrived in Oroquieta, Misamis Occidental, at 8 a.m. today from Dipolog, Zamboanga del Norte, aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria*. The President was met at the wharf by large delegations from all parts of the province, headed by Gov. Diego Ty Deling.

After breakfast on board the yacht, the President spoke at rally in Oroquieta, then proceeded overland to Ozamis City, stopping many times along the way to acknowledge the welcoming cheers of the local population and to speak at public rallies, both scheduled and unscheduled. It took the presidential party about 16 hours to traverse the 45-kilometer distance from Oroquieta to Ozamis City owing to numerous unscheduled stops and speeches. The President spoke from hoods of jeeps and from chairs and tables placed in the shades of trees along the road.

NP senatorial candidates Roselier T. Lim, Arturo M. Tolentino, and Oscar Ledesma joined the presidential party at Jimenez this noon where the President had lunjjh at the residence of Mrs. Remedios Fortich, **NARRA** chairman and general manager.

The presidential party is scheduled to return to Manila tomorrow by boat. He expects to I arrive here Friday night.

Malacañang released today a message received by President Garcia from former President Sergio Osmeña. The text of the Osmeña message follows:

“I deeply appreciate yours and Mrs. Garcia’s cordial birthday felicitations and sending generous expressions of goodwill and friendship. I am thankful to our people and party for opportunities of service given me. Our warmest regards to you and Mrs. Garcia.”

September 22.—MAYOR Bias Rubio of San Remigio, Antique, and two others, who were seriously injured in a motor accident, were airlifted to Manila today by an Air Force plane by order of President Garcia.

Mayor Rubino suffered a dislocation in the right shoulder while his two companions, Leonora Omallao and Benedicto Gallera, sustained fractured skulls, fractured right ribs, and dislocated right shoulders as a result of the accident. They were all taken to the National Orthopedic Hospital for treatment.

Gov. Josue Cadio and Rep. Tobias Fornier of Antique made representations with the President for the airlifting of the injured mayor and his two companions.

In the same PAF mercy plane was another patient from Iloilo City, a daughter of Jesus Porras, who was suffering from insanity. She was taken to the National Mental Hospital for treatment.

THE yacht *Sta. Maria* bearing the President pulled out of Ozamis City wharf at 5 a.m. today for the return trip to Manila after the President had finished with last minute conference with Misamis Occidental political leaders. The

President spoke at Ozamis this afternoon under a heavy downpour which failed to drive away a huge crowd gathered at the market place to listen to the NP candidates.

For about three hours heavy swells rocked the ship after it had come out of Iligan Bay at 8 a.m. today. Shortly before lunch time, however, the ship steadied as it entered Bohol Strait between Cebu and Bohol Islands.

The President came out of his cabin about 9 a.m. to have breakfast at the ship's saloon. He looked a little rested after about four hours' sleep.

After lunch at 2 p.m. and a brief conference with newsmen who had accompanied him on the tour, the President retired to his cabin, where he worked on state papers he took along in the trip.

He had supper at 7:30 p.m. with newspapermen.

Also aboard the yacht on the return trip to Manila was Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema. Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, and senatorial candidates who had been with the presidential party returned to Manila by plane early this morning.

September 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia announced today that he would appoint Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison as acting press secretary following the filing by Press Secretary J. V. Cruz of his certificate of candidacy for the lone congressional district of Bataan. The President made this announcement at breakfast while chatting with newspapermen who accompanied him in trip to the Visayas and Mindanao.

Asked at a press conference on his return trip to Manila to explain the royal reception accorded him and his party in places he had visited, the President simply replied, "These are my traditional bailiwicks. They have always been with me whenever I run for national office."

The President added that his opponents would have to campaign "a lot more" if they hoped to wrest those strongholds from him.

The President came out of his cabin about 8 a.m. today while the ship was cruising off Tablas island near Mindoro. The presidential party had a rough sailing the whole night. The Chief Executive had breakfast and chatted with newspapermen, during which he made the announcement of Sison's appointment as acting press secretary.

Afterwards, the President repaired to his cabin, where he resumed working on state papers he took along on the trip. He was assisted by Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema.

The President ate his lunch at 2 p.m., and after a little rest, he closeted himself again in his cabin with Secretary Quema. The President ate supper with the newsmen about 8 p.m. as the yacht sailed on the smoother waters of Manila Bay.

The President was back in Malacañang shortly before 10 p.m. His yacht docked at Pier 5 about 9:30 this morning.

A PATIENT who was in serious condition because of perforated big intestines, was airlifted to

Manila from Polillo, Quezon, today following a directive of President Garcia. The patient, Eladio Acquesa, was airlifted to Manila by a United States Air Force helicopter from Clark Field. He is now in the North General Hospital for possible operation and treatment.

Upon direction of President Garcia, Malacañang contacted the Manila Rescue Coordinating Center, which made representations with USAF Clark Rescue for a seaplane or a helicopter. A USAF seaplane flew to Polillo yesterday but had to return without the patient because of the rough sea which prevented the plane from landing.

After the return of the seaplane, a helicopter was dispatched to Polillo by CAFB to pick up the patient. The helicopter stayed in Polillo overnight waiting for the patient to become conscious. The helicopter arrived at the Nichols Air Base early this morning.

The helicopter was manned by Capt. Charles Osburn, pilot; 1st Lt. Alfred Feloman, co-pilot; and S/Sgt. Leo P. Ayutte, medical technician.

The President directed the airlifting of Acquesa after receiving a telegram from Dr. Sergio Abcede, municipal health officer of Polillo.

September 14.—THIS morning the President had breakfast with visiting United States health officials who paid a courtesy call following their arrival recently in the course of their observation tour of the country.

The U.S. health officials who came upon invitation of Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia were Surgeon General Leroy Burney, United States Public Health Service; and Dr. Eugene Campbell, chief, Far Eastern Division of Public Health of the ICA.

At the breakfast the President was informed by the visiting American health officials that in the implementation of their three-day observation tour, they found out that the program of the Philippines' rural health improvement was more advanced than those of most other countries of the world.

The President was also informed that the mechanics and the operational procedure of the country's Department of Health were excellent.

Others present at the breakfast which lasted from 8 to 9 a.m. were Sen. Jose Locsin, Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Defense Secretary Jesus B. Vargas, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Director of Hospitals Tranquilino Elicaño, U.S. Charge d'Affaires Horace Smith, ICA Director Col. Harry Brenn, and Horace De-Lien of the ICA health division.

PRESIDENT Garcia today gave further assurance that there would be enough supply of rice to meet the country's requirements and reiterated to the NARIC to maintain its rice ceiling prices of 85 centavos a ganta of Macan *ordinario* No. 2 and 95 centavos a ganta of the fancy varieties.

The President gave the assurance after a conference with NARIC and Monetary Board officials; namely, NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco, NARIC General Manager Vicente Concepcion, Monetary Board Chairman Jaime Hernandez, Acting Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, and the chief of the Central Bank Import Control Division, Gregorio S. Licaros. Also present at the conference were Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon and acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

Chairman Chioco informed the President of the progress of the importation of 34,000 metric tons of rice from Southeast Asian countries, the balance of the original amount of 100,000 metric tons as approved previously by the Cabinet. Chioco said that out of this 34,000 metric tons, the following deliveries were forthcoming:

- (1) 5,000 tons from Bangkok to arrive 1 September 18;
- (2) 5,000 tons from Cambodia to arrive September 22; and
- (3) 2,000 tons from Cambodia to arrive September 30.

The President directed Chioco to enplane immediately back to Bangkok to finish his negotiations for the importation of the remaining: 22,000 metric tons of rice. The NARIC chairman was confident that the importation would go through.

The President was also informed that in addition to these rice importations, rice would be harvested in the Bicol region and in Mindanao beginning October. This would greatly increase the local supply of the commodity, Chioco said.

The NARIC according to Chioco was assured by the FACOMA of delivery of 250,000 cavans of rice.

The President reiterated to the NARIC officials to maintain the ceiling prices of rice at 85 centavos a ganta of Macan *ordinario* No. 2 and at 95 centavos a ganta of the fancy varieties.

The Chief Executive informed the NARIC officials that he had directed Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas to provide enough Army trucks and LSTs to transport local rice from their sources to where they are most needed. It was pointed out that enough and speedy transportation could help solve the rice problem.

The President called for the Monetary Board officials to join the conference in order to make sure that the dollar needs for the rice importation would be granted with dispatch. The CB officials said that this had already been taken care of.

FIVE hundred Ilocano youth leaders of the Good Government League, 300 student leaders from the major colleges, universities, and youth associations in Manila and 50 former Pangasinan Liberals, representing a small part of the faction led by Engineer Jose S. Biagtan today pledged to support President Garcia in the November polls.

In a manifesto, the student leaders, who are officers of 47 chapters of the "Youth Garcia for President Movement", asserted that President Garcia, "by virtue of his long brilliant record of public service, first as a school teacher, then later as congressman, governor, senator, vice-president, and subsequently as President of our Republic, is the leader most qualified to carry on the great program of government laid down by President Magsaysay."

In supporting the candidacy of President Garcia, the chairman and national coordinator, Cirilo J. Paredes of the Good Government League, stated that it was consistent with one of the league's primary purposes which is "to select, endorse, and campaign actively at any special or general elections for the candidacy of and/or to recommend the services of Filipino citizens to any position in the government service when their qualifications and fitness can best secure and serve the public good."

The former Liberals from 4 towns of the third congressional district of Pangasinan, aside from pledging their support, took their oath of affiliation as NP members before President Garcia. NP senatorial candidate Eulogio Balao witnessed the oath-taking.

The Pangasinan group included Joaquin Ferrer, of Mangaldan; Vice-Mayor Vicente Baltazar, former Mayor Alejandro Caballero, and former Councilor Evaristo Marcelia of San Fabian; and Arturo Estarias of San Jacinto.

The student group included Alberto Javier, Jr., YGPM secretary-general; Juan T. Aquino, George Debuque, Celso R. Lustre, Obdulio Villanueva, Avelino Jimenez, Jaime Rosario, Nicomedes Ricote, Alawadin Ban-don, Jr., Jose Ringor, Isidro Villafuerte, Clem Macasiano, Lorenzo Lopez, Poririo Yabut, Frank Santos, Pio Lazo, Aquilino Illera, Tomas Cortez, Hermie Ramos, Fely Guevara, Restita Margallo, Yolanda Osea, and Fe Gil.

At the testimonial banquet given in his honor at the Knights of Columbus building, the President expressed his gratitude for the pledge of support of the members of the Good Government League.

This kind of support, he said, was worthwhile because it was given without solicitation but was voluntary on the part of the GGL members, based on their confidence in his ability to give the people a clean, efficient, and strong government, responsive to the needs of the masses.

Earlier, after breakfast with visiting U.S. health officials, the President administered to Mayor Agapito Gaddi (Ind.) of Santa Ana, Pampanga, the oath of affiliation as NP member.

The President also received Sen. Jose Locsin, Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez, Gov. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Chester A. Baird, president of the San Jose Oil Co., Inc., and R. Roberts and Herminio B. Banico, lawyers, of the same company.

PRESIDENT Garcia inducted into the Nacionalista Party one Liberal congressional candidate, four Liberal mayors, two Liberal vice-mayors, seven Liberal councilors, and a number of other prominent political leaders from Cagayan province in a ceremony held in Malacañang this afternoon.

Among those inducted were Bienvenido Quirolgicc, LP congressional candidate; Mayor Marcelino Collado of Ballesteros, president of the Cagayan Mayors' League; Mayor Eliodoro Lorenzo of Abulug, league secretary; Mayor Nicolas Aquino of, Pamplona and Mayor Luciano Sanchez of Langaman; Vice-Mayors Gabriel Bautista of Faire and Josefa Fres of Claveria; and Councilors Alfredo Fon'acier, Benjamin Medrano, Napoleon Zuniga, and Alfredo Asiatico, all of Claveria, Cagayan.

The mass affiliation to the NP, considered one of the biggest LP defections in Northern Luzon, was sponsored by former Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, NP senatorial candidate. Also at the induction was Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., NP vice-presidential candidate.

The Chief Executive received very few callers this afternoon in his desire to clear his desk of pending matters. He closeted himself in his bedroom with a pile of state papers submitted to him for presidential action.

Other callers this afternoon included: Rep. and Mrs. Pedro Trono of Iloilo and Mayor Lorenzo Formoso of Vigan, Ilocos Sur.

September 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia, owing to slight indisposition due to a sore throat, spent most of his time in bed the whole day today on the advice of his physicians.

The President, however, took advantage of his seclusion in his room by working on a pile of pending state papers needing presidential action. He did not receive any callers.

The Chief Executive heard mass at the Malacañang chapel this afternoon instead of this morning owing to his indisposition.

Following the mass, the President went over his speech he would deliver before the Junior Chamber of Commerce at luncheon tomorrow at the Manila Hotel's Winter Garden.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Month in Review: September 16-30, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

September 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia and the Cabinet at their special meeting today approved the release by the Philippine National Bank of a ₱6 million enable it to start immediately loan to the Sugar Stabilization Committee to the work of stabilizing the price of domestic sugar.

Under this arrangement, the Committee, with the ₱6 million loan from the PNB, will buy "sugar futures" (outright purchase of sugar for future delivery) in order to enlarge the NAMARCO's stockpile of sugar and enable it to stabilize the price of this commodity.

The action of the President and the Cabinet will benefit the sugar planters who in effect will receive loans from the purchase of "sugar futures." This will also enable the NAMARCO to have enough stocks of sugar to stabilize the prices for the benefit of consumers.

This Cabinet action was immediately ratified by the Philippine National Bank board of directors at its, meeting this afternoon. A spokesman of the PNB said that the bank was ready with the ₱6 million to give out as loan to the Sugar Stabilization Committee so that it could start its work immediately in keeping down the price of sugar.

The Committee is composed of representatives from the NAMARCO, the Philippine Sugar Institute, and the Sugar Quota Administration. The objectives of the stabilization program for domestic sugar are:

- (1) To maintain at a stable level the price of domestic sugar to the producer in order to assure him of a reasonable profit and to make it worthwhile for him to fill the nation's requirement of domestic sugar; and
- (2) To maintain the price stable at a reasonable level to the consumer.

The committee will have the following long-range functions:

- (1) Prior to the planting of each crop, it shall determine how much sugar should be produced to fill the domestic and the export requirements of the country, plus a reasonable reserve;
- (2) It shall determine the prices at which domestic sugar shall be stabilized, both at the producer's level and at the consumer's level, and announce in advance, prior to the planting of the crop, how much domestic sugar will be purchased by the NAMARCO when the crop is harvested and milled;
- (3) It shall determine the schedule of monthly or weekly issues of "B" sugar permits in order to release the domestic sugar at an orderly rate into the market; and
- (4) It shall advise the NAMARCO on its procurement and selling operations, keeping close watch over the market and movements therein.

In addition to an ordinary inventory which the NAMARCO should maintain, a sugar stabilization stock must be created to cover annual deficits which may occur owing to unforeseen circumstances or to absorb annual surpluses which are generated in good years.

NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin F. Estrella said that with the loan made immediately available by the PNB, work on the stabilization of domestic sugar prices could be made more effective right away.

LABOR Secretary Angel Castaño informed the President and the Cabinet that labor unions in 12 government corporations had filed with his department notice to strike.

Castaño said that the reason for the impending strike was that the boards of directors of the corporations concerned had entered into collective bargaining with these labor unions. He added that some of the terms agreed upon in the collective bargaining, especially with reference to increases in salaries, could not be complied with now by the corporations affected because of objections from the Office of Economic Coordination and the Budget Commission as a result of the WAPCO scale of salaries.

Secretary Castaño was authorized by the Cabinet to inform the labor unions that with regard to those unions in government corporations which operate under the profit system, the agreements regarding salary increases would be respected. However, it was ruled that those unions working in government corporations which are performing purely governmental functions should be governed by WAPCO regulations regarding salary scales.

Upon inquiry of the labor secretary, the Cabinet said that there would be no change in the policy regarding overtime pay to employees in the government corporations. In other words employees in these corporations will continue receiving overtime pay.

Secretary Castaño was requested by the Cabinet to confer with labor unions which had filed notice to strike and explain to them the Cabinet stand on their requests.

UPON RECOMMENDATION of Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, the Cabinet approved a revision of the draft agreement between the Philippine Government and the World Health Organization, concerning the WHO's office accommodations in Manila, particularly Article 5 of the agreement.

In the original draft agreement it was provided that the question of reimbursement, should! The WHO discontinue the activities of the Western Pacific Regional office or cease to require office accommodations, was left subject to future negotiations between the Philippine Government and the WHO.

The revised draft Agreement specifically provides that the WHO would be equitably compensated on the basis of the book value of the building, the compensation of its proportionate share of the said value to be decided by an appraisal board (consisting of three members, one of whom shall be named by the Philippine Government, another by the WHO, and the third by the two members thus chosen.

In the revised draft agreement, the rights of both the Philippine Government and the WHO were clarified, avoiding further complications which might arise, should the [provision on compensation be left subject to future negotiation between the Philippine Government and the WHO.

THE CABINET authorized the following:

- (1) Jose C. Moran, manager of the RFC Cebu Branch, to proceed to Japan to make further studies on the development of cottage industries and to- observe the technical and financial assistance extended to these industries by the Japanese Government;
- (2) Miss Maria A. Sembillo, home economics supervisors, division of city schools, Pasay City, to study abroad for one year, from September 16, 1957, to September 15, 1958, with salary, to enable her to pursue graduate studies leading to master's degree in the Michigan State University;
- (3) Capt. Emilio Mondonilla, chief of police of Legaspi, Albay, to attend the conference of International Association of Chiefs of Police, to be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, beginning September 28, 1957;
- (4) Designation of Rep. Godofredo P. Ramos of Aklan, member of the National Economic Council and chairman of the NEC's Committee on Foreign Aid Coordination, and Mrs. Carmen G. de Ledesma, assistant director of foreign aid coordination, NEC, as delegates to the forthcoming meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic Development in South and Southeast Asia, scheduled this year in Saigon, South Vietnam.

THE PRESIDENT and the Cabinet reiterated to maintain in full force and effect its original approval for the establishment by the Limco Industrial Corporation of a factory for the manufacture of cotton seine twine and wrapping twine, which the NEC had endorsed favorably to the President. The establishment, of this corporation is calculated to reduce the price of the products to be manufactured by it.

The President had on his agenda the discussion with his Cabinet members the creation of the presidential committee which will study ways and means of giving incentives to producers. The President also wanted to take up the formal approval of the construction of the Marikina multi-purpose project, but because of lack of material time to discuss these matters, the President said he would take them up again at the next Cabinet meeting.

The Chief Executive adjourned the Cabinet meeting at 12:30 p.m. because of his engagement to address the Manila Jaycees at a special luncheon meeting held at the Manila Hotel.

PRESIDENT Garcia called for an honest and clean election this November in an impassioned speech he delivered before the Manila Junior Chamber of Commerce at the Manila Hotel this noon.

“Clean elections are the very life of democracy” because, he said, “any other kind of election is a travesty of democracy and republicanism.”

Speaking before a good crowd of Jaycees at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel, President Garcia declared it is “our sacred duty to ourselves and to our way of life” that honest and clean elections prevail in November.

In strong terms the Chief Executive took to task political parties and candidates whom he charged with “misleading” the people with “gross and unscrupulous misrepresentations and impossible and fantastic promises.”

He deplored what he considered the “high-pressure propaganda which the unscrupulous experts in psychological warfare and public relations have brought to the current political campaign.”

One of the “most unpardonable attempts at misrepresentation,” President Garcia said, involved the public debt of ₱1.5 billion which his political detractors said was the fault of the present administration “and is proof of its extravagance.”

It is a matter of record, the President said, that of this amount, the Liberal administration had incurred no less than ₱1,065,975,000 while the Magsaysay and the present administration contracted only the amount of ₱469,465,000.

The indebtedness racked up by the Liberals amounting to ₱696,938,000 was spent for ordinary budgetary purposes with only- ₱369,037,000 invested in economic development, President Garcia pointed out.

In contrast, he continued, the Nacionalista administration not only has used more than 65 per cent of its borrowing for long range development projects but has also paid off ₱157,917,000 of the budgetary indebtedness of the Liberals.

“The attempt to mislead the people with falsehoods and half-truths is so frantic and so flagrant that it is getting difficult for the average, well-intentioned individual to get the truth,” the Chief Executive said.

He urged the Jaycees to help the Administration conduct an election where the voters “should vote in an atmosphere of freedom and security, and the votes cast should be counted with honesty and accuracy.”

This will not be possible, President Garcia said, unless civic-minded individuals and associations undertake a campaign of enlightenment to “counteract the excesses of political parties and political workers, resulting in gross and unscrupulous misrepresentations.”

“Never in the political history of our country have our people been subjected as they are being subjected today to the barrage of half-truths and falsehoods that manage to find their way to print and over the air waves,” the President said.

President Garcia commended the Jaycees’ campaign to “get out and vote” because he said, “democracy is at its best” when all the citizens are interested in public affairs and all the qualified voters participate in elections.

The Chief Executive told the Jaycees that the Administration is taking various steps to insure the cleanliness and honesty of the election.

He pointed to the assigned roles of the Commission on Elections, the Constabulary, and the public school teachers who, he pointed out, “can be trusted to perform this task with sincerity, honesty, and efficiency.”

He took a dig at “pseudo-economists” who have promised to bring about low prices, full employment, high wages, abundant production, and universal electrification in their bid to win votes.

The problems of our national economy, President Garcia said, “are not so simple as to be susceptible of solution through economic and political quackery.”

He made a strong appeal to the Jaycees and to the people “to unmask the demagogues, free our campaign of opportunism, explode the fantastic promises and brazen lies, and help maintain an honest and peaceful election.”

President Garcia emphatically stressed that “I would not want to continue as President of the Philippines unless I am elected in an honest and free election.”

September 17.—THE PRESIDENT consolidated his hold in the province of Surigao when he administered this morning the oath of affiliation to the Nacionalista Party to Engineer Oscar Diez, former LP stalwart in the province. Diez was the LP campaign manager of the Liberal Party in Surigao during the 1953 and 1955 elections.

Those who sponsored; the new Nacionalista member were Rep. Reynaldo Honrado, Mayor Victor G. Risma of Tago, president of the Surigao Mayors League, and Jose Arreza, member of the Surigao Provincial Board.

A delegation of rural health physicians led by Dr. Lauro Arreglado called on the President to request early implementation of Republic Act No. 1891 that provides for salary increases of municipal health officers, from ₱3,000 to ₱3,600 per annum.

The President informed the health officers that he had directed Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to find the necessary funds for their pay increases. In the absence of Aytona, who left recently for the United States, the President wrote Deputy Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco inquiring about the status of his directive.

PRESIDENT Garcia said today that the Nacionalista administration, if given a new lease by the electorate this coming November, would implement its economic development program with more vigor.

The President made this remark before Customs collectors and appraisers led by Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas and Assistant Commissioner Pablo Mariano, who paid the Chief Executive a courtesy call after finishing their seminar.

The President told the Customs collectors that the Philippines had been extended by the Import-Export Bank an open credit line of \$65 million and that the Administration would utilize this amount to further develop the country’s industries.

The Chief Executive; said that from about 300 new industries in 1954, the country now has more than 700 industries, and in this industrial growth the Philippines did not make use of the credit line opened to it.

He mentioned the fact that highly industrialized countries like England and Japan had resorted to the use of foreign credit lines for developing their industries.

The Chief Executive said that the drain on the country's dollar reserves was due to the implementation of the Administration's economic development program and the purchase of equipment and machinery for the new industries.

But, the President said, the Administration was determined to carry on its economic development program with more vigor.

He enjoined Customs officials to intensify their collections. He was gratified when Commissioner Capapas informed him that this year's collection would amount to ₱300 million as against ₱257 million last year.

Among the Customs collectors who called on the President were Florencio Espino of Cebu, Juan B. Celeste of Zamboanga, Pedro Villafuerte of Iloilo, Paulino Valdez of Davao. Andres Fernandez of Cagayan de Oro, Benito Tamayo of Tacloban, Emigdio Lauengco of Legaspi, Abril Santos of Batangas, and Democrito Septimo of Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte.

THIS evening the President visited Msgr. Hernando Antiporda, auxiliary bishop and vicar general of Manila, who was convalescing from a recent illness.

The President motored to the San Miguel Pro-Cathedral with Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and Maj. Jose Estrella, aide. He stayed with Bishop Antiporda for about ten minutes.

Before visiting Msgr. Antiporda, the President had a merienda with Sen. Fernando Lopez, Reps. Jose Aldeguer of Iloilo, and Ramon Durano and Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Provincial Board Member Jesus Colmenares of Iloilo, and Bobby Benedicto.

MALACANANG announced this day that President Garcia issued three proclamations, one of which declared Saturday, September 28, birthday anniversary of the late Wenceslao Q. Vinzons, as a special public holiday in Camarines Norte.

The second proclamation declared the period from October 6 to 12, 1957, as Business and Professional Women's Week, while the third one declared Friday, September 20, as Josefa Llanes Escoda Day "as a tribute to her patriotism and her contributions in the fields of social work and the girl-scouting movement." The late Josefa Llanes Escoda, outstanding patriot and civic leader, was killed by the Japanese during the last war for her underground activities and aid given to war prisoners and allied internees, in military and concentration camps. She was born September 20.

The late Wenceslao Q. Vinzons, delegate to the Constitutional Convention and former governor and representative of Camarines Norte, was also killed by the Japanese during the last war for underground activities. The President designated the special public holiday in Camarines Norte, so that the people of the province could be afforded full opportunity to celebrate Vinzons' birthday.

The President designated the Business and Professional Women's Week in recognition of the important role being played by business and professional women in the promotion of the economic and social welfare of the country.

September 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning created a five-man committee to find ways and means of solving the immediate problems confronting the country's mining industry.

Named to the committee were Jose Cabarrus, president of the Base Metal Association of the Philippines, Acting Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, Tariff Commissioner Montano Tojam, Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas, and Miners Director Benjamin Gozon. Servillano Aquino was appointed as adviser of the committee.

The President created the five-man committee in the course of his breakfast conference with members of the Base Metals Association of the Philippines who pointed out the urgency of solving the problems of the mining industry.

In creating the committee, the President instructed its members to submit their findings and recommendations within a week and to delve primarily into the feasibility of reducing the duties and tariffs now imposed on the mining industry. The President also instructed the committee to look into the feasibility of restoring the barter trade with foreign markets to the mining industry.

Present at the breakfast conference were Jose Cabarrus, W. Hicks, R. Ledesma, M. Relley, S. Ugarte, H. Brimo, and M. Auck. Acting CB Governor Castillo and Education Secretary Manuel Lim were also present. The breakfast lasted from 8 to 9 a.m.

VICENTE Umali, chairman of the Liberal Party in the first district of Quezon province, took his oath of affiliation as member of the Nacionalista Party at Malacañang this morning before President Garcia. Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., witnessed the oath-taking.

Umali was the over-all commander of President Quezon's Own Guerrillas (PQOG), operating during the Japanese occupation in Laguna, Quezon, Batangas, and Cavite provinces.

Umali stated that he had no reason to stay in the minority, expressing his belief that Jose Yulo, its presidential standard bearer, had destroyed it and broke faith with its ideals.

Members of the Umali faction are scheduled to switch formally to the Nacionalista Party in Lucena when President Garcia starts his stumping tour in Quezon province sometime next month.

Umali promised to cooperate with Gov. Leon Guinto, Sr., and Rep. Manuel Enverga in the electoral campaign.

Meanwhile, NP legal luminaries informed President Garcia of their intention to file a formal petition before the Commission on Elections to strike out and cancel the certificates of candidacy of three persons with the surname of Garcia, alleging that they had been presented in bad faith and with the sole purpose of prejudicing the candidacy of President Garcia.

Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., Jose Diokno, and Alfonso Ponce Enrile agreed to present the petition.

PRESIDENT Garcia at the Cabinet meeting today received from Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia the report on the second phase of the investigation work of the presidential committee which had been probing deficiencies at the Philippine General Hospital in order that this government institution could be made more responsive to the people's needs.

Secretary Garcia told the President that he was in full accord with the findings and recommendations of the committee. As a result of the findings and observations of the committee in the second phase of its investigating work, it recommended to the President the following:

1. The establishment and immediate execution of a system of receiving and admitting patients which will give proper regard to the condition, comfort, and welfare of patients. The immediate transfer of patients in the emergency wards to vacancies in the regular wards, after the beds have been vacated, should have top priority.

2. To minimize serious congestion in the emergency wards, the most senior members of the residents staff should be responsible in admitting patients. To the fullest extent possible, the services of the professional staff should be drawn. This arrangement will permit the utilization of maturer experience and judgment. Decongestion should- and can be done by the utilization of enough spaces still available in the hospital, particularly the portion of the laboratory between the south ends of wards 8 and 10, which is now being haphazardly used for rehabilitation purposes.

3. Practical distribution and proper utilization, particularly of the nurses, attendants, and helpers or laborers. A proposed distribution of these personnel in the nursing and non-nursing areas, including the ancillary services, is appended as Annex 5. Distribution should permit flexibility for necessary adjustments, particularly in the event of emergency.

4. Reapportionment of the funds for the purchase of medicines and medical supplies in the present budget to permit increasing the amount from ₱0.59 to ₱1.00 per capita per day. Should more funds be needed, they can be drawn from the accumulated savings of ₱757,810. Other necessary equipment can likewise be purchased from this fund.

It is recommended that a committee of appropriate representation be established which shall determine, after consulting with relevant services or units, the medicines, medical supplies, and equipment which shall be purchased. Appropriate measures should be taken to ensure the availability of these medicines, medical supplies, and equipment to meet emergency, immediate and foreseeable needs, in all areas of the hospital within the fiscal year.

The pharmacy of the hospital shall be opened 24 hours a day and shall make available to public (charity) patients, at costs, medicines and drugs which they have to buy. This will be helpful to the patients and at the same time minimize the possibility of commissions being obtained from prescriptions which patients have to buy at the drug stores outside of the hospital.

5. Strengthen the central supply service and place it in a strategic position. The suitable place is the one now occupied by the private concessioner. The purpose of the use of this particular space by the private concessioner is not of any immediate benefit to the patients and any contract made with it should be rescinded. Alternatively, the private concessioner can be established in other areas of the hospital not otherwise needed by the hospital for patient care.

6. Strengthen the preventive maintenance service and the housekeeping department and placing respectively under them the upkeep and cleanliness of the hospital. This will save the nurses from the supervisory work which they do now and the time saved can be devoted to their nursing duties.

7. Carry out physical improvements and construction from funds now available and the release of all other funds earmarked for other specific physical improvements and new constructions. Priority of physical improvements should be given to the admitting and emergency section and to Emergency Ward 7, a suggested plan for which is appended as Annex 8. The other physical improvements of next priority are those appended in Annex 2.

8. The commutation of quarters and subsistence allowances, particularly for the married nurses, in order to remedy the unhealthy congestion in the dormitories and mess halls.

9. A review of the existing scale of salaries and of the privileges given, with the view to obtaining promotions in pay in consideration of length of service and efficiency and of removing discrimination in the granting of privileges. Corollary to this should be the establishment of a means to guard against possible Unfairness in the matter of promotions of personnel and appointments of new ones. The creation of a Council of Personnel Administration as already provided for by law with memberships in the Council of all relevant services can be the means.

10. There should be a policy declaration to the effect that the Philippine General Hospital should primarily be for patients' care and service without prejudice to its teaching and training functions but the latter be contingent upon the adequacy first of the service, care, and treatment given to patients.

11. For the effective implementation of the policy declaration mentioned in No. 10, the director of the hospital, shall have complete supervision and control over all the personnel in the hospital, including interns, residents, and the professional staff, in connection with the work of the latter three groups of personnel in patients' care in the hospital. The director of the hospital may recommend disciplinary action or separation from the hospital service for cause of any one of these latter three groups of personnel directly to the president of the university or to the U.P. Board of Regents.

12. The director of the hospital shall be on full-time status. He may be permitted limited private practice outside of office hours and not within the hospital premises. To assist him in his work, he shall have under and directly responsible to him the following chiefs of units:

- (a) A full time administrative assistant who shall be a qualified hospital administrator and shall be responsible to the director for all business matters and the efficient performance of the non-technical personnel.
- (b) A full time chief of clinics who shall be responsible to the director for the efficient and ethical performance of the medical staff and for the coordination of the medical teaching and training functions of the hospital. The chief of clinics may also be permitted limited private practice outside of office hours and not within the premises of the hospital.
- (c) A chief nurse who shall be responsible to the director for the efficient and ethical performance of the nursing staff and for coordinating the nursing teaching and training functions of the hospital. Commensurate salary should be provided for each of the above positions to draw in qualified individuals and ensure the maximum efficiency.

13. The professional staff (part-time medical staff) shall not be permitted private practice during official office hours nor within the hospital premises after official office hours except to patients who are actually confined in the pay wards, and also to emergency cases.

14. No resident shall be appointed in the hospital staff unless the appointee has already passed the examination given by the board of Medical Examiners and has had experience in the hospital as an adjunct on rotation basis to all the clinical departments for a period of six months and another period of six months continuously in the department where he will be appointed as resident. The tenure of residency; shall be on a yearly basis contingent on satisfactory work and on efficiency. Reappointment shall carry automatic promotions. The maximum period of residency, which must be continuous for those being reappointed, should not exceed five years.

The residents shall be given the salary scales which are now being given in other government Hospitals.

15. Graduated levels of responsibilities should be established among the resident staff commensurate with length of service and efficiency of work. There shall be written guides for interns which shall include clear delineation of discretion which they may be permitted.

16. For all categories of personnel in the hospital, there should be up-to-date manuals of procedure and operations.

17. The hospital administration shall see to it that adequate supervision at all levels and for all categories of personnel shall be functioning at all times

The committee said by way of general remarks that the Philippine General Hospital had a total of P1,995,420 in idle funds. It added that there were separate funds earmarked for physical improvement and other capital expenditures some of which were now available. It suggested that there should be no delay in the immediate and proper utilization of these funds.

The committee also observed that notwithstanding the U.P. Board of Regents' regard of the PGH as primarily a teaching institution, "the concept or objective of any hospital should be that of patient-care first and all others are secondary."

The committee added: With fullest acceptance of the highly desirable objective of the best standards in medical and nursing education, the lives and welfare of patients should never be subordinated to this objective. Should the hospital continue to be utilized as a teaching institution, which the committee strongly encourages, adequate safeguards must be made to insure that adequacy of patients' care would at all times prevail over the needs of teaching. The organizational pattern of the hospital should be geared towards this end."

The committee in its report continued: "It is highly desirable and it will be useful for the hospital to establish personnel procedures and policies which will guide the personnel in the performance of their duties, in their inter-

relation in the institution and in their dealings with patients and with the public and which will maintain and promote their morale. Being a public institution, it is incumbent upon the hospital and all of its personnel to cultivate and practice at all times good public relations.”

The President inquired from Secretary Garcia the result of the report of the committee on the first phase of its investigation which had been submitted to the U.P. Board of Regents.

The first phase of the investigation work covered the case of 13-year old child Rosalinda Angeles, who had been admitted at the Philippine General Hospital on July 23, 1957, and who died owing to alleged negligence on the part of the hospital staff.

Education Secretary Manuel Lim, who is chairman of the U.P. Board of Regents, said that the committee of the Board of Regents in charge of the case had admitted the validity of the original findings and recommendations of the committee but allowed the personnel of the hospital who had been meted out punishment to present additional facts to support their side of the case.

Secretary Lim promised the President that the Board of Regents would not whitewash the case, but that it was decided to grant the request of the parties concerned to present more facts in order that they would be given due and full process of the law.

Lim also promised the President and the Cabinet that the Board of Regents, committee was given two weeks to furnish its rehearing of the case and that it would submit its findings immediately.

The President said that he would study the report of the committee very carefully.

THE PRESIDENT and the Cabinet at their meeting also approved:

- (1) The technical services contract for engineering, geological, and other studies and design of a multi-purpose dam, harnessing the Marikina River for power, irrigation, water supply, and river control; and
- (2) In principle, the recommendation of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno on the proposal contained in a memorandum of understanding between Moreno and the president of the Import-Export Bank of Japan making possible the negotiation of a loan from this bank for the necessary amount to finance the Marikina dam.

The technical services contract was entered into recently between the chief of the Philippine reparations mission in Tokyo in representation of the Marikina Project Coordinating Committee headed by Secretary Moreno and the International Engineering and Development Company, concurred in by the Construction Technical Institute Foundation of Japan, which will collaborate with the above named principal Japanese consulting firm. The estimated cost of services was originally placed at \$250,000.

The Cabinet approved in principle the recommendation of Secretary Moreno for a possible loan from a Japanese bank to be underwritten through reparations for the construction of the Marikina dam project. The annual repayment of this loan will begin with the token amount forming part of the first installment on the loan, chargeable against the second year reparations schedule, and the balance sliding into the annual reparations payment beginning the third year.

Under the work schedule attached to a supplemental memorandum agreed upon between the Marikina Project Coordinating Committee and the technical consulting firm of Japan, the engineering, geological investigation, and design of the dam will be completed by the end of July 1958.

Secretary Moreno assured the Cabinet that the supplemental memorandum did not discriminate against Filipino technicians who desire to collaborate in the phase of the work wherein the Filipinos' technical services could be utilized to advantage.

Because of this assurance, Moreno said that the Philippine Association of Civil Engineers (PACE) which had originally registered opposition, had withdrawn it and favorably endorsed the project.

The Cabinet approval of the Marikina dam project came in the wake of satisfactory explanations that the Marikina Project Coordinating Committee made yesterday to local engineers headed by the PACE as to the real nature of these technical services contract which in its tenor does not discriminate against local technicians.

The contract limits the utilization of Japanese technicians to those phases of the work requiring highly specialized skills in which the local technicians do not have as yet the necessary experience, such as in the seismic investigation on sub-surface conditions to insure the stability of reinforced concrete dams of this magnitude of k located in an earthquake zone.

Moreno also emphasized that all work of the Japanese consulting firm would be under the direct supervision and direction of the Marikina Project Coordinating Committee assisted by their local engineering experts.

Secretary Moreno explained that the construction of this dam would bring the following benefits:

- (1) Will provide an additional 160,000 kilowatts of generated electric energy to meet the increased peak load demand around the Manila area during the critical years 1961 to 1962;
- (2) Will prevent recurrence of destructive floods in the Marikina Valley affecting the suburbs of Manila;
- (3) Will serve 6,000 hectares of farmlands in the Marikina Valley, thereby enhancing productivity in this area;
- (4) Will relieve on a permanent basis the water shortage in Manila; and
- (5) Will provide employment opportunities to hundreds of Filipino technicians and laborers.

Secretary Moreno also said that the construction of this dam would serve as a monument or memorial to Philippine-Japanese friendship. He said that, in an interview, Premier Kishi had expressed appreciation of the construction of the dam.

The financing arrangement made possible by the approval of the Cabinet will preclude the drain on the country's dollar reserves, Moreno said.

PRESIDENT Garcia, with the unanimous approval of his Cabinet members, created a presidential incentives committee charged with the duty of studying ways and means of giving incentives to producers in order to increase production of essential products and thus lower prices.

Former Finance Secretary Antonio de las Alas, who represents the lumber industry, was appointed chairman of the committee. The other members of the committee are the president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, the president of the Philippine Chamber of Industries, the president of the Philippine Chamber of Agriculture, the president of the Philippine Bankers Association, Mrs. Trinidad F. Legarda and Miss Helena Z. Benitez, representing consumers, Jose Hernandez, representing labor, and Domingo C. Abadilla, president of the National Press Club, representing the press. Miss Benitez, aside from being a member, was made secretary of the presidential committee.

The President directed that the committee should hold public hearings in order to get a cross-section of the views of all the economic segments of the country as regards the best means to be adopted by the government in giving incentives to producers. He said that the committee should start its hearings at the earliest possible time.

The President also directed that all government offices and instrumentalities should be ready to cooperate with the committee whenever the committee required assistance in pursuing its work.

After the committee shall have finished its hearings, it will submit its recommendations to the President.

The President said that the creation of this committee was a commitment which he had made at the time he had vetoed Senate Bill 167.

AFTER consultation with Labor Secretary Angel Castaño and Telecommunications Director Jose Alfonso regarding the problems of the telecommunications operators who: had come as a group to see the President at the Malacañang social hall; before the Cabinet meeting, the President:

- (1) Announced the appointment of Rufino Tolentino as assistant director of telecommunications;
- (2) Owing to the volume of work being done by the traffic section of the bureau, told Director Alfonso to study the possibility of converting the traffic section into a division;
- (3) Gave assurance that overtime pay should be given to the employees of the bureau, subject to budgetary limitations; and
- (4) Ordered that complaints regarding discrimination in the increase in salaries in the bureau be looked into and to see to it that every employee was given justice.

Secretary Castaño also; informed the President that the union members of some 12 government corporations who had filed notices with his department to strike had desisted from their intention.

With regard to the petition of the Life Insurance Executives Association to continue with the practice of deducting from salaries of employees insurance premiums which had been ordered discontinued in accordance with Wage Administration Service and Bureau of Labor Standards circulars, Secretary Castaño said that if the employees themselves send their sworn statements to the labor secretary authorizing deduction from their salaries to pay for such premiums, then he would give his authority for such deductions.

UPON recommendation of the National Economic Council, the Cabinet approved the establishment and operation by the Milk Industry, Inc., of a plant for the manufacture of canned evaporated and condensed milk. The plant has an annual capacity of 500,000 cases of evaporated milk and 165,000 cases of sweetened condensed milk.

It was believed that the establishment of this milk factory would reduce the importation of processed milk and thus save on dollars.

The permit was given under the following conditions:

- (1) That the company's foreign exchange requirements should be obtained from the Import-Export Bank or from other financial institutions abroad;
- (2) That its raw material requirements in the form of powdered milk shall be obtained under U.S. Public Law 480 and/or under section 402 of the U.S. Mutual Security Act; and
- (3) That this firm shall undertake the necessary steps to develop dairy farms so that its raw material requirements may be obtained locally to assure its continued and uninterrupted operations.

During the Cabinet meeting, Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano briefed the President and the Cabinet on the political developments in Thailand.

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. The meeting was held at the Council of State room.

September 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning appointed Gaudencio Antonino, president of the Producers and Exporters Association, as the tenth member of the incentives committee which the President had created at the Cabinet meeting yesterday.

The President said that he included Antonino in the committee because he would like the incentives committee to be more truly representative of all the economic segments of the country.

BEFORE taking off to-day for Gasan, Marinduque, the President assured the early implementation of the provisions of Republic Act 1862, which amended Republic Act 30, otherwise known as the Armed Forces Retirement Act. In a conference with Sen. Ruperto Kangleon and retired AFP officers, President Garcia revealed that he had directed Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas to implement the said Act.

Republic Act 1862 authorizes officers and enlisted men previously retired with lump sum gratuities under Republic Act 340, prior to January 1, 1955, with 20 years of active service, to receive in lieu of said gratuities a monthly retirement pension starting June 22, 1957.

The retired officers who saw President Garcia were Cols. Gabriel Castillo, Juan Deloso, Patricio Guerrero, Leonardo Torres, and E. Linsangan.

Earlier Ignacio Santos Diaz, former mayor of Quezon City and LP city chapter president and campaign manager in the first district of Rizal province, took his oath of affiliation as a Nacionalista member before President Garcia. Diaz took his oath, together with a big number of LP ward leaders and followers.

The President received this morning a 95-year old man named Segundo Pangan from Malitlit, Quezon City.

Pangan, who could hardly walk because of old age, said that before he would die, he would like to see President Garcia.

The President, upon learning of the presence of Pangan, left his other visitors and talked to Pangan and inquired about his health. The President said that he would be very glad to extend assistance to Pangan if his help was needed.

Pangan was accompanied to Malacañang by his grandson, Aniceto Alcalá.

Among the other callers of the President were former Sen. Sotero Baluyut, Dr. Gil Gaddi, and Pedro Soller.

The President left Malacañang about 1 p.m. and motored to the Nichols Airbase, taking off at 1:35 p.m. for Gasan, Marinduque.

Among those with the President on the plane were Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., vice-presidential candidate, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Albay Governor Nicanor Maronilla-Seva, Pedro Q. Molina, Air Force chief, and CAA Chief Urbano Caldoza.

The presidential plane *Dagohoy* landed at the Gasan airport at 2:20 p.m.

THIS afternoon the President inaugurated the newly constructed ₱139,000 CAA Gasan airport. He said in his speech that never before was so much done for the welfare of the common people than during the present Nacionalista administration.

He cited the achievements of the Nacionalista Party and said the party was standing on its record. He mentioned the fact that the Nacionalista administration appropriated ₱600 million for irrigation systems and ₱46 million for the health program. He also said that since 1953, the Nacionalista Party, under the leadership of the late President

Magsaysay and President Carlos P. Garcia, restored peace and order and the faith and confidence of the people in the government.

In inaugurating the airport the President stated that it was in line with the Administration's program of extending the benefits of aviation to the greater number of people and that it was expected to provide faster means of transportation for persons, mail, and cargo and would directly bring economic benefits with the speedy development of Marinduque's rich natural resources.

The President cited that rural doctors, rural nurses, and rural midwives are being sent by the Administration to the barrios to look after the health of the masses. He also mentioned that more than 8,000 prefabricated schoolhouses have been constructed and distributed by the NP administration, saying that the NP was always concerned with the growth and upliftment of the conditions of the people, especially in the rural areas.

The Nacionalista Party's achievements in three years were three times as much as the Liberal Party's accomplishments in eight years, the President said. He pledged to continue at all times, the program of the late President Magsaysay. He told the people of Marinduque that more aid was coming to them for their public works projects saying that the total aid given to Marinduque during the NP administration amounted to ₱6,882,000 while the entire LP regime granted only more than ₱1 million, to the province.

The President arrived in Gasan, Marinduque, at 2:30 p.m. He was met at the airport by a big crowd of provincial officials headed by Rep. Panfilo Manguera, Gov. Miguel Manguera, Mayor Antonio Zoleta of Gasan, and Mayor Lorenzo Belarmino of Sta. Cruz. The President was accompanied by Speaker Jose B. Laurel Jr., vice-presidential candidate, Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, PAF Chief Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, CAA Administrator Urbano Caldoza, former CAA Administrator Arthur Sevilla, Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, and Malacañang Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson.

After the inauguration of the airport, the President motored to the plaza of Gasan, where he spoke at a rally. He had merienda at the residence of ex-Councilor Flor Coral. He then motored to barrio Cawit, Boac, for another rally. Later on he proceeded to the plaza of Boac where a huge crowd listened and cheered him as he cited the accomplishments of his administration. At the airport a mammoth crowd with placards and brass bands met the President. The people cheered and elbowed each other as the President shook the hands of the welcomers.

Speakers at the rallies included the President, Speaker Laurel, Sen. Gonzalez, and Secretary Moreno. The President and Speaker Laurel are both suffering from slight cold.

September 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived in Daet, Camarines Norte, at 9:30 a.m. today after a rough hour-and-a-half flight from Gasan, Marinduque.

The presidential plane *Dagohoy* was buffeted by winds generated by typhoon *Faye*. Typhoon signal No. 1 was up in Daet when the *Dagohoy* landed.

Despite the inclement weather, thousands turned out at the Daet airfield to welcome President Garcia and his running-mate, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., for the November elections.

The two led a long motorcade to Daet proper. They heard a *Te Deum* at the town's church after which the President inaugurated the ₱4.2 million Daet-Talisay irrigation project.

The project was expected to help farmers of Camarines Norte increase their rice output to 150,000 cavans a year. The system will benefit six towns in the region.

In his speech during the inauguration the President hurled back at Liberal Party presidential candidate Jose Yulo a charge of extravagance.

Yulo had accused the NP of incurring “too great” public loans.

The President said the loans had been and would be used for public improvement projects, something which the LP neglected to do during its hey-day.

He said that when the LP was in power, it spent 65 per cent of the loans it incurred on operational expenses and only a few thousands for public works.

After inaugurating the irrigation system, the President motored to the mining towns of Larap, Paracale, and Labo.

In these towns he delivered speeches disclosing government plans to exploit the country’s mineral resources. He said he would have a smelting plant set up in Jose Panganiban.

The President was met at the Daet airport by a big crowd headed by Gov. Esmeraldo Eco and two contending NP congressional aspirants, Rep. Fernando Pajarillo and Pedro Venida.

To avoid suspicion of favoring one candidate or another, the President ate breakfast in Venida’s residence and lunch in Pajarillo’s.

September 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia told newsmen in Naga City today that he directed the Army, through Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal, Constabulary chief, to take necessary measures to prevent violence in the coming elections.

The President disclosed his directive as he scoffed at the Liberal Party charge of Nacionalista terrorism in an effort to win in the coming national elections.

President Garcia said he had instructed Secretary Vargas and Brig. Gen. Cabal to visit all the critical areas in the country and adopt necessary measures to prevent violence and insure a clean and honest election.

The President branded as “imaginary” the Liberal charges that the Nacionalistas will commit terrorism to insure their victory in the coming elections. He said it is fantastic that the charge comes from men whose party had been convicted of political terrorism.

He likewise laughed off at the statement in Bacolod City of ex-Speaker Jose Yulo, Liberal Party presidential candidate that Yulo will prosecute him if he is elected president. “Do I have to comment on that?” asked President Garcia. “It is wishful thinking,” he added.

The President and his party arrived in Naga City at 10 o’clock this morning. He inaugurated the Barit hydroelectric project.

President Garcia declared that the Nacionalista Party will present with more vigor its overall program of electrification throughout the country in order to spread the industrialization plan.

The President made this statement during the inauguration of the ₱2.7 million hydroelectric plant which will furnish electric power in Naga City, Buhi, Iriga, Baga, Buli, Bato, Navao, and neighboring towns.

High government officials led by Speaker Laurel, Jr., Gov. Juan Triviho, Mayor Monico Imperial of Naga City, members of the presidential party, and prominent residents witnessed the inauguration ceremony.

The Nationalists Party, said the President, marshalled funds for the construction of hydro-electric project in spite of criticisms from the opposition, in its desire to extend electric power to those places never served before.

The President and his running-mate, Speaker Laurel, assailed the Liberals for neglecting the welfare of the rural areas when they were in power.

President Garcia this afternoon viewed the fluvial procession in connection with the biggest religious festival in Naga City.

Mrs. Leonila Garcia arrived there this afternoon to crown the queen of the festival.

Owing to a hectic schedule, the President cancelled his scheduled conference with government officials.

September 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia presented the three fundamental achievements of the Nacionalista Party as a basis for its continuation in power in a mammoth rally held early this morning at Naga City after the fluvial procession in honor of the Virgin of Peñafrancia, patron saint of Bicolandia.

The President pointed out to the following as the fundamental achievements of the Nacionalista Party:

- (1) Restoration of the people's faith and confidence in the government;
- (2) Restoration of peace and order with the policy of "all out friendship and all out force" against the dissidents; and
- (3) The implementation of the five-year economic development plan with emphasis on the uplift of conditions in the rural areas.

The President also announced during the rally that the NP administration was successful in its effort to have the processing tax on coconut oil and copra abolished in the Congress of the United States.

Against the record of achievements of the NP, the President pointed out the fiasco of the LP administration which "failed to rise up to the expectation of the people and grounded the wheels, of progress."

Before a huge crowd of about 50,000, the President said that the LP presidential bet was trying to hoodwink and fool the people when he sang *Hosannas* to the late President Magsaysay and in the same breath lambasted the Nacionalista administration.

Reminding the people that the NPs had promised to restore peace and order as well as the people's faith and confidence in the government, the President said that in six months the Nacionalistas had been able to restore peace and order and the people's faith in the government. He said that the restoration of the people's faith and confidence in their own government had been obtained mainly through the creation of the PCAC where the common man could air his grievances, seek redress, report abuses, and solicit government aid.

He charged that the LPs had lost the cooperation of the people because of misrule, abuses, graft, and corruption.

The President asked the electorate to render its judgment on the records of the Nacionalista Party and the Liberal Party in choosing the men who would handle the affairs of the nation.

He voiced his conviction that the people could see through the "hoodwinking tactics" adopted by the Liberals. The President said that even in presenting "perfumed" Liberals to the electorate, the minority party was still trying to fool the people. He told the wildly cheering crowd that the Filipino people had developed a sense of justice and fairness that could render a wise decision in the coming polls.

President Garcia heard mass at the shrine of the Virgin of Peñafrancia about 8 o'clock this morning. He and members of his party made their way through a thick crowd of people who also heard mass. After the mass, he

proceeded to the residence of Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, where he had breakfast, and then conferred with provincial officials of the Bicol region.

After the conference, about 11:30 a.m., the President boarded the presidential plane *Dagohoy* and reached Manila an hour later.

AN Air Force mercy plane early this morning took off for Legaspi, Albay, with eight vials of tetanus anti-toxin for a boy who was hovering between life and death.

President Garcia directed the airlifting of the medicine immediately upon receipt of a telegram from Councilor Eduardo Jana of Legaspi whose son was seriously suffering from tetanus at the hospital in Daraga, Albay. The medicine was procured from Director Felix Velasco of the San Lazaro Hospital about 2 o'clock this morning. The medicine was delivered to Councilor Jana by the PC provincial commander of Albay about 8 a.m. today.

The President also directed the Philippine National Red Cross Blood Bank to procure immediately 500 cc of type AB blood for Surigao. The appeal for the blood came from Dr. J. Castro of Surigao, Surigao, who said that it was badly needed for a patient. Dr. Castro said in his wire that the blood could not be obtained in Cebu.

September 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia received this morning two visiting members of the British Parliament and the commander-in-chief of the U. S. Pacific Fleet.

After conferring with Palace assistants over routine matters and receiving Pampanga Gov. Rafael Lazatin and former Public Works Secretary Sotero Baluyut, the President saw the Honorable Robert Mathew and John Hill, members of the British Parliament.

The visiting British solons are in Manila in the course of a private observation tour of the Far East. They were accompanied to Malacañang by British Charge de'Aiffaires Edward Biggs.

After receiving the British legislators, the President saw Admiral Felix B. Stump, commander-in-chief of the U. S. Pacific Fleet, who arrived Sunday afternoon at Sangley Point after attending the SEATO military advisers, conference in Bangkok, Thailand.

Admiral Stump was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen; Rear Admiral Edgar A. Cruise, commander of the U. S. naval forces in the Philippines; Capt. J. N. Myers, new naval attache of the U. S. Embassy in Manila; and Commander F. X. Broeker, aide and flag lieutenant of Admiral Stump.

The President then received members of the Philippine Sportswriters Association who invited him to attend the PSA Third Fiesta Fistiiana on October 1, at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum for the benefit of disabled ex-boxers.

Owing to previous commitments, the President regretted that he could not attend the affair. However, he donated the belt to be disputed by Leo Espinosa and Al Asuncion in the main event of the card for the featherweight championship of the Philippines.

The PSA members who were led by their president, Pep Scarella, were Vicente Villafranca, Virgilio Pantaleon, Ernie Bitong, Benjamin Defensor, Felipe Galang, and Conrado Baluyut.

Before proceeding to the Cabinet meeting, the President administered the oath of office to former Senator Pedro C. Hernaez as *ad interim* secretary of commerce and industry, to take the place of Oscar Ledesma, who is running as official NP candidate for Senator.

High government official and prominent sugar cane planters witnessed the oath-taking, among whom were Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto Laguio, Health Secretary Paulino Garcia, Executive Fortunato de Leon, Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., Jose Ma. Gomez, president of the National Confederation of Sugar Cane Planters, Eugenio

Lopez, Negros Oriental Gov. Serafin Teves, Bacolod City Mayor Teofisto Cordova, Dr. Timoteo Consing, Dr. Vicente Gustilo, Ramon Lacson, Ciriaco Locsin, Rodolfo Lizares, Fernando Cuenca, Ambrosio Magsaysay, and Fernando Gonzaga.

After inducting Hernaez, the President received a delegation of Nueva Ecija mayors headed by Gov. Amado Aleta and Rep. Celestino Juan. Then he presided over the Cabinet meeting.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S program of providing more homes and lots for the low-salaried class was further boosted when the President and his Cabinet at their meeting today authorized the acquisition of 132 hectares of land in Parañaque, Rizal in order to expand the low-cost housing projects of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation.

The approval of this project was given after representations made by PHHC Chairman-General Manager Vicente Orosa, who explained the benefits to be derived from the purchase of this additional land for the construction of low-cost houses. Acquisition of this property was previously approved by the FHHC board of directors which was endorsed later by the Office of Economic Coordination.

Out of the 132 hectares, 19 hectares are located fronting the superhighway. The property is about 10 kilometers from Manila and is believed to be an ideal place for subdivisions and housing projects. It is near the Manila International Airports, Forbes Park, and San Lorenzo Village, and lies between two groups of factories.

After hearing the explanation of Manager Orosa, the President and the Cabinet unanimously approved the purchase of the property.

The President said that with this additional lands, the PHHC could expand its activities in providing low-cost houses and lots to the deserving.

UPON recommendation of Acting Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, the President and the Cabinet authorized the release of ₱3,028,000 for salary adjustments of teachers and other personnel of general high schools and city intermediate teachers in chartered cities, pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act No. 842. The amount had been appropriated by Republic Act No. 2042.

Previously, the President, acting upon petition of teachers concerned, had directed the budget commissioner to study ways of implementing the provisions of the law which adjusted their salaries.

The release of this amount was subject to, the following conditions:

(1) That the adjustments of salaries should be limited to four rates from the minimum salary for the position and/or in the same manner the salaries of officials, teachers, and other school personnel in the national rolls were adjusted out of the funds appropriated under Republic Act 1230; and

(2) That inasmuch as the amount appropriated in Republic Act 2042 is good only for one fiscal year, or up to June 30, 1958, the provinces, municipalities, or cities desiring to continue paying such salaries as adjusted beyond June 30, 1958, shall provide the necessary amount for the purpose from their local funds.

UPON recommendation of Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, the President and the Cabinet approved the revised memberships of the Philippine delegation to the Colombo Plan Consultative Committee meeting to be held in Saigon, South Vietnam, from September 30 to October 24, 1957.

Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia was appointed chairman of the ministerial meeting which will be held on October 21-24. Secretary Garcia was made the new chairman in view of the fact that delegations to the ministerial meetings of the Colombo Plan have always been headed by officials of Cabinet rank.

Others in the delegation to the ministerial meeting are Minister Mariano Ezpeleta, vice-chairman; Mrs. Carmen G. de Ledesma of the NEC, member; and Pablo A. Peña of the Department of Foreign Affairs, member.

The delegation to the official meeting from October 7 to 17, follows:

Minister Mariano Ezpeleta, leader; Mrs. Carmen G. de Ledesma, alternate leader; Pablo A. Peña, member; and Ernesto C. Pineda of the foreign office, member.

The delegation to the preliminary working group from September 30 to October 5, is composed of the following:

Mrs. Carmen G. de Ledesma, leader; Pablo A. Peña, alternate; and Ernesto C. Pineda, alternate.

The delegation to the preliminary working group will also act as representatives of the Philippine Government to the National Day Celebration of the Republic of Vietnam on October 26, 1957.

The President requested Secretary Serrano to sound out the SEATO member countries on the possibility of having a Filipino elected as secretary-general of the regional defense alliance.

The SEATO secretary-generalship was made vacant by the appointment of Pote Sarasin, Thai ambassador to the United States and newly designated secretary-general of the SEATO, as premier of Thailand. Sarasin had resigned his position as SEATO secretary-general.

THE Cabinet at its meeting today:

(1) Approved the holding of the second session of the Regional Association V of the World Meteorological Organization in Manila sometime in February, 1958, with the Philippine Government as the host;

(2) Authorized Philippine participation in the First General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which will open in Vienna, Austria, on October 1, 1957, with Dean Crisostomo A. Ortigas of the U. P. as the Philippine delegate to the conference; and

(3) Authorized Emiliano A. Tan Chico, legal and evaluation officer and acting officer-in-charge of the investigation section of the intelligence division of the Central Bank, to leave for the United States to undergo specialized training in the detection and investigation of counterfeits, forgeries, and/or alterations of money, checks, and securities for a period not to exceed four months.

THE PRESIDENT appointed during the Cabinet meeting, the following as *ad interim* members of the board of governors of the Philippine National Red Cross: Antonio de las Alas, Mrs. Luz Banzon-Magsaysay, and Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor.

The Cabinet meeting was presided over by the President from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Council of State room.

PRESIDENT Garcia received a 1,000-man delegation representing GPM chapters from various districts of Manila which staged a "loyalty rally" at Malacañang this afternoon.

With Alfredo Gomez acting as their spokesman, the delegation which jam-packed the spacious social hall informed the President that they just wanted him to know they were working vigorously to insure his victory in Manila in the November elections. The group also promised they would undertake a house-to-house campaign in the city.

Another delegation composed of employees in the Bureau of Printing called to present a 12-point petition. Among the requests contained in the petition were:

- (1) General salary increases particularly for those who had been working in the bureau for many years without a single promotion;
- (2) Improvement of their building with the view to providing employees more healthful working conditions; and
- (3) Investigation of nepotism and favoritism which allegedly thrived in the bureau.

The President assured the delegation he would have the charge of nepotism and favoritism, investigated immediately. As to the request for salary increases, he said he would refer their petition to the Wage and Position Classification Office (WAPCO) with instructions to find a way to grant the desired salary boost, especially for those who had rendered long and continuous service to the bureau.

The Chief Executive received callers until 9 p.m. Other visitors included Gov. Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Oriental, Rep. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Acting Mayor Jesus Marcos Rocas of Manila, and Rep. Joaquin Rocas of Manila.

September 24.—THE PRESIDENT before taking off for Davao felicitated Liberal Party presidential candidate Jose Yulo, who is celebrating his 62nd birthday anniversary today.

The President's felicitation was contained in a telegram which reads as follows:

“IN WISHING YOU MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY AYE TAKE THIS OCCASION TO RESTATE MY BELIEF THAT AN OPPOSITION PARTY IS NECESSARY TO KEEP ALIVE DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES IN OUR COUNTRY STOP MRS GARCIA JOINS ME IN WISHING YOU CONTINUED GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPINESS IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

PRESIDENT GARCIA”

PRESIDENT Garcia was assured today that mayors and councilors in all 27 municipalities of this province are actively campaigning for his election.

The assurance came from Davao Gov. Alejandro Almendras on the President's arrival in Davao shortly before noon today aboard the presidential plane *Dagohoy*. Almendras said the President would win in his province by overwhelming majority. President Garcia was wildly received during his tour of the province this afternoon. People met him with brass bands, parades, and noisy fireworks display. Davawenños turned out by the thousands, lined the streets along presidential routes, and threw flowers on the path of the presidential car.

The Chief Executive in public rallies in Davao reiterated his determination to carry out the NP program of exploiting untapped natural resources of Mindanao with a view to boosting the nation's economy. He cited the achievements of the NP administration since 1954 and added that the NP more than any other party could be depended upon to steer the country toward better times in view of its splendid record.

The President spoke in English and in Visayan in public rallies. He was invariably introduced by Gov. Almendras as “still to be our President in the next four years.”

Accompanied by Speaker Laurel, Jr., his vice-presidential running mate, Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Secretaries Manuel Lim of Education and Angel Castaño of Labor, the President landed at the Sasa airport in Davao City at 11:30 a.m. on the first leg of a seven-day stump of Mindanao. After acknowledging honors offered by a large cheering crowd at the airport, the President was whisked at the head of a long motorcade to Davao City, where he heard a *Te Deum* at the San Pedro church.

From the church the President had luncheon conference with national, provincial, and municipal officials at the nearby Boy Scouts building, where he delivered a brief pep talk before local officials. Other speakers at the conference included Speaker Laurel, Jr., Gov. Almendras, and Davao City Mayor Carmelo Porras.

THIS afternoon, after a tree planting ceremony at the Mindanao Colleges, cornerstone laying ceremonies at the Davao City High School and the Mindanao health center, and a brief inspection tour of the Sasa equipment depot in Sasa, all in Davao City, the President proceeded to Tagum for the first scheduled public rally in the province. Owing to numerous unscheduled stops, the President hit Tagum about 53 kilometers from Davao City, about 9 p.m.

After supper at Tagum, the Presidential party returned to the city where the biggest rally in the province was held. The city rally started about 11 p.m. instead of 9 p.m. as scheduled owing to many unforeseen stops which disrupted the President's schedule. The stops were caused by enthusiastic Davawenios who awaited the presidential car in towns and barrios and insisted that the President get off the car. Whenever he could, the President alighted from the car and shook hands with barrio folks, most of whom had been waiting for him for many hours.

MALACANANG announced today that President Garcia signed Proclamation No. 446, declaring Friday, September 27, 1957, a special public holiday in the province of Batangas and Lipa City in connection with the commemoration of the ninetieth birthday anniversary of General Miguel Malvar.

General Malvar, hero and patriot during the Philippine Revolution and the Filipino-American War, was the last Filipino general to surrender to the Americans.

The President declared the birthday of General Malvar a special public holiday in Batangas and Lipa City in order to give the people of the province and the city opportunity to celebrate the occasion fittingly.

September 25.— PRESIDENT Garcia nursed a finger he injured while shaking hands with the crowds which lined his route from Davao City to Digos this morning.

No one tended to his injured finger as his two physicians, Drs. Guytingco and Gaerlan, could not be found.

It turned out that the two physicians went joyriding ahead of the presidential car in a limousine.

President Garcia slept aboard the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria*, anchored off Davao City early this morning.

He woke up at 7:30 a.m. and had breakfast half an hour later.

He called newsmen to a conference in which he informed them of his directive to the Armed Forces to investigate reports that letters in Chinese characters, demanding contributions to the Nacionalista Party campaign fund, were being circulated among local Chinese.

He said that the circulation of these letters was another attempt to sabotage his election campaign.

From the yacht, the President motored south, stopping at Sta. Cruz and at Digos.

He had his car stopped many times to enable him to shake hands with Davawenios who lined the route. It was while he was greeting a crowd that he injured his finger.

Upon arriving in Digos, the President laid the cornerstone of the National Rice and Corn Corporation (NARIC) corn mill.

At three o'clock he proceeded to Kidapawan, stopping over in Marawi City.

He was scheduled to address a rally in Kidapawan in the evening and to spend the night at the residence of Primitivo Martinez.

Tomorrow the President will proceed to Tacurong to start the third day of his eight-day stumping tour of Mindanao provinces.

September 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia today congratulated emigrants in Mindanao for their pioneering spirit and added that the whole country is pinning its hopes in their industry.

In public rallies held at various Cotabato towns today the President explained that the development of the rich virgin lands of Mindanao would put an end to the nation's perennial rice problem. He said that Cotabato and the rest of Mindanao could produce rice, corn, coffee, and other commodities sufficient to supply not only local needs but also foreign markets.

The President also assured the Moslem population that the government would continue its policy of promoting their welfare if the Nacionalista Party were retained in power in the November polls. He said he believed that minority groups were essential in the building of a strong and united Republic.

The presidential party today resumed its tour of Cotabato towns, passing through long stretches of new roads cutting across most of Cotabato's virgin lands. Several times the President stopped at settlers' homes along the road and inquired about the problems of the settlers to find out how the government could be of assistance to them.

Accompanied by Gov. Udtog Matalam, Rep. Luminog Mangelen, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., his team-mate, and ex-Senator Salipada Pendatun, the President spoke at huge rallies at Mlang, Buluan, Tacurong, Marbel, and at General Santos tonight. He was received with colorful receptions in Moslem towns where the people came out *en masse* with their gay costumes.

September 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today authorized the release of ₱125,000 to complete the reactivation of the old Siluay River irrigation system in General Santos, Cotabato, to aid hundreds of farmers who are constantly being harassed by droughts in the locality.

The President gave authority to Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno this morning before boarding his plane from General Santos to Cotabato, Cotabato, in the course of his eight-day stump of Mindanao. Secretary Moreno, who is with the presidential party, explained that the released sum would not be available for actual expenditure until after the elections in view of the 45-day ban.

Secretary Moreno disclosed that ₱25,000 had previously been initially released for the reconstruction of the system. The amount had been utilized in the re-establishment of the main canal which is now servicing 300 hectares. When completed, the project will serve over 3,000 hectares planted to rice and will be a boon to the locality.

Before boarding the plane, the President also visited the NDC cotton plantations some five kilometers from General Santos where he had spent the night. Impressed by the lush growth of cotton plants which he found flowering, the President promised that ways would be found to further encourage cotton planting in the area.

Informed that the project would yield about ₱1,000 worth of cotton per hectare, the President asked Dr. Baltazar, who is in charge, to find out the whether plantation could be expanded. The President said it could bring prosperity to the people in the locality besides saving dollar reserves as the produce is said to be far better in quality than imported American cotton.

The PAF plane *Dagohoy* bearing the presidential party landed in Cotabato airport at 11:10 a.m. today after about one hour trip from General Santos. Delegations from Cotabato and nearby provinces were on hand to give the party a rousing welcome. The party had flown to Cotabato town only for the purpose of boarding the yacht *Sta. Maria* docked at Parang for the boat trip to Pagadian. Owing, however, to a large crowd which turned out along the

presidential route, the Chief Executive had to conduct two brief impromptu rallies, one at Cotabato town and another at Parang before the yacht pulled out at 2:30 p.m.

Accompanying the President during his tour of Cotabato province were Gov. Matalam Rep. Mangelen, ex-Senator Salipada Pendatun, and Dr. Gil Gadi. The President expected to reach Pagadian, Zamboanga, at 7:30 tonight where a huge rally awaits him.

September 28.—BANCA and vintas filled with gong-pounding Moslems and dancing girls, surrounded the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* as it docked at Zamboanga City this afternoon to unload Nacionalista campaigners headed by President Garcia.

The reception given President Garcia and his party was the most colorful and rousing yet accorded the President in his stumping tour of Mindanao provinces. The President has been in Mindanao for five days now.

The *Sta. Maria* arrived in Zamboanga City at 2 p.m. from Basilan City, where President Garcia and his fellow Nacionalistas promised government support for the rubber industry in that region.

He said the rubber industry in that city should be “exploited to the fullest extent” as a means of preserving the country’s dollar reserves and keeping unemployment down.

The *Sta. Maria* anchored off Basilan City after several hours of fine sailing from Pagadian where President Garcia addressed a huge rally.

In the Pagadian rally the President and his running-mate, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., joined hands in lambasting the Liberal Party.

President Garcia charged his Liberal rival, former Speaker Jose Yulo, with having bungled the LP’s economic development program.

On the other hand, Laurel accused his LP rival, Rep. Diosdado Macapagal, of shirking discussion on controversial legislation. He said Macapagal evaded getting enmeshed in the discussion of the land tenure measure when the bill was under consideration before the House.

In Basilan City, the NP presidential team was joined by NP senatorial candidates Oscar Ledesma, Arturo Tolentino, and Roseller Lim.

The President and his party were scheduled to enplane tonight for Iligan City, where they are scheduled to preside over a political meeting.

THE PRESIDENT today granted another 30-day reprieve to death convict Eusebio Molijon whose first reprieve expires tomorrow.

The second reprieve ends on October 29, 1957.

Molijon was sentenced to death in the electric chair for attempted robbery and multiple murder in Cebu. The first reprieve was granted by the President to Molijon last August 23,

In granting the second 30-day stay of execution, the President said that more time was still necessary for a thorough and careful study of the merits of the petition for execution clemency filed in behalf of the convict.

September 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia and his party are scheduled to hit Malaybalay, Bukidnon, today in the course of their eight-day stump of Mindanao, but no report of their arrival there is available at the Malacañang press office until late tonight.

It is suspected that radio contact with Malaybalay failed, and this explains the lack of report from members of the presidential party.

The President and his fellow campaigners are supposed to have proceeded today to Malaybalay from Iligan City, where they held a big rally last night. The rally ended until the wee hours this morning.

A record crowd estimated at 50,000 reportedly jammed the Iligan City plaza and heard the President and his running-mate, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., expound on the role Mindanao would play in the Nacionalista economic program.

The President spoke in Visayan as he outlined the achievements of his administration. A wild ovation greeted him before he started his speech shortly after midnight.

Earlier he and his party had come from Zamboanga City from where they boarded a plane to Iligan.

Senatorial candidates in the party who also addressed the rally were former Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, Rep. Arturo M. Tolentino, and Sen. Roseller T. Lim. Other speakers were Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, and Sen. Domocao Alonto.

Early this morning, the President and his group heard mass at the Iligan Catholic church in honor of St. Michael, patron saint of the city in whose honor the townspeople are celebrating Iligan's traditional fiesta.

September 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia was received with a riotous reception by the people of Surigao on his arrival there this afternoon on the last lap of his 8-day barnstorming tour of Mindanao provinces.

Landing at the Surigao airport about 3:20 p.m. on the PAF plane *Dagohoy* following a 50-minute rough trip from Malaybalay, Bukidnon, the President was met by huge delegations from Surigao and nearby provinces who had converged in Surigao to give him a rousing welcome. The President was immediately mobbed by his enthusiastic welcomers as soon as he got off the plane.

After inspecting the guard of honor formed at the landing field by the local military unit, the President headed a long motorcade to the town proper some five kilometers away. Thousands of people lined up both sides of the road, cheered, and waved colored paper flags and "vote Garcia" placards as the presidential car passed by.

Gov. Bernardino Almeda and Rep. Reynaldo Honrado estimated that the NP ticket would get no less than 85 per cent of Surigao's votes.

Alighting in front of the cathedral, the President was again mobbed by the townspeople who all wanted to shake his hand. It took the President more than five minutes to reach the door of the cathedral where a *Te Deum* was sung.

After a merienda at the Governor's residence, the Chief Executive proceeded to the yacht *Sta. Maria*, where he conferred with local political leaders, including 27 of the 29 Surigao mayors, headed by Victor Risma of Tago, president of the local mayors' league, who assured him of an overwhelming majority in the coming elections.

A huge rally is scheduled at the town plaza tonight. After the rally, the President will proceed by boat to Romblon, expecting to arrive there Wednesday morning.

The presidential party in Surigao includes Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., and Sen. Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez.

UPON learning late last evening of Sen. Manuel C. Briones' death, President Garcia sent the following message of condolence received at the Malacañang Press Office today from Malaybalay, Bukidnon:

"I am greatly grieved by the death of Senator Manuel C. Briones.

"A brilliant lawyer and jurist, a master parliamentarian and a crusading newspaperman, Senator Briones has truly served his country and people as a model public servant whose dedication to duty is a model for all to emulate.

"I join my countrymen in mourning the passing of a great Filipino."

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: October 1-15, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

October 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed in his cabin the whole morning today. He did not come out for breakfast or lunch but rested following his 7-day gruelling campaign tour of Mindanao during which he covered five provinces and five chartered cities.

The provinces visited were Davao, Cotabato, Zamboanga del Sur, Lanao, and Surigao. The cities where he attended huge public rallies were Davao, Basilan, Zamboanga, Iligan, and Marawi.

The yacht bearing the presidential party for the return trip to Manila pulled out of Surigao, Surigao, about 2 a.m. today after a public rally held on the town plaza. The President decided to take the boat instead of a plane as originally scheduled in his desire to drop by Romblon on invitation of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno.

The ship cruised slowly in the famous fishing waters around Gigante Island, about 15 miles northeast of Panay, for the President wanted to time his arrival in Romblon for a rally tomorrow morning. If the ship were to sail direct to its destination, it would arrive there around midnight tonight.

On the suggestion of newsmen on board, the ship detoured to the fishing grounds to try their luck at fishing. Although fish abound in the area, no one managed to get a bite.

October 2.—THE PRESIDENT returned to Manila this evening from his nine-day barnstorming tour of Mindanao provinces and Romblon more confident than ever of victory in next month's elections.

"The situation could not be better," the President said as he went down the ramp of the presidential plane *Dagohoy* shortly after landing at the Nichols Air Base about 7 p.m. "I am even more confident now than after my last trip to those regions."

The President during the entire tour in which he covered eight provinces and five chartered cities was very much impressed by the spontaneous enthusiasm with which the people had received him. In all the places he visited people turned out by the thousands, waited patiently for hours along presidential routes, regardless of the time of day or night, or of inclement weather.

Motoring through Davao and Cotabato late last week, the President often came upon people waiting in towns, barrios, and important road junctions, soaked wet to the skin with only newspapers, handkerchiefs, or banana leaves protecting their heads from the rain. Touched by their eagerness to see him, the President would alight from his car, thank them for their patience, and advise them to go home.

The day-to-day schedule followed by the President during the tour was always disrupted, sometimes by as much as five hours' delay, because of numerous unscheduled stops caused by townspeople who formed human roadblocks and would not budge from the road unless the President got off a few minutes and shook their hands. It is for this reason that the President was often continuously on the road up to 4 a.m. the following day in order to keep up with his schedule. Then after a few hours' sleep, he would get up again and resume his tour.

Members of the presidential party were surprised by the stamina shown by the Chief Executive. Despite tight schedules which required him to be on the road from 8 a.m. up to the early hours of the following morning, he showed no sign of strain or fatigue. He always came out of a one-hour or 30-minute nap looking fresh and rested, and ready for another gruelling day.

The President, in his speeches which he delivered at the rate of from 10 to 15 a day, kept drumming up support for a straight NP ticket. Toward the end of his speeches, he would read off the names of NP candidates, from the

President down to the local official congressional standard bearer, and ask the townspeople to give their support as the best means of insuring the continuance of the NP program of improving the lot of the masses.

“The Nacionalista administration has given you roads, artesian wells, irrigation systems, health centers, pre-fabricated school buildings, rural doctors, and nurses,” the President said. “If you want this to continue, vote for a straight Nacionalista ticket. Vote for the government which can count on the faith and confidence of the people.”

Speaking in fluent Visayan which unfailingly went over big with his audiences who enjoyed his picturesque use of the beautiful dialect, the President had strived to explain the various issues which he thought were involved in this year’s national elections. The people, however, told him not to bother explaining the issues and assured him of victory with large majorities in their respective localities.

Plugging for the NP senatorial line-up, the the President said that the candidates had been chosen for their ability to tackle important functions of government. He mentioned Francisco Delgado who, he said, could handle foreign affairs, Eulogio Balao for defense, Oscar Ledesma and Gil Puyat for economics, Jose Locsin for health; Arturo M. Tolentino for education, Cipriano Primicias for justice, and Rofler T. Lim for labor.

Provinces visited during the tour were Davao, Cotabato, Zamboanga del Sur, Lanao, Surigao, and Romblon. The cities where the party held public rallies were Davao, Basilan, Zamboanga, Iligan, and Marawi. Members of the party included Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., vice-presidential candidate; NP senatorial candidates Ledesma, Locsin, and Tolentino; and Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez.

THE Chief Executive dropped in at Romblon this morning on the return trip to Manila aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria*. Docking at the wharf in Odiongan, Tablas Island, about 8 a.m., he was met by a large crowd headed by Gov. Manuel Solidum, Odiongan Mayor Francisco Firmalo, and Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno.

After hearing *Te Deum* at the parish church, the President addressed a big rally held on the town plaza. With Secretary Moreno acting as master of ceremonies, other speakers at the rally included senatorial candidates Lim, Ledesma, and Tolentino.

At 12:30 in the evening, following the rally, the presidential party proceeded by car to Looc, some 25 kilometers on the other side of the island, where they had lunch. At the request of the people, the President addressed another rally there which lasted until 5 p.m. Then he motored on to barrio Tugdan, Alcantara, where he boarded his plane for Manila, arriving at the Nichols Air Base shortly before 7 o’clock this evening.

October 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia today administered the oath of affiliation to former Rep. Mateo Nonato as a member of the Nacionalista Party at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

Until his affiliation with the Nacionalista Party, Nonato was an independent Liberal Party congressional aspirant for the first district of Iloilo. He pledged to support the candidacy of the President and the entire Nacionalista ticket.

Then the President received Makati Mayor Maximo Estrella, who together with Vice-Mayor Juan Patag, headed a group of officials of that municipality.

Earlier the President had breakfast with American business executives who were touring the Far East. The American business executives included Robert S. Oelman, president and director of the National Cash Register, Dayton, Ohio; Charles Allyn, NCR chairman of the board of directors and chief executive officer; John Scott, NCR chief overseas operations; George Haynes, NCR general manager of the Far Eastern section; and L. B. Nestles, president of the Erlanger and Galing of the Philippines.

After receiving some callers, the President motored to the Senate session hall where he attended the necrological services for the late Senator Manuel C. Briones. He was accompanied by the First Lady.

After the services, the President went to the office of Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., and conferred with NP leaders and senatorial candidates. This conference was a continuation of that held in Malacañang last Wednesday evening which could not be attended by Senate President Rodriguez, who was then indisposed.

The President gave a press conference before going to the Department of Finance building. He gave the first checks representing the full payment of backpay certificates to Mr. and Mrs. Prudencio Trani, public school teachers from Biliran, Leyte, in the presence of Senate President Rodriguez, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, and National Treasurer Vicente Gella.

October 4.—FORMER French Premier Antoine Pinay paid a courtesy call this morning on President Garcia at Malacañang. The prominent French visitor is in Manila for a brief stopover before returning to Paris.

Pinay was accompanied to Malacañang by French Ambassador Georges Cattand; R. Arasse, chief of Cabinet; Yves Coffin, second secretary of the local French Embassy; and Jose Estrada, protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs. The visit lasted about 15 minutes.

The President also received Eric P. Appleby, assistant managing director of the J. H. Vavasour and Co., Ltd., who arrived last Wednesday from London in the course of a Far Eastern tour to inspect subsidiaries of his firm. The President was informed of ready market in Europe for Philippine export products.

Appleby will inspect the dessicating mills of the Red V. Coconut Products, a subsidiary of his firm, which is managed by the Smith Bell and Co., Ltd. He was accompanied to Malacañang by F. M. Coe, director of the Smith Bell, J. V. Perez, and P. C. Salazar.

Rafael Ygoa and Daniel Ma. Gomez, vice-president and manager of the Philippine Air lines, respectively, saw the President to protest against an action of the Civil Aeronautics Board granting a temporary permit to the FAST, an airline company, to operate in the Philippines.

PRESIDENT Garcia at the Cabinet meeting today ordered the NARIC to unload its available stocks of Macan *ordinario* No. 2 to the public at the pegged price of 85 centavos a ganta.

At the same time, the President directed the adoption of more effective and widespread distribution systems of the cereal in order that more people throughout the country could buy it at the authorized prices. The President:

(1) Directed Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez to make NAMARCO stores all over the Philippines act as NARIC distributors in addition to the regular NARIC, distribution system;

(2) Designated all provincial and municipal treasurers to act as NARIC rice distributors;

(3) Directed Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas to lend to the NARIC Army trucks to serve as rolling stores to sell NARIC rice in each province, and Navy LSTs to transport rice from the centers of supply to shortage areas; and

(4) Directed Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno to lend also to the NARIC all public works trucks which have been immobilized for public works projects as a result of the 45-day ban on public works construction to serve as additional rolling NARIC rice stores.

It was the consensus of the President and the Cabinet members that a more systematized and streamlined system of rice distribution by the NARIC will solve the difficulties of some people in buying rice at government prices.

The President and the Cabinet spent a long time discussing the solution of rice, distribution. The President had requested NARIC General Manager Vicente Conception to be present at the Cabinet meeting to make an updated report on the rice situation and to help solve the distribution phase of rice.

Concepcion informed the Cabinet that the NARIC had the following available stocks of rice for distribution, good up to the middle of November: native rice, 280,000 cavans or 6,440,000 gantas; and imported rice, 620,000 cavans or 14,260,000 gantas.

This, Concepcion said, gave a total of 900,000 cavans or 20,700,000 gantas of rice available up to mid-November. He said that, with the weekly overall consumption of 180,000 cavans of rice, these stocks would be good up to mid-November. He added that with the arrival of American rice stocks imported by the Philippine Government and as the new harvest would start early November in some sections of the country, the NARIC would be in a stronger position to meet the overall consumption needs of the country after mid-November.

Concepcion said that as of this day 2,000 metric tons of rice were being unloaded from the *S. S. Procyon*.

The President in discussing the distribution phase of rice with his Cabinet said that he had observed in his various trips to the provinces that in spite of his previous directives that rice be sold by the NARIC at 85 centavos a ganta, and in spite of the approved importation of rice, people complained about the non-availability of NARIC stocks.

Manager Concepcion revealed during the discussion that for the present there were enough rice stocks. However, it was pointed out that the main problem was a more effective and efficient rice distribution so that NARIC rice could be served to as many people as possible throughout the country.

At this juncture, the President ordered that the NARIC should flood the market with its available stocks of rice, especially in places where they were most needed. He said that with the aid of the different government agencies, the problem of distribution could be solved.

Turning to Secretary Hernaez, the President said that the NAMARCO retail stores all over the country should be utilized as NARIC distributors in addition to the regular NARIC distribution outlets.

Hernaez said that he would just be too glad to have all NAMARCO stores extend their distribution facilities. The President also said that NARIC rice could be consigned to municipal treasurers throughout the Philippines who are in strategic positions to distribute the cereal.

With regard to the use of Army trucks and public works trucks to serve as rolling NARIC stores in distributing rice to as many people as possible in the towns and barrios, Gov. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, who happened to be present at the Cabinet meeting, said that he had adopted this system in Sorsogon and that he had found it most effective. He said that, with the use of Army trucks distributing NARIC rice in his province, there was not much rice problem in Sorsogon.

The President directed Manager Concepcion to pay special attention to the distribution of rice to critical areas of the country.

The President also told Concepcion to coordinate with all the other government agencies concerned and to implement his directives immediately.

THE LONG-STANDING problem of small fishermen in Bulacan who have been deprived of pursuing their means of livelihood owing to the construction of illegal dikes preventing them from fishing in certain areas in Bulacan, Bulacan, was solved with the signing by President Garcia at the Cabinet meeting of Proclamation No. 449, reserving for communal fishing grounds certain parcels of public domain of the foreshore fronting Manila Bay along the province of Bulacan.

In connection with the signing of this proclamation, President Garcia formed a committee composed of Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Sen. Francisco Rodrigo, and Lands Director Zoilo Castrillo to proceed to the town of Bulacan, Bulacan, and inform the officials concerned and the parties affected, of the signing by the President of the proclamation.

The presidential proclamation has prepared the ground for the destruction of illegally constructed dikes in Bulacan, Bulacan, to be done in accordance with existing laws and regulations.

This problem of illegally constructed dikes in Bulacan, which has caused great injury to small fishermen who cannot go out and fish because of the obstruction due to the illegally constructed dikes, has been studied by the government for a long time.

The late President Magsaysay had inspected the place aboard a motor-boat and saw for himself these illegally constructed dikes. He was determined to have these dikes removed but, before doing so, the matter had to be thoroughly investigated by Malacañang and officials of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The presidential proclamation is believed to be the final step in arriving at a solution to remove the illegally constructed dikes, in accordance with the law and regulations, to enable the aggrieved fishermen to continue with their means of livelihood.

THE PRESIDENT and the Cabinet took a further step to help Filipino retailers by approving the release of an additional ₱5 million from the general fund.

The release of this amount was the third installment out of the ₱20 million authorized in Republic Act 1292, which aims to encourage Filipino retailers.

It is recalled that the sum of ₱10 million was already released from the general fund for this purpose.

In a previous Cabinet meeting, it had been decided that further releases for this purpose might be made from time to time as the need arose until the entire ₱20 million authorized in the Act would have been fully covered.

THE CABINET authorized during its meeting today:

(1) Dominador Z. Rusell, administrator of the irrigation service unit of the Department of Public Works and Communications, to go abroad to study modern trends and techniques in irrigation management and administration, for a period of about three or four months starting from October this year;

(2) Herminio R. Rabanal to accept a fellowship in fish culture in fresh water ponds granted him by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation of New York;

(5) Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez to represent the Philippines in the forthcoming meeting of governmental experts called to discuss the application of UNESCO agreement on the importation of educational, scientific, and cultural materials which will be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, from October 21 to 25, 1957.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 11:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

DURING the Cabinet meeting President Garcia signed Proclamation No. 448, declaring Wednesday, October 16, 1957, as special public holiday throughout the Philippines, on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee celebration of the creation of the Philippine Assembly.

The signing of the proclamation was recommended to the President by the Philippine Historical Association, headed by Professor Gabriel Fabella. Former President Sergio Osmeña, who was the first Speaker of the Philippine Assembly, also strongly endorsed the signing of the proclamation by President Garcia.

October 5.— THIS morning President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Sto. Domingo Church in Quezon City, where they attended the celebration of the golden jubilee of the coronation of the statue of Our Lady of the Rosary of *La Naval*.

Arriving at the church at 7:05 a.m., the President was greeted by the Catholic hierarchy, including Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, Manila Archbishop Rufino J. Santos, and Cebu Archbishop Julio Rosales.

The pontifical high mass which climaxed the celebration was said by Papal Nuncio Vagnozzi. Mons. Rosales delivered the sermon. The mass lasted about two hours.

After the mass, the President motored to his "hideout" where he studied state papers needing his immediate action.

In the evening the President awarded prizes to the winners of the "1956 Outstanding Journalism Awards" at the National Press Club building.

THIS AFTERNOON President Garcia accepted the credentials of Ambassador Pir Ali Muhammad Rashdi of Pakistan in the presentation ceremony held at Malacañang.

The ceremony marked the elevation of the Pakistani legation in Manila into an embassy and the growing importance which the Pakistani Government regards its diplomatic listening post in this country. The new Pakistani ambassador succeeds Minister Choudri Khaliqzaman, who returned to the home office some ten months ago.

Present at the ceremony were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felisberto Serrano, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Acting Administrator Juan Concon of the Office of Economic Coordination, Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Commissioner Madki Alonto of Integration, Counsellor Juan Arreglado of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Malacañang protocol Officer Manuel G. Zamora, Foreign Office Chief of Protocol Jose Estrada, and S. M. Hussein, first secretary of the local Pakistani embassy.

Following the ceremony, the President and the Pakistani Ambassador exchanged toasts for the continued friendly relations of their two countries. They drank apple cider instead of the usual ceremonial champagne for the toast, today being registration day.

The presentation rites started promptly at 5 p.m. It lasted about 15 minutes. The ambassador was met in front of the Palace by a unit of the Presidential Guards Battalion which served as a guard of honor.

Ambassador Pir Ali Muhammad Rashdi, 42 years of age, is a member of the National Assembly of Pakistan. He was formerly Minister for Revenue, Medical and Public Health, and Information in the former government of Sind. He was also editor of an English daily, *Sind Observer*, in Karachi and president of the Pakistan press delegation to India in 1950. He was elected president of the Joint Indo-Pakistan Press Committee.

The Pakistan ambassador's counterpart in Karachi is Ambassador Manuel Alzate, who was recently assigned there with the elevation of the Philippine legation in Pakistan to an embassy. Ambassador Alzate will succeed Eutiquio O. Sta. Romana, charge d'affaires of the Philippine legation there.

FOLLOWING the ceremony, the President repaired to his study where he appeared before TV cameras of the USIS as he delivered a message to the Sixth National Convention of the UNESCO to be held in San Francisco, California, U.S.A. next month. The TV record taken under the direction of Cullen Landis, USIS motion picture officer in Manila, would be broadcast on a nationwide hookup in the United States at the opening day of the convention.

PRESIDENT Garcia granted another 30-day reprieve to prisoner Crispin Verzo, to expire on November 5, 1957, Malacañang announced today.

Verzo, who had been convicted of multiple murder and damage to property and sentenced to suffer death penalty, had previously been granted a presidential reprieve which expires on Sunday, October 6, 1957.

In his order the President said that some time was considered still necessary for a thorough and careful study of the merits of the petitions for executive clemency filed in behalf of the doomed prisoner.

October 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning was given a rousing welcome in Lucena, Quezon, where he flew with Speaker Laurel and six NP senatorial aspirants. He was met at the airport by Gov. Leon Guinto, Rep. Manuel Enverga, and some thirty mayors.

Immediately after arrival at 8:35 a.m., the President proceeded to the San Fernando church in Lucena, where the party heard mass. At the church, senatorial candidates Eulogio Balao and Francisco Delgado joined the presidential party.

After the mass, the President headed a long motorcade which travelled 27 kilometers to Lucban. Along the way, barrio folks stood cherring along the roadside as the presidential car passed by. A *Te Deum* was said upon arrival of the presidential party at Lucban.

The rally at Lucban marked the beginning of a series of mammoth rallies in the towns of Tayabas, Sariaya, Pagbilao, and Lucena.

At all rallies the President answered critics who charged that nothing was being done to arrest the spiralling price of rice, saying that the price of Macan had been pegged at ₱.85 a ganta as ordered by the Cabinet in a recent meeting. He said anybody could compel NARIG agencies everywhere to dispose of Macan at that price.

The President pointed out that only the price of rice and very few other items had gone up. The present administration was responsible in bringing down prices of many items, from textiles to machinery, which remained high during the Liberal Party administration, he said.

The President also defended the Garcia-Ohno agreement, saying that the agreement was much better than what was submitted to Congress for ratification by the Liberals during their administration. He said the Garcia-Ohno agreement contained plausible provisions about reparations for the country from Japan.

It was the consensus of political leaders here that President Garcia would win in Quezon province this coming elections.

At Tayabas town, Brig. Gen. Juan Relosa, 2nd MA commanding general, brought before the President 18 surrendered Huks, including three Amazons. The President told the surrenderees that if they turned out to be good citizens, the Government would help them rehabilitate themselves.

October 7.—THE PRESIDENT stayed up until 3 o'clock this morning in Lucena, Quezon, conferring with local officials following the public rally held in that town which lasted until 2 a.m.

After a brief rest and breakfast at the Lucena residence of Gov. Leon Guinto, the President boarded his plane about 7 a.m. at the Lucena airport for the return trip to Manila, arriving here about 8:20 a.m.

The Chief Executive did not receive any caller at Malacañang this morning. He spent his time working over state papers in his desire to clear his desk prior to his departure for a nine-day campaign tour of Northern Luzon early tomorrow morning.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening received NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco, who has just returned from Bangkok (Thailand), Saigon (Vietnam), and Cambodia where he negotiated the importation into the Philippines of 30,300 tons of rice.

Chioco informed the President that his negotiations had gone very well and that the first shipment of 4,500 tons of rice was now being unloaded at the piers.

The President also received this evening a delegation composed of Garcia-Laurel crusade coordinators from all over the country who called at Malacañang to pay their respects.

October 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia counselled the people of the Cagayan Valley to plant cotton and turn their region into one of the pillars of the nation's cotton industry.

In public rallies held in various towns of Isabela today, the President said that the country's textile industry was hampered by lack of raw materials. He said that the Philippines used to import ₱300 million worth of textiles but after 3 1/2 years of the Nacionalista administration which had encouraged cotton planting, the importation had been reduced to about ₱200 million.

The President said that one of his ambitions was to make the country self-sufficient in cotton. He assured the people that, if elected, he would take steps to start the people in the Cagayan Valley to plant cotton.

The President said that the Nacionalista administration under the late President Magsaysay was committed to extend the Manila Railroad line to the Cagayan Valley and that initial steps had already been taken toward this direction. He enjoined the people to vote straight Nacionalista as the best means of insuring the fulfillment of this commitment.

The Chief Executive was cheered heartily when he announced he had ordered the ACCFA to purchase all tobacco raised in the region with price support.

The President devoted the major portion of his speeches to enumerating the accomplishments during the 3 1/2 years of NP administration, citing among other things the construction of 5,600 kilometers of feeder roads, additional provincial and national highways, 3,000 pre-fabricated school buildings, irrigation systems, health centers, 8,000 artesian wells, and other projects for rural improvement.

He added: "If you want all these continued, retain in power the Nacionalista Party which will carry on its program designed to promote the welfare, happiness, and contentment of our people."

The President spoke in nine public rallies today held in the towns of Cauayan, Alicia, Echague, Santiago, Cabatuan, Roxas, Tumauni, Cabagan, and Ilagan, all in Isabela. He was introduced by Isabela Gov. Felix Caro, who accompanied him throughout the province. Other speakers included Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., vice-presidential candidate, and senatorial candidates Eulogio Balao, Cipriano Primicias, Jose Locsin, and Francisco Delgado, who arrived here with the presidential party.

This noon the President inaugurated the ₱14.5 million irrigation project in barrio Magat of San Mateo which will serve some 46,000 hectares of rice lands situated in six towns; namely, Alicia, Angadanan, Cabatuan, Echague, San Mateo, and Santiago.

The President landed at the Cauayan airport at 8:30 a.m. aboard the PAF plane *Dagohoy* following more than an hour's trip from Manila. On hand at the airport to give him a rousing welcome were delegations from Isabela and nearby provinces headed by Govs. Care and Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, Rep. Delfin Albano, and mayors and councilors.

On coming down the plane's ramp, the President was promptly carried on the shoulders of his enthusiastic admirers. After acknowledging raffles and nourishes offered by an honor guard and after mounting the platform to thank the people for the warm reception accorded him and his party, the President started his long tour which took him through some 200 kilometers of dirt road around the province.

The President told the people that the Nacionalista Party would garner from 70 to 80 per cent of the votes in the Visayas and Mindanao. He urged the people of the North to join the general enthusiasm to continue the Nacionalista administration.

Political observers in Isabela say President Garcia has the edge in the province.

The presidential party, which included Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, went to Isabela by a chartered PAL plane.

THE President today directed Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon to alert government relief agencies in extending relief to the fire victims of Caibiran, Leyte.

The Executive Secretary told the Social Welfare Administration, the NARIC, the Philippine National Red Cross, the Department of Health, and the Armed Forces to give immediate help to the fire victims.

The President learned of the Leyte fire when he was in Ilagan, Isabela. The news was flashed to him by the Malacañang Press Office.

October 9.— PRESIDENT Garcia today indicted the Liberal Party for having blocked the country's progress through a reign of graft, corruption, coercion, fraud, and threat in a speech delivered before a huge cheering crowd in Tuguegarao, Cagayan.

The President blamed the Liberals for having failed to solve peace and order, particularly the Huk uprising; for bringing about the people's loss of faith and confidence in the government through frauds, coercion, and threats; and for blocking progress because of graft and corruption.

The President told thousands of cheering Cagayan people who welcomed him that the Nacionalista ticket would get an overwhelming victory in Cagayan. He enumerated the Nacionalista Party accomplishments against the Liberal Party failures, saying that where the LP had failed miserably, the NP succeeded completely.

The President spoke first in the Tuguegarao rally after being introduced by town Mayor Francisco Gosiengfiao. After delivering his speech, the President had lunch at the house of Ex-Gov. Jose Carag and then proceeded to Maguiling, where he delivered another speech in a rally. The President crossed the Cagayan River by ferry in going to Maguiling.

The President arrived at 10:15 a.m. in Tuguegarao from Isabela. He was met by a calesa parade and brass bands. The calesas were decorated with ribbons and posters pledging the province to the President in the elections. Upon nearing Tuguegarao, the President alighted from his car and boarded a calesa with senatorial candidate Eulogio Balao, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, and Ex-Gov. Jose P. Carag. Following behind, also in calesas, were Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., vice-presidential candidate, and other government officials. Hundreds of people followed in calesas and on foot.

Along the way the President's calesa was surrounded by many people who wanted to shake hands with him. He extended his hands to everybody who managed to get near him. The calesa parade stopped in front of the Cagayan cathedral. Then the presidential party proceeded to the plaza nearby where a rally was held. On his way to the platform, the President was mobbed by the pressing crowd and the cuffs of his *barong tagalog* were almost torn away.

The President was able to take a short nap about 4:30 this morning after the rally in Cabagan, Isabela, which was finished at about daybreak. Waking up about 8 a.m., the President had breakfast at the house of Rep. Delfin Albano. Then he boarded his car for Tuguegarao, 40 miles away.

The President proceeded to Aparri by car late this afternoon for a rally this evening.

UPON instructions of President Garcia, the Bureau of Agricultural Extension started conducting today field demonstrations of the Margate rice planting system before farmers at Baliuag, Bulacan.

The President gave the order as a part of the Administration's efforts to increase rice production and make the country self-sufficient in rice.

Under the personal supervision of Marcelo Margate, who after twelve years has perfected the system, the four-day training course which started last October 7 was attended by farmers from Nueva Vizcaya, Nueva Ecija, Pangasinan, Batangas, Cavite, and Pampanga. The next group will start training on October 14.

Other instructors included Rufino Isidro, Ambrosio Lontok, Manuel Velarde, Jose B. Santos, Isabelo Erasmo, Juan Concepcion, and Clemente Yangc. The course covered from pest control to the actual rice planting by applying the Margate system.

In line with the Administration's efforts to make the country self-sufficient in rice, President Garcia is giving his support to the plan of intensifying the propagation of the Margate system throughout the country.

The President said in his directive that "only with the national use of a superior system or method of rice culture can this nation increase its production, and, thereby, obviate the dollar-draining importation of foreign-grown rice."

It is believed that, with the extensive application of the system in existing ricefields throughout the country, the importation of rice will greatly diminish and stop in due time. This is due to the fact that, by the use of the Margate system, the yield per hectare will increase to 100 to 150 cavans of palay at a minimum cost of production.

October 10.— PRESIDENT Garcia today promised the people of Ilocandia that he would initiate the enactment of a law providing for price support for locally produced garlic if the Nacionalista administration continues in power.

In public rallies held in several towns of Ilocos Norte today, President Garcia also said he would see to it that different grades of tobacco be properly classified in order to give incentive to produce high grade tobacco. Accompanied by former Gov. Damaso Samonte, Dr. Rizal Peralta, and local officials, President Garcia spoke at rallies in Dingras, Bacarra, and tonight at Laoag. President Garcia in speeches sought to refute what he called unfair charges hurled by his critics. He belied charges that the NP administration imported 1,000 metric tons of garlic to the prejudice of Ilocano growers, saying that although the Cabinet had approved such importation, only 500 tons were actually imported out of which only 100 tons were distributed not to consumers but as seedlings. The President recalled that the garlic importation was authorized through the recommendation of the then NAMARCO Manager Dindo Gonzalez to avoid expected deficiency and price increase of the commodity. According to him, NAMARCO lost through the deal, because the importation was never sold to the public in order to protect garlic growers.

President Garcia laughed off talks spread by detractors who claimed he was running for President to advance his financial interest. He said that had he used his power for personal advantage during the 32 years he had been in public service, he would now have an hacienda bigger than Canlubang.

"My record as a public servant is clean and I intend to keep it that way," he said. "I am running because I would like to carry out the program of the NP aimed at improving the lot of the common people, especially those in rural areas."

The President slept about 2 a.m. at the puericulture center in Aparri after the rally held in the town's market place. He arrived at Aparri about midnight and found a large crowd waiting for him despite the rain.

Before boarding the plane for Laoag, President Garcia officiated at a tree planting ceremony held in front of the Aparri municipal hall. Among those who bade him goodbye at the airport were two school children who handed him an envelope containing five- and ten-centavo coins, as their contribution to the NP campaign fund. The children were Hedy Hontiveros and Estelita Adolfo, Grade VI, Punta Community School.

Landing at the Gabu airport in Laoag about 10: 00 a.m., President Garcia again was met by enthusiastic admirers who carried him and Speaker Laurel on their shoulders. The presidential plane *Dagohoy* carried only six passengers, including the President, as the Aparri airport was flooded and take off was risky. President Garcia did not want to return to Tuguegarao, more than hundred kilometers away, because it would set back his schedule by almost one day.

From the airport President Garcia proceeded to the Laoag church where he heard a *Te Deum*. Then he motored to Dingras where he had lunch at the residence of Dr. Peralta. There the President received a *Katokong*, favorite headgear of the Ilocano farmer, made of dried *upo* skin, from Aquilino Menor, barrio lieutenant of Alabaan, Dingras. Then he held a rally which lasted until five p.m.

October 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia today assured the people of Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur that if they would vote Nacionalista they would be voting for good and progressive government, citing the accomplishments of the Nacionalista administration.

The President delivered nine speeches from Batac, Ilocos Norte, to Vigan, Ilocos Sur. He reiterated that government aid would be given to the Ilocos provinces for the planting of tobacco, onion, and garlic. He spoke at the laying of the cornerstone of the Ilocos Norte School of Arts and Trades in Laoag where he was assisted by Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Mayor Vicente Hernando of San Nicolas, Ex-Gov. Damaso Samonte, and others.

Other speeches which the President delivered were in Batac and Paoay, Ilocos Norte, and Sinait, Lapog, Cabugao, Magsingal, Sto. Domingo, and Vigan in Ilocos Sur. In Cabugao the President laid the cornerstone of the new municipal building costing about ₱85,000.

The President inducted into the NP fold former Liberal leaders in Magsingal, including Ex-Mayor Policarpio Jurado, Councilor Angel Cortez, and barrio lieutenants headed by Pedro Jurado and Nemesio Cortez. The mass induction was held at the public plaza of Magsingal where a rally was held.

THE PRESIDENT left Laoag for a whistle-stop campaign through Ilocos Sur, at 9 a.m. and was met at the boundary of Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur by government officials. Large crowds attended all nine public rallies held by the President. In Vigan a huge crowd waited for the President to arrive.

In speeches at the laying of the cornerstone of the Ilocos Norte School of Arts and Trades, the President counselled young boys and girls to take up vocational education to better prepare them in the future.

The President will swing to other towns of Ilocos Sur before proceeding to La Union tomorrow.

THE PRESIDENT congratulated the first batch of farmer-trainee graduates of the Margate rice planting seminar on the occasion of their receiving their certificates this day.

The President's greetings was transmitted to the graduates by Domingo Paguirigan, Bureau of Agricultural Extension director; who rushed from Cagayan where he had met with the President. Paguirigan arrived in time to attend the graduation of the farmer-trainees which was held at the Boy Scouts headquarters at the Ealiuag Elementary School, in Baliuag, Bulacan.

In his message to the graduates the President said that he was following up with great interest the progress of their seminar held during the past four days.

The President expressed the wish that the farmers taking the course would cooperate in propagating the Margate system, because "only with the national use of superior system or method of rice culture can this nation increase its production and thereby obviate the dollar-draining importation of rice."

The training course was conducted upon instructions of President Garcia by way of implementing the Administration's program to increase rice production and make the country self-sufficient in rice.

October 12.—THE PRESIDENT was deeply touched by the colorful and enthusiastic receptions accorded him and members of his party on the resumption of his tour of Ilocos Sur today.

On hearing assurances of mayors and other local officials that he would win not only in their respective municipalities but also in the whole province, and on seeing spontaneous show of affection by the cheering throngs which received him in towns and principal barrios, the President said: "This is beyond all my expectations. I will remember this as long as I live."

The President lauded the traditional hospitality of the Ilocanos. He expressed the hope that the warmth of the receptions was an indication of the outcome of the elections in this province heretofore generally regarded as opposition bailiwick.

"I know that the Ilocanos are realistic and practical people. I know they will vote for the Nacionalista Party, which is giving them feeder roads, artesian wells, health centers, irrigation systems, and pre-fabricated school buildings."

THE PRESIDENT today delivered 14 speeches in the course of his southward motor tour of Ilocandia. Rallies were held in Bantay, Santa, Narvacan, Santa Maria, San Esteban, Santiago, Candon, Santa Lucia, Santa Cruz, and Tagudin, all of Ilocos Sur; and in Balaoan, Bacnotan, San Juan, San Fernando, and Agoo, La Union. He was accompanied in his tour of Ilocos Sur by Faustino Tobia and Dr. Godofredo Reyes, NP congressional candidates in Ilocos Sur, and former Gov. Perfecto Faypon, chairman of the NP chapter of Ilocos Sur.

The President retired at 4:30 a.m. after a huge rally on the plaza of Vigan. After a few hours of rest and breakfast at the home of Faypon, he addressed some 2,000 public and private school teachers gathered at the Colegio Imaculada Concepcion auditorium. Then he visited Mons. Santiago Sancho and Mons. Juan Sison, archbishop and auxiliary archbishop of Nueva Segovia, respectively.

Newsmen with the presidential party were accommodated at the Tanos Hotel in Vigan which donated its facilities to them during the President's stay in the town.

The President left Vigan about 10 a.m. to resume his long tour southward.

Reaching Santa about 10:30 a.m., the President heard *a Te Deum*. The presidential party included Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., vice-presidential candidate; senatorial candidates Jose Locsin, Cipriano Primicias, Eulogio Balao, and Francisco Delgado; Sens. Alejo Mabanag and Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez; and Roberto Oca, labor leader.

The most colorful reception in today's tour was in Narvacan where the President stopped at the outskirts of the town, from where he proceeded on foot at the head of a long parade, sheltered from the heat of the noonday sun by a canopy lavishly decorated with roses and borne by a bevy of town beauties in *Balintawak* dresses.

The President in his speeches expressed admiration for the courage of the Ilocanos to cross party lines and vote Nacionalista for the good of their towns. He assured them that their courage would be repaid in the form of public improvements.

The President held rallies on public plazas. When it rained, he addressed crowds in cockpits and market places.

Speaker Laurel, who meanwhile made a sidetrip to Abra to address a rally in Bangued, informed the President when he rejoined the party at Santa Maria this morning that Gov. Jose Valera and Rep. Lucas Paredes were both endorsing a straight NP ticket.

PRESIDENT Garcia wired today the following message of sympathy to Ambassador and Mrs. Carlos P. Romulo on the death in an airplane crash of their son Carlos, Jr.:

"MRS. GARCIA JOINS ME IN EXTENDING TO YOU AND MRS. ROMULO OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES ON THE TRAGIC DEATH OF JUNIOR. BELIEVE US WE WERE DEEPLY SHOCKED TO HEAR OF THE SAD NEWS. IF I THERE IS ANYTHING I CAN DO PLEASE LET ME KNOW. KINDEST REGARDS.

“PRESIDENT GARCIA”

October 13.—BAGUIO City was assured by President Garcia today that if re-elected he would continue prosecuting price support for tobacco. He also pledged to support a bill making the mayor and other officials of Baguio elective.

The President informed the crowd that he had wired the NARIC to allow the people of Mt. Province to buy rice from Baguio NARIC stores. He was informed by Baguio officials that only Baguio residents were allowed to buy NARIC rice.

Denying the claim of the opposition that the Administration was not able to keep rice prices low, the President said that the price of Macan rice has been fixed at ₱.85 a ganta and that every NARIC store in the country was selling this rice at such price. The President also promised that, if given four years more, he would continue the policy of giving protection to new industries and agricultural crops. He emphasized that the prohibition of the importation of Virginia tobacco and the ACCFA price support for locally planted Virginia leaf were the accomplishments of the Nacionalista administration.

The President said the NP administration was truly looking after the welfare of the common people. Citing the accomplishments of the NP administration in about three years against the eight-year LP regime, the President told his audience that, if they wanted progress and continuous good government, they should vote for the Nacionalista Party.

A big crowd attended the rally at Baguio's public plaza in spite of the inclement weather. Among the speakers was Manila Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, who explained why he was for President Garcia. At the same time Lacson hit the Liberals. Also on the platform was former Labor Secretary Primitivo Lovina.

The President motored to the rally held on the public plaza after hearing mass at the Baguio cathedral with his running mate, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Mayor Alfonso Tabora, Sen. Francisco Delgado, and Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon. Before hearing mass, the President met callers at the Guest House, where he arrived at three o'clock this morning from San Fernando, La Union. He ate breakfast at the Guest House.

Mayor Lacson, who was called by the President to Baguio, conferred with the Chief Executive before breakfast. After the conference, Lacson announced he would campaign actively for the President and the entire NP ticket in Negros, Panay, and the Tagalog provinces. He said his first trip would be to Negros and Panay.

Meanwhile the President denied having mentioned any particular party or group as the source of an assassination plot. He reiterated that his statement was that the plot was a desperate attempt by the opposition, if true, to stave off NP victory in the November polls.

After the rally this noon, the President rested at the Guest House for tomorrow's grueling two-day campaign in Pangasinan, where he is scheduled to speak in about 30 towns.

Otcober 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia said today that the victory of the Nacionalista Party in the November elections was inevitable.

He urged the people of Pangasinan to vote for the winning team and share in the fruits of victory in the form of continued public works improvements.

In speeches delivered in about 20 rallies in different towns and principal barrios, the President explained that about 90 per cent of senators, representatives, governors, and mayors belonged to the Nacionalista Party and were campaigning actively for its victory all over the country.

“I do not see how we can lose. So vote for the winning side,” the President said.

The President covered more than 300 kilometers by car today in his tour of Pangasinan towns. Coming from Baguio about 9 a.m., the President first spoke at Rosario, La Union, and then in Sison, Pozorrubio, Binalonan, Urdaneta, Villasis, Rosales, Balungao, Umingan, San Quintin, Tayug, Santa Maria, Sto. Tomas, Alcala, Bautista, Bayambang, Malasiqui, Sta. Barbara, Calasiao, and at some big barrios along the route.

The President in plugging for a straight Nacionalista ticket, endorsed the candidacies of local NP congressional candidates, namely: Aguedo Agbayani, for the first district; Teofilo Guadiz, second district; Cipriano Primicias, Jr., third district; Ramon Saura, fourth district; and Luciano Millan, fifth district.

Gov. Conrado F. Estrella, who accompanied President Garcia around the province, predicted that the President would win in Pangasinan with no less than 100,000 majority. He said that the people had not lost their confidence in the NP administration and that they were looking up to President Garcia to carry out the NP policy of helping the masses, particularly those in the rural areas.

Also with the party were the President's running mate, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr.; senatorial candidates Cipriano P. Primicias, Jose Locsin, Francisco Delgado, and Eulogio Balao; Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez; Gov. Arsenio Lugay and Rep. Constancio Castafieda of Tarlac; Gov. Bernardo Gapuz of La Union; and Board Members Nancy Q. Sison and Dolores Acuña of Pangasinan.

The President was warmly received in all the towns he visited. Thousands of people waited for him in towns and barrios; they lined up along the presidential route to catch a glimpse of the Chief Executive.

The President had lunch at 4 p.m. in the residence of Mayor Demetrio Belisario of Umingan. He will sleep at the provincial governor's residence in Lingayen, where the party expects to arrive not earlier than midnight.

MALACAÑANG declared today that President Garcia has always stood firm on his strong anti-Communist policy and will relentlessly pursue it without giving any quarters to the enemy.

This was the policy of the late President Magsaysay and President Garcia is implementing it as vigorously as before.

This statement was issued following Liberal Party charges that President Garcia's administration was back-tracking on the Government's anti-Communist policy. These charges were based on false assumptions by the Liberals regarding alleged release of Chinese Communists found guilty of subversive activities. The charges are absolutely fantastic and contrary to fact.

A Malacañang spokesman today released the following facts about disposition of Chinese Communists in the Philippines found guilty of subversion. These facts have been confirmed by Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Armed Forces chief of staff, and Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, NICA Chief.

The facts are as follows:

(1) Yu Dy alias Yu Lau and Dy Te alias Tea were ordered released by the Deportation Board on December 29, 1956, for insufficiency of evidence.

(2) Lao Kiat was bailed on July 27, 1955, before the promulgation of the order finding him guilty and ordering him deported. Lao jumped bail when ordered arrested to hear his sentence. He is still at large.

(3) Kao Chian was deported on July 26, 1957.

(4) Nine are still detained as of now in the Immigration Detention cell.

(5) Ninety-seven are still out on bail awaiting resumption of trial since 1954.

October 15.—THE PRESIDENT inaugurated a ₱1,200,000 irrigation system in barrio Dumoloc, Bugallon, Pangasinan, in the course of the resumption of his campaign tour of Pangasinan towns today.

In turning the valve which sent tons of water cascading for the first time down the dam into a main canal of the system, the President told hundreds of grateful farmers gathered to witness the ceremony that the project was one of the many irrigation dams being built by the Nacionalista administration during the last three and a half years, as part of a long-range program to increase production and eventually attain self-sufficiency in rice and other much needed crops.

The President said that according to foreign experts who had come to study agricultural conditions here, rice culture in the Philippines was far superior to those of many countries and that there seemed to be no reason why this country could not produce this staple commodity in sufficient quantities to fill local needs.

Designed to service some 2,500 hectares of agricultural land and benefit about 1,000 farmer families in Bugallon, the new irrigation system will bring about an increase of production in the amount of 68,500 cavans of palay with an estimated cost of ₱680,500 annually. It will eliminate entirely the recurrence of droughts which has brought misery to the farmers of the town for many years.

President Garcia retired at exactly 5 a.m. today, following a series of public rallies held in no less than 20 towns of Pangasinan yesterday up to early this morning. The President was surprised to find people waiting for him along the roads even at very late hours. He stopped in places where large congregations gathered and requested a few words from him.

After a brief rest at the *Princess Urduja* building, residence of the provincial governor in Lingayen, the President again boarded his car and resumed the stump of Pangasinan towns.

The Chief Executive heard a *Te Deum* in Lingayen. Entering the church about 9:15 a.m., he was escorted under a canopy borne by Gov. Conrado F. Estrella of Pangasinan, Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora, Judge Eloy Bello, Provincial Fiscal Bartolome Arboleda, congressional candidate Aguedo Agba-yani, Dean Porfirio V. Sison, and Benjamin Guiang.

The President addressed an impromptu youth rally at the Pangasinan School of Arts and Trades auditorium, where he said that the Administration had always been concerned with the development of the youth for better citizenry. He added that the Nacionalista Party would continue to do so if retained in power in next month's elections.

After the rally, the President started another tight schedule which again required him to be on the road until the early hours of the following morning. He held rallies in Bugallon, Labrador, Sual, Alaminos, Bani, Lingayen, Binmaley, Dagupan City, Mangaldan, San Fabian, Manaoag, and San Carlos.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Month in Review: October 16-31, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

October 16.—UPON learning of reports that Liberal Party leaders had demanded Mrs. Villamor's immediate resignation as head of the Social Welfare Administration, President Garcia today said: "I have full confidence in Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor. The demand for her resignation is motivated by political prejudice."

The LP team made this demand as it drove to Naga City on the second day of its campaign tour of the Bicol provinces.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon delivered the principal address at the Manila Hotel at a luncheon given by the Philippine Historical Association in commemoration of the Golden Anniversary of the Philippine Assembly.

The President arrived at exactly 12:30 p.m. at the Manila Hotel, where he was met by officials of the PHA headed by its president, Prof. Gabriel F. Fabella.

In the course of the after luncheon program the President was made honorary president of the PHA and was presented a plaque by Prof. Fabella. Then the President inducted the officials of the association.

Other speakers after the luncheon were Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., who spoke for his son, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., who could not attend the luncheon, and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr. Former Speaker Sergio Osmeña delivered a brief response.

Prof. Vicente Albano Pacis acted as master of ceremonies while Prof. Jorge L. Revilla made the opening remarks.

The President's speech which was delivered from 2:40 p.m. to 3:03 p.m. was well received by the audience. (See *Historical Papers and Documents*, pp. 7215-7223, for the full text of the President's speech.)

FROM the Manila Hotel, the First Lady joined the President and they together motored to the Romulo home in Forbes Park to condole with Ambassador and Mrs. Carlos P. Romulo on the death of their son, Carlos, Jr., who had been inferred earlier this morning.

The President, who returned to Malacañang this morning from a stumping tour of Northern Luzon, did not arrive on time to attend the funeral.

The President had a bedside conversation with Ambassador Romulo, who was still under sedatives. President and Mrs. Garcia were accompanied by Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

From the residence of the Romulos, the President and Mrs. Garcia proceeded to Malacañang, where the Chief Executive viewed the demonstration of the NARIC mobile corn mill which showed how corn grains were ground into "rice".

THE PRESIDENT late this afternoon administered the oath of affiliation as members of the Nacionalista Party to two prominent LP leaders from Quezon province and Manila.

Maj. Godofredo Magallanes of Quezon province and Tim Evangelista of Manila assured President Garcia after their oath-taking of their active support in the presidential campaign.

The President earlier also inducted Francisco Offemaria as acting member of the Veterans Claims Commission.

After viewing the mobile corn mill of the NARIC at the Malacañang grounds, the President went to the Palace porch to partake of a *merienda* on the occasion of the birthday of his daughter, Mrs. Linda Garcia-Campos. Present at the affairs were relatives and friends of the family.

Then the President received Gov. Alejandro Almendras of Davao and Sen. Domocao Alonto with whom he discussed political matters.

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this evening honored Ex-President and Mrs. Sergio Osmeña, Sr., with an informal dinner at the Malacañang state dining hall.

The occasion was the 50th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Assembly of which Osmeña was the first Speaker.

October 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia stated today in well attended public rallies in different towns of the home province of the late President Magsaysay that a Nacionalista landslide victory in the coming elections was inevitable.

Exuding confidence, the President said he based his prediction on the number of NP national, provincial, and municipal elective officials, saying that the NP had 90 per cent of senators, governors, and city and municipal mayors actively campaigning for NP victory all over the country. He appealed to the people to ratify their confidence in the NP, the party of the people, so that it could implement the policies and plans of the late President Magsaysay.

He said “It is my duty to bring to reality the plans of Magsaysay,” and promised to continue working for the uplift of the masses. He also summed up the accomplishments of the NP, specifically mentioning the construction of feeder roads, artesian wells, re-fabricated schoolhouses, and irrigation systems throughout the country.

In the rallies he endorsed NP official candidates, including Genaro Magsaysay, brother of the late President, for congressman in the lone district of Zambales.

The President arrived at the Iba airport at 8:40 a.m. today and was mobbed by a big crowd which included Don Exequiel and Mrs. Perfecta Magsaysay, parents of the late President, Gov. Manuel Barretto, Genaro Magsaysay, and Rep. Enrique Corpus, NP rebel candidate for congressman. From the airport the President proceeded to Iba, where, together with Don Exequiel, Doña Perfecta, and Genaro, he heard a *Te Deum* at the Catholic church.

In the rallies Genaro extolled the record of President Garcia in his 32 years of public service and assured Zambaleños that President Garcia would carry on the good work started by his late brother. Rep. Corpus, who also spoke in several rallies, said that Zambales was united with respect to the presidential and senatorial fights and would vote straight Nacionalista.

Gov. Barretto and Genaro assured the President of his overwhelming victory in this Nacionalista bailiwick. The President ate luncheon at the Governor’s residence at barrio Maloma in San Felipe and *merienda* at the Magsaysay residence in barrio Esaring, Castillejos.

The President and NP senatorial candidates Oscar Ledesma, Roseller Lim, Jose Locsin, and Arturo Tolentino spoke in rallies at Iba, Botolan, Cabangan, San Felipe, San Narciso, San Antonio, San Marcelino, Castillejos, Subic, and Olongapo, and then boarded the *RPS Sta. Maria* for Manila.

October 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed up to 2 a.m. today conferring with Zambales officials after a series of rallies in the southern towns of the province.

About 7 last evening, the President laid wreath and led a one-minute prayer at the bust of the late President Magsaysay which was enshrined School at the Castillejos Elementary in Castillejos Before the rally held in

Castillejos at 8:30 p.m., the President had dinner with Don Exequiel Magsaysay, who earlier released a signed statement endorsing the candidacy of President Garcia and the entire Nacionalista ticket.

At Subic the President officiated at a ribbon-cutting ceremony inaugurating the ₱60,000 Subic Elementary School. Then he spoke at a mammoth rally in Subic.

At all rallies the President thanked the townspeople for the warm welcome accorded him and his parity which, he said, was like welcoming a long lost brother.

At Olongapo the President headed a torch parade which started at the town's gates where the President was eagerly awaited by a mammoth crowd. The parade ended at the town plaza where a huge rally was held. Manila Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson joined the President's party at the rally and spoke, endorsing the President and the entire NP ticket.

After the rally, the President conferred with provincial officials. Then the President boarded the *RPS Sta. Maria*, feeling confident that the Nacionalista Party would win by a landslide in Zambales.

The President arrived in Manila at 9 this morning.

PRESIDENT Garcia this morning administered the oath of office to Geminiano F. Yabut as a member of the Board of Directors of the Manila Hotel Company, in the presence of GSIS General Manager Rodolfo Andal and Auditor General Pedro M. Gimenez.

The oath taking took place at the Malacañang study room right after President Garcia arrived at the Palace from the *RPS Sta. Maria*, which docked at Pier 5 from Olongapo, Zambales, at about 9 a.m.

The President boarded the *Sta. Maria* after delivering a speech at a public rally in Olongapo before a big crowd that filled the town plaza. The rally lasted up to 1 a.m.

After the oath-taking of Yabut, the President received from Gimenez the reorganization plans of the General Auditing Office under Republic Act 1890. The President promised to study the reorganization plans which will be submitted to Congress after his approval.

Gimenez informed the President that he had appeared before the Commission on Elections, which inquired how he interpreted the 45 days ban provided for by law before the elections insofar as the contingent funds are concerned.

Gimenez told the President that he had informed the Commission that after examining the intent of the law, he believes that the contingent funds, as well as the provincial and municipal funds, does not fall under the prohibition.

Japanese Vice-Prime Minister Misujiro Ishii paid a courtesy call on the President, accompanied by Ambassador Morio Yokawa, Y. Yamamoto, member of the House of Councilors, and T. Ihara, managing director of the Bank of Tokyo.

In the course of his call, the Japanese deputy premier expressed the hope that friendly relations between the Philippines and Japan will further be strengthened. He also took the opportunity to extend in the name of his government an invitation to the President to visit Japan.

Other morning callers included Sen. Quintin Paredes, Gov. Alejandro Almendras of Davao, and Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon.

At the Cabinet meeting today, President Garcia appointed the members of the Palay and Rice Board to study further price support of palay in order to give added incentives to rice producers. The creation of this board was recommended by the Aytona committee which had studied the rice problem.

The board is composed of Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, as chairman, and Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez and Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, as members. The board will soon meet to study this important phase of increasing rice production by means of giving the proper price support to palay and thus further encourage rice producers.

At the same time, the President and the Cabinet approved the importation of 20,000 tons of rice, the balance of the 100,000 tons originally approved by the late President Magsaysay and his Cabinet.

Approval of the importation of this rice was made in order to enable the NARIC to sustain its sale of enough rice at ₱.85 per ganta up to harvest time all over the Philippines.

The decision on this matter was made after NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco explained the necessity for the importation to complete the originally approved amount of rice to be imported in order to meet the country's requirements. Chioco was accompanied by NARIC General Manager Vicente Concepcion and other NARIC officials.

The President stressed to Chioco to see to it that all NARIC stores and agencies throughout the Philippines sell macan No. 2 at ₱.85 ganta. The President added that any person could compel the NARIC stores to sell this kind of rice at its pegged price. He also stressed that other government agencies like the Armed Forces and the Department of Public Works and Communications, as approved in a previous Cabinet meeting, should make available all the needed LSTs and trucks for a speedy distribution of the rice to areas of short supply.

At the Cabinet meeting Chioco informed the President that rice was being unloaded from three boats carrying 2,500; 2,400, and 5,426 tons of rice each, equivalent to a total of 200,000 cavans. He said that up to about October 22, three more shipments of rice were coming in three vessels loaded with 8,400, 2,500, and 5,000 tons each, totalling 15,900 tons or 316,200 cavans of rice. Chioco also reported that the remaining 20,000 tons to be imported, equivalent to 360,000 cavans of rice, would arrive at about the end of October.

During the discussion of the rice situation wherein the need for importing the balance of 20,000 tons was explained, Chairman Chioco pointed out that the rice shortage could have been solved earlier were it not for the fact that former ACOFA Administrator Osmundo Mondoñedo had vigorously opposed the importation of rice as approved by the late President Magsaysay and his Cabinet members.

Chioco brought copies of the minutes of the NARIC board meeting wherein Mondoñedo had said that in 1957 the FACOMAs would be able to stock around 8,000,000 cavans of palay which would be enough for stabilization purposes and that if this would not come to pass, he would resign as ACOFA administrator. Chioco said that Mondoñedo's prediction did not come to pass.

However, Chioco said, the Country did not face any corn problem. He said that the NARIC had been able to stabilize the price of corn which was being sold at from ₱.50 to ₱.55 per ganta.

During the Cabinet meeting President Garcia signed a proclamation reserving for a health center site a piece of land in San Miguel district in Manila.

It was believed that the issuance of this proclamation would contribute further in improving the health of Manila residents.

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting from 4:50 to 6:30 p.m. The Cabinet meeting was held at the Council of State room. Owing to other urgent matters which the President attended to, he requested Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason to continue presiding over the meeting after 6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia today issued the following statement on the *Newsweek* article on Speaker Laurel:

"I am not disturbed by the *Newsweek* article. Obviously, it was a planted story and it was unfortunate that *Newsweek* probably had not been able to check the facts before publishing the article.

"I am happy that Ambassador Bohlen has disowned the article and reiterated the neutrality of the United States Embassy in the present electoral fight. With the statement of Ambassador Bohlen, I consider the *Newsweek* incident closed."

October 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia and Australian Minister Richard G. Casey today renewed pledges of goodwill and close ties between the Philippines and Australia.

The occasion was the luncheon given this noon by President and Mrs. Garcia in honor of Australian Minister of State for External Affairs and Mrs. Richard G. Casey.

In his brief remarks after the luncheon President Garcia said that the Philippines and Australia were very closely linked in friendship and that Minister Casey was one of the Philippines' best friends.

He added that being allies in the free world, the two countries, as in the past, would stand together in the defense of freedom.

Minister Casey said in his response that in the face of world tension and the existence of menace to peace, he was glad to have the reassurance that Australia had a friend in the Philippines which would stand shoulder to shoulder with his country in upholding freedom and "our way of life."

The President this morning received Eric Ward, resident representative of the United Nations technical assistance board in Manila, who has been reassigned to Israel.

Ward is leaving on October 26 for his new post. During his call, he informed President Garcia that his successor, David Shaaf, had arrived this morning.

President Garcia also received Gerald Wilkinson, who reported on his observation during his trip to the United States regarding the reaction to the Administration's invitation to foreign capital. Wilkinson informed the President that U.S. capitalists were interested in investing in the Philippines. Wilkinson was accompanied by former Minister Jose Romero.

Dr. Jose R. Reyes, director of the North General Hospital and member of the technical panel of the Philippine Reparations Mission in Japan, also called and reported to the President on the work of the mission.

THE President today directed Land Tenure Administration Chairman Manuel E. Castañeda to defer action until after the elections, on the petition of some 399 out of 455 tenants of the Canlubang estate, to have the government acquire the lands where they are living.

The President learned this day that a petition had been sent by the tenants to the LTA seeking the expropriation of some 2,865.8 hectares of Yulo's estate in Canlubang, Laguna. According to Castañeda, the tenants would like to own, the lands they were occupying.

In his directive to Castañeda the President said that the LTA should not take action on the tenants' petition until after the election in November.

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this afternoon fulfilled their "long cherished wish" when they gave a get-together party for Malacañang employees and their families at the Malacañang park.

The President in his brief remarks said that he and the First Lady were very glad in meeting the Malacañang employees informally and on "equal basis."

“We should be more familiar with each other.” the President said, “because we are serving the same purpose—the welfare of our country.”

The First Lady, who also spoke briefly, said: “We should hold similar affair oftener in the future because it will afford us the chance of knowing each other better.”

The President and the First Lady were greeted with cheers and songs of *Mabuhay* upon their arrival at the Park at 5:15 p.m. Their daughter, Mrs. Linda G. Campos, joined them during the party.

October 20.—THE President today led high Filipino and American officials in a pilgrimage to the Red Beach of Palo, Leyte, to commemorate the thirteenth anniversary of the landing of American forces of liberation led by General Douglas MacArthur to redeem America’s pledge to liberate the Philippines from Japanese occupation forces.

Other high Filipino and American officials included Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr.; Ambassador Charles Bohlen; Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez; Secretaries Manuel Lim, Jesus Vargas, and Florencio Moreno; Sen. Ruperto Kangleon; Rear-Admiral Edgar Cruise, commander of the U.S. Naval Forces in the Philippines; Rear-Admiral Roger T. S. Keith, commander of the U.S. Naval Base, Subic Bay; and Major General John Ackerman, commander of the U.S. 13th Air Force.

President Garcia arrived at 10:45 a.m. at the Tacloban airport with his running mate, Speaker Laurel. The presidential party was greeted by provincial and local officials. After receiving military honors, the President proceeded to Red Beach, together with Ambassador Bohlen and Gov. Bernardo Torres, in a car followed by Speaker Laurel and a long motorcade.

At Red Beach, following the simultaneous raising of Filipino and American flags and the playing of the National anthems by a combined Philippine Air Force and U.S. 13th Air Force bands, the President laid a wreath at the foot of the monument of the Unknown American Soldier followed by Bohlen, who likewise laid a wreath at the monument of the Unknown Filipino Soldier. A minute of silent prayer was dedicated to dead Filipinos and Americans.

A commemorative program on the town plaza followed the Red Beach ceremonies. After a welcome address by Palo Mayor Elpidio Monge and an introduction by Gov. Torres, Ambassador Bohlen spoke on the significance of the day.

October 21.—IN a press conference this morning at Abuyog, Leyte, President Garcia expressed concern over the Syria-Turkey crisis.

He said he hoped that none make a mistake of creating an incident which might start another war. However, the President added that he had not issued instructions to Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano on the matter.

The President spoke at Abuyog up to past three o’clock this morning and appealed to the Abuyog people to vote straight Nacionalista. Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., his running mate, also spoke at the same rally. Both the President and the Speaker endorsed the candidacy of Rep. Daniel Z. Romualdez.

PRESIDENT Garcia slept at 5 a.m. today following huge rallies in the eastern towns of Leyte.

Owing to the demands of the people in Palo, Dulag, and Tanawan that the President speak longer, he could not follow his time schedule in his tour. Townspeople stayed until 2 a.m. waiting for the President to arrive. In Abuyog the President arrived about 3 a.m., and the people filled the public square where a rally was held. The rally climaxed the first leg of the President’s tour of Leyte.

At Baybay a big turnout headed by Mayor Paterno Tan gave the President a rousing welcome this morning. A big rally was held on the town plaza.

Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., the President's running mate, and Gov. Bernardo Torres of Leyte spoke in all the rallies. Sens. Francisco Delgado and Roseller T. Lim joined the presidential party at Abuyog.

PRESIDENT Garcia today endorsed the official NP congressional candidate, Dominador Tan, in Baybay, hometown of Rep. Domingo Veloso of Leyte's second district.

At the same time, the President appealed to thousands of Baybay residents who filled the town's Rizal plaza, including the town hall, to vote straight Nacionalista so that the Nacionalistas could continue giving more feeder roads, artesian wells, pre-fabricated schoolhouses, and rural health units to the people.

He asserted that the main concern of the Nacionalistas was to uplift the masses, especially those living in the rural areas. He reiterated his appeal to the electorate to vote for the winning party, the NP, in view of the fact that 90 per cent of the senators, representatives, governors, and city and municipal mayors who were pillars of the NP in their respective localities were working hard for the Nacionalista victory.

The President cited plans of the Administration for Leyte which include construction of five irrigation systems and roads, now suspended owing to the 45-day ban.

The President and his party left Abuyog at 9 a.m. They proceeded to Baybay, where they were welcomed by the townspeople with a parade and brass bands. After the rally the presidential party proceeded to Hilongos on its way to Maasin, one of the biggest towns in Leyte.

IN the afternoon the President fulfilled his hectic speaking engagements in southern Leyte.

A heavy downpour failed to disrupt a scheduled rally in Indang, Leyte, because townsfolk with umbrellas and banana leaves refused to disperse. They chose to brave the rain to hear the President.

At the Hilongos huge rally the President recalled his guerrilla days, saying he would never forget the loyalty of the Hilongos people during those "dark days." It was recalled that President Garcia had spent some time at Hilongos in the continuing fight for freedom, with ₱100,000 offered by the Japanese for his capture.

The rally at Hilongos was held after the President had eaten his lunch at 3 p.m. During lulls in the President's tours, he received petitions from officials of neighboring towns asking for public improvements.

The presidential party had to make whistle-stops along the route from Baybay to Maasin, where people anticipated the President's coming. Baybay and Maasin are about 100 kilometers apart. The President is expected to arrive late in the night in Maasin. Maasin welcomers are headed by Sen. Ruperto Kangleon.

In all the rallies the President stressed the urgency of voting for the entire Nacionalista Party ticket, saying that only Nacionalista officials were capable of continuing projects started by the late President Magsaysay.

October 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Manila shortly before noon today after a three-hour flight from Surigao, where he took off after a two-day political campaign in Leyte and Surigao.

Upon his return to Manila, President Garcia expressed optimism he and all the Nacionalista Party candidates will win in Leyte by landslide majorities.

The President closed his stump of Leyte with a huge political rally in Maasin, a coastal town in the south-western part of the province.

He stayed clear of a conflict in that town between Rep. Francisco Pajao and Nicanor Yñiguez, both NP aspirants for Congress.

The President, in addressing the large crowd at the Maasin town plaza, recounted Visayan ballads. Mrs. Salvacion Oppus Yñiguez enlivened the rally with Visayan songs.

After conferring with Leyte political leaders until 3 a.m. in Maasin, the President boarded the yacht *Santa Maria*, and steamed towards Surigao.

President Garcia accompanied by Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., his running mate, and Sen. Francisco Delgado, one of the NP senatorial candidates, arrived at Surigao at 8 a.m.

The *Santa Maria* was met by a sizable crowd. However, President Garcia did not stay long in Surigao, but boarded a car and proceeded to the airport where his plane *Dagohoy* waited to take him and the members of his party to Manila.

Upon his arrival to Malacañang, the President retired to his bedroom for a rest.

However, Malacañang officials headed by acting Press Secretary G. V. Sison and Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, saw the Chief Executive and conferred with him.

IN the evening, the President inducted Gil Garcia as chairman of the Cebu Fire Victims Commission, recently created by Congress to administer the P5 million fire aid fund appropriated by the lawmaking body in its last session.

Malacañang said the new chairman comes from Cebu and is not related to the President.

The President also received delegations from Bulacan and Manila, the former headed by Sen. Francisco Delgado, and the latter, by former Democratic Party leader Demetrio Amurao.

The delegations, Malacañang said, pledged their support to the President and Speaker Laurel in the coming elections.

PRESIDENT Garcia today issued Proclamation No. 454, declaring Friday, November 1, 1957, as a special public holiday.

The President said in his proclamation that the people should be given full opportunity to pay homage to the dead on All Saints' Day, which is one of the country's cherished traditions.

The President added that "in keeping with that tradition, the people should be given full opportunity to observe the day with all its religious fervor."

October 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today led the nation in celebrating the centenary of the birth of Juan Luna by delivering a speech on the painter-patriot's works and achievements in ceremonies held in Badoc, Ilocos Norte, the hero's birthplace.

The President flew from Manila to deliver the speech and lay the cornerstone for the reconstruction of the Luna house in Badoc.

The Air Force's *Dagohoy* bearing the President touched down at the Gabbu airport in Laoag at 10:30 a.m. today. President Garcia was met by a huge crowd led by Ilocos Norte acting Gov. Constante Fariñas and former Gov. Antonio Raquiza.

From the airport the President rode some 40 kilometers to Badoc at the head of a long motorcade which passed by cheering crowds.

Upon arriving there, the President proceeded to the ruins of the Luna house, where he laid the cornerstone' in the presence of Sen. Quintin Paredes, chairman of the Luna Centennial Commission, and Mrs. Grace San Pedro de Luna, wife of a son of the patriot.

President Garcia then proceeded to makeshift grandstand in front of the Luna monument on the town plaza and delivered the main address in the centenary celebration.

In his speech the President hailed Badoc for producing Luna, who, he said, "ranks among the world's immortals in the realm of the art."

Sen. Paredes injected politics in the celebration by urging the crowd to vote for President Garcia and other Nacionalista candidates in the November elections.

Paredes said he intended to run for the presidency but withdrew in favor of President Garcia, whom he found to have "the welfare of North Luzon at heart."

The President took advantage of his second visit in two weeks to the Ilocos region by holding political rallies in Pinili, Ilocos Norte; Lapug, Ilocos Sur; and Bangued, Abra.

He planned to spend the night in Vigan, Ilocos Sur, and enplane tomorrow morning for Manila.

October 24.—THE President called upon all freedom-loving countries of the world to present a solid front so that the United Nations would continue to gain strength and vigor to meet the challenge of the times.

The President reviewed the solid accomplishments of the United Nations in his speech at the Luneta rites that climaxed the United Nations Week Rally for Peace.

The President pointed out the challenge posed by the sensational developments in nuclear science and rocketry to the future of the human race, developments which brought into the hands of man "power for infinite good or unlimited evil" and holding out, for him either a promise of a more abundant life or the peril of total annihilation.

Members of the Cabinet, local diplomatic corps, high ranking government officials, civic-minded citizens, and about five thousand students gathered on the Luneta for the rites.

Dr. Manuel V. Gallego, president of the United Nations Association of the Philippines, which sponsored the celebration of the 1957 United Nations Week, introduced President Garcia.

Other features of the UN Flag ceremony and Rally for Peace at the Luneta were the raising of the U.N. flag; raising of the flags of the UN member nations by diplomatic and consular corps, government officials, and civic leaders; *Song of the Free* sung by the Secondary Schools Music Teachers' Chorus of the Division of City Schools of Manila; and the release of doves of peace to the tune of *Mabuhay* played by the Constabulary band.

THIS noon President Garcia honored Arthur Hays Sulzberger, publisher of the *New York Times*, with a luncheon at Malacañang Palace.

The Sulzberger are guests of President Garcia at the Manila Hotel.

After the luncheon, the President gave brief remarks in which he welcomed Sulzberger and his party to the Philippines. The President said that Mr. Sulzberger was deeply interested in the progress and economic well-being of the country.

In a brief response Sulzberger thanked the President for the hospitality accorded him and his party. He said that he had found great satisfaction in the fact that the Philippines was working hand in hand with the United States in the preservation of peace and freedom.

Those who attended the luncheon were local publishers and chiefs of news bureaus and the U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines.

IN the evening the President told a large group of Boholanos that if elected this November “aside from serving the country the best I can, I will do everything to continue keeping my record of 32 years of public service clean.”

The President made this statement at the Malacañang social hall, where Boholanos living in Luzon gathered to reiterate their support to President Garcia’s election bid.

Present during the affair were ranking government officials from Bohol, including Economic Coordination Administrator Juan Concon, Bohol Gov. Juan Pajo, Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang, Ex-Sen. Olegario Clarin, former Education Secretary Cecilio Putong, Ex-Bohol Govs. Conrado Marapao and Agustin Casiñas, Tomas Cloma, and Tomas Toledo, president of the Bohol Association.

Juana Hontacan, a 43-year old paralytic woman, inched her way from the crowd and told the President that she had been campaigning in all parts of Bohol for the President.

Ex-Gov. Marapao, who spoke before the President, assured his listeners that Bohol would solidly support the President, her “favorite son.” He denied reports that President Garcia would lose in Tagbilaran, the capital of the province.

The First Lady, who arrived late owing to a previous engagement at Parañaque, was cheered upon her arrival.

October 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia hit the Liberal Party standard bearer as a symbol of the perpetuation of the tenancy system when he announced in Cabanatuan City the government expropriation of three haciendas for distribution to the landless in Nueva Ecija.

The documents selling to the government haciendas Halili, Lichauco, and Del Rosario were signed at the Cabanatuan rally where Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez also spoke and asked the people to vote straight Nacionalista for the continuation of the progress being enjoyed by the people.

In a speech at the first rally in San Jose, the President said the LP presidential candidate would not be able to implement the land-for-the-land less program because he is the biggest *hacendero* in the country. He said the Nacionalista Party was against the tenancy system, citing several landed estates already expropriated by the Administration and subdivided among the landless at 5 hectares for each family.

At the same time the President blamed LP senatorial aspirant Osmundo Mondoñedo for the high prices of rice. The President said Mondoñedo opposed the importation of rice when he was ACOFA chairman, claiming that the FACOMAs would be able to produce eight million cavanes. The President remarked that the FACOMAs were not able to produce that amount and the importation was delayed because of Mondoñedo’s opposition.

Answering a placard proclaiming “high rice prices,” the President announced the arrival of two shipments of imported rice and one more coming. He said all imported rice would be distributed to the people at low NARIC prices, and he ordered Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano to use AFP soldiers and facilities to help in the distribution.

There would have been enough rice and prices would have been low if it were not for Mondoñedo's opposition, the President said.

In his speeches the President requested the people to entrust the reins of government in worthy hands on November 12. "When you go to the polls, remember that you can now live and farm in peace because of the Nacionalista administration," he said.

After citing the accomplishments of the Nacionalista Party, the President charged that the Liberal Party failed to win the faith and confidence of the masses because of the wanton disregard by LP leaders of the welfare of the people. He said that during eight years of LP regime, the voice of the common people were not heard.

The President arrived in San Jose at 12 noon, after a three-and-a-half trip from Manila. The delay in his arrival was caused by several stops on the way when he was mobbed by crowds in Baliuag, Bulacan, at the Bulacan-Nueva Ecija boundary, in barrio Bulualto, San Miguel, Bulacan; and in San Leonardo and Gapan, Nueva Ecija.

Numerous people stopped the presidential car several times. Even women planting rice stopped from their chores and flagged down the President's car. The President alighted from the car and shook hands with the women rice planters.

At the Bulacan-Nueva Ecija boundary the President was met by Nueva Ecija officials led by Gov. Amalo Aleta, Rep. Celestino Juan, former Gov. Juan Chioco, and other officials. From the boundary, the President motored direct to San Jose, where he ate his lunch after the rally and rested at the house of J. Sobrepeña, a lawyer.

The President arrived at Cabanatuan about 6 p.m. and heard a *Te Deum* at the church before proceeding to the rally at the provincial plaza.

October 26.—THE PRESIDENT today received Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, who presented to him letters from His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, acknowledging the letters of credence presented by Jose Ma. Delgado, Philippine ambassador of the Vatican. The acknowledgement also included the letter of recall of the former envoy to the Vatican, Manuel Moran.

The Pope in another letter extended his blessings to the Filipino people.

The President was given a routine physical and medical checkup this morning by one of his physicians, Dr. Antonio Guytingco. After the check-up which included an electrocardiography, the President's physician pronounced the Chief Executive physically fit, saying that the President's heart and blood pressure were normal.

At noon the President received Rodolfo Cardoso, Filipino junior chess champion, accompanied by his coach-manager, Florencio Campomanes, and Jose Pascual, national chess champion in 1955. Cardoso presented to the President the Norman Vincent Brilliancy Chess Trophy, which Cardoso had won during the recent World Junior Chess Championship contest in Toronto, Canada.

The President congratulated Cardoso for his chess exploits, especially for his having been nominated as International Chess Master. The President said he would display the trophy in his library in Malacañang.

The President also received Sen. Quintin Paredes with whom he discussed the improving political situation in the North in favor of the President and the entire Nacionalista ticket.

At 3 p.m. the President, accompanied by Education Secretary Manuel Lim, motored to the Nichols Air Base where he took off for the Basa Air Base in Pampanga.

IN the afternoon President Garcia issued the following statement:

“I am reiterating my pledge to the people of the Philippines that this Administration will see to it that we shall conduct the cleanest, freest, and most orderly elections on November 12, 1957.”

“All government agencies concerned with the conduct of the elections have been alerted and are on the job to carry out this policy of the Administration. With the cooperation of an alert citizenry, I am sure that we will succeed in our objective.”

“In this connection, I am again extending my invitation to the press of the free world to come to the Philippines as observers and see for themselves how our democratic elections will be held.”

“I am extending this invitation particularly to the press of our Southeast Asian neighbors, Japan, India, Nationalist China, South Korea, South Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaya, Singapore, Hongkong, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Pakistan, Ceylon, and Burma to come and be with us in the Philippines during the period of our national elections.”

PRESIDENT Garcia today reiterated his pledge to the people of the Philippines that the Administration would see to it that “we shall conduct the cleanest, the freest, and the most orderly elections on November 12, 1957.”

In public rallies held in various towns of Pampanga this evening the President said:

“All government agencies concerned with the conduct of the elections have been alerted and are on the job to carry out this policy of the Administration. With the cooperation of an alert citizenry, I am positive that we will surely succeed in our objective.”

The President extended again his invitation to the press of the free world to come to the Philippines as observers and see for themselves how “our democratic elections will be held.” He extended his invitation particularly to the press of “our Southeast Asian neighbors.”

“I hope my invitation will be honored,” the President said.

President Garcia landed at the Basa Air Base in Floridablanca at 3:45 p.m., aboard the PAF plane *Dagohoy*. A 21-gun salute boomed as the President went down the plane’s ramp amidst the cheers of his welcomers composed of delegations from various towns of Pampanga headed by Gov. Rafael Lazatin.

Among the welcomers were officers of the Confederation of Central Luzon Veterans currently holding their seventh annual conference in San Fernando, Pampanga. Headed by Lt. Col. Jorge Fajardo, the group presented the President with a plaque in gratitude to the Chief Executive’s solicitude for the welfare of the Filipino veterans.

After thanking his welcomers and acknowledging the ruffles and flourishes offered by an honor guard formed by the Air Force units, President Garcia motored to Guagua, San Fernando, and Angeles, where he addressed big public rallies.

The President in his speeches summarized the achievements of the Nacionalista Party and reiterated his confidence in its victory in the coming elections in view of its splendid record of service to the people.

While the President was speaking in Guagua, a plane with a Yulo-Macapagal neon sign swooped several times over the huge crowd gathered at the plaza. The President was enthusiastically cheered when he paused in his speech and pointing at the low-flying plane said, “That is democracy in action, my friends.” The crowd expressed admiration over the sportsmanship displayed by President Garcia, but at the third swoop of the plane the crowd became indignant and showed disgust. Guagua is known as Macapagal’s bailiwick.

The President was accompanied during his tour by Gov. Lazatin and other officials of the province. With the party was Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez.

After the rally in Angeles, the President motored back to Manila.

October 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia made quick political sorties today in Manila and the suburbs after a grueling week of campaigning in Central and Northern Luzon provinces. He intensified his “Operation Homestretch,” as election day was virtually two weeks away.

He has just returned this morning from an unpleasant campaign in hostile grounds in Pampanga, known bailiwick of Rep. Diosdado Macapagal, LP vice-presidential candidate.

Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson, one of the President’s speakers, was booed for five minutes as he attacked Macapagal’s alleged ineptitude in Congress. Drowned out by the listeners’ boos, Quimson pleaded with the crowd, “I can’t stop you from booing me but please allow me to proceed.”

The President was also harassed by two L-5 planes carrying the Yulo-Macapagal neon signs as they swooped low over his meetings.

However, he took the gesture calmly and said: “This is democracy in action, my friends.”

Although he slept late, President Garcia woke up early and received Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, who reported on the political situation in Negros Occidental.

Lacson returned Saturday from a four-day political campaign in Negros Occidental, home province of former Speaker Jose Yulo, Liberal Party presidential standard-bearer.

It was learned that Lacson gave the President encouraging reports on his chances in Negros Occidental on November 12.

The President also received a large group of tenants from the Canlubang Sugar Estate who protested his action in tabling their petition for the expropriation of the hacienda of Yulo in Calamba, Laguna.

The President assured the tenants he would order the acquisition of the Canlubang Estate after the November 12 elections either through negotiated sale or expropriation.

HE motored in the afternoon to Pandacan, where he campaigned at Project 5 of the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation. He later went to Project 6 in Quezon City.

From the government projects, President Garcia returned to Malacañang and proceeded to the Independence Memorial Grandstand on the Luneta, where he heard a low mass following the procession of the Blessed Sacrament, which climaxed the celebration of the Feast of Christ the King.

From the Luneta, the President continued his campaign in Caloocan, and San Juan, Rizal, and then to Cubao, Quezon City.

From Cubao, the President motored to Pier 5 where he boarded the yacht *Santa Maria* for Nasugbu, Batangas.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the Land Tenure Administration to continue with its fact-finding work regarding the petition of 399 out of 455 tenants of the Canlubang Estate that the lands they are tilling be acquired by the government.

The President pledged that after the elections he would order the LTA to acquire the lands in question either by negotiation or by expropriation. He assured the tenants that they would get justice from the Administration.

The President made these statements in the presence of LTA Chairman Manuel Castañeda, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, and hundreds of tenants from the Canlubang estate who assembled at the Malacañang social hall to petition the President to help them acquire the lands they are tilling.

The area of the land petitioned for acquisition is 2,865.8 hectares. Last October 19, when the President first learned of the petition of the tenants, he directed Chairman Castañeda to defer action until after the elections in order to avoid interpreting government action on the matter as an act of persecuting the owner of the Canlubang estate.

The President said it was necessary first for the LTA to gather pertinent facts about the petition, especially with regard to the fair appraisal of the value of the land in question. He added that this fact-finding period would afford Mr. Yulo enough time to decide as to whether he was agreeable to a negotiated sale of the property.

The President said, "If Mr. Yulo really loves you as his tenants, he will agree to a negotiated sale, otherwise the government will take action to expropriate the property."

He added: "I hope that Mr. Yulo is sincere in his feelings towards his tenants as announced in the papers. Let us see him show those sentiments in deeds."

Servillano Jarumayan, spokesman of the tenants who came to Malacañang, said that the tenants who signed the petition were not squatters, many of them being sons of the original tenants who had been tilling the lands a since 60 years ago.

He said that at first the tenants were allowed to plant crops and vegetables between the rows of coconut trees in the estate, but now they were ordered to stop this practice because coffee and other crops were ordered planted. He said that as a result of this order, the tenants had no more means of livelihood and that they might suffer from starvation.

One of the many placards displayed by the tenants said "*Kami'y mga Magsasaka sa Canlubang. Iligtas Ninyo Kami sa Gutom.*"

Jarumayan said that at first the Canlubang tenants who petitioned the LTA had thought that their petition would be immediately acted upon with a thorough investigation of the petition. However, he said that on October 19 the investigation was stopped on orders of the President, who told Castañeda to defer action until, after the elections. He added that if Mr. Yulo wanted to implement the late President Magsaysay's land reform program, he should start it with his Canlubang estate.

The Canlubang tenants' spokesman stressed that their petition to have the lands acquired by the government was not politically inspired. Another placard borne by the tenants said that there was no politics involved in the tenants' movement.

Juramayan said that former Calamba Mayor Taciano Rizal was just helping the tenants in their legitimate rights to petition the government to improve their living conditions.

Later, Taciano Rizal, who was with the tenants' group, was introduced to President Garcia.

Jarumayan urged the President that LTA continue with its investigation of the petition of the Canlubang tenants.

After listening to Chairman Castañeda explain the steps he had taken after receipt of the petition of the tenants. President Garcia told the big delegation:

(1) "I assure, all of you and all our people that the late President Magsaysay's policy of giving lands to the landless and homes to the homeless is being implemented by me relentlessly and vigorously." and

(2) “I appeal to you not to commit any violence or take any untoward action during the pendency of your petition to have the government acquire the lands you are tilling.”

The President explained that after the petition of the tenants had been formally presented to the LTA, steps were taken by the LTA in writing the provincial appraisal committee of Laguna to appraise the estate; another letter was sent to the tenants through Lucio Gomez requesting them to maintain the *status quo*; and still another letter was sent to Mr. Yulo appraising him of the petition received by the LTA.

In view of the personal representations made by the tenants that the LTA continue with its investigation of their petition, the President directed Chairman Castañeda to continue with his fact-finding work and assured the petitioners that after November 12 a final decision would be made on their petition, depending on Mr. Yulo's position on the matter.

The tenants' spokesman explained to the President that the tenants had experienced great difficulty in coming to Malacañang to present their petition. He said that it took them one-half day to come down from the hills to get to the bus line, and that their leaving Canlubang for Malacañang was at the risk of their not being able to go back to their farms. Some of them came bare-footed, some in slippers, and some in wooden clogs.

The President assured the tenants that not one of them could be sent out of the lands they were occupying pending the disposition of their petition.

The tenants thanked the President for assuring them that they would be given justice. They applauded him several times, especially when he reiterated that he was vigorously implementing RM's policy of giving lands to the landless and! homes to the homeless.

October 28.—IN the name of the government, President Garcia took possession today of Haciendas Calatagan and Bigaa after handing over checks and negotiable land certificates totalling ₱904,167.54 to Enrique Zobel, one of the co-owners of the haciendas in simple ceremony at the Nasugbu wharf.

The two haciendas have a total area of 2,026,129 hectares, and their acquisition will benefit 574 tenants, according to Manuel Castañeda, chairman of the Land Tenure Administration, who was present at the wharf ceremony.

From Nasugbu, the President proceeded to Balayan.

The President and his party were welcomed here by a big and enthusiastic crowd led by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Acting Gov. Francisco Perez, Rep. Apolinario Apacible, and Mayor Pedro Rinoza. President Garcia arrived in Nasugbu this morning aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria*.

PRESIDENT Garcia stated in two rallies in Batangas that the Nacionalista Party had the right “to continue enjoying the confidence of the people so that it can fully implement the program of good government left unfinished by the late President Magsaysay.”

The Nacionalista Party should continue in power, the President said, because of its solid achievements during the last three and a half years, citing the rapid rate of construction of roads, artesian wells, irrigation systems, and pre-fabricated school buildings throughout the country, and the enlargement of rural health units.

He also cited as the most solid achievement of the Nacionalista Party the restoration of peace and order all over the Philippines and the restoration of the people's faith and confidence in the government.

At the same time, President Garcia indicted the Liberal Party for its impotence to stop the Huk rebellion. In presenting the case of the NP before the people of Batangas, President Garcia asked for a continuation of confidence in the NP which the Batangueños supported in previous elections.

Before the members of the Batangas Lawyers Association this noon, President Garcia drew rounds of applause when, in paying tribute to the illustrious legal luminaries of Batangas, he mentioned the name of Recto.

The President spoke at rallies in Balayan and Batangas. Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., in both rallies, explained why he could not support Recto. He said that Recto was running for President after being defeated in the Nacionalista Party convention. The Speaker regretted Recto's choosing as his running mate Sen. Lorenzo Tañada, who would only "reduce my Tagalog votes." He said Recto could not win, adding that the fight was between the Nacionalista Party and the Liberal Party.

Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto Serrano also spoke in both rallies and explained why he was supporting President Garcia and not Recto.

In this noon's banquet of the Lawyers' Association, President Garcia waxed eloquent on the solid accomplishments of the NP. He spoke for two hours and was well applauded by the local barristers.

During the banquet, President Garcia acted on the request of Severe Cantos, an employee of the Batangas Electric and Waterworks Company, owned by the municipal government of Batangas, Batangas, for compensation due to loss of sight in an accident.

The President directed the municipal council of Batangas, to expedite payment of compensation amounting to ₱4,605. The President also promised the release of ₱30,000 after the elections for the repair of the Batangas High School.

Major Godofredo Magallanes of PQOG, under General Vicente Umali, presented the President with a resolution assuring 100 per cent support of some 1,200 members in Batangas and Laguna. The resolution was presented on the arrival of the President in Batangas, Batangas, this afternoon.

October 29.— PRESIDENT Garcia today pledged to carry on with the creation and expansion of dollar-producing and dollar-saving industries as a means of achieving the economic stability of the nation.

In brief remarks delivered at the Philippine Coconut Administration Industrial Research Station in Alaminos, Laguna, shortly before noon today, the President said he would pursue vigorously the industrial program of the Nacionalista administration, should the people again express their confidence in him at next month's polls.

The President dropped in this morning at the PHILCOA pilot plant on the second day of his three-day stump of the Tagalog provinces. One of several plants established by the Administration to increase the income of farmers in the coconut region, the Alaminos plant opened its doors to the public on its third anniversary.

The President took time out from his tight campaign schedule and spent about 30 minutes watching test operations on greater utilization of coconut by-products, such as shell and husks, as one of the goals of the government's industrialization program.

He was particularly impressed with the demonstration on processing which turned fiber from the lowly coconut husk into colorful rugs, carpets, and mats. He was shown around the plant by Benjamin Salvosa, manager.

The President left Tanauan, Batangas, about 9 a.m. today, after an overnight stay at the country home of Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., his vice-presidential running mate. Motoring across the boundary to Laguna province, the President spoke some 45 minutes later in public rallies held in no less than 18 Laguna towns, most of which were unscheduled.

During the tour which again made him stay up to the early hours of the following morning, the President inaugurated a number of hospitals, puericulture centers, municipal buildings, public markets, and other public improvements constructed under the present Administration.

The President was enthusiastically received in all the towns of the province. Besides the usual garlands of flowers presented by local beauties, the presidential party was also greeted with numerous *kaings* of lanzones now abundant in the region. Rep. Wenceslao Rancap Lagumbay saw to it that every car in the long motorcade was provided with at least one *kaing* of lanzones.

In his speeches the President expressed gratitude for the spontaneous show of affection by the hospitable people of Laguna. He kept drumming up support for the entire NP ticket by citing the achievements of the Administration.

At San Pablo City tonight, the President was presented with a resolution by Gen. Vicente Umali, who pledged 100 per cent support of some 12,000 recognized members of his organization in Laguna, Quezon, and Batangas provinces. Similar resolutions were also presented by other delegations, including that led by Major Godofredo Magallanes, who headed a large delegation of political leaders of Alaminos.

The President today penetrated deep into interior towns, reaching as far as Majayjay on the slope of Mt. Banahaw, once a Huk stronghold. The townspeople, most of whom were seeing a president of the Philippines for the first time, turned out *en masse* and gave him a rousing welcome.

Among the other towns visited were Lilio, Magdalena, Pagsanjan, Sta. Cruz, Pila, Bay, Los Baños, Calamba, Cabuyao, Sta. Rosa, Biñan, and San Pedro.

THE PRESIDENT this evening awarded special presidential citations to the LVN Pictures, Inc., for its film, *Badjao*, which had won no less than four coveted awards in the fourth Film Festival of Southeast Asia held in Tokyo, Japan, in May this year.

The awards were presented by Mrs. Linda Garcia-Campos, the President's daughter, on behalf of her father, who could not personally be present at the LVN studios, on the occasion of Doña Sisang's birthday celebration tonight.

One special presidential citation was awarded the LVN Pictures, Inc., in recognition of its distinguished service to the nation. The award was given in line with the Administration's policy of giving the utmost encouragement to the Philippine film industry in its efforts toward greater expansion and development "not only in order to enhance the national economy but also to promote the best possible relations with our fellow Asians and the rest of humanity."

The award was presented to Dona Narcisa Vda. Leon herself. Other awards were presented to Laimberto V. Avellana, director of LVN pictures, Inc., for best direction; Rolf Bayer, for the best scenario; Miguel Accion, for best photography (black and white); and Gregorio Carballo, for best editing.

The citation to LVN said that the *Badjao* won no less than four coveted awards. It added that in the previous year's festival held in Hongkong, the LVN had also gained renown for the Philippine movie industry when the film, *Anak Dalita*, won the best picture award, the highest recognition for eminence in motion picture technique and art conferred by the Federation of Motion Pictures in Southeast Asia.

These outstanding achievements, the citation said, in free and open competition among all movie producers in Southeast Asia, had earned additional recognition for Filipino artistic and technical skill. This meritorious participation of the LVN in the Fourth Film Festival brought glory to the Philippines in the international field of motion pictures, the citation concluded.

October 30.— PRESIDENT Garcia today placed emphasis on the improvement of rural health in his speeches in Bulacan as he appealed to the voters to elect a straight, Nacionalista ticket for a vigorous continuation of the program of the late President Magsaysay.

The President said that the NP administration introduced rural health units which are now serving all the barrios of the country with more doctors, nurses, mid wives, and medicine.

In a speech in San Miguel, the President promised that he would order: (1) the subdivision of the 2,000 hectares of land in barrio Sibul for distribution to the landless; (2) the completion of the San Miguel irrigation system; and (3) the opening of the dikes of the San Miguel River leading to Candaba in order to prevent palay in San Miguel and San Ildefonso from being flooded.

Enumerating the numerous measures initiated by the NP administration for the benefit of the rural areas, the President said that it was only during this administration that much was done for the common people.

The President mentioned the granting of loans to small farmers, the construction of irrigation systems and artesian wells, and the completion of more feeder roads among the accomplishments of the NP administration for the rural areas.

The President received resounding “yes” from the people when he asked them if they wanted a continuation of the late President Magsaysay’s program. Only the Nacionalista Party could continue the program, the President said.

Big crowds attended the rallies and people cheered the President as he cited the accomplishments of the NP administration.

The President delivered great portions of his speeches in Bulacan in Tagalog. He delivered speeches in San Miguel, Baliwag, and Calumpit. He is scheduled to speak at the rallies in Malolos and Hagonoy. He is expected to return to Manila early in the morning tomorrow.

Before proceeding to San Miguel, the President inaugurated the Filipino Bakers Association building in Grace Park Caloocan, Rizal. He arrived in San Miguel at past 3 p.m. With him were Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., his running mate, the senatorial candidates, Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, and other officials.

The presidential party was met by Bulacan officials headed by Gov. Alejo Santos and Rep. Rogaciano Mercado.

October 31.— PRESIDENT Garcia today received political leaders of Negros Occidental who pledged to work for the victory of the Nacionalista Party ticket. They were headed by former LP Sen. Enrique Magalona.

The President thanked the Negros Occidental leaders for their support and said that if elected, he would not fail the trust and confidence that they placed in him.

Another LP leader who pledged his support to President Garcia was Servando Belmonte, LP campaign manager in the first district of Albay. Belmonte said that he would work for the election of the President in the province of Albay.

The President today received encouraging reports on the political situation in the so-called solid North from members of the task force under Sen. Quintin Paredes.

The spokesman of the group, former Rep. Domingo Siazon of Cagayan, in the name of Sen. Paredes assured President Garcia that in Cagayan, Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya, Abra, Ilocos Norte, Mountain Province, Batanes, as well as in Pangasinan, Nueva Eeija, and Tarlac the Chief Executive and the rest of the NP national ticket were going to win.

Siazon further assured President Garcia that the President was going to put up a good fight in the provinces of Ilocos Sur and La Union.

Former Judge Vicente Jimenez Yanzon, LP congressional candidate in the second district of Negros Occidental, formally switched to the Nacionalista Party at a conference with the President in Malacañang this morning.

Benjamin Ligot, NP official candidate for Congress in the second district of Cagayan, also saw the President to assure him that the NP ticket would win in Cagayan by a landslide.

Another caller was Mayor Hilario de Pedro of Koronadal, Cotabato, who informed the President about the political situation in his province.

President Garcia also received Mohammad Hatta, resigned vice-president of Indonesia, who paid a courtesy call following his arrival recently.

In greeting the former Indonesian Vice-President, the Chief Executive said that he was happy over Hatta's visit because it further strengthened the friendship between the Philippines and Indonesia.

After the exchange of pleasantries, the President presented Mr. Hatta with a Philippine-made *kamagong* cane.

Hatta was accompanied to Malacañang by Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Pamantjak.

At the Cabinet meeting today President Garcia announced that he would sign the executive order implementing the recommendations of the WAPCO regarding the adjustments of salaries of government employees Thursday, November 7, 1957.

Acting Budget Commission Faustino Sy-Changco said the sum of about P10,200,000 which was appropriated by Congress was ready for the implementation of these salary adjustments as provided for in the WAPCO recommendations.

WAPCO statistics show that the total number of positions classified is 209,320 and the number of employees to receive salary adjustments is estimated at 113,820.

Sy-Changco said that the starting salaries for some of the common positions in the government as classified by the WAPCO follow:

Position	Present Monthly Rate	Wapco Rate
Clerks	₱120	₱150
Nurses	140	191
Dentists	200	259
Physicians	200	301
Stenographers	120	165
Teachers (BSE)	165	212
Lawyers	150	259
Associate Engineers	215	286
Engineers (Journeyman)	260	332
Directors	600,700	736

Commissioner Sy-Changco, however, said that only one-third of the actual difference from the present salary of employees to be reclassified and the initial WAPCO rate would be paid this year because only about ₱10,200,000 has been appropriated for the purpose. Later adjustments will be made.

The Cabinet approved the release of ₱752,666 as aid to provincial, municipal, and/or city governments. This amount will be used to effect the salary adjustments or increases for teachers and other personnel in the public high schools being maintained and operated by such government branches, as well as of teachers and other school personnel in the public intermediate schools being maintained by city governments.

These adjustments or increases in salaries cover the period from July 1, 1957, to June 30, 1958.

The release of the amount had been promised by the President some weeks ago upon representations made by teachers.

Also approved was the release of ₱33,900 to be used for adjustments of the salaries of division superintendents of schools, chiefs of divisions, and superintendents in the general office. These disbursements were authorized under the provisions of Republic Act 842 and had been previously authorized by the late President Magsaysay.

The Cabinet also approved the release of ₱140,790 as salary differentials for public school teachers for the period July 1, 1955, to June 30, 1956. Appropriation for this amount was authorized under Republic Act 1230.

The Cabinet also approved applications for copra barter by the Mindanao Coconut Planters Federation, Inc., in the amount of 20,000 tons and the small Coconut Producers Union, Inc., in the amount of 25,000 tons.

These two companies were allowed to export their copra on barter basis from the uncovered balance of around 64,000 tons not yet used by the Philippine Coconut Producers Federation.

The Cabinet decided that these two companies could barter their copra not in excess of the stipulated amounts and for a period not to go beyond May 9, 1958.

These two companies requested the Cabinet barter permits for copra out of the 80,590 tons allocated the Philippine Coconut Producers Federation. It was understood at the time of the approval of the request of the PCPF that *bona fide* coconut producers would also be allowed the same privilege.

Out of the said 80,590 tons allocation to the PCPF, the federation has exported only 16,000 tons, leaving a balance of some 64,000 tons.

These two companies are composed of small coconut producers like the PCPF.

The Cabinet approved this export of copra for barter in order to give additional incentives to small *bona fide* Filipino coconut producers, upon the recommendation of Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez and Undersecretary Perfecto E. Laguio.

President Garcia took time out during the Cabinet meeting when informed by Labor Secretary Angel Castaño that the striking employees of the National Development Company wanted very much to see the President and ask his help.

The President left the Cabinet meeting and met with the officials of the NDC union headed by their lawyer, Eulogio Lerum. The meeting was held at the former Cabinet room.

After hearing the explanation of Lerum as to the wishes of the striking NDC union members, the President authorized Secretary Castaño to sit down with the NDC board of directors this afternoon, together with representatives of the union, in order that they could start a negotiation in seeking a solution to the strike.

The strike is now under consideration by the courts.

In the course of the meeting of the President with the NDC union members, the President made preliminary suggestions which might lead to the solution of the strike.

With regard, for instance, to the demands of the strikers that NDC employees who have served three years be allowed to enjoy the benefits of permanent employees, including Christmas bonuses, the President remarked that this might be agreed upon.

However, the President said that with regard to the petition for a general increase in salary, the financial operations of the company as of the end of the present year should first be examined to determine if the granting of salary increases was warranted.

The President said that he authorized Secretary Castaño to sit down with the NDC board of directors and leaders of the striking employees in order that all avenues which might lead to the solution of the employees' demands could be explored.

The employees told the President that they were very grateful for his taking a hand in helping seek ways and means of arriving at a happy solution to the strike.

UPON the recommendation of Education Secretary Manuel Lim, the President and the Cabinet authorized the sending of school principals, supervisors, and superintendents to the College of Education of the University of the Philippines for special training under the Cooperative Leadership Training Program of the U.P. subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That the personnel to be sent to this training shall not exceed 10 every year;
- (b) That no one shall be allowed to spend more than one school year in training;
- (c) That they shall not incur any expense for this purpose except their regular salaries while training;
- (d) That their positions shall not be filled during their absence from their respective stations; and
- (e) That they shall sign contracts to serve continuously for two years after their training.

Secretary Lim said that under this program the trainees will be enabled to enhance their competence as educational leaders in their respective communities. The training will lay emphasis on such areas of study as will qualify the enrollees to direct the work of their schools toward meeting effectively Philippine social economic conditions.

Lim added that this program was inspired by the desire to make the Philippine school system truly Filipino in its philosophy, goals, and methodology.

The applicants will be screened carefully by the director of public schools and his staff. Only those who possess the capacity to undergo training on the graduate level and who possess qualities of leadership will be selected. They will be given free tuition by the U.P.

This scheme is similar to the study grants under the NEC-ICA arrangements. The Cooperative Leadership Training program of the U.P. has the distinct advantage of training school men under Philippine setting and specifically for the local school system.

UPON recommendation of Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, the Cabinet approved the holding of the ministerial meeting of the SEATO in Manila in March, 1958.

Serrano said this meeting was important because of the desire to strengthen the links of world defenses in this area.

The Cabinet approved Philippine participation in the Third Session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development scheduled in Calcuta, India, from November 4 to 23, 1957, and the designation of Luis Santos Iñigo, project coordinator of the Bureau of Mines, as the Philippine delegate to said conference.

The holding of this Conference is necessary to gain first hand knowledge of the economic plans to be discussed by representatives of countries within the ECAFE region which would be invaluable in the implementation of the country's program, of mineral development and industrialization. The conference will also help the country advantageously in its commercial dealings with Southeast Asian neighbors, particularly regarding mutual profit in minerals and mineral fuels.

The Cabinet authorized the inclusion of Dr. Conrado R. Pascual, officer in charge of the Institute of Nutrition among the associates and advisers of the Philippine delegation to the 27th Session of the FAO Council and 9th Session of the FAO Conference to be held in Rome, Italy, from October 31 to November 23, 1957.

The Cabinet approved the participation of the Philippines in the Asian Seminar on Vocational Guidance, including employment counselling sponsored by the ILO to be held in New Delhi, India, from November 27 to December 21, 1957, and the designation of Mrs. Cecilia Barniso and Perfect Cabut, both from the Office of Manpower Services under the Department of Labor, as Philippine delegates.

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting from 11:45 a.m. to 2:35 p.m.

THE President this day directed NARIC General Manager Vicente Concepcion to place essential NARIC personnel on 24-hour duty in order to facilitate the stabilization of the price of rice.

Concepcion was also directed by the President to rush shipments of rice to Iloilo, Cebu, Aklan, and other places in need of rice in order to bring down prices of the cereal there. He told Concepcion to utilize ships of the Philippine Navy and trucks of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, aside from other means of transportation, to transport rice throughout the country.

The President gave his directives to Concepcion in the wake of reports that speculators were reaping huge profits in places where the rice crop was not yet being harvested.

The President moreover directed RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez to make final arrangements in implementing the new plan of helping local producers and new I (industries secure their supplies of raw materials and capital goods from the United States on a deferred payment plan.

Chairman Romualdez briefed President Garcia on the progress of negotiations being undertaken in the United States by Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno in connection with procuring requirements of local producers for raw materials and capital goods.

According to Romualdez, arrangements were being made in the United States by Gov. Cuaderno to the end that local producers and new industrialists would receive an uninterrupted supply of their raw materials and capital goods by means of deferred payment to the sources of such goods.

It was pointed out by Romualdez that under this new arrangement the drain on the country's dollar reserves would be minimized while at the same time the growth of local industries would continue unimpeded.

Romualdez said that requirements of local producers and new industrialists for this purpose amount to some \$50 million a year. Under the plan being worked out in the United States, the dollar payment for these requirements may be staggered or deferred.

Romualdez also informed the President that some investment houses in New York were willing to buy dollar bonds to be issued by the Philippine Government, under proper legislation. He added that inasmuch as the present laws

provided that only bonds in pesos were permitted, there was need for passing a law to authorize the issuance of bonds in dollars if this would meet with the approval of government officials concerned.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: November 1-15, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

November 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia today led the nation in the observance of All Saints' Day by paying homage to the departed presidents of the country.

Accompanied by members of his Cabinet, President Garcia laid wreaths at the tombs of the late President Ramon Magsaysay, Manuel Roxas, and Manuel L. Quezon at the North Cemetery, and at the tomb of the late President Elpidio Quirino in Makati, Rizal.

Earlier in the morning, the President heard mass at the Malacañang chapel with the members of his family.

After mass, the President together with members of the Cabinet, motored to the North Cemetery, where the President laid floral offerings. After dropping in at the cemetery in Makati, the President proceeded to Nichols airbase, where he was joined by the First Lady and their daughter Linda and her husband Fernando Campos.

The President's family boarded the PAF plane *Dagohoy* and took off at 10:20 a.m., arriving at the Tagbilaran airport at 12:45 p.m.

At 3:15 p.m. the President and his party took off by plane from Tagbilaran and landed at Ubay town 3:35 p.m. From Ubay they motored to the President's hometown of Talibon, where the Chief Executive visited the cemetery and laid wreaths at the tombs of his late parents, Policronio and Ambrosia.

November 2.—MALACAÑANG released this day the following report of Philippine Constabulary of Bohol on the Panglao shooting:

About 3:45 p.m., November 1, 1957, at Mohon, Panglao, Bohol, Lucio Dolojol, NP follower, while attending an LP rally conducted by ex-Rep. Luis Clarin was allegedly stabbed at the back by Bulawin and Salinas, LP followers.

When Sgt. Iluminado Pinggol of the 50th PC Company, non-commissioned officer in charge of the police force of Panglao, rushed to the scene of the crime to arrest perpetrator Angel Cimafranca, an LP follower intervened and tried to puzzle the peace officer in identifying the suspect. By coincidence, ex-Mayor Regino Sarahina with a number of followers arrived, saw the incident, and dared the LP followers and ex-Rep. Clarin. Hence, shooting ensued.

Eye witnesses testified that Patrolman Aurelio Estomata of the Panglao police force fired his service pistol towards Sarahina, and when Sarahina retaliated with his own pistol, Chief of Police Baldomero Mijares of Panglao immediately shot Sarahina.

After the incident, the following persons were victims:

LP side (dead): Angel Cimafranca, a lawyer, Luis Sanilas, Mariano Cimene, and Andres Bulawin. LP side (seriously wounded): Andres Pabalan and Camilo Cimafranca *alias* Boy.

NP Side (dead): Ex-Mayor Regino Sarahina. NP Side (seriously wounded): Lucio Dolojol.

Victims who were seriously wounded were rushed to the provincial hospital. Immediate arrest was effected on Chief of Police Mijares and Patrolman Estomata. The entire police force of Panglao was disarmed and temporarily placed under the Philippine Constabulary.

The motive of the incident was established as a heated political altercation about the last election. President Garcia ordered a full dress investigation of the incident.

Brig. Gen. Cornelio Bondad with special investigating team, flew to Bohol early this morning. The PC unit at Bohol was strengthened to help maintain peace and order.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon confirmed that he had directed the Constabulary to place the towns of Panglao and Dauis under PC control as a result of the shooting affray between the followers of former Rep. Luis Clarin, a Liberal, and former Panglao Mayor Regina Sarahina, a Nacionalista, yesterday afternoon in barrio Mohon, Panglao, Bohol.

At the same time, the President declared that he had directed the PC to conduct a thorough investigation and to prosecute the guilty parties, irrespective of party affiliations. The President said, "Let the chips fall where they may."

The President sent money to the families of the deceased for burial expenses. He expressed surprise why local LPs refused his offer to airlift the wounded Liberals.

The President believes the shooting was caused by bad blood between "goons" of Clarin, official LP candidate for Congress, and Sarahina followers.

Lt. Col. Jose Alejandro, PC provincial commander, informed the President that the incident started when Lucio Dolojol, a Sarahina follower, was allegedly stabbed in the back at the LP rally by Andres Pabalan, a Clarin rabid follower. A PC sergeant who is the authorized Electoral Commission representative in Panglao tried to arrest Pabalan but Angel Cimafranca, nephew of Luis Clarin, intervened. At this time, Sarahina and his followers who had seen the President off at Tagbilaran airport arrived at the scene. Sarahina berated the intervention of Cimafranca and an exchange of hot words followed.

Panglao Policeman Aurelio Estomata allegedly fired at Sarahina and missed. Sarahina fired back but also missed and was shot down by Police Chief Baldomero Mijares. Both factions deployed and a free-for-all shooting started. When the smoke of battle cleared, only the dead and the wounded were left on the scene.

Police Chief Mijares and Policeman Escomata were arrested and are now under investigation at the PC headquarters. Col. Alejandro said that both would be charged, together with Pabalan, before the courts on Monday.

The President heard mass this morning at the Talibon Catholic church. Afterwards he was guest of Rev. Fr. G. S. Semprun, parish priest, at breakfast. After the breakfast, the President, the First Lady, and their daughter Linda and her husband Fernando Campos proceeded to the Catholic cemetery to visit the tombs of the parents of the President. Then they proceeded to Carmen, where the President spoke at a huge rally appealing for a solid support for the NP ticket. At the same rally, former Liberal Rep. Simeon Toribio, appealed to his fellow townsmen to forget party lines and support President Garcia.

UPON instructions of President Garcia, an indigent patient was flown recently to the United States for major plastic surgery operations which cannot be performed locally.

The patient, Miss Nicolasa Gayoso, 21, is suffering from extensive keloids (scars due to burns) all over her body which she acquired when her house burned during the Liberation.

The President's order was given following the intercession of Social Welfare Administration authorities who informed the Chief Executive that initial surgery had already been performed last month on Miss Gayoso by the famed plastic surgery specialist, Dr. Genia Sakin, who had given her services free of charge.

SWA authorities said that Dr. Sakin had promised to shoulder hospitalization and treatment expenses of Miss Gayoso in the United States. The patient will still undergo seven major plastic surgery operations.

November 3.—THE President was accorded a royal welcome on his arrival in Cebu this morning on the second leg of his current six-day campaign tour of the Visayan provinces.

Accompanied by the First Lady and children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, the President landed at Cebu City amid wild cheers of a mammoth throng which jam-packed the city wharf at 9:30 a.m. today. Half an hour from port, the RPS *Sta. Maria* bearing the presidential party was met by a fleet of gaily decorated motorboats of various sizes which served as platforms for brass bands and launching sites for fireworks. As the yacht cruised into the port escorted by motorboats, half-dozen light civilian planes took turns in swooping low and showering the yacht with flowers, varicolored strips of papers, and confetti.

From the wharf the President headed a long motorcade to the city cathedral, where a Te Deum was sung by Mons. Julio Rosales, archbishop of Cebu. Then the President proceeded to the residence of former President Sergio Osmeña on Jones Avenue and paid his respects to the Grand Old Man.”

After a brief visit at the Archbishop’s Palace, the President, at 10:30 a.m., started a tour of the northern towns of the province, terminating at 7:00 p.m. in Bogo which is more than 100 kilometers from the city. He addressed public rallies in Danao, Catmon, Sogod, Logo, Ilihan, and Bogo. He ate lunch at 2:30 p.m. in Borbon, a sitio about half way between Cebu City and Bogo.

The President found a large crowd in this town despite a heavy downpour. With him in the tour is his running mate, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., accompanied by Gov. Jose Briones, Reps. Miguel Cuenca and Ramon Durano, and Board Member Celestino Paulin. The President is expected to return to Cebu City tonight for the last rally of the day. He will spend the night at former President Osmeña’s residence.

November 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent the day, his 61st birthday, in Cebu City. He began the day by hearing mass at the Cebu cathedral, together with the First Lady and his daughter Linda and her husband Fernando’ Campos.

On the occasion of his birthday, the President received felicitations from heads of state of various countries, from government officials, and from people from all walks of life all over the country. Messages of goodwill came from farmers and teachers in the rural areas, which the President treasures very much.

After hearing mass with his family at the Cebu Cathedral, the President had breakfast at Don Gil Garcia’s residence in Cebu City.

The Chief Executive spent his birthday practically on the road. After the breakfast, he motored to the southern sector of Cebu province going as far as Argao, Carcar, and Barili. The presidential party ate lunch at Bolocboloc rest house in Barili.

IN the afternoon the President motored to Aloguinsan, Panamungahan, and Toledo and then returned to Cebu City.

IN the evening the President was the guest of honor at a dinner at the Club Filipino given by 14 civic organizations of Cebu.

Afterwards, the President left by boat for Opon, where a rally was held. At midnight the President left aboard the *Sta Maria* for San Carlos.

THE President was wildly acclaimed as he stumped the southern towns of Cebu on his natal day and expressed confidence that the NP ticket would sweep Cebu province.

Everywhere they went, people lined the roads and shouted “*Mabuhí* Garcia.” In several towns, bands played and people sang “Happy Birthday.”

President Garcia appealed to the Cebuanos to support the NP founded by their favorite son, former President Osmeña. The people responded enthusiastically. In his stumping tour the President was accompanied by Gov. Jose Briones. Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., the President’s running mate, and Eulogio Balao, senatorial candidate, were with the presidential party and spoke at rallies. Both were enthusiastically cheered by the people. At Carcar the President went to the Catholic church to offer flowers at the altar of the Sacred Heart of Mary, accompanied by the people and students of St. Theresa’s College.

At barrio Tinaan, Naga, President Garcia called for the widow and relatives of Teodoro Bacor, who had died two days ago when he fell from the roof of the stage of the cement floor because he touched a live wire while fixing lighting fixtures. Porfirio Bacor, brother of Teodorico, appeared at the rally and received the condolence of the President, who also gave him financial aid for the burial expenses.

PRESIDENT Garcia’s issued the following message on the occasion of his 61st birthday today:

“I am deeply moved and humbly grateful for the many messages of felicitations sent to me by people from all walks of life all over the country on the occasion of my birthday anniversary. I am especially touched by the hundreds of messages of goodwill from farmers and teachers in our rural areas.

“On this significant milestone of my life, coming as it does on the eve of our national elections, I ask just one gift from you, my people—that you help all government, civic, and religious organizations to make the election on November 12, the freest, the cleanest, and the most orderly election ever held in our country.

“God bless you all.”

The President pardoned 51 convicts and commuted the sentences of, two others upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

The pardons were granted on the occasion of the President’s 61st birthday.

November 5.— PRESIDENT Garcia boarded the *Sta. Maria* before 4 o’clock this morning after speaking at a rally in Opon, hometown of Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia. The President rested the whole morning.

At a popular banquet given by 18 civic organizations at the Club Filipino in Cebu City, people stayed up to 1:30 a.m. to hear the President speak. The President said the way the people of Cebu received him gave him more vigor to carry on the fight until the victory of the Nacionalista Party is achieved. The President spoke in the Cebuano dialect as requested by the people present at the banquet.

He took the opportunity to thank the following civic organizations: Rotary, Lions, Jaycees, *Tocayos de Rizal*, Cebu Press and Radio Association, Lawyers’ League, Medical Association, Knights of Columbus, Association of Engineers and Architects, Catholic Women’s League, Daughters of Isabela, Cebu Women’s Club, YLAC Women’s Auxiliary of Cebu, *Katubusan sa mga Mamomoo*, International Women’s League, and Pan Pacific and Southeast Asia Women’s Association of the Philippines.

At the rally in Opon after the popular banquet in Cebu City, the President received a resolution from the Labor and Tenants Organization for Good Government endorsing his candidacy. The resolution was presented by Ildefonso Remolona, executive vice-president of the organization. In acknowledging the resolution with gratitude, the President stated that he will always look after the interest and welfare of labor and tenants.

PRESIDENT Garcia arrived at San Carlos, Negros Occidental, at 3 p.m. and proceeded to the church for a *Te Deum*. From the church, the President motored to Calatrava town for a rally. After the Calatrava rally the President went back to San Carlos for another meeting.

San Carlos and Calatrava are both bailiwicks of Sen. Jose C. Locsin, who is with the presidential party. The two towns have a big Cebuano population and are expected to give the President majority votes.

November 6.— PRESIDENT Garcia this morning was represented by the First Lady and Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano at the breakfast given by the Chief Executive in Malacañang for James A. Linen and Frederick Gilbert, publisher and general manager of *Time* magazine, respectively, and Mr. and Mrs. Juan Trippe of the Pan American World Airways.

Present at the breakfast were Cabinet members, local publishers, and airline executives.

THE President said today that the Western Visayan provinces might yet swing to the Nacionalista Party in next week's elections.

Impressed by the enthusiastic receptions accorded him in his tour of the region in the last two days, the President said it was likely the people there would vote for him and the rest of the members of the NP ticket in this year's polls.

Despite the inclement weather, the Ilongos turned out by the thousands in all towns the President visited today. People from all walks of life lined the streets along the presidential route, many of whom had only newspapers or banana leaves protecting their heads from a constant drizzle.

Touched by their eagerness to see him, the President said, "If we win here, it would leave the opposition with no region where they could expect any majority vote in their favor."

Sharing the President's optimism over the results of the election in this locality, political leaders here explained that in Iloilo, for instance, 39 out of 42 mayors are Nacionalistas, four out of five congressmen are Nacionalistas, the governor is a Nacionalista, the city mayor is a Nacionalista, and Sen. Fernando Lopez is a Nacionalista. "How could the majority party lose here?" they asked.

The President landed at the Iloilo city wharf about 9 a.m. today from the RPS *Sta. Maria*, following an overnight voyage from San Carlos, Negros Occidental. He was immediately mobbed by the enthusiastic throng of welcomers which went out of control as soon as the President got down the gangplank at the city wharf.

About half an hour earlier, the presidential yacht was met by a fleet of fishing sailboats and motorboats which escorted the ship to the wharf. Heading a large crowd at the wharf were Sen. Lopez, Gov. Mariano Peñaflorida, City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon, Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrido, and other officials of Iloilo and nearby provinces. The local military unit boomed a 21-gun salute as the President, accompanied by Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., his running mate, went down the gangplank.

After acknowledging the cheers of his welcomers, the President headed a long motorcade to the cathedral where a *Te Deum* was sung. Then he started a tour of Iloilo towns during which he covered the third and the fourth congressional districts of the province. He also inaugurated the city's newly constructed ₱1 million super-highway. Among the towns where the President held rallies were Sta. Barbara, Cabatuan, Janiway, Fototan, and Barotac Viejo.

The last rally was held this evening in Iloilo City. Accompanying the President in the tour were Sen. Lopez, Gov. Peñaflorida, senatorial candidates Roseller T. Lim, Arturo M. Tolentino, Oscar Ledesma, Francisco Delgado, and Jose Locsin. During his tour in the third district, the President was invariably introduced by Domitilo Abordo, NP standard bearer.

The presidential party ate lunch at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Mariano Tiongco in Janiuary. They were house guests of Sen. Lopez in Iloilo City.

TITLES to two big haciendas will be turned over to the government within this week, Malacañang announced today.

The vast Yutivo estate situated at Caguray, San Jose, Mindoro Occidental, containing an area of 2,936.8 hectares, will be turned over tomorrow at ceremonies in San Jose, Mindoro Occidental. The Hacienda Felicidad Intal situated at Baggao, Cagayan, with an area of 1,017 hectares, will be delivered on Saturday morning at Baggao, Cagayan.

Malacañang said the acquisition of these estates was in pursuance of the vigorous implementation of the land reform program begun by the late President Magsaysay and continued by President Garcia.

The Yutivo estate is owned by Yu Khe Thai, until recently a Chinese national, while the Hacienda Feicidad Intal is owned by the estate of the late Jose V. Bagjtas. More than 700 landless farmers will be benefited by the acquisition off the Yutivo property while around 300 tenants will be given farm lands in Hacienda Felicidad Intal.

Commissioner Julian U. de Vera, member of the Land Tenure Administration, in charge of operations, will represent the President in the turnover ceremonies in both estates. The tenants in Mindoro will be represented by Urbano Olivares and those in Cagayan will be represented by the Federation of Free Farmers.

November 7.—THIS morning the President spoke at the University of the Philippines Little Theater before faculty members and students in a convocation sponsored by the U.P. Writers' Club. The President motored to UP immediately after he landed at the Nichols Airbase from Iloilo. He arrived at the University of the Philippines past 11 a.m. (See *Historical Papers and Documents*, pp. 7658-7635, for the full text of the President's speech.) ‘

PRESIDENT Garcia after delivering his major speech on the Administration's economic policies at the U.P. theater in Diliman Q.C., motored to a Quezon City restaurant where he gave a luncheon in honor of the members of the U.P. Writers' Club, headed by their president, Perfecto Fernandez.

In brief extemporaneous remarks after the luncheon, the President counselled the U.P. writers to write always the truth “so that your works will shine through the ages.”:

The President added, “Stick to the truth even in adversity because it is during this circumstance that you can be inspired most.”

Those present at the presidential table with President Garcia were Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Acting U.P. President Enrique; T. Virata, Dean Tomas Fonacier, Dr. Antonio Isidro, Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto, U.P. Writers' Club President Perfecto Fernandez, U.P. Writers' Club Vice-President Benito Lim, and Jose Campos, Jr. j

Before the luncheon, the President received Liberal Party Mayor Faustino V. Marcelo of Sta. Cruz, Laguna, who took his oath of affiliation to the Nacionalista Party before him Marcelo was accompanied by Laguna Gov. Dominador Chipeco, Rep. Weneeslao R. Lagumbay, and several barrio lieutenants Ox Sta. Cruz who also took their oath as NP members.

The President also administered the oath of affiliation to Virgilio Felix, PPP congressional candidate, of the first district of Tarlac.

After the luncheon, the President was interviewed over the television by Wade Bingham and Peter Calischer of the Columbia Broadcasting System. The television interview took place in one of the halls of the D & E restaurant.

From the restaurant, the j President motored back to Malacañang.

THIS afternoon the President signed the executive order implementing the recommendations of the WAPCO regarding the adjustments of salaries of government employees and said that salary differentials resulting from the implementation would be paid starting tomorrow.

The President signed the executive order before a large delegation of the Philippine Government Employees' Association. The government employees from the various office marched to Malacañang to witness the signing of the executive order.

In presenting the executive order for the President's signature, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona said that the implementation of the WAPCO plan was "the greatest act of justice ever done to government employees."

The sum of ₱10,200,000 which was appropriated by Congress was ready for the implementation of the salary adjustments. A total of 209,320 positions were classified by the WAPCO and the number of employees to receive salary readjustments was estimated at 113,820.

According to Commissioner Aytona, the ₱10,200,000 represents 30 per cent of all salary readjustments required during the first year of implementation. He assured government (employees that the remaining 70 per cent of funds needed for full implementation will be provided in the next two fiscal years.

Commissioner Aytona further declared when he presented the executive order for the President's signature that under the new system "no longer will government employees need *padrinos* to obtain promotions because the WAPCO plans provide for automatic salary increases as long as efficiency is up to standard."

The President was presented with a testimonial plaque by the PGEA for his exemplary government service devoted to the upliftment of government employees. The plaque was handed by Gregorio Limjuco, PGEA president, who also delivered a short speech.

The President made a brief speech in accepting the plaque and said that he would continue looking after the welfare of the people and the government employees, in particular.

Present at the signing of the executive order were Senator Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, and officials of the PGEA.

AFTER the signing of the executive order which was held at the Malacañang compound, the President motored to the University of the East, where he addressed a huge student convocation (See Historical *Papers* pp. 7665-7677 of speech).

Arriving at the UE about 6:30 p.m., the President was met by university officials headed by Francisco Dalupan, UE president. The President spoke at the UE quadrangle after he had received his guard of honor composed of the university's model company. With the Chief Executive were Labor Secretary Castaño and other government officials.

After his UE speech, the President went to the National Civil Defense Administration office on the Luneta where he broadcast a speech over the NCDA's radio station.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon underscored the importance of the nation-wide National Civil Defense Administration radio network in a speech broadcast over the NCDA's 1,000 receiving sets installed at public plazas all over the country.

The President was invited to broadcast his speech over the NCDA network by NCDA Chief Alfredo Eugenio. Underscoring the importance of the radio network, the President said that it could serve as a guide to safety in war and in peace.

The Chief Executive said that the NCDA radio could forewarn the people of impending typhoons, earthquakes, and other calamities. He said it could indirectly stand as a single formidable preventive to the spread of communism in our country.

He also cited the fact that the control of epidemics through mass education could conveniently be handled through the medium of the NCDA radio. He further said that the fight against communism would be won successfully through the continuous dissemination of wholesome and truthful information over the radio.

Taking opportunity of the occasion to report to the people, the President remarked that among the accomplishment of the Nacionalista administration were the establishment of peace and order, the restoration of faith and confidence of the people in the government, and the busting of the Politburo and the communist plot to overthrow the government.

November 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia today was advised by his physicians to rest for a few days because of bad throat.

The doctors' advice was given to the President after physicians of the V. Luna General Hospital and the President's personal physicians had examined the President's throat at the V. Luna General Hospital.

As a result of his physicians' advice, the President had to cancel all his engagements. The President was scheduled to enplane for Aklan and Capiz tomorrow morning but owing to the advice of his physicians, he had to forego the trip.

The President did not receive callers this morning. After breakfast, he had a huddle with his assistants and then motored to the V. Luna General Hospital. He was accompanied by his physicians, Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan, Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, and Lt. Melchor Fronda, naval aide.

After the check-up at the hospital, the President went to a hide-out where he was advised to rest by his physicians.

THE President today directed Commissioner of Customs Fleuterio Capapas to see to it that all films in connection with the election coverage being sent out by foreign correspondents be free from all restrictions and duties. The President said that these films should be attended to by airport officials with dispatch.

President Garcia a few days ago issued an invitation to correspondents of the free world, especially those from Southeast Asia, to act as observers in connection with the President's determination to hold clean free and honest elections.

In response to the President's invitation, several foreign correspondents have already arrived to cover the elections.

In order to insure expeditious dispatch of these films about election activities, the President directed that no restriction be made on the sending out of these films.

THE purchase of three lots by the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation for subdivision and homesite purposes was approved by the Cabinet this day. The three lots are:

(1) 752.490 hectares of Hacienda Sapang Palay in Sta. Maria, Norsagaray, and San Jose del Monte, Bulacan, worth ₱3,574,327.50;

(2) 3,919,804 square meters in Montalban, Rizal, worth ₱1,959,902; and

(3) 1,630,553 square meters in Sitio Mohabang Parang, San Roque Angona, Rizal.

The lots will be paid from the Joan now being negotiated by the PHHC with the GSIS. The Cabinet approved the purchase of the lots as recommended by the PHHC board of directors in three resolutions.

The outright sale of the lots and houses in Project 7 to the actual occupants was also discussed at the Cabinet meeting. The Cabinet said that it was sympathetic with the petition of the occupants for outright ownership of their lots and houses through sale. It was pointed out however, that the Cabinet was waiting for comments from the chairman and general manager of the PHHC and the Office of Economic Coordination before any action could be taken on the petition of the Project 7 occupants.

A committee to determine: the sufficiency of local materials for the manufacture of jute sacks was created by the Cabinet following a request filed by the NAMARCO general manager for the temporary lifting of the existing ban against the importation of Hessian cloth needed for the manufacture of jute sacks which are essential to the sugar, ripe, and copra industries.

The committee, Composed of Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona chairman, and National Economic Council Chairman Eduardo Romualdez and OEC Chief Juan Concon, members, was directed to report on its findings at the next meeting of the Cabinet.

Also approved by the Cabinet was the sending of Philippine delegations to the Ninth Pacific Science Congress to be held in Bangkok from November 18 to December 9, 1957, and to the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration-sponsored Seminar on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders to be held in Tokyo from November 25 to December 7, 1957.

The 14-man Philippine delegation to the Ninth Pacific Science Congress with Dr. Antonio G. Sison as the head, is composed of Dr. Patrocinio Valenzuela, Dr. Joaquin Marañon, Dr. Amando Clemente, Dr. Alfredo C. Santos Dr. Cecilio Lopez, Prof. H. O. Beyer, Dr. Hilario Lara, Prof. Arturo Alcaraz, Dr. Valente Villegas, Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez, Dr. Jose Vera Santos Dr Sofia Bona de Santos, and Dr. J. J Dizon.

The Philippine participation to the Seminar on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders is composed of Dr. Jorge Bocobo, Assistant Prisons Director Eriberto Misa, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, and Major Tepdulo Natividad.

The Cabinet meeting was presided over by Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason in the absence of President Garcia, who went to the V. Luna General Hospital for a check-up his throat.

November 9.— STILL suffering from throat ailment, the President hied off this morning to a “hideout” somewhere in Fort McKinley and spent ”the day conferring with his political lieutenants and confidantes.

He cancelled a: flying trip to Mambajao Island upon the advice of his physicians who told him to rest until Monday in order to be able to address a *miting de avance* on Plaza Miranda.

In his “hideout” the President received reports on the arrival of rice shipments imported, to supplement the present supply of the Naric.

He immediately called up Vicente Concepcion, Naric manager, and ordered him to speed up the distribution of the cereal.

While the President was in his “hideout”, a large crowd gathered in Malacañang until late in the evening.

Malacañang said the people who trooped to the Palace in the evening were victims of Liberal Party propagandists who posed as NP men and urged them to ask for money and tickets from Malacañang so that they could go to the province and vote.

President Garcia returned to Malacañang late in the evening.

November 10.—THE PRESIDENT spent a quiet day continuing his rest as advised by his physicians. As a result of the rest, his throat has improved, his physician said.

The President's voice has so improved that he will be in condition to address a mammoth Nacionalista rally Monday evening on Plaza Miranda.

President Garcia continued his rest at his hide-out near Manila. He heard mass this morning and afterwards retired to his room. He went over state papers during the day.

The President did not receive any callers except Mrs. Garcia and daughter Linda and other immediate members of his family who visited him in the evening.

Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison also called on the President in the evening. During the call the Chief Executive issued a statement lauding the statements of Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi and Bishop Mariano Madriaga.

THE President praised the Catholic hierarchy for denouncing attempts to create a false impression that the Catholic Church was endorsing the candidacy of Jose Yulo.

The President lauded the action taken by Apostolic Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi and Bishop Mariano Madriaga of the Lingayen-Dagupan diocese in repudiating the claims in leaflets being circulated which called the attention of all Catholic voters that the Catholic Church wanted Yulo to be president.

He said that the statements of Vagnozzi and Madriaga would go a long way in helping keep the elections free, honest, and clean.

The Chief Executive said that he was glad that the Catholic Church officials had made the necessary announcement in setting right the position of the Catholic Church relative to the November 12 elections.

He expressed the hope that, with the highest officials of the Catholic Church of the Philippines having categorically declared that the Church was not backing any candidate or party, voters would be guided accordingly.

November 11.—DESPITE a continuous light drizzle brought in by typhoon, President Garcia motored to Plaza Miranda this evening to make a final appeal to the city voters.

Earlier in the afternoon, he stayed at his "hideout" and conferred with his political advisers.

The President was reported to have been toying with his plan of flying tomorrow for Tagbilaran, Bohol, where he will cast his vote. He will fly with the First Lady, who will vote in Talibon, the President's hometown.

The President, however, stayed in the Palace this afternoon. He conferred with Malacañang officials and discussed some pending state papers awaiting his decision.

Dr. Antonio Guytingco said today that the President's throat ailment has improved considerably. He said that he was in condition to address the *miting de avance* this evening.

Commenting on the typhoon which hit some sections of the country this day, the President said the storm would not adversely affect the elections tomorrow. He observed, however, that the typhoon and the continuous drizzle may discourage some of the people who had earlier planned to hear him at the political rally on Plaza Miranda.

Before leaving for his “hideout” shortly before nightfall this afternoon, the President received Acting Press Secretary G. V. Sison and answered some questions submitted to him by newsmen.

THE following is a set of Questions asked of President Garcia by Malacañang reporters, together with the President’s answers to the questions:

(1) QUESTION: Mr. President, how do you feel on the eve of the elections? ANSWER: I am highly optimistic.

(2) QUESTION: Mr. President, do you have any comment to make on the latest LP advertisement that Catholic prelates are backing Mr. Yulo for President, adding that the LP’s previous claim is true, has been verified, and has not been denied?

ANSWER: The Papal Nuncio, Monsignor Egidio Vagnozzi, who is the highest representative of the Pope in this country, has denied emphatically that the Catholic hierarchy is taking sides in these elections. The Papal Nuncio unmistakably declared the absolute neutrality of the Catholic Church in these elections. If this is not a denial of the Liberal Party’s fantastic claim, then the meaning of English words has been twisted by the Liberals to suit their own purpose.

Moreover, the *Sentinel* which is the authorized organ of the Catholic hierarchy in its editorial Tuesday (Nov. 12), says in part the following:

“To claim, as this leaflet does, that ‘The Church would want Yulo to be the next President to safeguard our Holy Mother Church, is too presumptuous for any lay man to make.

“It is certainly false to say that 95% of all the Catholic priests in the entire Philippines are for Mr. Yulo.”

If the above quoted editorial is not a denial of the LP claims, then there must be something fundamentally wrong with the LP mentality.

(3) QUESTION: Mr. President, what will you stress at the *miting de avance* tonight?

ANSWER: I will make a last appeal to the Filipino people in behalf of the Nacionalista party, and incidentally will call the attention of the nation to the iniquitous falsehoods of the LP propaganda, especially that referring to the LP claim that the Catholic hierarchy was allegedly backing Mr. Yulo.

I shall sum up the achievements of the NP administration as the basis for my plea to the people to continue the NP in power in order to bring to completion the late President Magsaysay’s Five-Year Fiscal plan. In summing up the achievements, I shall make special reference to the administration’s rural development program and the amelioration of the lot of the laborers, veterans, teachers, employees, farmers, and small businessmen.

I shall also mention the economic advancement the country has achieved during the past four years.

(4) QUESTION: Mr. President, what do you think will be the effect of the typhoon on the elections tomorrow?

ANSWER: According to the latest Weather Bureau reports, the typhoon is moving away and is expected not to affect the holding of the elections tomorrow.

(5) QUESTION: Mr. President, how do you assess now the chances of all the Nacionalista Party candidates, which include Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., and the senatorial candidates?

ANSWER: My personal estimate is that I shall get a majority of between 700,000 to 1,000,000 votes over the second best presidential candidate.

In this eventuality, the vice-presidential candidate, Laurel, and all the NP senatorial candidates will win.

THE following as President Garcia's message on the occasion of Election Day tomorrow.

"The holding of our national elections this year is another test of the capacity of our people to continue exercising our democratic prerogatives.

"We are steeped in the ways of democracy and freedom. Now we should show by our deeds that we have matured as a democratic and free people.

"I have taken the necessary measures to insure the holding of free, clean, and honest elections. I will see to it that these directives are fully implemented.

"My countrymen: I appeal to all of you to go to the polls and vote, and to cooperate in attaining our common objective of holding free, clean, and honest elections. With God's help and our people's wisdom, we shall hold the most democratic elections."

November 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today cancelled his plans of flying to Tagbilaran, Bohol, where he and the First Lady were scheduled to cast flash votes.

Despite his failure to fly home and vote, President Garcia beamed with optimism that he would win the elections saying that the inclement weather brought about by typhoon *Kit* would increase the margin of his victory.

He pointed out the typhoon which hit some sections of Luzon would discourage voters in those areas from voting. President Garcia had expected stiff opposition in Luzon.

However, Mindanao and East Visayas, where he had expected to poll large majorities, were spared by the typhoon.

Waking up early this morning although he stayed late last night to address the *miting de avance* on Plaza Miranda, the President prepared for his scheduled trip to Bohol.

His advisers counselled him against proceeding with the trip on account of the bad weather.

While waiting for the weather to clear up, President Garcia went down to the Malacañang chapel and prayed. He was joined by Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez and a number of newsmen.

Coming out from the chapel, the President was met by radio men and was interviewed over the radio and television.

After a brief interview at the ground floor, he went around the social hall and viewed preparations for the canvassing of election returns.

The President then received newsmen and other guests at the family dining room. He later abandoned plans of touring the city precincts.

AT noontime the President repaired to his hideout where he spent the afternoon waiting for reports on the nationwide elections.

In his hideout he; received reports of early returns from the radio network of the National Civil Defense Administration.

The Chief Executive was reported to have been elated after reports reached him that early returns from Tanauan, Batangas, hometown of Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., his running mate, gave all his rivals zero.

Upon hearing of the Cavite shooting, President Garcia issued a statement commending Lt. Col. Laureano Marana, commander of the Cavite PC, who was slain by henchmen of Leonardo Manecio, alias “Nardong Putik,” outlaw leader long wanted by the government.

The President spent the early evening in his hideout and, despite unfavorable voting trends in Manila, he was reported unperturbed. He was heard to have expressed optimism about his victory.

November 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today declined Manila Mayor Arsenio Lacson’s tender of resignation and asked the mayor to stay in office.

Malacañang made this announcement after Mayor Lacson’s letter of resignation was brought to the President in his hideout this afternoon by Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

In putting his thumbs down on Lacson’s resignation, President Garcia said that he did not think the results of the election in Manila showed lack of confidence of the city electorate in Lacson.

The President pointed out that according to political observers Manila voters had always voted against the administration candidates, usually with the opposition winning by a sizeable majority.

“The fact that the Administration, comparatively speaking, lost by a few thousand votes in Manila; is credit enough for Mayor Lacson,” said the President.

He added: “This comparatively small margin of defeat of the Administration in the City of Manila shows the confidence of the people in Mayor Lacson.”

“I am prevailing on Mayor Lacson to continue to stay as the chief executive of the city of Manila,” said the President.

He made his decision on the letter of resignation of Mayor Lacson at his hide-out.

The President spent his morning and part of the afternoon listening to the reports of the election returns through radio and television. He was pleased to learn of the mounting lead which incomplete reports of the election returns showed he had over his rivals in the presidential race.

He was calm and collected as he listened to the election returns. The President, while listening to election returns, played chess with Capt. Francisco Calinawan.

The President did not receive any callers during the day. Only Nacionalista Information Officer Jose C. Nable saw the President in the morning and briefed the Chief Executive on the latest election returns.

THIS afternoon the President motored from his hideout to S. del Rosario Street in Gagalangin where he viewed the body of the late Lt. Col. Laureano Maraña, the slain PC commander of Cavite.

The President condoled with the widow of the colonel and with the colonel’s mother.

From the Maraña residence in S. del Rosario Street, the President motored to the Camp Murphy chapel, where he visited the remains of the late Lt. Domingo Pabilani, Cpl. Florencio Esperitu, Pfc. Eusebio Mazano, and Sgt. Roberto Calopas. The President condoled with the families of the deceased and extended to them financial assistance.

The slain Army men at the chapel were among the companions of the late Col. Maraña, who had died in an encounter with Cavite bandit Leonardo Manecio and his men last Election Day.

At the Camp Murphy chapel the President learned that November 13, in the birthday of the late Lt. Pabilani and that he had planned to be married today to his fiancée, Miss Nenita Visco, who was present at the chapel.

The President was accompanied by Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke, Jr., Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff; Acting Press Secretary Sison, and Major Jose Estrella, presidential aide.

From the chapel, the President motored back to his hide-out.

IN the evening the President directed the Bureau of Telecommunications to keep its telegraph lines continuously open until all the election results all over the country had been transmitted to the Commission on Elections.

The President issued the directive on the recommendation of the Commission on Elections.

In issuing the directives, the President expressed his eagerness to avoid unnecessary delay in the transmission of poll results to the Commission. He reiterated his desire to keep this year's election clean and orderly.

November 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia was like an "expectant father," waiting for more than 48 hours since Wednesday for the long-awaited "concession of defeat" from Speaker Jose Yulo, Liberal presidential candidate.

The President stayed in his "hideout" outside the city, playing chess and receiving telephone reports of late election returns which widened his margin over the LP presidential standard bearer.

It was learned that the President was waiting for Mr. Yulo's acknowledgment of defeat before he would plunge into a series of victory banquets.

Acting Secretary of foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano saw the President in his "hideout" and reported on the political situation in Batangas.

It was not known what the secretary told the President, but it was learned that he had just returned from Batangas where he campaigned for the administration candidates.

Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon also saw the President and reported on the political situation in Bataan. De Leon voted in Bataan.

Secretary de Leon also brought some papers to the President for study.

Others who cabled on the President in his "hideout" were acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, and Willie Jurado.

IN the afternoon, the President received visiting foreign correspondents who came to the Philippines to cover the last election.

The President thanked the newsmen for their response to his invitation to come to the Philippines and witness the conduct of the election.

President Garcia told his visitors that "we have one of the most peaceful and orderly elections." He said that the Cavite slaying which resulted in the killing of Lt. Col. Laureano Maraña, Cavite constabulary commander, was "non-political."

The President answered questions fired by the foreign correspondents, but cautioned them against releasing it for publication until Yulo has conceded his defeat.

While the President was answering the correspondents' questions, Mrs. Garcia and their daughter, Linda, arrived. They were accompanied by Jose D. Aspiras.

PRESIDENT Garcia today called for strengthening of the present close ties between the Philippines and the United States "in these uncertain circumstances."

The President made the appeal in a special message to the nation on the occasion of the annual observance today, November 15, of Philippine-American Day set aside by the Philippine Government on the date falling on the inauguration of the Philippine Commonwealth.

The following is the text of President Garcia's message on the occasion of Philippine-American Day, November 15:

"It is most fitting that the Philippine Government has set aside November 15 of every year as Philippine-American Day.

"For more than half a century the Philippines and the United States have been very intimately associated, bound by strong ties of friendship and ideals such as the strengthening of democracy and freedom everywhere. This relationship has undergone the test of blood and fire in times of war, and the test of understanding in times of peace.

"During these uncertain circumstances obtaining in the world, it is indeed imperative that Philippine-American friendship should be made stronger in the interest of further promoting the mutual interests of both countries and in contributing to the peace of mankind.

"I am therefore happy that we are celebrating Philippine-American Day this year in the hope that our relationship with the United States become firmer, based as it has always been on mutual respect."

November 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia motored out of his "hideout" in Pasig, Rizal, after it had been identified by a Manila newspaper.

Waking up late after listening to radio reports of late election returns yesterday, the President found the residence of Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor T. Jimenez with large groups of well-wishers.

Annoyed, the President boarded the *Santa Maria* which he immediately converted into a "floating hideout".

The President stayed aboard the *Santa Maria* the whole day. He met defense and military officials; who reported on the peaceful conduct of the last elections.

PRESIDENT Garcia today was informed by Brig. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, PC chief, that there had been general peace and order during the election last November 12.

Cabal told the President that the country never had a more peaceful election than the recent one.

The President thanked all the Army officers and men through Gen. Cabal and all those who contributed their share in conducting free, orderly, and peaceful election.

After the Cabal report, the President met with Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff. They discussed the proposed AFP budget for the next fiscal year. No details were given.

Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon and Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable were also present.

Gen. Alfonso Arellano is leaving for the United States Monday on the invitation of the United States chief of staff.

Earlier in the morning, President Garcia motored from his hideout to the La Consolacion College chapel at Mendiola Street where he heard a thanksgiving mass for the Holding of the recent peaceful election.

The President was accompanied by Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, together with daughter Linda and husband Fernando Campos. The President received Holy Communion.

Arriving at the chapel at 7 a.m., the presidential family was greeted by members of the faculty of the college headed by Sor Maria Carmen.

After the mass, the First Family returned to Malacañang where they ate breakfast.

President and Mrs. Garcia gave a dinner in honor of Ambassador and Mrs. Charles E. Bohlen at 8 in the evening at Malacañang Palace.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: November 16-30, 1957

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

November 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today laid down the basis for his state-of-the-nation message before the joint session of Congress which opens in January, 1958, with emphasis on the nation's economic problems.

The President directed Cabinet members to submit a summary of accomplishments of their respective departments for inclusion in his Congress message. These reports will include positive recommendations to Congress.

The President has set the deadline for the submission of these reports of accomplishments for December 1.

The President today mobilized the Social Welfare Administration to give immediate Assistance to victims of typhoon *Kit*, which caused untold damages on public and private property and loss of human lives.

The President directed defense and Armed Forces authorities to lend direct assistance to the SWA. The presidential directive was issued after the Chief Executive had received comprehensive report of the typhoon damages from Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez.

President Garcia also ordered Air Force planes for Tacloban and Bacolod to airlift patients from these cities.

In Tacloban, Leodegaria Cabillo, 8-year old, who is suffering from severe brain injuries due to an accident, was ordered airlifted to Manila for treatment in the V. Luna General Hospital. She was taken from the Leyte Provincial Hospital on an Air Force plane and airlifted to Manila.

In Bacolod city, Mrs. Rosario Gustillo, wife of E. Gustillo, president of the lawyers' association in Bacolod, who was suffering from hysterical paralysis, was also ordered airlifted aboard an Air Force plane for treatment in Manila. She was taken to the V. Luna General Hospital.

November 17.—THIS morning President Garcia wrote his message on the occasion of his victory in the recent elections.

The President wrote his message after hearing a family "thanksgiving mass" aboard the *RPS Sarita Maria*, where he had stayed since yesterday studying state papers.

The President's family boarded the yacht this morning to congratulate the President on his election. Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, daughter Linda, and son-in-law, Fernando Campos, got on the yacht which was anchored off the breakwater at 9:10 a.m. They were accompanied by Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, and Benigno Aquino, Jr.

Upon arrival of the President's family mass was immediately said. The President received Holy Communion. After the mass the Chief Executive wrote his message. Then the President and his family, together with a few relatives and friends, ate breakfast. The yacht then made a leisurely cruise in Manila Bay and returned to Pier 5 in the evening.

THE President today issued the following message:

"With deep humility and gratitude I accept the mandate of the Filipino people through the recent elections to administer the affairs of the nation during the next four years. Our people have spoken and let every true Filipino abide by that decision.

"Ours is not only a victory of the Nacionalista Party but the triumph of democracy.

“I thank Messrs. Jose Yulo, Manuel P. Manahan, Claro M. Recto, and Antonio Quirino for their good wishes for a successful administration. I also offer my sincerest thanks to all those who have worked to make our victory possible.

“I make special mention of the Commission on Elections, the Philippine Constabulary, the corps of untiring, vigilant, and courageous teachers, the press and the radio, and others who redeemed my pledge for a free, orderly, clean, and honest elections.

“This clear-cut mandate is a fresh source of inspiration and strength for me to carry on in the great traditions bequeathed by our forbears.

“On this momentous hour of our country’s history, I rededicate myself to the service of the people. And with the aid of Divine Providence and with our great people by my side, I am confident, we will succeed.”

AFTER Waiting for almost a week for the complete “surrender” of his political rivals, The President finally received word in the evening that former Speaker Jose Yulo had “conceded.”

The report caught the men around him by surprise, but they soon went wild with jubilation, President Garcia was cruising aboard the *Santa Maria*, mulling over the state papers and at the same time plotting counter-moves in the event the Liberals pushed through their plans of protesting his election.

Legislative Secretary, Jose C. Nable, who drove the propaganda mill, was reported to have jumped hilariously after words flashed from Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison that Yulo had finally conceded, reached the yacht.

The report spread like the proverbial wildfire in the yacht and immediately the President called up the First Lady at the Palace to report to her the happy news.

President Garcia’s victory climaxed 32 years of political life, undefeated and unopposed.

He had told newsmen previously that he had always won with such convincing majorities that he had never been the object of election protests.

With the President aboard the yacht were Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor T. Jimenez, Nable, and Lt. Rolando Kagaon. Nable was with a large entourage of “rah-rah boys”; namely, Mariano R. Logarta, Jose D. Aspiras, and ex-Mayor Benigno S. Aquino, Jr.

It was learned that Aquino saw the President and tried to explain the defeat of President Garcia and Speaker Laurel in Tarlac.

November 18.— AFTER six days in “hiding” since Election Day Presidential Garcia returned triumphantly to Malacañang early this morning.

He had shied away from the Palace since Election Day, having stayed for three days in his “hideout” which was the residence of Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor T. Jimenez, and later “hid” himself on the yacht, *Santa Maria*, to wait for “concession of defeat” from his political adversaries.

Upon his return to Malacañang, the President found the Palace ground littered with placards asking for the relief of Jose Panganiban as General Manager of the National Development Company.

PRESIDENT Garcia today called NDC officials to Malacañang and reiterated his previous directive that NDC workers be granted a general pay increase.

The President reiterated his directive at a conference with NDC Board Chairman Jose Fernandez; Director Sergio Bayan, General Manager Jose Panganiban, and Eulogio Lerum, counsel of the NDC-National Textile Workers Union.

At the same time, the President received well-wishers who trooped to Malacañang to congratulate him on his victory in the last elections.

Among the well-wishers were Senator-elect Eulogio Balao; Representatives-elect Francisco Ortega of La Union, Maximino Noel of Cebu, Jose Aldeguer of Iloilo, Constancio Castañeda of Tarlac Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, and Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon; and Govs. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Serafin L. Teves of Negros Oriental, and Jose Dinglasan of Capiz.

The President also received Minnesota Gov. Orville L. Freeman, who was accompanied by Mrs. Freeman; and a big delegation of Minnesotans.

A member of the delegation, Mr. S. J. Kryzsko, President of the Winona National and Savings Bank, gave a letter of Brother I. Basil, F. S. C, President of Saint Mary's College in Winona, Minn., to the President wherein he was informed of the "successful work of four young Filipinos, Brother Benildo Lamberto (Lamberto Feliciano), Brother Arthur Henry (Enrique Lazatin), Brother Augusto Soloman (Raul Mirasol) and Brother Andrews Benjamin (Macario Gonzalez), who are preparing themselves to teach in your schools in the Philippine Islands."

Other members of the Minnesota delegation were Mrs. Maria Arvig, William T. Collins, Dr. James A. Cosgriff, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cramond, Thomas Dransfield, William G. Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Johnson, George Kircher, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kvamme, L. J. Lauerma, H. J. Mickelson, Joseph Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Olson, W. B. Resnick, George L. Peterson, H. O. Lindberg, and Robert Doyle.

Another presidential caller was Rep. Dalip Singh Saund of California, who was accompanied by Minister Horace Smith, charge d' affaires of the U.S. Embassy; James N. Tull, press attache; and Henry Brodie, first secretary. A native of India, Rep. Saund is a naturalized citizen of the United States.

Col. Harry Brenn, ICA director in Manila, called on the President to introduce his successor Paul D. Summers, who until recently was the deputy director of the Far East in the Washington ICA office.

Armando Diaz, manager of the GSIS administrative department, gave the President his 1957 GSIS dividend amounting to ₱58.50. Federico Romero and Baltazar Guerra, GSSIS officials, accompanied Diaz.

Officials of the Liberty Milk headed by R. J. Cooley, assistant vice-president of the General Milk Co., Los Angeles; J. L. Terrassa, general manager; and W. T. Miller, assistant manager of General Milk Company (Philippines), also called on the President to invite him to attend the inauguration of the Liberty Milk factory at Mandaluyong, Rizal.

The President also received Willie Jurado and former Press Secretary J. V. Cruz. The President thanked Jurado for helping him in the campaign in the northern Luzon provinces. JV, who lost in his bid for the lone congressional district of Bataan, told the President he was protesting the re-election of Rep. Jose Nuguid.

However, he told the President he was willing to help the Administration in a private capacity.

JV told the President he is putting up an advertising agency while awaiting the outcome of his protest against Nuguid. The President assured JV he would help him.

IN the evening the president and the First Lady heard a thanksgiving mass at the Malacañang social hall.

After the mass, the President presided over his first post election press conference. A large group of newsmen, Malacañang hangers-on, and kibitzers attended the press conference and *merienda-cena* which followed the President's first brush with newsmen.

November 19—PRESIDENT Garcia today continued receiving well-wishers and congratulatory messages from friends in the Philippines and abroad.

Among the messages from friends, abroad was that from President Izhak Ben-Zvi of Israel, who expressed his confidence that under the leadership of President Garcia "the Republic of the Philippines will continue its important contribution to the causal of world peace and international collaboration."

Other congratulatory messages came from Neil Blaisdell, mayor of Honolulu; H. H. Herts, vice-president of the Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce; Ted Ayers, executive producer of the Columbia Broadcasting System; and Averill Harriman and Heil Crawford.

To well-wishers who flocked to Malacañang, the President expressed his satisfaction that the recent elections were very peaceful, orderly, and clean.

The President received Representatives-elect Augusto Francisco of Manila, Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Agustin Coscolluela of Negros Occidental, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Faustino Tobias of Ilocos Sur, and Dominador Tan of Leyte, who congratulated him.

The solons from Eastern Visayas and Mindanao informed the President that the majority garnered by the Nacionalista Party in the recent elections was bigger than that obtained in 1953.

Mayor Mariano Perdices of Dumaguete City and Miss Lourdes N. Napalinga, editor of *The Negrense*, a magazine published in Bacolod City, accompanied the solons.

President Garcia also received Chinese Ambassador Chen Chi-mai, William Walker of the U.S Embassy; C. Hart Schaaf, resident representative in the Philippines of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board; Justice Alejo Labrador of the Supreme Court, Pampanga Gov. Rafael Lazatin; and Manuel Leelin; local manufacturer of the Willard batteries.

THE President today directed RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez to extend the fullest possible financial assistance to farmers and planters, especially by making more widely availed of the new policy of granting loans even to those whose lands do not as yet have Torrens titles.

The President made this directive as one of the steps to encourage more people to produce primary food crops, like rice and corn, in order to make the country self-sufficient in its staple food supplies.

This was one of the points the President brought out in his first post election press conference yesterday when he said that his primary concern was the solution of the economic problems of the country.

At the same time, President Garcia directed the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Department of Public Works and Communications to make on-the-field surveys of the destruction to crops and property caused by the recent typhoon *Kit*.

The President said that he needed these figures and statistics on the destruction so that proper steps could be taken to avoid any shortage in rice and corn especially in the areas affected, and so that reconstruction could be done; at the earliest possible time to the destroyed public and private installations.

President Garcia expressed satisfaction over the new policy adopted by the RFC in granting loans to farmers and planters whose lands are yet without titles. He said that this would give further encouragement to the farmers in producing more crops.

The Chief Executive also said that under this new RFC policy, even those tenants who have been given lands of their own as a result of the government purchase and subdivision of landed estates but who are yet without titles to their lands, would be able to borrow money from the RFC and thus enable them to plant their lands.

He said that the RFC should give special attention to applicants for loans belonging to this category in order to encourage more farmers to plant staple crops in the interest of self-sufficiency in the nation's overall food supply.

With regard to the President's order of an immediate appraisal of losses in crops and property as a result of typhoon *Kit*, Malacañang said that only fragmentary reports had been received by the Office of the President on the destruction. It is feared, however, that because of reports that many of the rice plants affected were about to form their grain, harvests in the affected areas would be considerably diminished and thus result to rice shortage.

The Chief Executive said that he would take the precautionary measures to prevent the occurrence of rice and corn shortages.

The President also said that he had reiterated his order to the Philippine Navy to make Available the needed LST's to transport NARIC rice of short supply.

PRESIDENT Garcia signed today a proclamation November 28, 1957, as a special public holiday for national thanksgiving.

In the proclamation President Garcia said that "it is fitting that a day be set aside on which to dedicate out noblest thoughts in prayer and thanksgiving to God for all the blessings He has showered upon us."

President Garcia also signed a proclamation authorizing of the Philippines to conduct a rational fund drive during the period from November 15 to December 33, 1957, in places outside of Greater Manila.

In the proclamation the President called upon everybody to assist wholeheartedly in the fund campaign and to give their utmost support so that the Girl Scouts of the Philippines may be assured of which to carry on its work.

The President underscored the success of the organization in serving as host of the first Regional Centenary World Camp in 1957, attaining a distinct place in the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and bringing prestige not only to the local Girl Scout movement but to the Philippines.

IN the evening the President paid high tribute to Minister Harry H. Brenn, chief of the U.S. International Cooperation Administration in Manila for his help in the country's social and economic development.

After the formal dinner which the President gave in in Malacañang the President said that Brenn had been personally identified with the country's accomplishments in community development rural credit and farmers cooperatives, agricultural extension and public health, land tenure and labor management relations, roads and irrigation projects, public administration and education, and national defense and internal security.

The President added that what had endeared Brenn to the Philippine Government personnel and to the people was Brenn's insistence that full credit for these accomplishments should go to the Filipinos themselves, modestly describing the American role as merely one of a friendly encouragement, stimulation, and cooperation in the common cause of strengthening the free world.

President Garcia said that the Government had intended to confer upon Brenn one of the awards reserved for national recognition; but because Brenn was not allowed by his government to accept such award, the President had taken the opportunity to convey the country's warm appreciation of his past services to the Philippines.

November 20—WISHING to step up the work of the Presidential Incentives Committee, President Garcia Finance Secretary summoned former Antonio de las Alas, chairman of the conference this afternoon in Malacañang.

The President said that he would like to be informed by Chairman De las Alas of the progress of his committee, which had been charged by the President with studying ways and means of giving incentives to producers in order to increase production of essential products and thus eventually lower prices.

When he created the committee last September 18, the President directed that it hold public hearings to get a cross-section of the views of all the economic segments of the country regarding the best by the government in giving incentives to producers.

The President also directed that all government offices and employees should cooperate with the committee whenever it re pursuing its work.

A Malacañang spokesman said that now that the elections were over, the committee could accelerate the tempo of its activities. The President would like the committee to be able to submit its recommendations to give additional incentives to producers so that its recommendation which might require legislation could be readied for submission to Congress when it meets in January.

The spokesman added that the creation of the Incentives Committee was part of the overall plan of the President in tackling the economic problems of the country.

THE President this morning received from Gov. Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Oriental a check for ₱ 17,000 as a contribution of his province to the peace and amelioration fund.

Gov. Infantado was accompanied by Manolo Elizalde, chairman of the Peace and Amelioration Fund Commission, assistant provincial treasurer Paulino Ganda, and Miss Teresita Castro, a lawyer.

The President also received Mrs. Atanacia de Leon, widow, of the late Cpl. Eladio de Leon, who had died when ambushed recently in Cavite by the outlaw band led by Leonardo Manecio, alias Nardong Putik.

Mrs. De Leon, accompanied by her sister, Miss Lourdes Laurio, ex-extended to cover burial expenses of the Army soldier extended to cover burial expenses of the slain Army soldier.

Earlier, the President received Gen. Laurence S. Kuter, commander-in-chief of the U.S. Air Force, Pacific, who arrived last Sunday in the course of an observation and inspection tour of U.S. installations under his command.

Minister Horace Smith, charge d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy, and Maj. Gen. John Ackerman, commanding general of the 13th USAF, accompanied Gen. Kuter.

Former Mayor Elmer Robinson of San Francisco and Judge Thomas M. Foley of the Superior Court of San Francisco, also paid a courtesy call on the President. Robinson was the Mayor of San Francisco during the Japanese Peace Treaty Conference and the Tenth Commemorative Session of the United Nations. In 1955 he was elected president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Other callers of the President included Representatives-elect Benedicto Padilla of Rizal, Natalio Castillo of Bohol, Manuel Zosa of Cebu, and Tobias Fornier of Antique, and Engineer Constancio Soria.

About 30 members of the Philippine Association of School Superintendents, headed by their president, Jose Y. Tuazon, also called on the President to pledge their loyalty and cooperation to the Administration.

The superintendents asked for the early implementation of the provisions of Republic Act No. 842 regarding salary increases.

They informed President Garcia that he had made a “happy choice” in appointing Justice Manuel Lim as secretary of education.

A group of Lions led by Eduardo Escobar and Alfredo Lozano, saw the President; to invite him to be the guest of honor in a forthcoming affair.

THIS evening President Garcia said he would not act on resignations submitted to him by members of his Cabinet until after he had been sworn in on December 30.

The President made the statement in response to numerous queries received in Malacañang regarding the status of resignations reportedly turned in by certain Cabinet members to give him a free hand in the reorganization of his advisory body. He said that action on the resignations would take a lot of study and that; in case he decided to accept any of them, he would do so only after he had begun serving his new term.

“At least, I would like to have all members of the old Cabinet to be with me on my induction,” the President said.

The Chief Executive also said that he would first decide on possible successors before accepting any resignation. According to him, this was necessary to insure continuity in the service.

Earlier this afternoon, the President received officers and members of the Bankers Association of the Philippines who called to pay their respects following his election. During the call, Alfonso Calalang, association president who acted as spokesman, expressed the readiness of his organization to cooperate with the Administration in regard to programs aimed at furthering the economic uplift of the country.

The President thanked the group for their offer of cooperation. He said that the numerous pledges of support he had been receiving from various elements in the country since his election had encouraged him all the more years with optimism.

The group included N. Tomas of Philippine Banking Corporation, A. delas Alas of Manufacturers Trust, K. Huang of Bank of Communications, R. Recto of Equitable Bank, L. Marquez of Commercial Bank, J. Spering of National City Bank of New York, L. Villa of People’s Bank, C. Cruz of the Philippine National Bank, M. Garcia of Philippine Trust, R. MacIntyre of Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Alfonso Sycip of China Banking Corporation, S. Friexas of Bank of PI, F. de la Costa of Bank of Commerce, S. Orosa of Prudential Bank, J. Unson of Pacific Banking Corporation, D. A. Gruethenhuis of Bank of American, and J. Pryor of Chartered Bank.

President Garcia today signed Proclamation No. 458, declaring November 29, 1957, as National Teachers Day. The proclamation was signed on the recommendation of Education Secretary Manuel Lim.

The President signed the proclamation in the presence of Secretary Lim and Benigno Aldana and Daniel Salcedo, directors of public and private some representatives of private and public institutions in Manila.

The President pointed out that in all communities teachers are always called upon to cooperate in social, cultural, and civic enterprises and that the teachers deserve greater public recognition of their essential place in the scheme of national existence and appreciation for personal sacrifice which they often make in their daily work.

The President this day also signed a proclamation declaring the period from February 14, to March 31, 1958, as the time for the eleventh annual fund campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross.

At the same time, the President appealed for public support and help in the campaign by giving generously of their means, time, and effort to realize the aims and purposes of the Philippine National Red Cross.

November 21.—REPRESENTATIVE-elect Genaro Magsaysay, younger brother of the late President Magsaysay, led well-wishers who continued tip call this day on President Garcia to congratulate him on his recent victory in the presidential elections.

At the same time, the Zambales solon told the President that he would support in Congress the program of government of the Administration.

Two other members of the Magsaysay family accompanied Rep.-elect Magsaysay when he called on President Garcia. They were Mrs. Luisa Magsaysay-Corpus and Mrs. Soledad Magsaysay-Cabrera.

Gov. Esmeraldo Eco, LP, of Camarines Norte also called on the President and presented a copy of the resolution of the provincial board of his province, conveying to the Chief Executive its decision “to cross party lines in the administration of governmental affairs to serve best the interests and welfare of the constituents of the province of Camarines Norte.”

W. E. Murray, Caltex Far East general manager, paid a courtesy call on the President. He was accompanied by R. Monical, Caltex (Philippines) managing director, and J. P. Roxas, another high official of the local Caltex office.

Murray is the president of the Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce of New York. He was the recipient of the Philippine Legion of Honor, awarded during the administration of the late President Magsaysay. The members of the Board of Trustees of the National Federation of Dental Practitioners presented to President Garcia a resolution of the federation pledging its cooperation to the Administration.

The trustees, led by the president of the federation, Dr. Diosdado Carpio, were Drs. Feliciano K. Cruz, Eladio Aldecoa, Ermelo Vergel de Dios, Potenciano Leoncio, Moises Bartolome, Leonila Tañada, and Francisco Ramirez.

Other presidential callers were Gov. Jose Briones of Cebu, Rep.-elect Justiniano Montano, NP, of Cavite, Rep.-elect William Chiongbian, LP, of Misamis Occidental, and Secretary Pedro C. Hernaez of Commerce and Industry.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening received a delegation from Misamis Oriental which called to sound him off on the possibility of holding a special election in Sagay, Camiguin Island, where 2,207 registered voters had failed to cast their ballots last election day.

Former Gov. Paciencia G. Ysalina informed the President that ballots which had been intended for Sagay, Negros Oriental, had been sent to Camiguin by mistake and that those intended for Camiguin had been sent to Negros Oriental. Hence, the post of lieutenant governor for the island sub-province which had been declared elective by a special law enacted during the last congressional session had not been included on the ballots.

According to Ysalina, the local board of inspectors had suspended the voting and when the mistake was corrected later in the afternoon of election day, the voters had already gone.

The President advised the delegation to direct their petition to the Commission on Elections, the only body which could recommend to him the holding of special elections.

Paul Wood of the International Harvester Company called to greet the President. During his call, Wood informed the Chief Executive that he was leaving for Korea tomorrow morning, where he would accompany President Syngman Rhee and retired U.S. General James Van Fleet on a visit to a national farm on a Korean Island. Wood is in charge of supervision of all Far Eastern installations and offices of the IHC.

Earlier this evening, the President received a delegation composed of members of his class 1923 of the Philippine Law School. They presented him with a souvenir album containing pictures of the last reunion held by the class last September 1 in Tanay, Rizal, which he had attended.

The delegation included Feliciano Tayag, Protacio Amonoy, Emiliano Anonas, Lorenzo Foronda, Pastor Gonzales, Eleuterio Gustilo, Milagros Llarena Telmo, Graciano Cariño, and Jose de Jesus.

The President received callers until 8 p.m. Among his last visitors were Reps. Ramon Mitra of Mt. Province and Joaquin Roces of Manila, Patricio Senador, and Antonio de las Alas.

THE President this evening stressed that the Presidential Incentives Committee's main task was to study effective means of giving incentives to producers of principal products as he promised to do when he vetoed Senate Bill No. 167 last June 22.

In his veto message the President had said:

"Recognizing the soundness of this policy of providing incentives to producers to increase their productivity. I avail myself of this opportunity to promise to the advocates of Senate Bill No. 167 that I will in due time appoint a committee of responsible officials and leaders in business, agriculture, and industry to study ways and means of attaining the objectives of the said bill in a manner generally beneficial to our national economy.

"It is the hope of this Administration that with the cooperation of all patriotic citizens of this country, a formula can be found to provide positive and practical incentives to producers and manufacturers."

The President conferred this evening with former Finance Secretary-Antonio de las Alas, chairman of the Presidential Incentives Committee, and directed that the committee hurry up its studies on the subject of giving incentives to producers-exporters. He added that parts of the recommendations requiring congressional action would be embodied in an administration bill to be submitted in Congress in January, 1958.

President Garcia suggested to De Las Alas that one way of hastening the work of the committee was to concentrate on the study of the objectionable features of Senate Bill 167 and to seek their solutions.

This was the first formal discussion that the President and De las Alas had in connection with the work of the committee. De las Alas told the President that he already had meetings with members of his committee and that he set another meeting for Saturday with the idea of hastening up its work.

The committee chairman promised that he and his committee would do their best to finish the job in time for submission to Congress in its next regular session.

November 22.—THIS morning the President had a few callers, as most of his time was spent receiving the members of the diplomatic corps and presiding over the weekly Cabinet meeting.

The diplomats, led by Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, were received by the President after breakfast. They congratulated President Garcia on his victory at the recent polls.

The President this morning told the chiefs of diplomatic missions in the Philippines that he would follow the same foreign policy formulated during the administration of the late President Magsaysay and which he had been implementing since he was Vice-President of the Philippines and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary.

The President made this statement on the occasion of the call of the chiefs of diplomatic missions in the Philippines, during which they congratulated the Chief Executive on his victory in the recent polls.

In his remarks before his diplomatic visitors, the President said that he would continue pursuing the policy of promoting closer ties of friendship with all the countries of the free world but with special consideration in regard to the United States because of our special relationship with that country, and in regard to the Southeast Asian nations.

The President expressed before the diplomats the wish that the disarmament conference would succeed in order to remove the means of waging future wars.

President Garcia said that if the astronomical war budgets intended for the armament race could be removed and invested instead in creating conditions conducive to peace, then the causes of war would be removed.

Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, who acted as spokesman of the chiefs of diplomatic missions, expressed the felicitations of his group to the President on his victory in the recent polls. He praised the President for his great desire in the attainment of peace of the world.

Vagnozzi also expressed the hope that under President Garcia's administration, the Philippines would achieve progress, prosperity, and happiness. The President exchanged toasts with his diplomatic guests.

Also present at the ceremonies were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel G. Zamora, Foreign Office Chief of Protocol Jose Estrada, Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, Lt. Melchor Fronda, and Appointments Secretaries Marcelino Calinawan and Rolando Kagaoan.

The chiefs of diplomatic missions who called on the President were Apostolic Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, British Ambassador George Lisle Glutton, Chinese Ambassador Chen Chih-mai, Australian Ambassador Keith Charles Owen Shann, Thai Ambassador Chitti Sucharitakul, Italian Ambassador, Benedetto d'Acunzo, Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Datuk Pamontjak, French Ambassador Georges Cattand, Japanese Ambassador Morio Yukawa, Pakistan Ambassador Pir Ali Mohammad Rashdi, Spanish Ambassador Francisco Javier Conde;

Belgian Minister Ferdinand Buckens, Vietnamese Minister Cao Thai Bao, German Minister Friedrich Leopold Freiherr von Furstenberg, Indian Minister Mohinder Singh Chopra, Argentine Minister Rogelio Tristany, Swiss Minister Walter Hofer, Korean Minister Lincoln Hoon Kim;

American Charge d'Affaires Horace Smith, Spanish Charge d'Affaires Fernando Aguirre de Carcer, Mexican Charge d'Affaires Carlos Gutierrez-Macias, and Netherlands Charge d'Affaires L. H. J. B. van Gorkom.

After receiving the diplomats, President Garcia also received Gov. Leon Fernandez of Sulu and Gov. Isidro Rodriguez and Representative-elect Francisco Sumulong of Rizal.

Another presidential caller was Roger E. Anderson, vice-president of the Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago. He was accompanied by RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez.

PRESIDENT Garcia in his first meeting with his Cabinet today, after his victory at the polls, ordered that:

(1) Studies be made immediately as regards the amount of palay which the NARIC should buy for its stabilization work; and

(2) The Rice and Palay Board meet immediately in order to arrive at definite recommendations on the price support program for palay, as an incentive to producers.

The President and his Cabinet spent considerable time in the discussion of the rice stabilization program, especially with regard to the role of the NARIC as a stabilizer of the price of the cereal.

The Chief Executive ordered the early study of the effective amount of palay to be purchased by the NARIC in order to forestall the recurrence of rice shortages in the future. It was feared that the damage done by the recent typhoon *Kit* to rice plants in Northern Luzon might result in a rice shortage in that area.

The President called to the Cabinet meeting Acting NARIC General Manager Vicente Concepcion and inquired from him how much palay had been purchased by the NARIC this year. Concepcion replied that the NARIC had funds enough only for 3,000,000 cavans of palay which he said was only a very small portion of the total amount of palay production which was 76,000,000 cavans yearly.

Concepcion explained that the NARIC could not buy more of the local palay because of lack of capital to support a large-scale palay purchase. It was the consensus of the Cabinet that the NARIC should be authorized to buy as much palay as it could, enough to sustain its role of stabilizing the rice industry in the Philippines. It was believed that the NARIC would need more capital to carry out this objective.

It was further believed by the Cabinet that instead of the NARIC importing rice from abroad, it should concentrate more in the purchase of local palay which it could store in its warehouses and mill into rice for sale to the people during times of shortage.

The President ordered that this matter be studied immediately by the Rice and Palay Board, which will submit its recommendations to the President and the Cabinet.

The President also directed the Rice and Palay Board to meet immediately in order to arrive at definite recommendations on the price support program for palay as an incentive to rice producers. At present the price support of palay is set at ₱10.50 a cavan.

The board is composed of Acting Agriculture Secretary Jose M. Trinidad as chairman, with Labor Secretary Angel Castaño and Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez as members,

The committee said that it would meet immediately.

The President directed Education Secretary; Manuel Lim to study and make recommendations regarding the needs in the budget of his department in order to make the educational program of the Philippines more responsive to the present requirements of the country, especially in its economic development.

Lim said that his department would propose to implement a program of education, instruction, and training, both in the public and the private schools, that would produce for the nation a reasonable crop of qualified graduates fit to meet the requirements of business and industry and of technical men and skilled personnel in their respective fields of endeavor.

The education secretary said that according to the plan, these graduates would be able to work as professionals and career men who are needed in the country's extensive and ramified social services. He added that he would submit his studies on the matter at the earliest possible time.

Lim also extended an invitation to the Cabinet members to see the exhibition of products of his department's vocational schools, especially precision tools of industry.

The exhibits are being held at the Department of Education building on Arroceros Street.

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 10:40 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The following is the text of President Garcia's statement on a statement issued by former President Sergio Osmeña congratulating the Chief Executive on his victory in the recent polls:

"I am heartened by the statement of former President Don Sergio Osmeña on the occasion of my victory and that of the Nacionalista Party at the recent polls which he interpreted as the people's approval of the Magsaysay-Garcia policies since 1954, and as an expression of the people's abiding faith in my humble leadership.

"It is my hope that with the sincere cooperation of the people and with the help of God I shall rise equal to the expectation of the nation.

"I heartily thank President Osmeña for the new inspiration and encouragement he has given me and the Nacionalista Party through his statement."

IN the evening the President told a group of sympathizers from Cebu not to dissolve their organization so that they could assist in implementing the Administration's program in that province.

The President made this statement before members of an organization which backed his election bid in the recent election in Cebu.

Headed by Gil Garcia, the members presented the Chief Executive with a resolution expressing their congratulations to the President on his victory in the recent polls.

In expressing his gratitude for garnering an unprecedented majority in Cebu, the President said that he would never forget the manifestation of trust which the people of Cebu had reposed in him.

The group included Nicasio Osmeña, Fructuoso Cabahug, Juan Zamora, Elino Andales, Jose Corominas, Juvenal Almendras, Crecencio Richards, Vicente Garcia, Primo Alves, and Ramon Abellanosa.

November 23—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived in Baguio City at 2 p.m. today where he will hold a series of conferences with economic and financial advisers for the purpose of discussing various measures which he intends to recommend for enactment when Congress convenes in January.

Leaving Malacañang by car at 9 a.m., the President was met some five hours later at the Baguio City boundary by a delegation of local officials headed by Mayor Alfonso Tabora and Rep. Ramon Mitra, who escorted him to the Guest House.

Among the callers this afternoon were Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Gov. Bernardo Gapus of La Union, and Filner DaCosta, director of the National Tourist Bureau of Portugal, who came accompanied by Modesto Farolan, his counterpart in the Philippines.

A delegation of Philippine Military Academy officials headed by Brig. Gen. Marcos Soliman, academy superintendent, also called at the Guest House to congratulate the President on his election and to reiterate their loyalty. Other members of the PMA group included Colonels Oscar Rialp, Salvador Piccio, Leonardo Mesiano, Blas Alejandro, and Federico Calma; Majors Geminiano Aguila and Asterio Belmonte; and Captains Raymundo Luna and Asterio Enriquez.

PRESIDENT Garcia today cabled Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo and instructed him to make all the necessary arrangements for the transportation of the remains of the late Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison.

The body of the late Governor-General of the Philippines will be accompanied to Manila by his widow and his son Francis B. Harrison, Jr. The President also directed Ambassador Romulo to have an official of the Philippines Embassy in Washington accompany the body to Manila.

The President gave this directive upon learning from Ambassador Romulo that Harrison's last wish was to be buried in the Philippines.

Romulo informed the President by-cable that Minister Raul Leuterio had already called on the widow of Harrison in Mulhocaway Farm in Clinton., New Jersey.

November 24.—WAKING up early this morning, the President strolled for a few minutes around the Mansion House ground. Then he heard mass before an improvised altar in the Guest House.

After breakfast, he received very few callers, among whom were Sens. Fernando Lopez and Domocao Alonto, Reps. Celestino Juan of Nueva Ecija and Ramon Mitra of Mt. Province, Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora, and Maj. Angel Magallanes, head of the President Quezon's Own Guerrilla (PQOG). The President congratulated Mayor Tabora, who is celebrating his birthday today.

The President also conferred with Benjamin Salvosa, manager of the PHILCOA. He authorized Salvosa during the conference to represent the Philippines at the international conference in Rome (Italy) next week.

About 7 a.m., the President boarded his car and motored around the Pines City. He was accompanied by Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison. He passed by Trinidad Valley, Mines View Park, Aurora Hill, and Camp Allen and returned to the Guest House about 1 o'clock p.m. He had lunch with Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon and Press Secretary Sison.

The President did not receive callers in the afternoon.

President Garcia today issued an administrative order creating a committee which will take charge of preparations for the funeral of former Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison, who had expressed a last wish to be buried in the Philippines.

The President said that the late Governor-General will be accorded a state funeral in recognition of his services to the Philippines. The Committee is composed of Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, chairman, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Sen. Francisco A. Delgado, Reps. Miguel Cuenco of Cebu and Ferdinand Marcos of Ilocos Norte, and Gregorio Licaros of the Central Bank, members. Aguinaldo Maaba, secretary to the Cabinet, was made committee secretary.

The Chief Executive received very few callers today. He spent most of his time in conference with government officials, including Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, RFC Chairman Eduardo Romualdez, Secretary Moreno, Secretary Vargas, ACCFA Chairman Ernesto Jimenez, NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco, and Brig. Gen. Diosdado Rodriguez, acting Armed Forces chief of staff.

November 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning sent a message of condolence on the death of Mrs. Magsaysay's mother. The message was sent to Mrs. Magsaysay. The text of the message follows:

"Mrs. Garcia and I extend our most heartfelt condolences on the death of your beloved mother, Mrs. Lucila R. Vda. de Banzon. An ideal and loving mother, she has raised a large family and served as an example to our Filipino mothers. May her soul rest in peace."

The President also received this morning from Acting Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo a proof of the fifty-centavo notes which bears the signature of the President.

This is the first time that the signature of President Garcia appears on a Philippine currency note. The fifty-centavo note is being printed now by Thomas De la Rue and Co., Ltd., in London, Great Britain.

The President conferred this noon with defense officials headed by Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas. Others in the conference were Brig. Gen. Diosdado Rodriguez, acting AFP chief of staff; Col. Ananias Rosal, chief of the AFP Finance section; Col. Isauro Sison; and Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez.

The President discussed with them the proposed budget of the Armed Forces for fiscal year 1958-1959.

The proposed increase was ₱6.8 million as a result of readjustments in the increase of enlisted men.

President Garcia did not receive any callers today. He busied himself with important conferences with ranking government officials whom he summoned to Baguio. He also closeted himself in his private study, putting on the finishing touches to his speech before the opening season of the SEATO seminar in Baguio tomorrow.

The President was assisted in going over his speech by Minister Narciso G. Reyes.

November 26—President Garcia formally opened the current four-day seminar on countering Communist subversion in ceremonies held at the Mansion House about 9 a.m., the President inspected the honor guard formed by a company of Philippine Military Academy cadets. Then he was escorted to the seminar hall, where he delivered the welcome address to 81 seminar delegates.

He was introduced by Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, SEATO seminar director.

Senior representatives of participating nations were presented one by one to the President after his 15-minutes speech. He was accorded a standing ovation as he went in and out the Seminar hall.

About 10 a.m., the President retired to a hide-out in the outskirts of the city where he resumed his series of preliminary discussions with Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona and Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno on the new budget which will be submitted to Congress next session.

The Chief Executive also worked on pending state papers brought to Baguio from Manila by Col. Emilio Borromeo, senior military aide.

IN the afternoon the President returned to the Guest House where he received SEATO delegates and cocktails. Then he proceeded to his study where he had a recording made of his speech to be delivered in Manila in celebration of Bonifacio Day on November 30.

Among the last callers this evening were Gov. and Mrs. Felicisimo Aquino of Ilocos Norte; Antonio P. Aquino, brother of the governor who presented the President with an Ilocano blanket and towel woven from local materials; Antonio Floirendo of Davao; Antonio Garcia of Baguio City; and Major Godofredo Magellanes.

November 27—The President woke up early this morning at Baguio. When he entered the dining room for breakfast, he was told the newsmen were still asleep after a splurge the night before.

He then led a motorcade down to Manila, leaving the Guest House at 8:30 a.m. and reaching Manila shortly after 12 noon.

After having lunch at the Palace, the President took his regular afternoon nap.

Later, he went over state papers which had piled up.

Upon learning of the sudden ailment of President Eisenhower, President Garcia immediately cabled the former and expressed his hope for his “speedy recovery.”

PRESIDENT garcia today issued an executive order creting a committee to take charge of the inauguration of the President and the Vice-President of the Philippines on December 30, 1957.

Named by the President as co-chairman of the committee were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and Education Secretary Manuel Lim. Members included Sen. Quintin Paredes, Sen. Lorenzo Tañada, Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, Rep. Cornelio Villareal of Capiz, Gov. Isidro S. Rodriguez of Rizal, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Arsenio N. Luz, and Nicasio Osmeña. Aguinaldo Maaba was designated secretary of the committee.

The President empowered the committee to call upon any department, bureau, office, agency, or instrumentality of the government for such assistance, data, and information as it may need in discharging its duties.

November 28.— THIS morning the President agreed to send a personal representative to Iloilo City to look into the peace and order situation obtaining there.

President Garcia agreed to send his personal representative after hearing the request of Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganson to have the PC control lifted in the city.

Mayor Ganson informed the President that Iloilo City was peaceful and requested that the presidential representative inquire from civic organizations, foreigners, and religious elements about the peace and order condition.

Ganson alleged that he was the object of persecution on the part of the press and the radio.

The President also received M. H. Patterson, vice-president and general manager of the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing International Company of Saint Paul, who was accompanied by Pedro Vasquez of Vasquez Bros.

Other presidential callers were Leyte Gov. Bernardo Torres, Carlos Montilla, and Rep.-elect Benjamin T. Ligot of the second district of Cagayan, who informed the President about the extent of the damage caused by typhoon *Kit*.

About 12:30 p.m., President and Mrs. Garcia motored to Manila Hotel to attend the testimonial banquet given in their honor by the officials and employees of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Earlier, President Garcia received Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., who congratulated him on his victory in the recent polls.

Sen. Laurel expressed his support to the Chief Executive, particularly in implementing the economic policy of the Administration.

Expressing his gratitude to Sen. Laurel, the President said that he was glad to have the Senator's support.

PRESIDENT Garcia this noon bared before officials and employees of the Department of Foreign affairs that the most important aim of the Administration along economic lines is self-sufficiency of the country in food.

Quoting an English economist, President Garcia said that the "center of gravity in economics is the stomach."

The occasion was the testimonial banquet given at the Manila Hotel's Winter Garden in honor of the President and Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia by the officials and employees of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

At the same time, President Garcia also bared a new concept of loyalty when he stated that loyalty should not be to a man, be he president or secretary, but to country.

He appealed to the officials and employees of the department to cooperate with the efforts of the Administration to solve the rice problem of the country, stating that this problem has always plagued the country for decades.

The President also asked the cooperation of everybody in his efforts to make democracy more stable and enduring, and independence more permanent in the country.

He stated that the efforts of the Administration are geared to the solution of the economic problems of the country in order to make it a better place to live in.

The President spoke extemporaneously after being introduced by acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano.

The President today signed a proclamation authorizing the Philippine Cancer Society to conduct a national cancer educational fund drive during the period from December 1, 1957 to January 31, 1958.

The PCS has started the construction of a modern cancer clinic and will need funds to purchase much-needed clinical apparatus and other equipment.

PRESIDENT Garcia today received a cablegram from Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo informing him that two other members of the family of the late Francis Burton Harrison are coming to attend the funeral here at their own expense.

Aside from Mrs. Harisson, F.B. Harrison, Jr., a daughter, a stepdaughter, and a granddaughter are accompanying the group, which included Minister Raul Leuterio.

The body of the late former Governor-General is scheduled to arrive in Manila on December 2.

PRESIDENT Garcia, after barely resting from four days of conferences with his advisers in Baguio City, left Malacañang at 9 this evening and sailed for his hometown, Talibon, Bohol.

President Garcia left aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria* with the First Lady, their daughter, Mrs. Linda G. Campos, and several Boholanos.

A grand welcome awaits President Garcia in Bohol. This is his first trip to his home province since his victory in the November 12 polls.

November 29.—THE President boarded the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* at 9 o'clock last night with a large entourage of Boholanos bound for the victory celebration in his home province. Accompanying the Chief Executive is the First Lady and their daughter, Mrs. Linda Garcia-Campos.

The yacht ran into rough, seas at lunchtime today and dropped anchor near Romblon to enable the passengers to have their meals. The high waves sent the boat pitching and the passengers to their beds.

Following lunch, the President held a brief news conference and announced that the Administration was stepping up the hunt for Leonardo Manecio, Cavite bandit leader, by increasing the men engaged in the operations.

At the press conference,, the Chief Executive said he was returning to Manila immediately to resume his meeting with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and other Cabinet members on the proposed budget for the coming fiscal year. He said almost all of the Cabinet members had asked for increased operations. He pointed out that their requests would be carefully studied in accordance with their merits.

The Chief Executive said he would prune appropriations to the minimum without impairing the efficiency of government operations.

The President is scheduled to return to Manila in time to attend the state funeral of one-time Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison on Tuesday.

PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed confidence that in the struggle for economic freedom and progress, “our people will prove true to their traditions and will rise and wage the supreme Struggle for economic development with the same determination and sense of destiny as Andres Bonifacio and his brave men did two generations ago.”

The President led the nation in commemorating Andres Bonifacio Day. In a tape-recorded speech, he said that the main motivation and objective of his coming four-year administration will be the uplifting of our common people from ancient poverty and want, providing them opportunities for productive employment of their talents and labor power, affording them of both a just share of the sum total of social wealth as well as of a fair share of responsibility in building up the national economic and social structure.”

The President’s speech had been tape-recorded before he left for Bohol and broadcast over CBN’s station DZXL at 8 p.m. today. He stated that the national structure he wanted to establish “must bear the image of our collective aspirations and ideals as a people, and it must be the product of our own efforts and the material resources which God has so richly endowed this land of ours.”

He urged every Filipino that on this memorable Bonifacio Day, they should realize that in the pursuit of the national objective the same heroism as had been displayed by Andres Bonifacio was required. He expressed belief that his administration objective would rally all the elements of the nation together and galvanize the national will and mind in a unified, purposive force for speedy attainment of that objective.

“I trust that such was the primary expectation of our people in having given me the mandate to head the nation at this period of our history,” the President said.

Reminding the people of the heroism and patriotism of Andres Bonifacio, the President remarked that everybody must realize that in the context of the struggle for economic freedom, everyone, no matter how humble or how mighty, must rise to the heights of heroic dedication.

The President said: “Eleven years ago we won political freedom after long and arduous sacrifice. Today, we are engaged in an equally vital and difficult task—the struggle for economic stability and security. In this struggle we shall need the same fierce fidelity to a common objective, unyielding faith in our own genius and capabilities to rise above harassing circumstances and overcome inevitable obstacles; finally, cheerful willingness to render personal sacrifice for the common good of all and indomitable courage to work together in solid unity such as those of Andres Bonifacio and his men.”

The President added: “This day ought to inspire us with a strong sense of hope and confidence in the future. The story and record of that great struggle of Andres Bonifacio forms a proud part of the traditions not only of our people but also of the whole mankind.”

THE President today; directed NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez and his committee which had prepared the bidding of the development of the Surigao nickel deposits to study amendments to the law governing the mines in order to make its exploitation more attractive to private companies.

The President took this step to hasten the development of the multi-million-peso mines. In the bids which were opened last October 31, to exploit these mines, no bidder participated reportedly because of certain restrictions.

Among points in the law governing the development of the Surigao mines which need amendments are those regarding the participation of the operating company and the guaranteed payments which the company should pay after five years of operation.

It is believed that if the provisions of the law were made more equitable and attractive to the operator, foreign companies will participate in the next bidding.

The President however pointed out that in amending the law, provisions should be included to protect the interests of the Philippine Government.

The President told Romualdez to ready the amendments to the law at the earliest time possible for; submission to the next session of Congress.

The President's interest in the development of the Surigao nickel mines is in accordance with his main objective of solving the country's economic problems.

EXECUTIVE Secretary Fortunato de Leon today inducted Col Jose Rodriguez as chairman of the Board of Dental Examiners, Dr. Pedro Bañez as member of the same board, and Eugenio Reyes as member of the Board of Examiners for Accountancy.

Col. Rodriguez and Dr. Bañez were new appointees while Reyes was reappointed to the same position. Secretary De Leon inducted the three officials at his office in Malacañang.

November 30.— PRESIDENT Garcia arrived in Tagbilaran, Bohol, this morning to find the capital town in a festive mood in welcome to the favorite son of the province. He was received with fluvial parade as the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* steamed into Tagbilaran harbor.

After a brief news conference aboard the yacht, President Garcia debarked at 9:20 a.m. to be received by a welcoming group headed by Bishop Manuel Mascariñas of Tagbilaran. The prelate led the President to the Cathedral where a *Te Deum* was sung for the Chief Executive.

From the church, President Garcia proceeded to the town plaza where he addressed a large throng to thank the Boholanos for endorsing his candidacy. He was later honored with a luncheon at the Tagbilaran Hotel by different civic organizations.

IN the afternoon, the President motored to Batuan where he laid a wreath at the marker honoring Francisco Salazar and his guerilla band. The spot marked the first clash between the Bohol guerillas and Japanese occupation forces in the last war. President Garcia was a member of the guerilla outfit of the province.

IN the evening, the President was honored with a victory ball. He is scheduled to sail for Manila tomorrow evening to arrive here Tuesday morning in time for the funeral services for former Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison.

A BIG delegation of farmers from five provinces in Central Luzon trooped to Malacañang this morning to bring their problems to the attention of President Garcia.

In the absence of President Garcia, who is in Bohol, Col. Crisanto Alba, Malacañang adviser, receive the delegation and heard their complaints, promising to transmit them to president Garcia.

The farmers complained against Juan Bengco, overseer of the San Juan Estate in San Fernando, Pampanga, for allegedly trying to change the crop sharing contract from a basis of 70-30 to 50-50.

The same delegation also requested a presidential directive releasing at least 200 hectares of agricultural land belonging to the Pampanga National Agricultural School reservation to about 60 landless farmers who actually are cultivating the land in the municipality of Magalang, Pampanga.

The farmers also requested presidential intervention in the land conflict between a group of farmers belonging to the Federation of Free Farmers and another headed by Mayor Federico Muli of Dinalupihan, Bataan.

Both groups claim priority rights in the possession of the farm lots, which is a government-owned agricultural land with an approximate area of around 300 hectares located in the barrios extending from Saguin, San Benito, up to Colo, Dinalupihan.

The delegation also alleged that Mayor Muli was able to drive away some of their companions from their farms having a total area of 50 hectares.

Earlier, Nationalist China Foreign Minister George K. Yeh came to Malacañang to pay a courtesy call on the President. In the absence of President Garcia, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon received the Chinese dignitary.

Present during the call were Chinese Ambassador Chen Chih-mai, Col. Chen Ping-ching, air attache, of the Chinese Embassy, and Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora.

Meanwhile, Secretary De Leon announced that President Garcia had signed two proclamations, one declaring the period from December 8 to 14, 1957, as Government Employees Week and another transferring Public Administration Week from the second week of November of this year to the third week of June, 1958.

PRESIDENT Garcia's four-year economic development program gets a boost with the President signing Proclamation No. 459, declaring the period from December 1 to 7, 1957, as National Rice Production Week, Malacañang announced today.

The President's long-range economy plan which the President discussed with his economic advisers last Sunday in Baguio embraced among other things, but principally, all gigantic food production program aimed at making the country self-sufficient in its staple foods which are rice and corn, and other food crops. The proclamation signed by the President stresses only a phase of the huge food production program.

In his proclamation, the President said that "in order to encourage rapid increase in the production of rice, our principal staple food, it is necessary to set aside a period during which the people's attention may be drawn to the importance of increasing our rice supply and achieving self-sufficiency in this commodity."

The Chief Executive directed the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources to take charge of the celebration and to coordinate all activities in connection with the week-long observance. Acting Agriculture Secretary Jose Trinidad said that he had circularized his field men giving them instructions as regards the most effective means of celebrating the National Rice Production Week.

During this period, the people of the Philippines, especially the farmers, will be made more aware of the necessity of producing enough rice to prevent scarcity of this commodity and in order to bring its price well within the reach of the masses. The farmers will also be shown the more effective means of producing rice; such as, seed selection, use of fertilizers and insecticides and the scientific way of planting palay. All of these means will contribute to the production of better quality rice and greater rice yields per hectare.

A Malacañang spokesman said in this connection that the President's four-year food production program included:

- (1) Completion of the irrigation program which will irrigate a total of 500,000 hectares of ricelands;
- (2) Free distribution of insecticides and fertilizers to small farmers producing rice, corn, and other food crops;
- (3) Providing farmers with selected seeds through the establishment of more seed farms throughout the country;
- (4) Construction of more feeder and rural roads to enable farmers to transport their produce more easily to centers of population; and
- (5) Intensified adoption of the Masagana and the Margate systems of rice culture.

The spokesman said that the observance of the National Rice Production Week would focus the nation's attention to the national efforts in increasing the country's rice production and would pave the way for the implementation of the President's gigantic food production program which will be pursued in the next four years.

THE President this day directed all government relief agencies to rush aid to the fire victims of Abuyog, Leyte, where a reported ₱1.5 million fire had gutted six blocks of commercial and residential houses Thursday night, November 28.

In a communication sent to Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, the President ordered the Social Welfare Administration, the Philippine National Red Cross, the Department of Health, and the Armed Forces to rush necessary aid to the fire victims of Abuyog.

The President sent the directive from Tagbilaran, Bohol, where he was informed of the fire.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Official Month in Review: December 1 – December 15, 1957

December 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia today said that one of the prime objectives of his administration was not only to make the country self-sufficient in rice but also to export this commodity.

The President said this effective could be attained by intensive application of fertilizers, insecticides, seed selection, and irrigation system.

The President made this statement at the Bohol capitol at Tagbilaran, where he held a conference with local officials and all town mayors this noon.

The President called upon all town mayors to give their utmost in assisting the Administration's efforts to make the country self-sufficient in rice.

He told the town mayors to exert efforts in making their respective towns self-sufficient in rice and "the Administration will assist you in your objectives."

The Chief Executive said that if the present yield per hectare could be doubled, "we are well on our way to self-sufficiency." The President disclosed that he had talked with rice experts from foreign countries. He said that from these discussions he had learned that the Philippines had all the advantages in rice production over other countries and that he saw no reason why we could not increase rice production. He assured the town mayors that the first agenda in his administration would be to make this country self-sufficient in rice.

Earlier this morning, the President heard mass together with the First Lady at the Tagbilaran cathedral. After the mass, the President and the First Lady went to the Graham Memorial Hospital to visit an 80-year old friend, Camilo Calceta, who is suffering from a heart ailment. Then the President retired to his Tagbilaran residence, where he spent most of the day receiving well-wishers.

At 6 p.m. the President and his family boarded the *RPS Sta. Maria* for the return voyage to Manila.

THE President this evening ordered the half-masting of the Filipino flag all over the Philippines in honor of the late Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison beginning Monday morning, December 2, until Thursday, December 5.

The President's order was issued aboard the *RPS Sta. Maria* bearing the presidential party on its return trip to Manila from Bohol.

Malacañang kindly requests that all officials concerned be guided and act accordingly.

EXECUTIVE Secretary Fortunato de Leon today announced the appointment by President Garcia of Caesar Lanuza as chief of the Philippine Reparations Mission to Japan.

Malacañang also announced that President Garcia received a cablegram from President Dwight D. Eisenhower thanking the former for his message expressing his concern and that of the Filipino people regarding the latter's recent illness.

The message of President Eisenhower reads:

"His Excellency Carlos P. Garcia
"President of the Republic of the Philippines
Manila, Philippines

“I received your kind message expressing concern regarding my illness. I am most grateful for your good wishes and those of your countrymen.

“DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER”

December 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez to confer again with ACCFA Administrator Ernesto Jimenez on the finalization of plans to grant loans through the cooperative way to small farmers whose lands are without titles, as a means of increasing rice production.

The President’s directive was a follow-up of his previous approval of a new RFC policy granting loans on lands without titles owned by small farmers.

Chairman Romualdez had earlier conferred with Administrator Jimenez on the granting of this kind of loans through cooperatives. Romualdez said a preliminary understanding had already been reached regarding the mechanics of the granting of these loans through the FACOMA cooperatives.

President Garcia said that the granting of this kind of loans through the cooperative way was more effective and would minimize liability of possible losses by the government.

The Chief Executive told Romualdez to perfect the mechanism in securing this loan through the cooperative way. He added that he would call a joint conference with Romualdez and Jimenez when they were ready with their final plan.

THE President this day ordered the airlifting to Manila, if necessary, and the hospitalization and treatment of a 17-year old girl who had been reportedly raped by about 22 persons in Victorias, Negros Occidental.

At the same time the President ordered the immediate and thorough investigation of the incident. The girl, Dionisia Salem, of Calatrava town was reported by the Philippine News Service as having become insane and almost mute.

The PNS story also said that the girl was suffering from hemorrhage as a result of her experience. The report further said that she would not talk to anybody and would merely stare at nothing.

Salem was a house maid and was on her way to Bacolod City on a bus when she was allegedly abused in the town of Victorias.

The President issued the order for the investigation of the incident and the hospitalization and treatment of the girl from the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria*, where he is now on board on his way to Manila from Bohol. The President was informed of the incident by Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

PRESIDENT Garcia today spent most of his time in the ship’s salon, working on a pile of state papers flown over to Tagbilaran from Manila for the Chief Executive to study on the return trip.

For relaxation, the President played a few rounds of chess with Navy Capt. Heracleo Alano and some of the newsmen with the presidential party.

Pulling out of Tagbilaran harbor at 6:20 p.m. yesterday, the yacht followed a longer route to Manila to avoid the choppy Visayan and Sibuyan Seas which had caused considerable discomfort to passengers on the way to Bohol last Friday.

On the return voyage the boat headed for Ticao Pass and sought calmer waters around a string of small islands along the coast of the Bicol region.

The trip suffered a slight delay when a cable in the ship's steering mechanism snapped at 4:26 a.m. today. The boat was cruising at 13.5 knots near Manok Island, several miles from the southeastern tip of Masbate, when Lieut. Cmdr. Leovigildo Cantioque, the ship's captain, promptly ordered all engines stopped and the steerage transferred to a subsidiary mechanism located at the stern and used in emergencies. The yacht then proceeded at a slower pace, while the mechanical defect was being fixed.

Some four hours later, the ship again stopped near Tansurias Point, some 46 miles south of the eastern coast of Masbate while the steerage was restored at the captain's bridge.

With the President on board are the First Lady, daughter Linda, and son-in-law Fernando Campos.

December 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received former President Sergio Osmeña at Malacañang, immediately after arriving from a trip to Bphol on board the *RPS Santa Maria*.

The Chief Executive and Osmeña were closetted at the Malacañang music room for about 30 minutes.

Former President Osmeña is in Manila to speak tomorrow at the necrological services at the session hall of the House of Representatives in honor of the late Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison.

After receiving Osmeña, President Garcia conferred with Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon about pending state matters.

The President signed the appointments of Rodolfo Andal and Miguel D. Velasco as members of the Board of Trustees of the Government Service Insurance System for a term of three years, expiring on December 3, 1960.

After conferring with Secretary De Leon, President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting.

THE President today signed a proclamation declaring the period from February 2 to 8, 1958, as "Aid to the Blind and Handicapped Week."

The proclamation said that the money to be realized from the solicitation of funds during the week would constitute a trust fund called "The Blind and Handicapped Fund" to be placed under the control and administration of the Social Welfare Administrator.

The proclamation authorized the SWA to conduct a campaign for the blind and other handicapped persons.

The President called upon all citizens and residents of the Philippines, as well as civic spirited organizations and associations to support this campaign.

THE CABINET at its meeting today unanimously endorsed the four-year program of self-sufficiency in rice and corn production launched by President Garcia in consultation with his economic advisers in Baguio 10 days ago.

The endorsement of the President's long-range food production program which forms the core of his four-year economic development plan had also the concurrence of the Presidential Rice and Palay Board which had studied the problem.

The board is composed of Acting Agriculture Secretary Jose M. Trinidad as chairman, with Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez and Labor Secretary Angel Castaño as members.

The President and the Cabinet spent considerable time in discussing this gigantic food production program launched by the President. They discussed the long and short-range incentives which the Government should give to producers of rice and corn in order to increase effectively the production of these essential cereals.

The Cabinet approved the following incentives that will insure increased rice production under the President's long-range program:

- (1) Completion of the construction of 26 irrigation systems in addition to the 16 already finished, making a total of 42 irrigation systems which will irrigate a total of 500,000 hectares of rice lands. At present there are only 16 irrigation systems serving around 200,000 hectares.
- (2) Distribution of free fertilizers and insecticides to small rice and corn farmers.
- (3) Loaning of superior varieties of rice seedlings to farmers to replace inferior ones now being planted. This calls for the construction of more seed farms throughout the country.
- (4) Construction of more rural and feeder roads throughout the Philippines to enable the farmers to transport their palay to centers of population.
- (5) Intensified propagation of the Margate and the Masagana rice cultures to replace the antiquated systems of rice planting.
- (6) Use of high-recovery rice mills.

The President and the Cabinet approved a recommendation of the Presidential Rice and Palay Board fixing the price support for palay from P9 to P10 a cavan, depending on the quality of the palay and the distance from the point of purchase to the nearest NARIC station.

In approving this price support, the President emphasized that this was only a temporary incentive to rice producers. He said that the permanent incentives would be given in the implementation of the long-range food production program.

The President and the Cabinet also decided that the NARIC should buy as much as possible of the present palay harvest in order that it would have enough palay stocks for stabilization purposes during periods of scarcity of the cereal.

During the discussion of the rice problem, it was pointed out that it was essential for the majority of rice farmers to change their old and ineffective methods of rice culture to the more scientific ways which have proved to result in much greater yields per hectare.

It was further said that this was one of the difficulties being encountered in the national effort at increased rice production and that it should be immediately overcome by more intensified propagation of the Masagana and the Margate systems.

It was suggested that there should be a model rice farm in every town in the Philippines in order to serve as an example for all the farmers in the barrios to follow the improved methods of rice culture.

It was the consensus of the Cabinet that with the implementation of this four-year gigantic food production program of the Administration, the Philippines would succeed not only in producing enough rice but also in eventually producing surplus stocks for export. This belief was based on the fact that the Philippines usually imported about two million cavans of rice. However, if all these incentives would be fully implemented, rice production would increase by several million cavans.

During the discussion of the rice situation, the President directed Marcelino Constantino, acting director of the Bureau of Plant Industry, to make an official inspection of rice farms in Central Luzon which are reportedly infested. The President further directed that if this widespread rice infestation was true, the Bureau of Plant Industry should borrow an Air Force plane to be used in spraying the rice fields for more effective results.

Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas said that an Air Force plane would be available at a moment's notice.

The President called Director Constantino to the Cabinet meeting to give information on reports that rice farms in Central Luzon were infested. Constantino replied that the Bureau of Plant Industry and the Bureau of Agricultural Extension had already taken action in remedying the situation by means of using insecticides.

It was suggested that the more effective way to arrest this infestation was to spray the rice fields with insecticides by means of planes.

Constantino said he would implement immediately the President's orders.

UPON recommendation of Manila Railroad Company General Manager Salvador T. Villa, the President and the Cabinet approved the inclusion of the following items in the second year reparations payments from Japan:

Three sleeper coaches at \$51,626.67	
Twenty third class coaches at \$37,500.00	
Seven diesel rail cars at \$48,320.00	
Total	\$

The Cabinet gave top priority for the procurement of these items and directed that they should be procured immediately in order to hasten the rehabilitation of the MRR.

THE Cabinet authorized the creation of the Philippine delegation to the Third ECAFE Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development to be held in Manila from December 4 to 10, 1957.

The committee is composed of the following:

Public Works Director Julian A. Buendia, chairman; National Power Corporation General Manager Filemon Zablan, 1st alternate chairman; NAWASA General Manager Susano Negado, 2nd alternate chairman; and the following as delegates:

Manuel Torres, Antonio Locsin, Tomas de Guzman, Antonio A. Villanueva, Alejandro B. Deleña, Pedro Afable, Cesar Nuguid, Anastacio Bartolome, Jose Macaranas, Lauro Pacis, Roberto Villatuya, Antonio C. Menor, Jose O. Lahoz, Jose U. Jovellanos, Ramon R. Ravanzo, Teofilo M. Mendoza, Santiago A. Banilan, LCdr. Constancio M. Legaspi, Florencio M. Asiddao, Eugenio B. Manalo, Ignacio R. Ang, Alberto M. Villarez, Benedicto L. Adan, Filemon C. Rodriguez, Francisco B. Fajardo, Antonio N. Avecilla, Crisostomo L. Alma Jose, Epifanio N. Salumbides, Vicente G. Cruz, and Oscar L. S. Sarte.

THE Cabinet approved the reservation of 3,360 square; meters of land in Intramuros, corner of Cabildo and Sta. Potenciana Streets, as the site for the construction of the National Economic Council building.

The Cabinet gave its approval upon recommendation of Acting NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez.

The Cabinet meeting was held at the Council of State room and lasted from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The President presided over the meeting.

IN the afternoon, the President inaugurated the Liberty Milk Plant of the General Milk Company in Mandaluyong, Rizal, and said that the establishment of the factory was a contribution to the progress of the country's economy.

The President gave a brief remark after the plant was blessed by Archbishop Rufino J. Santos of Manila. The First Lady, assisted by Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez and ladies of the company officials, cut the ceremonial ribbon.

The Chief Executive praised the officials of the General Milk Company of Los Angeles, California, for the establishment of the company's first milk plant in the Far East. He said that the establishment of the milk plant was a milestone in the industrial and economic progress of the country.

The President was shown around the plant by William D. Dobson, executive vice-president of the General Milk Company, and James L. Terrassa, general manager of the local plant.

Leaving Malacañang about 5:15 p.m. with the First Lady, the President arrived at the milk plant about fifteen minutes later and was met and greeted by the company officials. He and the First Lady then proceeded to the platform where a short program was held in connection with the inauguration. The President gave his remarks before the ceremonial ribbon was cut.

From the Liberty Milk plant, the President and the First Lady motored to Taft Avenue where they inaugurated the Carmen D. Cruz building. The new commercial building is owned by Mrs. Carmen D. Cruz.

The President and the First Lady returned to Malacañang past 7 p.m.

December 4.—THIS morning the President assured members of the Iloilo Newsmen's Association who called on him that his stand on the case against Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon would be based on the merits of the case "devoid of political color."

The President said that he had not acted on the administrative case against Mayor Ganzon before the elections because then his action would have been suspected of being tinted with politics.

He allayed fears of the Iloilo newsmen that the official papers had been stolen. He said that transcription of the records of the case had been made and that copies would always be available to interested parties.

Members of the INA who called on the President included Jesus P. Ramos, president of the association, and members Jose Burgos, Rudolfo Claparols, Gil G. Palma, and Nacionacino Rico.

Earlier, the President received Manila City Mayor Arsenio Lacson, who discussed with the Chief Executive matters on the improvement of Manila.

The President also received Gov. Alejo Santos and Rep. Rogancio Mercado of Bulacan, who informed him that rice production in Bulacan had been accelerated by applying both the Margate and the Masagana systems.

The President told Gov. Santos and Rep. Mercado that he was glad that rice production in Bulacan had been intensified. He reiterated that the first objective of his administration was to increase rice production and make the country self-sufficient in this staple crop.

Then the President motored to the Senate session hall, where he delivered a speech at the opening of the THIRD ECAFE Regional Technical Conference on Water Development. (*See Historical Papers and Document*, pp. 8523–8527, for full text of the President's speech.) He was fetched from Malacañang by Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno.

PRESIDENT Garcia this day issued the following statement:

"I have read from the newspapers that the Supreme Court has granted bail to the members of the Politburo. I have asked for a copy of the court's decision.

"Since this is of vital importance to the country affecting specifically the national security, I have summoned the secretary of justice, the secretary of national defense, the AFP chief of staff, and the director of the National

Intelligence Coordinating Agency to a conference tomorrow for the explicit purpose of assessing the implication of the court's ruling.

"I take this occasion to restate my unequivocal stand against Communism. Partly on this platform I was elected to office by our people and I am determined to implement the people's mandate."

PRESIDENT Garcia expressed indignation upon receipt this day of a report from the provincial commander of Negros Occidental verifying a *Philippine News Service* story on the alleged group-raping of a 17-year old girl in Victorias, Negros Occidental.

The President said that the guilty parties of the beastly crime should be made to suffer the full penalty of the law. He further directed that the victim, a 17-year old girl, Dionisia Salem of Calatrava town, Negros Occidental, who is still at the Negros Occidental Hospital, be given all the needed medical treatment and hospitalization and, if necessary, should be immediately airlifted to Manila for hospitalization.

According to the Constabulary report, Dionisia is still at the provincial hospital suffering from shock. The report added that she would not answer questions when interviewed.

The Constabulary commander said that the PC was leaving no stone unturned until justice is done. He added that the PC was assisting the provincial fiscal in gathering evidence in the prosecution of the case.

The report further said that 10 persons involved in the alleged rape were already identified and had been accused with rape, including serious physical injuries. The case is now filed with the justice of the peace court of Victorias.

Of the ten persons accused, three were lodged in jail because they had been unable to post a bond of P16,000 each. The seven others still at large are the object of a province-wide manhunt by the PC and the police forces.

THE President today received a resolution of the Iloilo Lawyer's Association pledging anew the loyalty, support, and cooperation of its members to his administration.

In renewing their pledge, the Ilongo barristers stated that it was cognizant of the determination of President Garcia, who had shown devotion and dedicated service to the Filipino people, to push through his plan to ameliorate the economic plight of the masses.

The resolution was presented to President Garcia by Tomas Concepcion and Engracio Areño, in the presence of Rafael D. Lavente, Ramon D. Duremdes, Emilio Eligio, Nazareno Bedia, and Agustin Misola, all members of the association.

IN the afternoon the President received Ambassador Felino Neri, who paid his respects immediately upon his arrival from Tokyo.

Neri congratulated the President on his victory at the recent polls and informed the Chief Executive that his victory had been popularly acclaimed in Japan. He also took up with the President general matters pertaining to the visit of Prime Minister Nobusuki Kishi.

Ambassador Neri, who returned to the Philippines after about two years of stay in Tokyo, will be in consultations with President Garcia and Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano on Philippine-Japanese problems.

During his stay in Manila, he will find out how he can be of help in appraising Philippine-Japanese relations from a proper perspective in the light of his experiences in Tokyo.

President Garcia also received this afternoon visiting executives of the Compania General de Tabacos de Filipinas who called at Malacañang to pay their respects following their recent arrival here from Barcelona, Spain.

During their call the business executives informed the President of the plan of their company to expand its branch factories in the Philippines in line with the Administration's industrialization program. They also presented the President with an autograph picture of the President of Uruguay.

The visiting Tabacalera officials were Fernando Gari, Francisco Cantarell, and Jaime Gil de Leon. They were accompanied to Malacañang by officials of the local branch; namely, Charles H. Davies, Ramon Barata, Ricardo Padilla, and Rafael S. Torres. The visiting businessmen are scheduled to return to Spain on Friday.

Mons. Egidio Vagnozzi, papal nuncio, also called to pay his respects. During the call, the nuncio discussed with the President the forthcoming visit to the Philippines of Francis Cardinal Spellman.

Other callers this evening included Gov. Juan Alberto and Congressman-elect Jose Alberto of Catanduanes; Mayor Cesar Climaco of Zamboanga City; Augusto Syjuco, president of Darigold Milk Co.; and Manuel Leelin, vice-president of the Willard Batteries of the Philippines

December 5.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia today led the nation in paying last tribute to the late former Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison.

The First Family motored to the session hall of the House of Representatives, where necrological services for the departed former-governor-general were held.

Arriving at the session hall at exactly 8:30 a.m., the President and the First Lady sought the immediate members of the family of the late governor-general and condoled with them.

The necrological services commenced after the President had taken his seat at the rostrum of the session hall. Seated with the Chief Executive were former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, and Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez.

The President's funeral oration climaxed the necrological services. (See *Historical Papers and Documents*, pp. 8527–8530, for full text of President's oration.) Other funeral orators were former President Sergio Osmeña, U.S. Minister Horace Smith, Sen. Gil Puyat, and Rep. Joaquin R. Roces. The Philippine Constabulary Band under the baton of Col. Antonio Buenaventura furnished the music.

Present at the necrological services were department secretaries, members of the diplomatic corps, justices of the Supreme Court, and other high government officials of the Philippines and the United States. Also present were ranking officers of the armies and navies of both the Philippines and the United States.

After the necrological services, the President joined the funeral procession to the North Cemetery. The No. 1 car bearing the President, the First Lady, Mrs. Maria Teresa Harrison, and F. B. Harrison, Jr., followed the caisson bearing the remains of the late governor-general.

A 19-gun salute marked the arrival of the funeral cortege at the North Cemetery. Then taps was played and rifle volleys were fired.

After the burial ceremonies, five Filipino soldiers carefully folded the Philippine and the American flags which were draped around the coffin of the late governor-general. The flags were handed to the President who in turn gave them to the widow of the late governor-general. At high noon the coffin bearing the remains of Governor-General Harrison was interred.

The President returned to Malacañang about 12:20 p.m.

President Garcia today discussed with the secretary of justice, the defense secretary, and top brass of the Armed Forces the implications of the recent Supreme Court decision granting bail to ten politburo members.

The conferees agreed to take up certain precautionary measures in the interest of the State. Details of the measures were not revealed.

Attending the luncheon conference presided over by the President were Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason; Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas; Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenko, Jr.; Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez; Brig. Gen. Diosdado L. Rodriguez, acting AFP chief of staff; Brig. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, PC chief; Brig. Gen. Pelagio A. Cruz, NICA chief; Col. Ismael Lapuz, AFP G-2 chief; and Col. Angel Salcedo, AFP Judge Advocate General. Also present were Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable.

The President's action in calling justice and defense officials to a conference was spurred by the Supreme Court's allowing ten politburo officials accused of rebellion to be released on bail pending appeal of the decision convicting them.

The President said that the Supreme Court action was of vital importance to the country, as it affected national security.

IN the afternoon the President conferred with Senator Puyat on plans for gradual lifting of trade and exchange controls.

The President then motored to the National Press Club building, where he inducted the officers of the Political Writers Association of the Philippines.

He delivered a 30-minute extemporaneous address before the political writers, after which he went down to the NPC library and had a chess bout with Pedro A. Amaguin of the *Chronicle*.

PRESIDENT Garcia yesterday called upon the political writers of the country to help his administration with "constructive criticisms to guide me in my actuations for the next four years."

He inducted the officers of the Political Writers Association of the Philippines in a brief ceremony at the National Press Club building this afternoon.

In a 30-minute extemporaneous speech the President said his program in the next four years will be geared towards "putting the Republic in a state of stable economy."

He exhorted newspapermen to help him guide his administration with suggestions and "constructive criticisms."

In inviting criticisms from the newspapermen and from the public, the President said he is human and does not presume to the infallible.

He pointed out that since he is not contemplating to run for reelection, he will "not fear the bunting against me."

The Chief Executive recalled that the political writers had been "fair with me during the last election campaign in spite of their political convictions."

He expressed the hope that newspapermen will always "write truth," adding that the newspapermen "who are mostly my friends, should consider more their friendship with truth than with me."

The President reiterated that his main concern the next four years is the solution of economic problems.

Expressing his determination to tackle this problem, he sought the guidance from the public and the press with their suggestions.

In inducting the officers of the Political Writers Association, the President said the organization is a “potent group especially during the elections.”

However, he urged them to live up to the noble traditions established by early political writers such as former President Sergio Osmeña, Sen. Claro M. Recto, and the late Sen. Manuel C. Briones.

After their induction, the PWA officers presented President Garcia with a scroll congratulating him on his recent electoral victory and wishing him success in his administration.

Francisco C. Dipasupil of the *Chronicle*, who was inducted president of the association, said in his brief remarks, that the organization proposes to “conduct forums to which we shall invite our political leaders, government administrators, and our men of thought and action who, we believe, could help in our task of informing the public of the facts and implications of a given problem or measure affecting the vital interests of the people.

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this evening gave a dinner in Malacañang in honor of the late Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison.

Those honored were Mrs. Francis B. Harrison, widow; Mrs. Wescott, daughter; Miss Deborah Wescott, granddaughter; Miss Haite Aguietxe, step-daughter; and Francis B. Harrison, Jr., son.

Other guests were Ex-President and Mrs. Sergio Osmeña, Minister Raul Leuterio, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, Capt. Russ Sabalones, aide to the Harrison family from U.S., and Manuel G. Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer.

December 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed hope that the visit to the Philippines of Japanese Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi would usher in a new era of better relations and understanding between this country and Japan.

Receiving at Malacañang the Japanese premier who arrived in Manila this morning on a two-day state visit in this country, the President added that under a friendly atmosphere, the Philippines and Japan could work together for the common welfare and peace not only of countries within this area but also in the whole world.

Pledges of friendly and better relations between the Philippines and Japan were exchanged by President Garcia and the visiting Japanese prime minister.

Kishi expressed the gratitude of the Japanese people for Filipino support in the admission of Japan as a member of the United Nations and its election as member of the Security Council.

He also congratulated the Philippine Chief Executive on his victory in the presidential election and said that the country will have a rosy future under the administration of President Garcia.

In response, President Garcia expressed his satisfaction that the two countries are friends again and added that the help the Philippines extended to Japan in the United Nations is in line with his policy to help establish an enduring peace.

The Japanese Prime Minister received full military honors upon arrival at Malacañang from a unit of the President Guard Battalion.

He was accompanied to Malacañang by Secretary Felixberto Serrano of Foreign Affairs and members of his official party which included Kichi Aichi, chief cabinet secretary; Takizo Matsumoto, parliamentary vice-minister of foreign affairs; Ryoichi Nagata, Hajime Tamura, and Tatsui Chuma, members of the House of Representatives; Kyutaro Ozawa, member of the House of Councilors; and Michiaki Suma, Shinsuke Hori, Kuniyoshi Date, and Masao Togashi, of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

IN the evening the President gave a formal dinner in honor of Japanese Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi and members of his party who are currently on a two-day state visit in the Philippines.

Minister Kishi and his party arrived in Manila this morning on the last lap of their second Asian goodwill tour which had taken them to 11 countries.

The affair was attended by leaders of Congress, department secretaries, members of the local diplomatic corps, Chief Justice Ricardo Paras, Senate Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman and Mrs. Francisco Delgado, Senator Jose P. Laurel, Senator Claro M. Recto, and Auditor and Mrs. Pedro Jimenez among others.

December 7.—THE President cancelled his trip to Baguio City where he was scheduled to meet Japanese Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi on the Japanese sponsored Asian Development Fund and other problems facing the two countries.

President Garcia cancelled his trip after he was informed that the Japanese Prime Minister became indisposed following a dinner given him in Malacañang last night.

However, Mr. Kishi told a press conference in the evening that his doctors diagnosed his indisposition as due to fatigue in “selling” his Asian Development Fund and the change of climate he experienced in the Philippines.

The Japanese prime minister also told newsmen at a press conference that he had refrained from eating since his ailment, and disclosed that he was a little weak but felt much better.

The President did not receive any callers in the morning, as he conferred with his advisers on the Japan- sponsored Asian Development Fund and other ticklish issues which had recently ruffled the relations between the Philippines and Japan.

President Garcia, upon learning that his guest, Prime Minister Kishi, had recovered from a stomach ailment, re-scheduled their conference in the afternoon.

The two were locked in conference for three hours and 25 minutes and were reported to have touched on various subjects, including the international situation.

After his conference with Kishi, the President received Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, who reported on the attempt on his life at his residence by three grenade throwers early this morning.

PRESIDENT Garcia underscored the active threat posed by communism to the integrity of the family as an institution at the closing ceremonies of the First National Conference on Filipino Family Life held this evening at the Malacañang Social Hall.

In his speech, read by Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, President Garcia pointed out that communism is hostile to the family in the belief that it is the last refuge of property right.

He added that the communist regime in Russia has embarked on a campaign aimed at the systematic eradication of families, substituting them with numerous youth organizations.

Although the Filipinos are fortunately free from this threat, the President said, for they are uncompromisingly against communism as a way of life, even a modern democratic society develops conditions which tend to undermine family cohesion, like co-education, industrialization, woman suffrage, and the increasing search for recreation outside of the home as a result of a rising standard of living and shorter hours of work.

Another highlight of the closing ceremonies was the presentation of a certificate of appreciation to Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia, who “in her various roles as housewife, mother, and First Lady, has carried on in the best tradition of the Filipino family.”

December 8.—THE President this day spent most of his time working on state papers. He motored to his hideout with only an aide accompanying him.

Earlier, the President together with his family heard mass at the Malacañang Chapel. After breakfast at his bedroom, the President read the Sunday papers. Afterwards he motored to his hideout where he worked on state papers until lunchtime.

After a brief rest in the afternoon the President resumed working on state papers.

December 9.—THIS morning the President received Manila City “Mayor” Ana Lopez, of the Epifanio de los Santos Elementary School, and other juvenile city officials, who took the reins of the city government in connection with Boys and Girls Week.

“Mayor” Lopez and the other juvenile city officials took their oath of office before proceeding to Malacañang to pay a courtesy call on President Garcia.

Other juvenile officials were Romeo Fernandez, “vice-mayor” and “presiding officer” of the Municipal Board; and Elza Dapilos, Jose Layug, June Bergman, Amante Legaspi, Zoilo Isip, Romana Sioson, Emmanuel Arriola, Alejo Villanueva, Jr., Juanito Go, Emiliano Yumang, Rustico Serrano, and Francisco Villaflor.

Sorsogon Gov. Juan Frivaldo and about ten municipal mayors of his province also saw President Garcia to request the partial release of at least P5 million for the construction of the extension of the railroad line to Matnog, Sorsogon.

Frivaldo informed the President that the survey of the extension would be through by February next and with the immediate release of P5 million, construction work could be started right after the survey.

Under Republic Act 1623, Congress appropriated the sum of P15 million for the extension of the southern line of the Manila Railroad Company to Matnog.

Don Huth, outgoing manager of the local AP office, called on President Garcia to bid goodbye before proceeding to his new post in Singapore and to present his successor, Jim Becker. Huth was accompanied by his wife, Ann, and Eugenio Boado, also of the AP.

PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received the immediate members of the family of the late former Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison who called at Malacañang to express their gratitude to the Philippine Government which had accorded the departed former governor-general a state funeral.

Mrs. Maria Teresa Harrison, widow of the late governor-general, told the President that the entire Harrison family would never forget the assistance which the Philippine President had extended to them in their hour of bereavement.

The immediate family of the late former governor-general included Mrs. Barbara Wescott, daughter; Francis, Jr., son; Deborah Wescott and Maite Aguiretxe, granddaughters.

The Harrison were accompanied to Malacañang by Philippine Minister Raul T. Leuterio and Capt. Ruso Sabalones of the U.S. Army, aide to the Harrison family.

FOUR leading Filipino chambers which had recently been merged into the Philippine Inter-Chamber Organization (BICO) today called on President Garcia and pledged to cooperate with the Administration in the solution of the country's economic problems.

Former Secretary Primitivo Lovina, chairman of the PICO, told the President that in order to coordinate the activities of these four chambers and synchronize them with those of the government in relation to trade, commerce, and industry, the new organization had been organized.

Those who called on the President aside from Chairman Lovina, who is the President of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce, were Fernando E. V. Sison, vice-chairman of the PICO and at the same time president of the Philippine Chamber of Industries; Alfredo Montelibano, president of the Chamber of Agriculture and Natural Resources of the Philippines; and Gaudencio E. Antonino, president of the Producers and Exporters Association of the Philippines. Also with the group were A. B. Isip, secretary of the PICO, and Dean Hermenegildo R. Reyes.

Speaking for the PICO group, Lovina said that the organization would periodically meet to study problems of common interest in order to promote more cooperation, team-work, and understanding among the different chambers and thus minimize conflicting view-points.

He said that owing to the many problems affecting private business and industry, the PICO would assist the Administration in the solution of these problems.

The President thanked the PICO for their offer of help and said that he would confer with them from time to time as he had already started to do, in seeking the solution of the country's economic problems.

December 10.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this morning motored to the Sta. Rita College chapel to hear another Thanksgiving mass for the holding of the recent peaceful elections.

Arriving at the chapel at exactly 7:30 a.m., the President and the First Lady were greeted by the members of the faculty headed by Sor Carmen de la Sagrada Familia, mother superior of Sta. Rita College.

President and Mrs. Garcia were accompanied by their daughter Linda and her husband, Fernando Campos. Also present at the mass were Mrs. Eulogio Balao and Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto. The mass was followed by a *Te Deum*.

Then the President and his family ate breakfast at the Sta. Rita convent.

THE President today received Charles Lucey, of the Scripps-Howard newspaper chain, who called following his arrival from Saigon, Vietnam. Lucey was accompanied by William Miller, local UP head.

After Lucey, the President received Nick Osmeña, Peping Corominas, and Geminiano Yabut, who informed him of the progress of the work of the inauguration committee.

The President then received Govs. Manuel Barretto of Zambales and Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan, who discussed problems of their respective provinces.

President Garcia also received Sens. Pedro Sabido and Quintin Paredes, and Senator-elect Eulogio Balao, as well as Lands Director Zoilo Castrillo and acting OEC Administrator Juan Concon, before going to the ceremonial hall to receive a delegation of veterans led by Manila Vice-Mayor Jesus Marcos Rocas, Col. Conrado B. Rigor, Maj. Francisco Offemaria, and Mrs. Pilar Normandy.

PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed satisfaction that 22 different veterans organizations had finally decided to unite under the Veterans Federation of the Philippines and promised to help the federation look after the welfare of its members.

The President admitted that in the past, the Administration could not help effectively the veterans because of their disunited stand on matters concerning them.

Representative elements of the 22 different veterans, organizations saw the President at the Malacañang ceremonial hall and informed him that they had unified under one permanent national federation. They also requested the President to prepare an administration bill to be submitted to Congress granting a charter to the Veterans Federation of the Philippines.

Dealing with one united organization, the President said, the Administration could understand better the problems of the veterans. He recalled that the question of veterans, unification had been first started during the administration of the late President Roxas.

He added that when he was a senator, he advocated the unification of the veterans, group under one organization to present a solid front in obtaining more benefits for the veterans, war widows, and orphans.

Manila Vice-Mayor Jesus Marcos Roces, national commander of the CONVETS, and Col. Conrado B. Rigor, chairman of the unification committee, informed the President that the VFP was ready to begin the spadework in the attainment of its objectives, one of them being legislation affecting veterans and their widows and orphans.

Filipino delegates to the World Veterans Federation Convention in Berlin, Germany, led by Maj. Francisco Offemaria, national commander of the Philippine Veterans Legion, and Ben Florentino of the United Disabled Veterans of the Philippines, also reported to the President the accomplishment of the Filipino delegation.

THIS noon President Garcia expressed the gratitude of the Filipino people especially the veterans, to John T. Cooper, Jr., U.S.V.A. manager, in an after-luncheon remarks.

President and Mrs. Garcia honored Mr. and Mrs. Cooper with a luncheon. The Coopers are sailing for the United States tomorrow.

In his brief remarks President Garcia said that Cooper had done a wonderful work in looking after the benefits of some 100,000 Filipino veterans. For this reason, the President said, the Filipinos were grateful to Mr. Cooper.

Mr. Cooper said that he would continue to be of help to the Filipinos even if he would be away from the Philippines. He wished the President success in his administration during the next four years.

THE President will meet with his Cabinet members jointly with members of the Monetary Board tomorrow to discuss the new Central Bank policies regarding the curbing of imports and the restriction of credits.

The President had a preliminary talk today with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, chairman of the Monetary Board, on new reports about the Monetary Board, on new reports about the Monetary Board's seven-point directive.

The Chief Executive said that he would take up this matter with his Cabinet members and the members of the Monetary Board at their meeting tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

IN the afternoon the president urged all the organizations which worked for his victory in the recent election to help him in making a success of his administration.

"We won the election and we should not lose the administration," the President told the members of the various Garcia-for-President organizations who called on him at Malacañang. He suggested that the GPM and the other organizations unite and join in a crusade for good government.

The President said that there were many ways of making the Administration a success, and appealed to the members of the various organizations to help him. "Let us make our victory complete by giving the people a good government," he remarked.

The Chief Executive thanked the members of the organizations "for your assistance in making my victory in the polls possible." He said that in choosing men for government jobs, he would adhere to qualifications and "would not place square pegs in round holes."

The President was cheered by the members of the organizations several times during his brief remarks. He met them at the Malacañang social hall about 5:30 p.m. After shaking hands with them, he delivered his brief remarks.

Earlier in the afternoon, the President received CONDA (Conference Delegates Association) officials who invited him to be their guest speaker at their conference in Baguio City on December 28. The President said that he would send a representative, because he would be very busy with his inauguration address which he would deliver on December 30. The CONDA officials were headed by Napoleon Lichauco, president, and accompanied by Rafael Salas and Ignacio Debuque, Jr., Malacañang technical assistant on student affairs.

The President also received officials of Cagayan de Oro City headed by Vice-Mayor Osmundo Waga. The Cagayan de Oro City officials discussed their local problems with the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT Garcia today wished Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi of Japan "continued success in all your undertakings for strengthening the ties of friendship between Japan and the Philippines and all Asian neighbors."

In an answer to Premier Kishi's message expressing his gratitude "for the warm reception and hospitality I and my party were accorded in the Philippines," the President also wished peace and prosperity of the Japanese people.

In his message to the President, Premier Kishi said: "I am happy to believe that my visit, especially the personal contact I had with Your Excellency, will bear good fruits in the furtherance of friendship and cooperation between our two nations."

December 11.—THE President this morning was assured by officials of the National Power Corporation and the International Engineering and Development Company of Japan that arrangements had already been made to start soon the design work of the Marikina multipurpose project.

Filemon Zablan, NPC general manager, and Filemon Rodriguez, former NEC chairman, accompanied Yoshiaki Hatta and Kazunori Nakamura, president and managing director, respectively, of the Japanese firm. Also with the Japanese industrial officials were Nobuyuki Kumakawa, director, and Kiyoshi Yasuda, managing director.

The President was assured that as soon as the design work is through, a report will be submitted to the Import and Export Bank of Japan to support a proposed loan application of \$50 million to finance the construction of the project.

The Chief Executive expressed the hope that the project will serve as a monument of concrete manifestation made by the Japanese through reparations.

The \$50 million loan to be extended by the Import and Export Bank of Japan will be paid out of reparations.

The Marikina multi-purpose project will include a hydroelectric plant, irrigation system, flood control system, and a reservoir to augment the water supply of Manila and the suburbs.

The President received Speaker Protempore Daniel Romualdez, who accompanied Reps. Manual Zosa of Cebu and Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, members on the part of the House of Representatives of the congressional board of

canvassers which reported the results of the recent presidential elections at a joint session of the Senate and the House of Representatives held yesterday.

Earlier, President Garcia received Minister Raul T. Leuterio, who called to say goodbye before returning to his post in New York.

THE President today was informed by Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor that relief materials, mostly rice and canned goods, were released by the SWA for shipment to Batanes where an estimated 10,000 persons are suffering from hunger as a result of the destruction of crops in the recent typhoon.

Mrs. Villamor reported to the President that 200 sacks of rice and canned goods had been sent earlier to Batanes where the SWA has a branch office. She said that the SWA was sending continuous shipments to the hunger-stricken area to curb the threat of starvation.

She also said that some emergency food materials might be sent by plane to the hunger-stricken area. She said a team of SWA social workers might also be sent to survey the disaster and make the necessary recommendation to rehabilitate the typhoon victims. The Air Force has been cooperating with the SWA in ferrying relief to the typhoon stricken areas.

PRESIDENT Garcia today was informed by Collector of Internal Revenue Jose Arañas that there actually is no deficit of a little over P10 million in the BIR collections during the period from July 1 to September 30, 1957, as earlier reported.

In a written report to the President, Collector Arañas said that the collections of the BIR from July 1 to September 30, 1957, exceeded the estimated budgetary income by P544,379.70. Arañas said that a perusal of the figures on actual collections compiled by the BIR from the monthly reports of provincial, city, and deputy provincial treasurers showed that the total amount of P124,794,579.70 was collected from July 1 to September 30, 1957, as compared to the Budget estimates of P124,240,000.00 for the same period.

Arañas submitted to the President two statements showing the comparison between actual collections and Budget estimates to support his report that there was an increase instead of deficit in the BIR collections from July 1 to September 30, 1957.

AT the Cabinet meeting today President Garcia directed Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason to look into charges that the World War II Veterans Enterprises, Inc., allegedly, was not properly handling the importation of Japanese reparations good, which privilege had been granted by the Cabinet to the organization to help in the rehabilitation and employment of deserving veterans.

The President made the directive on the complaint of Gonzalo L. Manuel and Co., Inc., which charged that the veterans organization "instead of doing business for itself under the terms and conditions of the Cabinet grant, farmed out exclusively the privilege granted them by the Cabinet to the Mayon Commercial Company."

Last August the Cabinet had approved the proposal of the veterans organization to undertake the sale and distribution of specific goods coming from the \$20 million reparations goods earmarked for the veterans for a period of two years, amounting to some \$8 million.

The complainant company said that the Mayon Commercial Company had been organized only on October 10, 1957, less than two months after the Cabinet grant had been awarded, with a capitalization at only P25,000.

It further alleged that the Mayon Commercial Company was reportedly financed and controlled by aliens and alien firms. It was also claimed that representations made to the World War II Veterans Enterprises, Inc., and the Mayon Commercial Company that Filipino traders and entities be allowed to share in the \$8 million allocation had been

refused, unless Filipino traders and entities dealt with the Mayon Commercial Company and agreed to pay a ridiculous mark-up of 55 per cent over and above other charges and fees except customs duties and import taxes.

The complainant company said that “when we were tempted to accept the 55 per cent mark-up, it was impressed upon us that on our payments of the \$1 million worth of reparations goods tentatively allowed us verbally, it will be made to appear that we paid only a 45 per cent mark-up and that the 10 per cent mark-up differential will not be receipted for.”

The complainant company requested among other things that of the \$8 million worth of reparations goods granted by the Cabinet to the veterans organization, the amount of \$1 million be earmarked and set aside in favor of the complainant company under the same terms and conditions in the Cabinet decision.

The company also requested that the veterans organization be directed to handle directly the distribution and sale of reparations goods to guarantee direct assistance to the heroes, veterans, and orphans of the last war and that any arrangement made with the Mayon Commercial Company be cancelled and withdrawn.

In reply to the charges against the World War II Veterans Enterprises, Inc., Maj. Gen. Calixto Duque (Ret.), president and general manager of the company, said that it was not true that the veterans organization had given exclusive privilege of implementing the Cabinet authority to generate the \$8 million for the trust fund intended for veterans to the Mayon Commercial Company.

Duque said that the Mayon Commercial Company, a co-partnership of David L. Ghent and Joseph Uy, both Filipino citizens, had been employed by the veterans’ organization only to process on its behalf orders for goods or commodities that might be brought in under the Cabinet authority.

Duque further said that to this effect he had put out an advertisement advising the public to deal directly with the management of the veterans organization.

Duque explained that Ghent and Uy had been employed by the veterans’ organization “principally because of their technical knowledge of the import business and because of the fact that these two gentlemen are war veterans.”

The retired general stressed that the veterans’ organization had never authorized the Mayon Commercial Company to fix a mark-up profit on the commodities to be brought in, which phase of the transaction, he said, was the responsibility of the general manager and the board of directors of the corporation.

He added that if Mr. Manuel had been made to understand what he had alleged in this matter, it was “without the knowledge and authority of the president and general manager and the board of directors of the World War II Veterans Enterprises, Inc.”

Duque said that in connection with the request of Mr. Manuel and his company that they be allocated \$1 million worth of commodities, the veterans’ organization was ready to entertain all offers from Filipino citizens without discrimination.

The President told Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason to look into these charges and make a report of his findings.

PRESIDENT Garcia at the Cabinet meeting directed Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez to suspend temporarily the processing of applications for barter.

A Malacañang spokesman stressed that the President’s directive did not include those applications for barter which had already been processed.

THE Cabinet approved the agreement arrived at between the Catholic Relief Services of the United States in cooperation with the Catholic Welfare Organization of the Philippines on the one hand and the Philippine

Government on the other hand, to distribute here relief goods coming from Catholic organizations in the United States.

Under this agreement, after consultations between the Catholic Relief Services and the Social Welfare Administration and the Department of National Defense, in representation of the Philippine Government, Catholic, relief goods will be distributed in the Philippines irrespective of religious or political affiliation of the needy recipients. The transportation facilities of the Armed Forces will be used in the distribution of the relief goods.

Education Secretary Manuel Lim, who reported to the President and the Cabinet on the successful termination of the negotiations, said that under this program \$6 million worth of relief goods will be distributed in the Philippines by the Catholic Relief Services. These relief goods consist of rice, powdered milk, clothing, and other relief articles.

It was understood that the Philippine Government would pay some amounts for necessary expenses incidental to the distribution of these relief goods.

THE Cabinet authorized the holding of the Far Eastern Animal Resources conference in Manila from April 7 to 16, 1958, under the joint sponsorship of the Bureau of Animal Industry, the Colleges of Veterinary Medicine and of Agriculture, University of the Philippines, the National Research Council of the Philippines, and the National Sciences Board.

The objectives of the conference are to exchange information on present animal resources of participating countries, ideas and information in the fields of animal husbandry and veterinary science, plan for cooperation in the development and conservation of animal resources, and other information and recommendations that may be introduced at the conference.

Delegates will come from Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Indonesia, India, Japan, Laos, Malaya, Nationalist China, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Korea, South Vietnam, and Thailand. The following countries and organizations will send observers: United States, Canada, Fiji, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences at Turrialba, South Pacific Commission at Noumea, New Caledonia, FAO, and Office International des Epizooties, Paris.

The Cabinet also authorized Eugenio E. Santos, general manager of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, to receive the salary of P18,000 per annum.

The increase in Santos' salary was approved in view of recommendations of the board of directors of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes and of the commissioner of the budget.

The Cabinet action placed the Sweepstakes general manager's salary at par with those of the general managers of the NARIC, the NASSCO, and the PHHC.

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room and which lasted from 10:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

IN the afternoon the President had a conference with officials of the Social Security Commission who called at Malacañang to report on the performance of the agency since its organization last September 1 and to recommend general policies and principles it shall follow in its future operation and administration.

The President said he was immensely interested in the success of the new commission, as he expected it to play a vital role in the economic development of the country because of its capital potential. He said that, through the commission, the people become contributors to the development of the economy.

The Chief Executive, however, cautioned SSC officials to exercise great care in the investment and administration of the commission's funds. He said that those funds were a responsibility of the government to the thousands of workers who constitute the SSC members.

Rodolfo P. Andal, acting SSC administrator who acted as spokesman for the group, informed the President that the commission had already passed the critical stage of its organization. Andal disclosed that to date, it had already 238,000 members, more than two-thirds of its goal for the period ending June 30, 1958.

Andal also said that total collections so far of the commission amounted to P6,200,000, of which P800,000 had already been invested with the Central Bank and the Rehabilitation Finance Corporation. According to Andal, the commission during the last three months had been operating below the financial limits set for it by Congress.

Speaking for the SSQ commissioners, Andal recommended the early appointment of a permanent administrator so that the agency would be run on a fulltime and more stable basis. He also took up with the President some proposed amendments to the social security act to do away with certain objectionable features of the law.

The Chief Executive instructed SSC officials to prepare a draft of the proposed amendments and submit it to him before the opening of the next congressional session.

Present at the conference were Social Security Commissioners Paulino Garcia, secretary of health; Angel Castaño, secretary of labor; Gonzalo Gonzales, U.P. regent; Ildefonso Remolona, vice-president of the Mindanao labor organization; and Leopoldo Rovira. Also present were Higino Francisco, first deputy administrator, Alfredo Gomez, and Exequiel Sevilla.

December 12.—IN view of the declining level of our international reserves as a result of rising inflationary pressures, the Cabinet and the Monetary Board, in joint executive session presided over by President Garcia, approved early this morning the following remedial measures in addition to the measures already adopted by the Monetary Board:

- (1) Tightening vigilance of government agencies so as to prevent undeclared overshipments of exports, underpricing of exports, and overpricing of imports;
- (2) Tightening of rules and regulations on barter Republic Act No. 1410;
- (3) Concentrating on importation of essentials only as much as possible by the NAMARCO;
- (4) Reducing to a minimum of rice importation;
- (5) Reforming domestic transportation system with a view to economizing fuel and spare parts;
- (6) More effective tax legislation designed to achieve as soon as possible an effective syphoning off of excess purchasing power; and
- (7) Utmost intensification of food production to achieve self-sufficiency in rice, corn, and other food crops, thereby saving foreign exchange.

The conferees also decided to recommend to the President that a bill creating a board of trade to consolidate and coordinate all existing governmental agencies concerned with the regulation and promotion of foreign trade be submitted at the forthcoming session of Congress.

These measures will mean sacrifices on the part of both the government and private sectors of the economy. On the part of the government, utmost economy in current operating expenditures will be effected and public borrowing will be reduced by deferring public works projects and public investments of lower priority. The private sector is

enjoined to heed these measures which call for national discipline in order that the country may overcome these present difficulties in as short a time as possible.

These measures were approved by the Cabinet and the Monetary Board in a joint session held aboard the *RSP Santa Maria*, and presided over by President Garcia. The conference started 11:15 p.m. yesterday and lasted until 3 a.m. today.

PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received more than 100 callers, mostly congressmen and governors with their political leaders.

The first caller of the President was Sen. Quintin Paredes and members of his task force II who informed him officially of the results of their labor during the last elections.

The Chief Executive thanked the members of the Paredes task force for their work which had contributed to his victory in Ilocandia. Members of the task force were ex-Gov. Vicente Formoso of Isabela, ex-Rep. Domingo Sioson of Cagayan, Provincial Board Member Antonio Paredes of Abra, and Federico Diaz and Graciano Cariño.

The President also received Gov. Jose Briones of Cebu and his brother Jesus, and Reps. Serafin Salvador of Rizal, Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo, Maximino Noel of Cebu, and Salvador Enemas of Sorsogon.

Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and Gov. Juan Triviño of Camarines Sur presented to the President the newly elected congressmen of their province, Rep. Felix Fuentebella and Rep.-elect Agaton Ursua. They were accompanied by Naga City Mayor Monico Imperial and Provincial Board Member Jack Arroyo.

Other presidential callers were Sen. Alejo Mabanag, ex-Rep. Juan Alcasaran, Rep. Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, Gov. Mariano Tajonera of Mindoro Occidental, acting Gov. Francisco Perez of Batangas, Rep.-elect Jose Leido of Mindoro Oriental, and Rep. Apolinario Apacible of Batangas.

THE President today said that he was adhering to his hands-off policy with regard to the election of the president of the University of the Philippines. He made this statement at a conference with acting UP President Enrique T. Virata.

The Chief Executive told Virata that he wanted to give the Board of Regents absolute independence of action in the election of the U.P. president. However, the President said, if the regents still procrastinated and if the majority expressed a desire that he intervene, he would do so.

The people were tired of the inaction of the Board of Regents on the matter and even the UP students were impatient and had asked him for an audience, the President added.

The President inquired about the progress of the rubber plantation of the state university at Basilan City and was informed by Virata that out of the 7,000 hectares of land granted to the university, about 600 were already planted to rubber trees, which were giving a gross income of P500,000 a year.

However, Virata said, the profits derived from the U.P. rubber plantation were being plowed right back to the U.P. in the form of equipment and funds for further development.

Virata told the President that it was the plan to plant the rest of the area with rubber trees which are profit-making. He added that Philippine rubber production was not enough for local use.

Virata bared his plan to grant 200 scholarships every year in science and technology in order to help augment the manpower needed in the industrialization program of the Administration.

The plan is expected to attract bright high school graduates from all parts of the country, especially from the Visayas and Mindanao, who owing to transportation and financial difficulties, cannot easily come to Manila.

IN the afternoon the President received the credentials of Reinhard M. Neuerburg as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Netherlands to the Philippines.

The new Dutch minister to the Philippines assured the President that he would continue "to exert my utmost efforts to maintain and foster" the happy relations between the Philippines and the Netherlands.

In his response the President said that it was his "fervent hope that the bonds of friendship that bind our people will grow closer, nurtured by an increasing sense of a common purpose to preserve and advance their mutual interests and to do their share in promoting respect for the principles and objectives ordained in the Charter of the United Nations and the faithful adherence to international law and justice."

The President received the new Dutch Minister at the ceremonial hall of Malacañang about 4:30 p.m. With the President when he received Minister Neuerburg were Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, and some officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

AFTER receiving the new Dutch Minister, the President proceeded to the music room of Malacañang, where he gave cocktails for the radio commentators who had worked for his victory in the recent polls. The President thanked the radio commentators for their assistance in his victory and praised them for "keeping within the bounds of decency." With the radio commentators was Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable.

The President also received Don Toribio Teodoro and some officials of the *Ang Tibay*. Accompanying the *Ang Tibay* officials was Rep. Constancio Castañeda of Tarlac.

December 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to release the unexpended appropriation of the Music Foundation of the Philippines in order that the Foundation could help Miss Catalina Zandueta, soprano, in her financial difficulties in Europe.

Miss Zandueta sometime ago had voiced her appeal for financial help through the press. According to reports, this Filipino singer had made quite a name for herself and the Philippines by giving successful concerts in Europe. However, as she was short of funds, she could not carry on her work as an ambassador of good will for the Philippines.

Upon learning of Miss Zandueta's appeal, President Garcia sometime ago had directed the Department of Foreign Affairs to look into the case. Minister Jose D. Ingles, chief of mission of the Philippine legation in Bonn, Germany, studied the matter and made a report to the foreign affairs office.

Mrs. Pura Santillan-Castrencia, president of the Cultural Foundation of the Philippines, in a recent letter to President Garcia, said that the appeal of Miss Zandueta had been finally referred to the Foundation. She said that as the Foundation did not have any money, the matter was referred to the Music Foundation of the Philippines.

The Music Foundation, according to Mrs. Castrencia, would donate the sum of \$2,000 to Miss Zandueta if the unexpended appropriation of that Foundation would be released to it.

The President, upon knowing of this report, immediately directed Commissioner Aytona to release the needed amount.

THE President stayed Aboard the *RPS Sta. Maria* the whole day today working on state papers. He worked on his radio speech to be delivered tomorrow night, and started outlining his inaugural address to be delivered on December 30. The President had boarded the yacht last evening.

The President was accompanied aboard the yacht by Maj. Jose Estrella, aide.

December 14.—THIS morning the President continued working on two speeches; first, his speech tonight over a nationwide radio hook-up appealing to the people to support the government's austerity program; and second, his inaugural address.

From the *RPS Sta. Maria* where he had stayed last night, the President motored back to Malacañang this morning to receive a few callers and to fulfill his luncheon engagement with editors and publishers of the metropolitan newspapers.

The only group of callers who were received by the Chief Executive at the Malacañang study room were Prof. Sumiyuki Kotani, chief instructor of the Kodokan Judo Institute, Tokyo, who paid a courtesy call. Prof. Kotani is touring the country demonstrating judo techniques at various police agencies particularly the National Bureau of Investigation. He is on a cultural and educational exchange mission which was made possible through the friends of the Philippine Society of Japan.

Prof. Kotani was accompanied to Malacañang by Yuichi Hiroshi, also a judo instructor, and Lucio Ong of the NBI.

After receiving the callers, the President retired to his room and resumed working on state papers.

AT noontime, the President received editors of Manila dailies at a luncheon in the Palace.

IN the afternoon, the President went to the Doctors Hospital, where he attended the surgical operation on his daughter, Mrs. Linda G. Campos. He said that his daughter underwent a cyst operation.

In the evening, the President appealed to the nation to support "fully and unselfishly" the Administration's austerity program in an effort to save the country from an impending economic crisis.

He made his appeal in a nationwide radio-TV hook-up from his study room in Malacañang last night.

In his appeal, which he said was a "a heart-to-heart talk to all our people," the President exhorted the nation to observe "self-denial" and make temporary sacrifices by not using luxuries and non-essential commodities.

He pointed out that the importation of non-essential commodities have caused a heavy drain on the dollar reserves of the country.

However, the President said that the financial position of the country is not yet alarming "because after all the picture is not so dark when we consider that between the establishment of industries and production there is a lull which must be bridged by the courageous and prudent use of our dollar reserves." (See *Historical Papers and Documents*, in the next issue for the full text of the President's speech.)

After his speech, President Garcia explained to newsmen that the low dollar reserves may lead to the devaluation of the peso.

The President said the drastic measures were adopted to help boost the dollar reserves of the country.

He disclosed that owing to heavy importation and an imbalance in trade, "we have now a low level of the dollar reserves which threatens the stability of the peso."

The President pointed out that the Central Bank policy has been adopted on a temporary basis and will be relaxed as soon as the dollar reserves reach \$200 million.

Central Bank figures of the country's dollar reserves were quoted at \$142 million.

The President indicated that as soon as the figures shoot up to the \$200 million mark, he will order a gradual relaxation of the restrictions.

President Garcia also attributed the low dollar reserves to the country's rapid industrialization.

December 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia said this morning that the present air-mindedness of the Filipinos indicated that the debacle in 1941, when the morale of the people was very low due to lack of air power, would never be repeated.

The President made this statement in a brief extemporaneous speech at the Manila International Airport, where a program in which he was the guest of honor was held, climaxing the 10th aviation week celebration.

The President said that the response of the people in activity participating in the aviation week celebration showed that "we are conscious of the worldwide aviation progress." He stressed that aviation played a vital role in our national security and progress.

He expressed gratitude to the nations which participated in the country's aviation week celebration, saying that without their participation the aviation week would not have been as successful as it was.

The participating nations included the United States, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Nationalist China, and South Korea.

The President was accompanied to the MIA by Mrs. Garcia. They were welcomed by CAA Administrator Urbano Caldoza and Brig. Gen. Diosdado Rodriguez, acting AFP chief of staff. Others who welcomed the President at the MIA were Mrs. Victoria Araneta, president of the Feati Institute of Technology, and Commodore Jose M. Francisco, chief of the Navy.

Present at the program were members of the diplomatic corps, Cabinet members, and other high-ranking government officials.

After the speech of the President, a spectacular air-show started.

EARLIER, the President and the First Lady heard a Thanksgiving mass at the San Miguel Pro-Cathedral. The mass was sponsored by the Legion of St. Michael headed by Victor Baltazar.

Then, the President and the First Lady were fetched by Air Force Chief Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, who accompanied them to MIA for the aviation week celebration.

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia were glad to know this morning that their daughter Linda, who had been successfully operated on for a benign cyst in the chest was doing fine at the Manila Doctors Hospital on Isaac Peral.

The President and the First Lady visited Linda at the hospital after attending the air show at the Manila International Airport. They found her resting well and were told that she would be ready to leave the hospital in a few days.

Linda had been operated on at 2:30 p.m. yesterday by Dr. Januario Estrada, Sr., who was assisted by his son Dr. Januario Estrada, Jr. Other attending physicians were Dr. Braulio de Castro, anesthesiologist; Dr. Benjamin Barrera, pathologist; and Dr. Paulo Campos. The operation lasted about 30 minutes.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1957). Official Month in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 53(23), dlvi-dlxxvii.

President's Month in Review: December 16-31, 1957

President's Month in Review: January 1-15, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

January 1.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia and Vice-President and Mrs. Macapagal spent the whole day this day receiving people from all walks of life in the traditional “open house” at Malacañang.

The President and the First Lady first received the Vice-President and Mrs. Macapagal. Then they together formed a reception line and met government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, the press, and the general public.

At noon, the First Lady complained of a headache after the tedious chore of shaking hands and greeting all those v/ho had lined up to meet the two highest officials of the government and their ladies.

About 20,000 persons greeted the President and the Vice-President during the “open house” in the Palace.

The President was offered a toast by the members of the diplomatic corps headed by Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi in the state dining room.

The President said that his government and people extend to the governments and peoples represented by the diplomatic corps in this country the greetings of the season and hope for a lasting peace.

Locally-made *basi* was served during the toast in deference to a precedent set by the late President Magsaysay and to give emphasis to the v austerity program launched by President Garcia's administration.

During the afternoon's reception, a blind sculptor, Rogelio Dungo of Manila, touched the facial features of the President. He said that he was making a bust of the President and he could not make the finishing touches unless he knew the facial features of his subject.

The President consented to Dungo's desire to study his facial features while clasping Dungo's hand at the reception line. Dungo said he was making the President's bust for the Philippine Jaycees headed by Sotero Laurel.

A 60-year old woman, who had joined the line of well-wishers, planted a kiss on the President's right cheek. The old woman shed tears after kissing the President. Then she also kissed the First Lady.

Boholanos who joined the lines kissed the 'President's hand, in keeping with a tradition in their province of greeting a top official in that manner.

The President in the afternoon also conferred with, the members of his “incentives committee” and discussed the progress of its mission to find out means of encouraging producers to increase their output. In the committee are former Finance Secretary Antonio de las Alas, chairman; Miss Helen Benitez, secretary; and Leonardo Gutierrez, legal counsel of the National Economic Council.

January 2.— PRESIDENT Garcia retired to his “hideout” this morning where he received Floyd A. Akers, President Eisenhower's personal representative to the inauguration ceremonies last Monday.

It was learned Akers gave President Garcia a framed picture of Ike with a dedication which reads: “To His Excellency, President Carlos P. Garcia: With my best wishes and high esteem. Dwight D. Eisenhower.”

Malacañang sources said the President also took up with Akers the invitation of President Eisenhower for a state visit to the United States.

It was learned that President Garcia had tentatively set the visit for the latter part of February or early March.

The President also received Minister Caesar F. Lanuza, chief of the reparations mission in Japan.

Lanuza was accompanied by Gregorio Abad, technical assistant in the reparations office in Japan.

EARLIER this morning, the Chief Executive administered the oath of office to Enrico Palomar as *ad interim* director of the Bureau of Post, vice Director Felipe Cuaderno, retired. Palomar was formerly assistant director of the bureau.

Following the induction, the President left Malacañang for his hideout where he started working on His state-of-the-nation message which he will deliver before a joint session of Congress when it convenes in regular session later this month.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon returned to Malacañang and received Francis Cardinal Spellman, archbishop of New York and military vicar of the United States, who just arrived in Manila in the course of his tour of military installations in the Far East.

Accompanied to Malacañang by Msgr. Egidio Vagnozzi, papal nuncio to the Philippines, the Cardinal expressed regret for having arrived here at this time and missed President Garcia's inauguration. "My itinerary was so crowded I simply could not make it, Mr. President," he said.

The American cardinal motored direct to Malacañang from the Manila International Airport where he landed at 3 p.m. today. Waiting for him at the head of the Palace stairs was the President, who inquired on his plane trip from Taipeh, the last stepping place of the church dignitary before Manila.

"Very, very bumpy," the cardinal replied.

After signing the Palace guest book, the cardinal was shown to the music room where he and the President had coffee and sandwiches while the cardinal gave some of his observations on countries he last visited. He had gone to Alaska, Japan, Kiprea, and Taiwan.

"I have always looked forward to my annual visits to the Philippines," Cardinal Spellman said. "I am deeply impressed by the wonderful demonstrations of faith shown by the good people of this country."

The President told his visitor that he had used at his inauguration the Holy Bible presented to him by the cardinal during one of his visits here years ago. While reciting his oath of office before Chief Justice Ricardo Paras at high noon last December 30, the President had his left hand resting on the Bible.

After a few minutes' talk at the music room, the cardinal was shown to his room at the Palace by Maj. Ciriaco Hocson, who will be his aide during his one and one-half days' stay here. The cardinal is house guest of President and Mrs. Garcia. He was assigned the room formerly used by the late Presidents Magsaysay and Quirino.

President and Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia gave a state dinner at Malacañang this evening in honor of Francis Cardinal Spellman, who arrived in Manila this afternoon in the course of his current tour of the Far East.

The affair was attended by high dignitaries of the government, members of foreign and local diplomatic corps, and members of the Catholic hierarchy.

January 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received the *Collar de la Orden del Mferito Civil* award of the Spanish Government as a token of sincere friendship.

The Spanish decoration was presented by Spanish Ambassador Francisco Javier Conde, on behalf of Generalissimo Francisco Franco, head of the Spanish Government.

Ambassador Conde said that President Garcia was the first chief of state to receive the decoration. Present at the simple presentation ceremony held at the Malacañang music room were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano; Jose Antonio Acebal, secretary of the Spanish Embassy; and Jose Estrada, protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

President Garcia told Ambassador Conde to transmit to Generalissimo Franco his greetings and to inform him that the decoration was being accepted as another proof of the love and affection of the Spanish Government towards the Filipinos.

EARLIER, President Garcia inducted into office Consul Eduardo Rosal as acting Philippine Consul General for Hongkong at a simple ceremony held at the Malacañang study room.

Rosal's promotion came after the Philippine consulate in Hongkong, which he had headed, was elevated to consulate general.

Present at the ceremony were Mrs. Rosal, Immigration Commissioner Emilio Galang, and Foreign Affairs Protocol Officer Jose Estrada.

PRESIDENT Garcia met Malacañang newsmen today in his first press conference of the new year.

Appearing in a barong-tagalog, the President greeted the newsmen individually and wished them a "Happy New Year."

Newsmen noted an ominous atmosphere of austerity at the press conference. For the first time, drinks (soft and hard) were conspicuously done away with. Locally-made cigarettes were served but first class cigars were there.

The President appeared in high spirits, and bantered with the newsmen.

After the hour-long press conference, the President rushed to the Manila Cathedral in Intramuros, where he heard a pontifical low mass said by visiting Francis Cardinal Spellman, archbishop of New York and military vicar of the United States. The mass was said in honor of the Sacred Heart.

With the President at the mass were the First Lady, former President and Mrs. Sergio Osmeña, Mrs. Luz Banzon Magsaysay, Mrs. Trinidad L. Roxas, Mrs. Linda Garcia-Campos, members of the Cabinet, solons, and members of the judiciary.

Also present were Msgr. Egidio Vagnozzi, papal nuncio, Archbishop Rufino J. Santos of Manila, and other church dignitaries from all over the Philippines.

After the mass, the President and the First Lady left for Sangley Point, Cavite, where they were honored guests at a dinner, along with Cardinal Spellman.

January 4.—THIS morning the President paid tribute to the Filipino soldier at a ceremony marking the re-activation of the 1st infantry division of the Philippine Army at Fort William McKinley in Makati, Rizal.

In an extemporaneous speech delivered at the parade ground which highlighted the ceremony, the President said that "the reactivation of the 1st infantry division is, in a way, the rebirth of the Philippine Army that has written in blood its highest service to the nation in the last world war."

With his audience consisting mostly of men in uniform, the President said: "As I talk to you now my memory is full of reminiscences of the heroic actions of our soldiers not only in the Philippines during the last world war but in other parts of the world where they had a chance to help deliver a blow for freedom and democracy."

He added: "In Bataan and Corregidor we have written in astral light the bravery and spirit of sacrifice of the Filipino soldier."

Recalling the heroic deeds of soldiers of the revolution, the President said that the Filipino soldier, in an effort to overthrow a yoke imposed upon him by a former sovereign, had acquitted himself gloriously in battlefields and in small unregistered skirmishes. He said that the same patriotism that had become a distinctive mark of soldiers of former times still characterized the soldiers of today, soldiers who now composed the 1st infantry division of the Army.

"This is a tradition that the Filipino soldier must live up to," the President said.

Concluding his speech, the President said: "As I now deliver the colors of your division, I have no doubt that you are going to carry it gloriously in peace or in war."

Present at the ceremony were former commanders of the battle-scarred 1st infantry division, including Maj. Gen. Guillermo Francisco (ret), Brig. Gen. Mateo Capinpin (ret.), and Col. Margarito Torralba (ret.). Also present were Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, members of the diplomatic corps and their military attaches, and ranking officers of the Armed Forces.

The President was fetched from Malacañang by Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff. He was greeted with a 21-gun salute upon arrival at the military reservation at 8:45. A battalion of 20-year old trainees formed an escort of honor at the gates of the Fort.

The President was escorted by Army Commander Brig. Gen. Leoncio Tan and Brig. Gen. Tiyso Fajardo to the parade grounds where the 1st infantry division stood in formation.

After his speech, the President handed the colors of the newly reactivated division to its acting commander, Brig. Gen. Tirso Fajardo. A parade and review by the new division climaxed the re-activation ceremony.

EARLIER in the morning, the President and his family had Holy Communion at a mass officiated by His Eminence, Francis Cardinal Spellman, at the Malacañang chapel. Among those present at the mass were Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, Manila Archbishop Rufino J. Santos, and Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor.

After the mass, the President presented the visiting cardinal with a commemoration medal of his recent inauguration and also with his autographed picture.

FROM Fort William McKinley, the President about 12 noon motored to his hideout where he had lunch. Then after a brief rest, he worked on state papers and on his state-of-the-nation message to be delivered at the opening of the next congressional session.

January 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet Sunday with members of his family in his hideout located in the suburb of Manila. People who sought to see him in Malacañang were politely told by presidential aides that the President was not in and to come back some other day.

The President started the day by hearing mass before an improvised altar at his hideout. With him were Mrs. Garcia, their daughter, Linda, and son-in-law, Fernando Campos.

Following the services, the President had breakfast with members of his family. Then he spent some time reading the Sunday morning papers.

About 10 a.m., the President repaired to his private study at the hideout and resumed work on the draft of his state-of-the-nation message he will deliver before Congress when it convenes in regular session later this month.

In the afternoon, he worked on state papers brought over to him from Malacañang.

January 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today observed the feast of the Three Kings, which climaxed the Christmas season in the Philippines. He heard mass at the Malacañang chapel.

After mass, the President conferred with his new executive secretary, Juan C. Pajo, and briefed him on his duties and functions as the President's right-hand man.

The President, it was learned, asked Pajo to hold the fort while he keeps in retirement in his new home in Quezon City where he prepares his state-of-the-nation address, which he will deliver at the opening day of the first session of the Fourth Congress on January 27.

He stressed to his executive secretary the importance of his duties in receiving thousands of bailers trekking daily to the Palace, which, he said in his inaugural speech, he would keep as the "symbol of hope and justice."

At 9:30 a.m., the President motored out of the Palace to his new house, where he started working on his state-of-the-nation address.

After the President had left the Palace, thousands of people, mostly job seekers who had pitched in during the campaign, swarmed at the office of the new executive secretary.

However, Secretary Pajo was busy conferring with the chiefs of divisions of Malacañang, as it was his first day in office.

After the conference, Secretary Pajo found out that he was being mobbed by job-seekers, and he had to struggle out from the crowd in order to get into his car.

January 7.—THE President this day received more support for his austerity program from national and provincial officials even as he received encouraging reports that the Philippine dollar reserves have steadily been increasing.

The President also received International Chess Master Rodolfo Tan Cardoso, who won the recently concluded First Asian Chess Tournament in Baguio City. Accompanying Cardoso were Karl Ozols of Australia, who placed second; and Joseph Porath of Israel; Yousouf Safvat of Iran; Meliton Borja, Philippine national champion; Horacio Cebrero, president of the Philippines Chess Federation; and Florencio Campomanes.

The Chief Executive distributed the prizes to the winners and received a cup donated by Iran as a souvenir.

Rep. Manuel Zosa was the first congressman to take his oath of office before the President. The simple ceremony was held at the Malacañang music room before Mrs. Zosa, friends, relatives, and mayors of the sixth district of Cebu.

A delegation of Iloilo NP stalwarts led by Sens. Fernando Lopez and Oscar Ledesma called on the President to renew their pledge of loyalty. At the same time, the delegation also promised to support the austerity program of the Administration.

Other Ilongo NP leaders who called were Gov. Mariano Peñaflorida and Reps. Jose Aldeguer, Pedro Trono, Domitilo Abordo, and Ricardo Y. Ladrado.

Among other presidential callers were Sens. Pedro Sabido and Quintin Paredes; Reps. Lucas Paredes of Abra, Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte and Luciano Millan of Pangasinan; Govs. Felixberto Dagani of Agusan, Bienvenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur, Salvador Lluch of Lanao, and Don Tomas Morato.

An early caller who was received by the President was Allen Kline, chief of the CARE Mission who paid a courtesy call.

The President also received later Games and Amusement Board Chairman Manuel Nieto, Jr., who discussed with the Chief Executive routine matters in his office.

IN the evening the President received a delegation of local executives of principal oil companies operating in the Philippines which submitted a request for the establishment of a system of priorities in the distribution of oil products to local consumers.

The oil executives explained that as a result of the austerity program launched by the Administration, the importation of oil products would be cut by 28 per cent during the current year. They suggested that a committee be formed to determine which sectors of industry or agriculture be given priority in the allocation of the limited fuel supply.

In the course of their call, the business executives expressed their readiness to cooperate with the Administration. They offered their services as well as the facilities of their companies to assist the proposed committee in its work. They said the principal function of the body would be to see to it that adequate fuel supply were assured vital industries, particularly dollar-producing ones.

The President said he would take up their suggestion at the Cabinet meeting tomorrow morning. The delegation was composed of R. J. Monical of Caltex, J. A. Sanguinetti of Shell, J. M. Le Deux of Tidewater, and H. P. Byrd of Stanvac.

Another delegation composed of officers of the Philippine Columbian Club called to pay their respects and invite the President to be guest of honor at a musical and historical program to be held on January 29 at their headquarters on Taft Avenue to commemorate their 50th anniversary.

The President accepted the invitation. Headed by Carlos Fernandez, Columbian president, the delegation included Ramon Ordoveza, vice-president, and the following directors: Dr. Antonio Sison, Dr. Jose Barcelona, Ismael Mathay, and Carlos Nivera.

Among the last callers at Malacañang in the evening was RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, who consulted the President on "various matters."

Shortly before 8 p.m., the President motored to the Manila Hotel to attend a dinner given at the Winter Garden by Mindanao political leaders headed by Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez.

January 8—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning instructed Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, to instruct the technical staff of the Armed Forces to undertake an intensive research on the development of alcohol and coconut oil so that these products could substitute imported motor fuels.

At a breakfast conference at Malacañang this morning, the President stressed to Vargas and Arellano the importance of the research in connection with his austerity program.

The defense officials assured the Chief Executive that the research and development division of the Armed Forces would intensify its study in the development of alcohol and coconut fuel "as one of the contributions of the Armed Forces to the President's austerity program.

Following the conference which lasted from 8 to 9 a.m., the President received Gen. Isaac David White, commander of the United States Army in the Pacific.

General White was accompanied on his courtesy call by U.S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen; Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, JUSMAG chief; Maj. Gen. Rassil Vittrup, deputy chief of staff for operations and training of Gen. White; and Col. Henry L. Miller, army attache of the U. S. Embassy.

The visiting American general once commanded the U. S. Armed Forces and the United Nations contingent in Korea. He had, under him the 19th and the 14th BCTs of the Philippines in Korea.

General White lauded the Filipino soldiers for their bravery displayed in the fight against communism in Korea.

Earlier, President Garcia received a delegation of the Bohol Mayors League, and administered the oath of office to Mariano Ledesma as acting director of the Bureau of Printing.

IN the evening, President and Mrs. Garcia received Prince Boun Oum, inspector general of the Kingdom of Laos, who paid a courtesy call.

Accompanied by Madame Oum, the prince is on a month-long observation tour in the Far East. Leaving Laos last December 13, the Laotian Prince had gone to Hongkong and Tokyo. From Manila the prince, who holds the rank of minister will visit Thailand and Cambodia and be back at Laos about the middle of this month.

Present during the call which was purely a social affair were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando C. Campos, Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Pelagio A. Cruz, Assistant Executive Secretary and Mrs. Nicanor Jimenez, and Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel G. Zamora.

Among the last callers at Malacañang this evening were Col. Salvador Villa of the Manila Railroad Company, NBI Director Jose G. Lucban, and Mayor Salustiano C. Baura of Tubigon, Bohol.

PRESIDENT Garcia met his Cabinet for the first time this year and decided to recommend to Congress the repeal of Republic Act No. 1410, otherwise known as the No-Dollar Barter Law, and instead approved the exportation of Philippine products to countries which have stable currencies convertible into dollars.

The Cabinet decision was arrived at after a long discussion of the pros and cons of the No-Dollar Barter Law. It was the consensus that while the law gave some incentives to producers, yet it opened the door to a pattern of trade prejudicial to the country's economy.

Besides, it was believed that goods coming in from abroad through this barter process were mostly non-essentials and luxuries which were not in consonance with the spirit of the austerity program.

After a thorough discussion of the merits of the law, the Cabinet unanimously approved the recommendation to Congress for the repeal of the law.

THE President and the Cabinet approved the organization of a trading center in Manila that will further encourage, coordinate, and supervise the exportation of Philippine cottage industry products to the United States and other countries. It was believed that the exportation of these products would bring in dollars to the country.

The President created a special committee composed of Commerce Secretary Pedro Hemaes as chairman and Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, and Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor as members, to organize this trading center.

The committee will study ways and means of increasing the production and the improvement of the quality of Philippine cottage industry products; such as, hats, abaca slippers, door mats, shell crafts, mats, baskets, etc. This committee will also look into the standardization and marketing of these products in foreign countries, especially in the United States.

The organization of this trading center was brought about by a report from the President that he had received information that there was a big demand for Philippine cottage industry products in the United States but that this demand could not be adequately met because of lack of sustained production and standardization of these products.

At this juncture Education Secretary Lim said that there were 108 vocational schools under his department which were engaged in cottage industries and that they were in a position to supply the U.S. demands. Mrs. Villamor also said that she had units of cottage industries engaged in the same work.

The President said that the activities of these two departments should be coordinated with those of the Department of Commerce and Industry in order to bring about a steady supply and the standardization of the products.

Regarding the question of funds to finance these cottage industries, NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin Estrella, who was at the Cabinet meeting, said that he could release P1 million for this purpose.

It was also contemplated to get more funds if necessary from the Philippine National Bank.

The President said he wanted the committee to start working immediately in order to boost these industries which will give the country dollars.

The President said that as soon as these cottage industry products were well on their way, the government would let private enterprises take over.

DURING the Cabinet meeting the President created a committee to study the equitable distribution of oil products to local consumers, depending on the importance of public services such consumers are rendering.

The need for this equitable distribution of oil products stems from the austerity program requiring a cut of 28 per cent in the importation of oil products during the current year.

The Cabinet decided on this measure because of the desire of the Administration that industries which are public utilities should suffer no hitch in rendering services to the people.

The President emphasized that public services to the community would not suffer as a result of the 28 per cent cut in the allocation for the importation of all products.

The committee was directed to see to it that the burden be borne equitably by public utilities, depending on the services they were rendering to the community. The President explained that public utilities giving services in the form of water, gas, transportation, and other essential services should suffer less cuts in the distribution of oil products than those which are rendering less important services.

The committee to study the equitable distribution of oil products is composed of Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez in his capacity as chairman of the Monetary Board, chairman; and NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez and Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, members.

The President told the committee to submit a report on its study on the system of priorities in the distribution of oil products as soon as possible.

The Cabinet meeting was attended for the first time by newly-inducted Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo. The Cabinet meeting was presided over by President Garcia. It was held at the Council of State room from 10:45 a. m. to 2:30 p. m.

January 9.—FORMER President Sergio Osmeña today fully endorsed the program of President Garcia's administration as enunciated in the latter's inaugural address.

The former President called on President Garcia this morning prior to his departure for Cebu on Saturday. Former President Osmeña has been staying in Manila since the inauguration of President Garcia and Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal which he attended,”

The former President, in a statement, said that he considered the assumption of President Garcia to the national leadership essential for the conduct of an orderly and efficient government and for the proper discharge of party responsibility imposed by a mandate from the people.

Mr. Osmeña said that he was especially delighted “with the recognition made by President Garcia of our existing friendly relations with Spain and Latin America as constituting an integral part of our foreign policy based on a close association with the United States and our good neighbor policy towards the nations of Asia.”

The Former President congratulated President Garcia for his inaugural address. The Chief Executive received him at the music room of Malacañang.

PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received the pledge of support of representative elements of the President Garcia Club of California, as well as their assurance to encourage Filipinos living in the United States to invest their savings in the Philippines.

Members of the club who came to the Philippines expressly to witness the inauguration of President Garcia are soon returning to California. The club members were Mr. and Mrs. Mariano Gorospe, Mr. and Mrs. Jose Figueras, Mr. and Mrs. Gerardo Mendoza, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Gorospe, Jaime Catuiran, George Directo, Asperio Bercero, Jose Tauro, Jose de Leon, Nemesio Ramos, and Higinio Hijada.

Mariano Gorospe, president of the PGC, assured President Garcia that the club proposes to continue raising funds for the construction of artesian wells and other projects dedicated to the welfare of the people living in the rural areas of the Philippines.

The club is also willing to contribute to the task of nation-building, according to Gorospe, who added that it is also encouraging Filipinos who have accumulated savings to return to the Philippines and establish dollar-earning industries to create more job opportunities here.

THE President today directed officials of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources to extend immediate help to farmers in areas affected by drought and rats in Western Visayas and Northern Mindanao.

At the same time the President said that he would study the idea of employing Japanese technicians to help in the food production campaign of the Administration, whose wages are to be paid out of reparations funds.

The President was informed that drought has affected 21 towns in the northern part of Samar, the western part of Negros Oriental, and parts of Misamis Oriental. The plight of the farmers in the drought areas has been aggravated by rats.

The President directed that corn seedlings be sent immediately to the drought areas and that a campaign be started for the planting of secondary crops to help ease the critical situation of the farmers.

The President also received Govs. Alejo Santos of Bulacan, Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, and Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, who gave their contributions to the peace and amelioration fund amounting to ₱44,500.

Other big delegations received by President Garcia came from Samar, Pangasinan, and Negros Occidental. The Samar group was headed by Sen. Decoroso Resales, Gov. Fernando Veloso, Reps. Eladio Balite, Valeriano Yancha, and Felipe Abrigo, and former Reps. Agripino Escareal and Tito Tizon.

Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, and Rep. Vicente Gustilo led the Negros Occidental group, while the Pangasinan group was headed by Gov. Conrado Estrella, Reps. Luciano Millan, Aguedo Agbayani, and Cipriano Primicias, Jr., Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, Public Schools Director Benigno Aldana, Private Schools Director Daniel Salcedo, and Provincial Board Members Mrs. Nancy Q. Sison and Mrs. Dolores Acuña.

Other callers included Rep. Constancio Castañeda of Tarlac, Gov. Nicanor Seva of Albay, Geraldo Wilkinson, Aurelio Montinola, and Highways Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog and 12th division engineers.

IN the evening the President ordered a thorough and all-out investigation of fraudulent importations and similar venalities which are contributing to the depletion of the country's dollar reserves.

The President ordered NBI agents detailed to the Office of the President to go down to the bottom of these anomalies, adding, "I don't care who gets hurt."

The Chief Executive made this directive upon receiving reports this day that the textile raw materials worth over \$200,000 allegedly imported by the Roxas-Kalaw Textile Mills, Co., for its use from the United States turned out to be finished textile materials belonging to the luxury class.

The NBI agents who reported the seizure of this irregular importation said that the textiles which came in 264 bales consisted of lace, veil materials, gabardine, wool, and rayon. These materials are now being held in custody at the Bureau of Customs warehouse. The discovery of this importation was effected with the close cooperation of Col. James Keefe of the Bureau of Customs.

The President was informed that the Roxas-Kalaw Textile Mills had received over \$2,000,000 allocation for the year 1957. This shipment held up by the NBI agents was reportedly only one of the shipments received by the company.

The NBI agents told the President that during the investigation of the case, officials of the Roxas-Kalaw Mills had obtained a re-export license with the intention of re-exporting these materials alleging "wrong shipment" on the part of the exporter at the point of origin in the United States.

Upon being informed of this attempt to re-export the held goods, the investigating agents reported the matter to high officials of the Central Bank who issued an immediate order cancelling the re-export license.

The NBI agents are conducting further investigations which they believe may reveal some extensive conspiracy aimed at cheating the Philippine Government not only of its dollar reserves but also of import and other duties or fees that would have accrued to the government were these importations made in accordance with existing laws and regulations of the Bureau of Customs and the Central Bank.

The President directed the NBI agents to extend their investigations to other similar cases of fraudulent importations which would deprive the Government of its dollar reserves and revenues.

January 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received Floyd D. Akers, President Eisenhower's special representative to the presidential inauguration, at the Malacañang music room.

Akers, who is leaving for the United States tonight, bade farewell to President Garcia.

During the call President Garcia handed to Akers his gift for President Eisenhower. The gift consisted of an autographed picture of President Garcia framed in carved Philippine wood and a 1957 presidential inauguration medal.

President Eisenhower gave a similar token which had been handed to President Garcia by Akers upon his arrival in the Philippines shortly before the presidential inauguration.

Akers was accompanied to Malacañang by U.S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen.

Earlier, the President received Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, who called briefly to discuss routine matters for the improvement of Manila.

Then the President received about 20 foreign student delegates to the Fourth Asian Students' Forum which met at Baguio recently.

Accompanied by Jose Clemente, Jr., the foreign students thanked the President for the hospitality accorded them during their stay in the country.

Other callers consisted mostly of congressmen and town mayors who requested aid for public works improvements in their respective localities, including feeder roads construction.

Pampanga Rep. Francisco Nepomuceno accompanied residents from Macabebe who consulted the President on local problems.

Then the President received Quezon Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., who accompanied Tagkawayan Mayor Felipe Mabilangan and Pitogo Mayor Vicente Martinez requesting funds for feeder road construction in their municipalities.

Necitas Viesca, president of the mayor's league of Nueva Ecija, accompanied a delegation from his province which likewise requested the Chief Executive aid for public works improvement.

The President also received this morning a resolution approved by the Philippine Junior Chamber of Commerce endorsing the austerity program instituted by the Administration in view of the gradual decline of the Philippine dollar reserves.

The resolution was handed over to the President by Dr. Sotero H. Laurel, president of the Philippine Jaycees, in the presence of Guillermo Rosales, Vicente Fernandez, Jose P. W. Tantoco, Joaquin Ortega, Leo Valdez, Osmundo de Guzman, Alfonso Yuchengco, Reynaldo Eustaquio, Alex Sevilla, Gregorio Imperial, Bienvenido Villadolid, Tito Orroz, Vincent Recto, Elpidio Cucio, Felipe Mendoza, Douglas McKenzie, Benjardi Crame, and Bening Crisostomo.

During the call, Dr. Laurel also presented to the President a bust done by a blind sculptor, Rogelio Dumo, who finished his work after touching the facial features of the President.

The Jaycees presented another resolution approved during the joint Eastern-Western Visayas Regional Conference supporting the austerity program, as well as another resolution approved by the organization supporting the anti-vice campaign initiated by the Marikina Junior Chamber of Commerce.

THE President today issued a proclamation authorizing the Veterans Federation of the Philippines to conduct a national, and educational fund drive from January 15 to February 28 this year for the purpose of establishing a Veteran memorial library and museum.

The President signed the proclamation in the presence of a group of veterans headed by Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo and Francisco Offemaria. Ex-Senator Francisco Delgado was also present during the ceremony.

The proclamation stressed the necessity of strengthening the "historical foundation of our culture by providing our students, researchers, and citizens in general with adequate and suitable library and museum wherein they can have ready access to historical documents and other mementos in connection with all wars in which the Philippines participated."

The proclamation also pointed out that the establishment of a Veterans memorial library and museum, aside from enhancing the cultural growth of the people, will serve as “a fitting memorial to our heroes and stand as an inspiration for the living and the generations yet to come.”

MEMBERS of the Kabataang Maka-Rizal called this day on President Garcia to present a progress report on their work towards the development of sound nationalism through the teachings of Rizal.

Led by their chairman, Fernando C. Campos, and their vice-chairman, Dean Santiago de la Cruz, the KMR members also presented some of their projects for the coming year, including a membership drive, improvement of the Fort Santiago Shrine, a marker on the spot where Rizal was shot, and a fund drive for the construction of the Rizal Shrine.

Other members who were present were former Rizal Gov. Wenceslao Pascual, NPC Board Chairman Angel Tesoro, Col. Ricardo Galang, Elias Ablaza, Eduardo Escobar, and Mrs. Rosita S. Peñera.

Other presidential callers were former Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon; Reps. Constancio Castañeda of Tarlac, Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, and Emilio Espinosa of Masbate; Sen. Ruperto Kangleon; and Govs. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon and Diego Ty Deling of Misamis Occidental.

Rep. Maximino Garcia of Bphol took his oath of office before President Garcia in the presence of mayors of his district (3rd district), friends, and relatives.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon told a press conference he favored the adoption of “multiple reserves” in a move to expand Philippine trade to non-dollar using countries.

He said the Philippines should not limit itself to trading with the dollar bloc but may allow commercial intercourse with Germany, Switzerland, and Japan which have stable currencies.

Malacañang sources said the President had decided to adopt “multiple reserves” in an effort to expand local exports.

He pointed out that expansion of foreign markets would serve as an incentive for producers to increase their productive capacity.

At the same time, the President denied press reports that he would lift government controls within six months.

He said he was in favor of a gradual lifting of controls, but added that these restrictions will be relaxed only after the exports have balanced the volume of imports.

At the press conference, the President:

1. Announced he had given the Philippine Air Lines a “free hand” to deal with the Indonesian Government on the latter’s request to fly the Dutch-abandoned planes on a “purely business level;”
2. Said he will enforce the penal laws regarding the imposition of the death penalty after he had gone “carefully” over the various petitions for executive clemency;
3. Refused to comment on news reports that he was going on a state visit to the United States and Japan;
4. Reiterated he will name the new members of his Cabinet after he had consulted with Nacionalista Party leaders; and

5. Withheld comment on the auditor general's ruling to retire "compulsorily" all officials who have reached the age of 65 years.

In announcing his plan to adopt "multiple reserves," the President said the Philippines can branch out from its present position of maintaining a single reserve, which is in dollars, to other currencies.

He said that the German mark, the Swiss franc, and the Japanese yen are stable currencies.

However, the President was lukewarm to the idea of maintaining a reserve for the sterling currencies.

President Garcia also told newsmen he has been going over the various petitions of death convicts for executive clemency.

Asked whether or not he was in favor of imposing the death penalty, the President said, "It is not a question of whether I am in favor or not. We have the law in the books; I should enforce it."

The President explained that the delay in his study of the different petitions for executive clemency was attributable to the gravity of the matter involved.

He said: "The petitions involve the life or death of a person. I should be given more time to study them carefully."

Asked by newsmen to comment on reports that he was going to the United States and Japan on a state visit, the President remarked: "I do not want to comment on that yet."

The President also reiterated that he is planning to meet with the council of congressional leaders after the opening day of the session of Congress in order to consult them on the new membership of his Cabinet.

"I want to extend to them the courtesy of knowing the men I intend to name to my Cabinet," the President said.

The President also disclosed that he had not yet received the recent ruling of Auditor General Pedro M. Gimenez, who the other day said that government officials should be forced to retire upon reaching the age of 65 years.

He made this statement when he was asked on the status of Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, who is now 67 years old.

He said he will resolve the legal question on Cuaderno's status after receiving the auditor general's ruling.

At his press conference this afternoon the President announced that the Philippines would receive soon from CARE 26,250,000 pounds of powdered skim milk and 168,000 pounds of cheese for distribution to over 1,300,000 needy school children. The total value of these commodities is approximately \$6 million.

The President made this announcement in the presence of Dr. Allen Kline, chief of the CARE mission in the Philippines, who was invited by the President to attend the press conference.

Doctor Kline said that the first shipment of powdered milk was due to arrive in Manila on January 20 aboard the SS *William Lykes*.

Doctor Kline explained that the milk and cheese, including the cost of the ocean freight, were a free gift of the American people, through CARE, to the school children of the Philippines. The Philippine Government will pay CARE's administrative expenses pertaining to the milk and cheese feeding program in the Philippines and will provide all funds for the distribution of the commodities after their offloading in Manila.

Distribution will be made through the Bureau of Public Schools, with CARE assisting in the overall supervision.

The milk will go to financially needy pupils, from grade 1 to grade 6, in more than 8,000 schools. The cheese will be sent to specifically selected schools on an experimental basis in order to determine how well it can be adopted to conditions in the Philippines.

The first ship carrying powdered milk is scheduled to arrive in Manila on the SS *William Lykes* on January 20. The remainder of the commodities for this school quarter will be aboard three vessels arriving in the latter part of January and early February.

The actual milk-feeding will start in late January and will continue through the 1958-59 school year. Dr. Kline said that this was the largest milk-feeding program under contract with CARE in the world.

THIS evening President Garcia instructed the Interdepartmental Committee on Atomic Energy to study means of encouraging private enterprises to share with the government the burden of financing research undertakings for the purpose of developing locally-produced materials and making them satisfactory substitute for imported items.

In an hour-long conference held late this evening at Malacañang, the President expressed confidence that private companies, if given enough incentives, would willingly expend some of their funds for the development and utilization of local raw materials or for the improvement of the quality of local products now in existence so as to enable them to compete with imported articles.

The President devoted some time exploring with the committee the possibilities of tapping the resources offered by certain plants growing in abundance in this country to produce much-needed drugs and chemicals. Nipa and coconut were mentioned as among the best possible sources of alcohol which, if properly developed through research, could very well take the place of motor fuels now being imported at the rate of \$200 million yearly.

Created several years ago to advise the President on atomic matters, particularly on the use of atomic energy for industrial purposes, the committee called at Malacañang this evening to submit a number of recommendations, among which were:

1. Implementation of Republic Act No. 1815, which provides for the creation of an Atomic Energy Commission; and
2. Appointment of a presidential assistant charged with the responsibility of checking and reporting to the President the progress of research work undertaken by different agencies on various fields. With Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia, committee chairman, acting

as spokesman, the group advised the President of the necessity of creating the commission so that the country would have an agency through which it could fulfill its commitments to the International Atomic Energy Agency of the United Nations, of which the Philippines is a member.

Regarding the appointment of a presidential assistant on research matters, the committee pointed out that there are in existence a number of research bureaus and offices which result in wasteful duplication of work. Among the more important ones, according to the Committee, are the National Science Board, the Institute of Science and Technology, the National Research Council, and, on its creation, the Atomic Energy Commission. A presidential assistant could coordinate the work of these different agencies and avoid waste in the national research effort, the committee said. Headed by Secretary Garcia, those present at the conference were Commander Marcelino Calinawan of the Navy, vice-chairman of the committee, and the following members: Dr. Gregorio Zara of FEATI, Aurelio Ramos of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Professors Amando Clemente and Crisostomo Ortigas of the University of the Philippines, Pedro Afafe of the National Economic Council, Director Casimiro del Rosario of the Weather Bureau, Col. Florencio Medina of the AFP, Leopoldo Salazar of the Institute of Science and Technology, and Alfredo Eugenio of the National Civil Defense Administration.

January 11.—THE President today repaired to his “hideout” in Quezon City and closeted himself there the whole day, working on his state-of-the-nation message scheduled to be delivered at the opening of Congress on January 27.

The Chief Executive went over the draft of the message with his advisers. These included Executive Secretary Juan Pajo, Rodolfo Andal, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, and Acting Press Secretary Guillermo Sison.

President Garcia started going over portions of his message in the morning at an uninterrupted pace and continued through *merienda* until well into the evening.

During the whole day, callers were barred from the President’s hideout. President Garcia was expected to stay at his undisclosed retreat until tomorrow.

To implement President Garcia’s pledge in his inaugural address that Malacañang would remain a symbol of “hope, faith, and justice to the common man,” Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo today streamlined the physical layout and simplified the duties of administrative officials of the Executive Office.

In his first memorandum order, Secretary Pajo directed the re-arrangement of the offices of the various administrative units, placing those which are most often consulted by the President nearest to Malacañang Palace where the President works. Such offices are those of the executive secretary and the three assistant executive secretaries, local governments and civil affairs, local staff, legislative secretarial staff, and appointments division.

The new physical layout of the executive offices is such that confusion in the traffic of visitors is avoided, insuring the orderly and maximum rendering of service to the general public.

In view of the increased number of visitors who wish to transact business with Malacañang and because of the greater volume of works being performed, Secretary Pajo simplified the division of labor among the three assistant executive secretaries as follows:

1. One assistant executive secretary supervises (a) the President’s private office, (b) the provost and aides offices (c) the Malacañang household, (d) the protocol division, (e) the appointments division, and (f) the finance division.
2. Another assistant executive secretary supervises (a) the legal office, (b) the local governments and civil affairs office, and (c) the Malacañang library.
3. A third assistant executive secretary supervises (a) the administrative division, (b) the records division, (c) the buildings and grounds division, and (d) the Malacañang clinic.

In addition to Assistant Executive Secretaries Nicanor Jimenez and Henry Quema, Sofronio Quimson, aside from being technical assistant, has been designated also as assistant executive secretary.

In this connection, Executive Secretary Pajo ordered that the duties of each administrative unit be so clearly defined that there would be no overlapping of functions and duties.

Secretary Pajo directed that all technical advisers and assistants should report regularly to their offices and perform their assigned duties.

To insure immediate attention to all complaints and letters addressed to the President, including letters to the President’s family and those sent to the executive secretary and the three assistant executive secretaries, it was directed that all correspondence should be channelled through the Message Center which will take care of assigning the letters to corresponding action units. The hand-carrying of correspondence by outsiders is prohibited.

A more systematic and more efficient way of processing and scheduling v callers on the President has been devised. A staff of appointments secretaries will take care of processing presidential callers, including those of the First Lady and the executive secretary.

Marcelino Calinawan, Jr., chairman of the action committee on reorganization of the Executive Office, said that Executive Secretary Pajo's memorandum order will take full effect Monday, January 13. He directed the rearrangement of the layout of the Executive Office today.

The streamlining of the Executive Office has been patterned after the recommendations made by the Government Survey and Reorganization Commission.

Secretary Pajo said that with this reorganization, the Executive Office could render more efficient service to the people.

January 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a great portion of his Sunday perfecting two speeches he is scheduled to deliver shortly. These are the speech on austerity which he will deliver on the Luneta Saturday and the state-of-the-nation message which he will deliver before Congress when it convenes in regular session late this month.

To avoid interruptions from callers, President Garcia worked on the drafts of these speeches at his "hideout" somewhere in the suburbs.

The President started the day by hearing mass with his family at the hideout. Following the services, the President had breakfast about 8:30 with members of his family.

Then he spent sometime reading the Sunday papers brought over to him by his aide, Maj. Jose Estrella.

In the afternoon, he went over pending state papers and then started on drafts of his speeches.

January 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning directed the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources to intensify distributing better varieties of rice and corn seeds to farmers as a vital step in implementing the Administration's program of making the country self-sufficient in staple crops.

The President issued the directive to officials of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the U.P. College of Agriculture who called at Malacañang to pledge their support to the President's food production campaign.

The President also told the group that there would be no let-up in the search for better varieties of rice and corn seeds which would result to an increased production and which could withstand the ravages of pests.

The agriculture officials who called on the President were Agriculture Undersecretary Jose P. Trinidad, Agricultural Extension Director Domingo Paguirigan, Director of Plant Industry Eugenio Cruz, Dean of the U.P. College of Agriculture Leopoldo Uichangco, Juan Torres, and Dioscoro Umali.

Aside from pledging their support to the President's food production campaign, the group also requested the Chief Executive to consider as one of his administration bills the "certified seed bill" in the coming congressional session. The group informed the President that the bill, if enacted into law, would give the National Seed Board, a body which was formed a few years ago, a personality to implement more effectively the Administration's food production program.

Earlier, the President received U. S. Assistant Secretary of the Navy Fred Bantz, who paid a courtesy call. Secretary Bantz is here in the course of a three-week inspection tour in the Far East.

Secretary Bantz was accompanied to Malacañang by U. S. Embassy Minister Horace Smith, Rear Admiral Edgar A. Cruise, and Capt. John Myers, naval attache of the United States Embassy.

Then the President received Highways Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog, who, together with other highways officials, called to discuss with the President matters affecting their office.

The President told Maslog to keep up with the projects that will help ameliorate the economic condition of the country. The President also told Maslog to gear his office with the austerity program.

Hilarion Henares, Jr., of the H. G. Henares and Sons, called to pay his respects to the President prior to his departure for the United States on an eight-month tour grant as an Eisenhower fellow to study the manufacturing industry.

During the call, the President was shown by Henares samples of his firm's locally-manufactured by-products of local materials consisting of plastics, wax, and benzene. Henares also brought sample of the by-products of sunflower seeds and lumbang seeds.

Education Secretary Manuel Lim accompanied around 200 public school officials consisting of vocational schools superintendents, supervisors, principals, and teachers, who paid a courtesy call on the President following a conference at Baguio City and San Fernando, La Union.

The public school officials pledged to support the Administration's food production campaign and the encouragement of cottage industries. Heads of the group included Education Undersecretary Martin Aguilar, Jr.; Apolinario Apelado, president of the Philippine Association of Vocational Education; and Jose Tuason, president of school superintendents' association.

Sen. Arturo M. Tolentino accompanied members of the Santol-Sociego Tenants Association from Quezon City and members of the Tambunting Tenants Association.

Through their respective spokesmen, Marcelo Bautista and Emeterio Timban, the tenants requested government assistance in acquiring the lots they are occupying.

Other callers were Acting Health Director Jesus Nolasco, Dean Ricardo Lacson of the Philippine Law School, Pastor Gonzales, Protacio Amoroy, and Jose Topacio Nueno.

The President also received the officers and members of the Philippine Mental Health Association who presented him with a plaque making him honorary president of the PMHA. The PMHA officials expressed their gratitude, for the government assistance which the PMHA was being accorded by the President's administration.

PMHA members who called on the President included Domingo Bascara, president; and Mrs. Estefania A. Lim, Rodolfo Andal, Jose A. Fernandez, E. Lopez, Dalmacio Martin, Cesar Catinlig, Mrs. Geronima Pecson, Francisco Raymundo, Mrs. Consuelo A. Herrera, Celia Nicolas, and Frisco Matheu.

Leonardo Carlos, whose leg was amputated owing to cancer, called on the President to express his gratitude for an artificial leg which was made by Army doctors at the V. Luna General Hospital upon instructions of the Chief Executive.

Alfonso Frias, mayor of Naga, Cebu, requested aid for public improvements of his town,

The President received callers up to 2 p.m.

THE President this day directed Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno to help the farmers of Lubao and Masantol, Pampanga. In two separate directives, the President, instructed Secretary Moreno:

(1) To direct immediately the construction of a temporary earth dam across the Bebe-San Esteban cut-off channel to prevent salt intrusion which could be destructive to the palay seedlings of Masantol farmers; and

(2) To order immediately the suspension of the construction of the Guma-in Diversion Canal project in order to give the farmers of Lubao enough irrigation water for their ricefields.

The President also authorized the expenditure of ₱6,000 from corresponding funds for the construction of the earth dam in Masantol.

The plight of the farmers of Masantol and Lubao was brought to the attention of the President by Rep. Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga's first district. Immediately after reading Rep. Nepomuceno's communication, the President sent Capt. Francisco Calinawan, an engineer, to Lubao and Masantol to look into the conditions. The President based his directives on the recommendations of Capt. Calinawan.

Benefited by the President's directive in Masantol were farmers of five barrios consisting of about 350 families. The Mcfeantel farmers were dependent on the rice-planted area from 800 to 1,000 hectares with an estimated yield of 35,000 cavanos.

According to Capt. Calinawan, the earth dam across the Bebe-San Esteban cut-off channel in Masantol was necessary to prevent salty water of the Manila Bay from intruding into the rice-planted areas. The salty water could seriously affect the growth of the palay, eventually leading to the destruction of the crop.

The complaint of the Lubao farmers was that the Guma-in Diversion Canal project was causing water shortage for irrigation. The construction of the diversion canal, according to Rep. Nepomuceno, was diverting the course of the Guma-in River and depriving the farmers of irrigation water supply. The President's order to defer construction of a portion of the canal assured the farmers of uninterrupted supply of irrigation water for their summer palay crop. Farmers of seven Lubao barrios were benefited by the President's directive.

THE President today awarded to 14 rural lady dentists the Golden Heart Presidential Award in a simple ceremony at the Malacañang study hall.

The citations of the awards read: "For your most efficient professional activities in the rural sections of the country. The free services is a positive indication that you have opened your heart to the needy and stretched your hands to the poor."

Eufemia L. del Rosario, head of the group, received a special Golden Heart Presidential Award. Present during the ceremony was Sen. Eulogio Balao, who accompanied the dentists to Malacañang.

Those who were given the awards were Doctors Francisca Picache, Teresita Papa, Socorro Cruz, Luz Figueroa, Elsie Mendoza, Amalia Castañeda, Irene Leaño Sembal, Victorina F. Tolentino, Puring Rocamora, Josefa Gloria, Benedicta Castro, Nene Javier Arenas, and Elena Ompoc.

IN the afternoon, the President received the members of the Hotel Operators Association, which protested the proposed construction- of the 17-story, 500-room Inter-continental Hotel by the Pan American Airways.

The group, composed of owners or managers of eight first-class hotels in Manila, had objected to the construction of a new hotel to house the passengers of the Pan-American Airways in Manila. **January 14.**—THIS morning President Garcia directed General Manager Filemon Zablan of the National Power Corporation to study the feasibility of a general reduction of electric rates for the benefit of the consuming public.

In a conference at Malacañang the President told Zablan to explore the possibility of considering hydroelectric development projects as a unit and not as individual projects so that electric rates might be made uniform.

To achieve the desired objective of rate reduction, the President ordered the NPC and the Public Service Commission to cooperate in determining the reasonable electric rate which should be charged to the public, taking into consideration the wholesale rate at which the utility operators buy from the NPC.

The conference between the President and Zablan lasted for about 30 minutes. Then the President proceeded to his study room to receive scheduled callers which consisted mostly of governors, congressmen, and town mayors.

Laguna Gov. Dominador Chipeco and Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay accompanied town mayors from their province who pledged their support to the Administration's program. The town mayors were headed by Cabuyao Mayor Mauro Alimagro.

The President asked the town mayors to explain to the residents of their respective towns the objectives of the Administration's austerity program.

Then the President received Capiz Gov. Jose Dinglasan, who informed the Chief Executive that there was an overproduction of rice in his province. Gov. Dinglasan suggested that the NARIC purchased rice from Capiz. Judge Rafael Dinglasan was present during the call.

Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte accompanied Maasin Mayor Alfredo Bantog, who requested the President's aid for waterworks improvements in that town.

Other callers were Sen. Francisco Rodrigo; Reps. Pedro Trono of Iloilo, Apolinario Apacible of Batangas, Augusto Francisco of Manila, and Maximino Garcia of Bohol; and Surigao Gov. Bernardino Almeda.

The President received callers until 1 p.m.

In the evening, the President conferred with H. B. Reyes, vice-president of the Meralco.

January 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning was informed by American vocational instructors that the country's public school system is one of the world's best. Some 23 American vocational instructors under the ICA, NEC, and the Stanford University teams, detailed with the Department of Education to train public school teachers on vocational and agricultural courses, paid the President a courtesy call.

The American instructors said that the country's public school system had made their work most effective and that they had "gained a very rich experience" in their contact with public school teachers, particularly those in the barrios who are playing a vital role in moulding the minds of the barrio folks.

The leaders of the teams were Paul Hanna, Graham Sullivan, Noel Myers, Frank Miller, and Earl Hashall. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Education Undersecretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., and Pedro Guiang.

Earlier this morning, the President and Mrs. Garcia received officers of the Young Ladies Association of Charity who sought the President's contribution to their fund drive. Present during the call were Mrs. Linda Garcia-Caropos, YLAC honorary chairman, and Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor. The group was headed by Miss Virginia Mata, YLAC president of the national high counsel. Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal, YLAC honorary vice-chairman, accompanied the group to Malacañang.

Then the President received officers of the World Brotherhood of the Philippines who sought presidential proclamation declaring February 16 to 24, 1958, as World Brotherhood Week. WBP officers included Tomas Benitez, Jorge Bocobo, Albino Sycip, Arturo Tanco, Jr., Geronima T. Pecson, Trinidad F. Legarda, and Alice Fera Winn.

Capt. Feliciano Miravite, whose legs had been amputated as a result of an encounter with the communists during the South Korean campaign a few years ago, called to say goodbye to the Chief Executive prior to his departure for the United States where he will take actuarial courses. He was accompanied to Malacañang by Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez.

Then the President proceeded to the Council of State room to preside over the Cabinet meeting.

THE Cabinet at its meeting today authorized Commerce, Secretary Pedro Hernaez to conclude immediately the transaction to barter Philippine copra with 50,000 metric tons of rice equivalent to 900,000 cavans of rice from Hongkong.

This approval came after a thorough discussion of the report of Secretary Hernaez, who had taken the necessary steps in effecting the copra-rice barter as approved in a previous Cabinet meeting in view of the estimated rice shortage of from 1,862,900 to 2,000,000 cavans during the year 1958.

In addition to this, the Cabinet also authorized Secretary Hernaez to start negotiations for an additional 50,000 metric tons of rice. It was believed that, together with the 16,000 tons of rice coming from the United States soon, the already closed deal for 50,000 tons of rice and the expected additional importation of 50,000 metric tons would be sufficient to fill the expected rice shortage and provide enough rice at prices within the reach of all.

The President, however, directed Secretary Hernaez to report to the President and the Cabinet on the progress of his negotiations for the additional 50,000 metric tons before concluding the transaction.

Before approving the conclusion of the 50,000 metric tons of rice to be bartered with Philippine copra, the President first got assurance that the cost of the rice which is \$120 C & F Manila per metric ton was the best price possible.

The President was informed that as this rice was 35 per cent broken, with 14 per cent moisture and two per cent stained, it was better than another offer of rice priced at \$114 per metric ton but which had 50 per cent broken grains. It was the consensus of the Cabinet members that the former offer was fair and reasonable.

The barter of rice at \$120 per metric ton will be on the basis of an equivalent exportation of copra from the Philippines at \$170 on a back-to-back letter of credit per ton.

The copra to be bartered will be taken from the accumulated 15 per cent barterable copra.

President Garcia also clearly indicated at the Cabinet meeting that products other than copra, except sugar, would be allowed to be bartered with rice. He said that in this first copra-rice barter, copra was used because so far it was the barterable product which was offered to be used.

The President told Secretary Hernaez to rush the consummation of the barter.

It was also stressed at the Cabinet meeting that the bringing in of this 50,000 tons of rice was only a safety measure to prevent hunger and unreasonable rise in rice prices due to an impending rice shortage caused by drought which was being felt in other rice-producing countries in the Orient.

It was also stipulated that the imported rice would not be dumped in the market upon its arrival but would be stored and sold during times of scarcity.

The Cabinet also approved in principle the recommendations of Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona for the improvement of the financial position of the government, particularly the retrenchment measures for adoption by government agencies.

The President, however, advised department heads to confer with the budget commissioner within this week if they desired a re-examination of the reductions allotted to their respective departments so as not to impair the rendering of essential public services and the construction of important projects. The President also directed Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez to intensify tax collection and study ways of stopping up revenue collections in the Bureau of Customs in order to improve the financial position of the government.

In his lengthy report on the financial position of the government, Commissioner Aytona indicated a probable excess of obligations over income in the general fund during the current fiscal year 1958 in the amount of ₱77.1 million computed as follows: total income, ₱766.6 million; and total obligations ₱843.7 million.

The estimated income of ₱766.6 million is ₱79.7 million less than the original estimate of ₱846.3 million caused by the reduction in estimated customs collection, failure of Congress to pass tax amnesty and tax census bills, failure to collect properly receivables from government-owned or controlled corporations and local governments, reduction in estimated operating and service income, and apportionment adjustment to local governments.

The budget commissioner explained that to prevent the deficit of ₱77.1 million, two courses had been explored with department and agency heads as follows: (1) reduction of expenditures during the remainder of the fiscal year and (2) reversion to income of excess certifications to accounts payable.

As pledged by the department and agency heads, the budget commissioner said that the amount of savings expected to be realized from the first course of action would total ₱53.6 million while the additional income to be derived from the second course of action would amount to ₱6.2 million, making a total of ₱59.3 million. After applying this total of ₱59.3 million to the estimated deficit of ₱77.1 million, there would still remain the amount of about ₱16 million which may be covered from the following sources:

- (1) Reversion of excess certifications to accounts payable of the Armed Forces which amount to some ₱11 million;
- (2) Collection by the treasury of the Philippines of outstanding receivables from the Central Bank, government-owned and controlled corporations, and local governments amounting to over ₱85 million; and
- (3) Any reduction in expenditure which the Armed Forces and the Department of Education may be prevailed upon to make.

Commissioner Aytona recommended the following specific retrenchment measures for adoption by agencies in a greater or lesser degree, depending upon each given situation:

- (1) Economy in personnel utilization, non-filling of vacancies, deferment of promotions, restriction or termination of emergency employment, strict control in the use of floating plantilla personnel, restriction of overtime work, requiring employees to go on leave when their services can be dispensed with;
- (2) Economy in the use of supplies, materials, and equipment;
- (3) Restriction of travel, locally and abroad, restriction of the holding of conventions or conferences or the sending of representatives thereto, limitation of field inspections, deferment of scholarship or fellowship travels;
- (4) Economy in the use of communication and transportation services, restriction in the use of postage, telegraph communication, and government vehicles of all types, restriction of installation of new PLDT facilities in government offices;
- (5) Economy in the use of water, electricity, gas, oil, or other fuel for light and power, cooking or heating;
- (6) Limitation of repair and maintenance work to minimum essential requirements consistent with safety, security, and the demands of health and sanitation; and
- (7) Economy in the printing, engraving, and binding requirements of agencies, especially in the use of elaborate and luxurious printing and binding jobs, letterheads, envelopes, desk memorandum pads, posters, handbills, pamphlets, etc.

President Garcia and his Cabinet agreed to change the time of the Cabinet meeting from 10 o'clock in the morning every Wednesday to 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who suggested the change, said that holding the Cabinet meeting in the afternoon would enable Cabinet members to work the whole day in their respective offices and attend to the people's needs. He said that if the Cabinet meeting was held at 10 o'clock in the morning, almost the whole day was lost because the Cabinet usually adjourned its meetings at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

It was believed that the change in the schedule of the Cabinet meetings would enable Cabinet members to have more time in thoroughly studying the agenda.

The President said that he would try the proposed new schedule for Cabinet meetings beginning Wednesday, January 22.

The Cabinet meeting this day lasted from 11:30 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: January 16-31, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

January 16.—IN a drastic move designed to stop the unscrupulous practice of unidentified individuals who are reported to have been injudiciously using the President's name to enhance selfish individual interests, President Garcia today issued an appeal to the public asking for their cooperation to put an end to a bad practice which, he said, tends "to shake the confidence of our people in this administration."

The President's move was spurred by persistent reports about private individuals allegedly paddling influence in both government and private sectors by invoking his name.

In a statement directed to government agencies, particularly to investigative agencies, the President asked them to be on the look-out for such individuals and to take immediate remedial action that will include court prosecutions.

The President explained that this practice invariably puts him in bad light to the people, creating a situation in which the people ultimately are prone to lose faith in his administration. Strict public service morality, he said, does not condone such a practice even by members of his family.

The President promised stern punishment of persons committing such a malpractice. He added that he could only succeed in this move with the full cooperation of the people themselves.

THE President today appointed Idelfonso Sinco, Artemio Mati, and Antonio Jaro, *ad interim* Leyte provincial board member, city mayor, and vice-mayor of Tacloban City, respectively.

The appointment papers of the new Leyte officials were signed in the presence of Leyte Gov. Bernardo Torres, ranking officials, and residents of that province, including Minister Eduardo Quintero, Reynaldo Pascual, Sotero Escarrilla, Jesus Catalla, Ramon Taluzas, and Rodulfo Nievas.

The President received Pampanga Gov. Rafael Lazatin, who accompanied residents from that province who consulted the Chief Executive on matters affecting Pampanga.

Sorsogon Gov. Juan Frivaldo requested aid for public works improvements of his province.

Mayor Bara Lidazan of Parang, Cotabato, requested funds for feeder roads and other public works improvement in that town. He was accompanied by Gil Gadi of Kidappwan.

Other callers were former Public Works Secretary Sotero Baluyot, Miguel Baluyot, Juan T. David, Silvestre Punzalan, and Clemente Soriano.

The President received callers until 1: 30 p.m.

ALL schools, colleges, and universities throughout the Philippines will observe Friday, Janixary 17, as Austerity Day in acordance with Proclamation No. 469, signed by President Garcia last month.

In this connection, school authorities have circularized all schools concerned so that appropriate steps would be taken to observe the day.

To cap the celebration, President Garcia will deliver a speech the following day, Saturday, January 18, at 4:30 p.m. at the Independence Memorial grandstand. The President will explain the positive measures he will take to impement the austerity program.

The President's speech will be broadcast by all radio stations.

Public Schools Director Benigno Aldana circularized all schools under his bureau suggesting how the day could be observed fittingly by pupils and school personnel through school and out-of-school activities and thus contribute directly and positively to the success of the austerity campaign.

Aldana called attention to his previous office memorandum entitled "Concerted and Vigorous Observance of the National Self-Sufficiency and Food Production Campaign," which gave directions regarding the implementation of the Austerity Day proclamation of the President.

PRESIDENT Garcia last night conferred with the officials of the International Cooperation Administration, the Industrial Development Center, the National Economic Council, and the National Power Corporation in an effort to re-direct the U.S. aid to the Philippines for agricultural and industrial development.

It was the first time the President took steps to utilize the United States aids to boost his program of industrial and agricultural production.

He had previously said that he was not in favor of securing additional aid from the United States in his projected visit to Washington.

"We should not rely on American handouts," the President told a previous press conference.

Present at the conference were Paul D. Summers, Dr. Ernest E. Neal, Charles MacGillivray, and Stewart Baron of the ICA; Filemon Zablan, National Power Corporation general manager; Ramon Binamira, presidential assistant on community development; Chairman Eduardo Romualdez of the National Economic Council; Cornelio V. Crucillo of the foreign aid section of the NEC; and Faustino Lozada of the IDC.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo assisted the President at the conference.

The President also received members of the Mindanao bloc which recommended five names for possible appointment to the President's Cabinet.

Recommended were Rep. Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Gov. Alejandro Almendras of Davao, ex-Sen. Felisberto Verano, and Gov. Vicente Lara of Misamis Oriental for the position of secretary of public works and communications. The fifth name recommended was that of Health Undersecretary Rafael Tombokon for the position of secretary of health.

With the Mindanao bloc leaders were Sens. Emmanuel Pelaez and Roseller T. Lim; Reps. Reynaldo P. Honrado of Surigao and Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental; ex-Sen. Felisberto Verano; Govs. Bernardino Almeda of Surigao and Felixberto Dagani of Agusan; City Mayor Leroy S. Brown of Basilan City; and former Rep. Ignacio Cruz.

Mayor Rosendo Tomas of Mayantoc, Tarlac, also saw the President. Mayantoc was the only town in Tarlac which gave the President a majority over his rivals for the presidency in the last, elections.

THE following is the statement of Malacañang clarifying the circumstances and reasons leading to the approval by the Cabinet of the barter of locally produced low-grade Virginia leaf tobacco with U. S. high grade Virginia leaf tobacco:

"Regarding the story published in the morning papers of Thursday, January 16, 1958, on the approval by the Cabinet of the exportation of 14 million pounds of local low-grade sun-dried Virginia leaf tobacco to be paid for or bartered with 10 million pounds of U. S. high grade Virginia leaf tobacco, Malacañang, through its Legal Office headed by Judge Salvador Esguerra, clarified the circumstances and reasons leading to the approval of the transaction by the Cabinet in order to straighten out misstatement and inaccuracies appearing in the publication.

1. The President and the Cabinet approved the barter of 14 million pounds of local low-grade Virginia leaf tobacco with 10 million pounds of U. S. high-grade Virginia leaf tobacco on the basis of the recommendation of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration (ACCFA), and of its certification to the President, that for this fiscal year, the local production of Virginia leaf tobacco in the Philippines is insufficient to maintain the manufacture of tobacco products in this country at a level sufficient to produce not less than the quantity of tobacco products manufactured in the preceding fiscal year, which quantity shall be certified to by the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR).

2. The certification by the BIR does not refer to the shortage of local production of Virginia leaf tobacco. It merely refers to the quantity of tobacco products manufactured in the Philippines in the preceding fiscal year out of Virginia leaf tobacco. The certification by the ACCFA refers to the shortage of the local production of Virginia leaf tobacco in the Philippines and that said production will be insufficient to maintain the same quantity of tobacco products manufactured during the preceding fiscal year. When it comes to the certification as to the existence of a shortage in the local production of Virginia leaf tobacco, it is the ACCFA that issues it and not the BIR whose function is limited to the certification as to the quantity of tobacco products manufactured in the preceding fiscal year out of locally grown Virginia leaf tobacco which in turn is the basis of comparison by the ACCFA with the quantity of the local production of Virginia leaf tobacco.

3. The importation of the shortage as certified by the ACCFA is authorized by the President under section 1 of Republic Act No. 1194. It is not the certification of the BIR which serves as basis for the President's action in authorizing the importation of the quantity corresponding to the shortage of local Virginia leaf tobacco. To deny this is to show abysmal ignorance of the law or to refuse to know the law. The prohibition in Republic Act No. 1410 against the importation by barter of articles that are limited or prohibited of importation is not applicable with respect to the quantity of Virginia leaf tobacco certified as shortage which the President is authorized to permit to be imported. Once the President authorizes the importation of Virginia leaf tobacco to cover the shortage, there is no more prohibition against the importation of the quantity of that shortage. Therefore, the prohibition in -Republic Act No. 1410 no longer applies because the authority to import it is made as an exception to the prohibition in the law. To barter the local production of low-grade Virginia leaf tobacco for the importation of high-grade foreign Virginia leaf tobacco would logically follow as a necessary consequence of the lifting of the prohibition by the President.

4. The Secretary of Justice has not issued any statement that the BIR certification regarding the existence of a shortage in the production of local Virginia leaf tobacco is necessary to authorize the importation of the shortage. The Secretary of Justice explained that the certification of the BIR refers only to the quantity of the tobacco products manufactured in the preceding fiscal year which is the basis of the ACCFA in making a comparison whether there is a shortage between that quantity of tobacco products manufactured and the local production of Virginia leaf tobacco to be used in the manufacture of such products.

5. The certification by the BIR as to the quality of the tobacco that will be exported under the transaction approved by the Cabinet is needed only for purposes of collecting the tobacco inspection fee provided under the National Internal Revenue Code. Evidently, such certification of the Collector of Internal Revenue regarding the quality of tobacco has nothing to do with the existence of a shortage in the local production of Virginia leaf tobacco which is to be certified by the ACCFA.

6. Under the Cabinet resolution to allow the importation of foreign Virginia leaf tobacco, the allocation of the imported quantity will be dictated by the ACCFA, and the private firm called the Philippine Tobacco Flue Curing and Redrying Corporation will only act as agent in carrying out the equitable distribution among local manufacturers of Virginia cigarettes. There is, therefore, no favoritism towards the Philippine Tobacco Flue Curing and Redrying Corporation that will enable this corporation, as alleged, to monopolize the importation of Virginia leaf tobacco.

January 17.—THE President this morning called upon the officers and members of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines to help in the implementation of the Administration's austerity program, saying that "austerity is not only in dollars but is a way of life."

The President and the First Lady had breakfast with the members of the CAWP at the Malacañang state dining hall. In appealing to the women of the country, the President said that spirit and ideals should go hand in hand with economic development.

The Chief Executive cited the causes and reasons leading to the Administration's austerity measures and said that it was his sincere hope that the CAWP and the country's women in general would continue supporting the program. "Help us enlighten the people on why the measures were taken," the President said in his brief remarks after the breakfast.

Extolling the characteristics of the Filipino women, the President said that he would not hesitate in appointing qualified women to ranking government positions. He invited the CAWP officers and members to feel free to come to Malacañang for enlightenment in the efforts to implement the austerity program.

The First Lady, who said a few words, expressed approval of the plan to appoint qualified women to government positions.

CAWP President Helena Z. Benitez expressed the opinion of the association that with President Garcia in Malacañang, "the country is in best hands."

The CAWP members assured the President that they would cooperate in the solution of the economic problems and would be militant in their support of the austerity program. They also promised to help step-up production, individually and collectively, and to buy less imported goods and consume less to save more and use more of the local goods.

The CAWP members also said that their first concern was the strengthening of spiritual and moral values, and the pledge to fight the social forces directly and indirectly causing moral disintegration of the people. In the implementation of their fight against the social forces causing moral disintegration, the CAWP suggested more well-organized seminars and workshops, improvement of the Social Security System, stricter laws on movies and movie goers, and nationalization of schools to implement a real citizenship training and to educate people to practice real patriotism and nationalism.

Those who attended the breakfast were Helena Z. Benitez, president; Belen E. Gutierrez, treasurer; Concepcion R. Gonzalez, 1st vice-president; Minerva Laudico, 3rd vice-president; Leticia P. de Guzman, public relations officer; Enriqueta R. Benavides, Pilar H. Lam, Rafaelita H. Soriano, Concepcion Henares and Estefania Aldaba-Lim, members at large;

Jossie Lichauco, Asociacion de Damas Filipinas; Nestora Benetua, Catholic Women's League; Isabel S. Lopez, Club de Damas de Manila; Pilar M. Normandy, Gold Star Mothers & United War Widows and Orphans Association; Lourdes Casas, Junior Federation of Women's Clubs of the Philippines; Constancia D. Dumlao, League of Women Voters of the Philippines; Maria Orense Casas, Manila Ladies Civic Group; Eloisa B. Brior, Manila YWCA; Mercedes Panganiban, NDC Women's Clubs; Paraiunian S. Aspillera, Panitik ng Kababaihan; Maria Cid Peralta, Philippine Association of University Women.; Joaquina Zapanta, Pihlippine Women's Christian Temperance Union; Remedios Mijares Austria, Women Lawyer's Circle; Paz Catolico, Women's International League; Geronima T. Pecson, Zenta Club of Manila; Leonor Jacinto, Jaycerettes; Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Women's Welfare Movement; Judge Minerva Piguing, Board of Dircors; Felisa Carina, former secretary of CAWP; Salud Unson, Manila Women's Club; Carmen Adriano Pineda, Rural Improvement Club; Gloria Monzon, Philippine Home Economics Association; Carmela Lucero, Constabulary Women's Club, and Lilia de Jesus-Sevilla, Camp Murphy Women's Club.

President Garcia's austerity program was further bolstered this morning as businessmen, civic leaders, professionals, and laymen who called at Malacañang pledged their all-out support for the measure.

MRR General Manager Salvador T. Villa, newly-elected President of the Management Association of the Philippines, headed officers of that association who took their oath of office before the Chief Executive. Those who were inducted into office were Jose Olbes, vice-president; and Leopoldo Rovira, Jr., Art Cummings, and Federico Borromeo, members of the board. Present during the induction ceremony were Leonides Virata, Salvador Estrada, A; Mon-tinola, Jr., Luis Panagitan, and A. Liboro.

The first callers of the President after his breakfast with the officers and members of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines were the officials of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines headed by Jorge V. Vargas, president of the BSP. The BSP officials informed the President of the holding of a boy scouts' international jamboree in the Philippines in 1959. The international jamboree will be the first of its kind to be held in the Far East and thousands of boy scouts from countries all over the world will attend. The BSP officials invited the President to be the guest speaker at the BSP national jamboree on April 14 this year.

Then the President received two American business executives who simultaneously paid a courtesy call following their recent arrival in the country. They were Albert Tegen, president of the General Public Utilities Incorporated, NY, mother corporation of the Manila Electric Company; and Walter Wilma, executive vice-president of the U. S. Industries Incorporated, NY, mother establishment of the Koppel (Philippines), Inc.

Tegen was accompanied to Malacañang by W. R. Snyder and H. B. Reyes, president and vice-president of the Meralco, respectively. Wilma was accompanied by N. A. Fittinghoff, president of the Koppel, Inc., and Gil Carlos.

Later the President received members of the Filipino Nurses Association who, aside from pledging their support to his Administration, also expressed their gratitude for the release of a government land for the Nurses Village at Novaliches. The group was headed by Mrs. Rosario Ordiz. Present during the call was Fr. Domingo Nebres, spiritual adviser of the FNA.

Impressario Alfredo Lozano accompanied Nena del Rosario, who formally invited the President and his family to her concert to be held on January 31 at the Sta. Escolastica auditorium. The concert will be given in honor of the President and his family.

The President received members of the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines who briefed the Chief Executive on the UNESCO educational and cultural program in relation to the country and to the Administration.

The group included Mrs. Geronima T. Pecson, chairman; Benecio Catapusan, Mrs. Trinidad F. Legarda, Mrs. Concepcion Gonzales, Prof. Ramon Tapales, Benigno Aldana, Francisco Trinidad, Eduardo Quisumbing, Patrocinio Valenzuela, Joaquin Maranon, Tomas Fonacier, and Mariano de los Santos.

Then the President received officers and members of the Rural Bankers' Association who, aside from pledging their support to the austerity program, also assured the Chief Executive that they would intensify giving financial assistance to small farmers in rural areas to realize the objectives of the good production campaign.

The group included Jose Rodriguez, president; Jose Desiderio, Florencio Garcia, Eduardo Barretto, and J. Ortanez.

Land Tenure Administrator Manuel Castañeda called to discuss matters affecting the LTA.

Other callers were members of the Good Government League, headed by Luis Gloria; members of the Iloilo Voters' League, headed by Bernabe Gomez; Manuel Leleen; Dominador Villanueva, president of the Ilocano National Association; Mrs. Comemoracion M. Concepcion, Quezon City High School principal; Emma Bernabe; B. Magaro; Orlando Yangco; M. V. Arguelles; and Justice Buenaventura Ocampo and his sons, Miguel, Bienvenido, and Rodolfo. Leopoldo Brias, Philippine honorary consul for Barcelona, Spain, and his wife Maria paid a courtesy call following their arrival in the country recently. The couple was accompanied to Malacañang by Col. Benito Razon.

Mayor Floripes Venturanza of Banga, Capiz, requested aid for feeder roads construction in his town.

The President received callers until 1:45 p.m.

January 18.—THIS morning, President Garcia directed Health Director Jesus Nolasco to send immediately by plane medicine and necessary personnel to Catarman, Samar, to check the gastro-enteritis and influenza epidemics in that area.

The President issued the directive upon representation of Rep. Eladio Balite, who had been informed by Catarman Mayor Moobe of the epidemics.

Balite said that Catarman has 37,000 population, the majority of which was residing in 50 barrios. Only 15 barrios are accessible by roads, and the only public health officer available in the town is the sanitary inspector. Catarman is 150 kilometers from Catbalogan.

THE President today sent a cable to His Holiness Pope Pius XII on the latter's feast day. The President's cable reads:

"The Philippines today prays that your Holiness on this date set aside in your honor may look forward to many more such days to further your great leadership in peace, unity, and moral guidance of nations."

The President stayed the whole day in his hideout, having gone there the night before. He spent the morning working on his speech which he delivered in the afternoon.

About 4:00 p.m., the President was fetched from the hideout by Francisco Dalupan, President of the University of the East, who accompanied him to the Luneta. After the ceremonies at the grandstand, the President returned to his hideout.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon delivered his second "austerity speech" in which he stressed the positive measures he would take to implement the government's austerity program. (See *Historical Papers and Documents*, pp. 308-314, for the full text of the President's speech.)

The President spoke at the Independence Memorial Grandstand before an estimated 250,000 audience composed mostly of students from schools, colleges, and universities from Manila and the suburbs, including civic, business, and religious leaders. The President's speech capped the nationwide observance by schools throughout the Philippines of "Austerity Day" yesterday.

After the President's speech, Fernando E. V. Sison, president of the Philippine Chamber of Industries, congratulated the President and said that the Chamber was glad to accept the Chief Executive's challenge to industries to go all-out for scientific and industrial research and to cooperate with the Government's research program in order to increase production.

January 19.—THE President will seek amendment of the Central Bank Charter in the forthcoming session of Congress in order to make the majority of the members of the Monetary Board work on a full time basis, Malacañang announced today.

A Malacañang spokesman said that the President would like the majority of the Monetary Board members to serve on a full time basis so that work of that very important body which plays a vital role in the development of the country's economy would be sped up.

In its present composition the Monetary Board has only one full-time member. The spokesman said that if the majority of the board members would work full time, there would be no delay in acting on all matters which require full deliberation of the board.

The spokesman further said that the President is also considering making the majority members of the board of directors of other government corporations work on a full time basis. In this manner all problems of the different government corporations could be studied more thoroughly and could be acted upon with more dispatch, the spokesman said.

THE President spent a quiet Sunday in his hideout where he had retired the day before to resume work on his state-of-the-nation message and on drafts of bills which he intends to recommend for enactment in the forthcoming regular session of Congress.

The President started the day by hearing mass said at 9 a.m. before an improvised altar at his hideout.

After breakfast about 10 a.m., the President spent some time reading the Sunday morning papers brought over to him by Lt. Melchor Fronda, naval aide. Then he started working on his message to Congress and on some pending papers sent over from Malacañang.

The Chief Executive did not receive any caller at his hideout the whole day.

January 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia is considering the appointment of a technical adviser to the President on science, Malacañang announced today.

A Malacañang spokesman said that prominently mentioned for appointment to the position is Lt. Comdr. Marcelino Calinawan (PN), now vice-chairman of the Interdepartmental Committee on Atomic Energy. Calinawan is the only Filipino who had been awarded the Eisenhower scholarship on nuclear studies. He returned recently from Washington, D. C.

The Malacañang spokesman said that the presidential technical adviser on science will serve as a liaison between the science agencies of the government and Malacañang. At present the government agencies undertaking scientific researches are the National Science Board, the Institute of Science and Technology, the National Research Council, and the Philippine Nuclear Energy Commission now in process of organization.

Researches are also being undertaken by the Bureau of Plant Industry and the Bureau of Animal Industry.

For the present the presidential technical adviser on science will serve as a liaison between these science agencies and Malacañang. The President will recommend to Congress the integration of all these government agencies undertaking scientific and industrial researches in order to make their services more effective and so that they can effectively serve private industry in the effort to increase production of prime commodities.

The President's action in recommending to Congress the integration of these government agencies was announced by him in his speech last Saturday at the Independence Memorial Grandstand. In his speech the President stressed the positive measures he would undertake in connection with the austerity program of the government.

Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez and Rep. Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental called on the President this morning and pledged to him their full backing of his announcement to recommend to Congress the integration of all government agencies undertaking scientific and industrial researches in order that the integrated offices could service the needs of industries in achieving maximum production.

Earlier the President swore into office Natalio P. Castillo as congressman for the first district of Bohol. The President also inducted Rep. Fausto Dugenio as member of the Nacionalista Party. Dugenio was the only successful congressional candidate of the Nacionalist-Citizens Party.

The induction ceremonies for the two congressmen took place at the President's study this noon. Among those present were Sen. Fernando Lopez, who sponsored the affiliation of Rep. Dugenio, Sen. Pelaez, and Reps. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol and Domitilo Abordo of Iloilo.

After the induction ceremonies, President Garcia received Vicente P. Gabriel, national chairman of the Economic Emancipation Association who presented a resolution to the President requesting the relief of Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno and all the other top officials of the Central Bank, the appointive members of the

Monetary Board, the appointive members of the National Economic Council, and the top officials of the Office of Economic Coordination.

The resolution urged that these officials be replaced with those “who have no interest to protect, cannot be influenced by foreign vested interests, and with workable ideas for the betterment of our country and people.”

The President said that he would study the petition.

The President stayed at his hide-out today where he continued working on his state-of-the-nation message. He left his hide-out and motored to Malacañang at past 11 am for the induction ceremonies. He was accompanied by Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Rep. Cabangbang, and Maj. Jose Estrella.

After luncheon, the President returned to his hide-out and resumed working on his state-of-the-nation message.

THE President today said that if the unbridled speculation in the price of rice and other prime commodities would continue, he would ask Congress to enact a price control law for these commodities.

The President reiterated this statement upon receiving reports that the prices of essential commodities had continued to soar without any justifiable reason.

The President in his speech Saturday afternoon at the Independence Grandstand on the Luneta appealed “to the patriotism of our merchants, nationals, and aliens alike, to refrain from making excessive profits at the expense of the suffering of our people.”

In that speech the President said that he would take “necessary measures, drastic measures if need be, to protect our people from the concupiscence and greed of the heartless.”

The President reiterated his warning today upon being informed that the prices of prime commodities had continued to go up without justifiable reason.

IN the evening, the President sent the following message congratulating Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., on the eve of the latter’s 75th birthday:

“MRS. Garcia heartily joins me in wishing you a very happy birthday. The stature and prestige of our party today, in the attainment of which you have dedicatedly played a big hand, may well be your gift on this day. May God grant you many more years that you may continue to serve the nation. Warmest Regards.”

January 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia will recommend to Congress changes in the country’s educational program in order to gear the education of the youth to the government’s policy of developing the nation’s agricultural and industrial resources, Malacañang announced today.

The proposed changes in the educational system which the President will recommend to Congress will stress greater emphasis on the teaching of physics, chemistry, biology, mathematics, economics, and allied subjects.

A Malacañang spokesman said that the laying of emphasis on these subjects will not in any way sacrifice the teaching of general education which is essential to the cultivation of those qualities which will make men socially, politically, and culturally well rounded.

The spokesman added that these proposed changes in the educational system of the Philippines were necessary in order to implement fully the country’s agricultural and industrial development.

President Garcia spent the whole day in his hide-out revising the first draft of his speech. He did not receive any callers.

Early in the morning, he motored to the residence of Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., to congratulate the latter on his birthday.

In the afternoon, the President received Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable in connection with his state-of-the-nation address. ,

A Malacañang spokesman this evening said that the neutral stand which the President had taken on the speakership remained the same. The spokesman said that the President had not authorized anybody to campaign for someone for the speakership.

He added that the President expected full cooperation from whoever might be elected Speaker, and especially from the majority of the House of Representatives composed of 83 Nacionalistas.

According to the spokesman, the President expressed faith that this Congress would be equal to the highest expectations of the people in these days of stress and hardships.

January 22.—THE President spent almost the whole day today in his new residence, generally referred to as his hideout. He was busy giving the finishing touches to the draft of his state-of-the-nation message to be delivered Monday before the joint session of the Fourth Congress.

In the afternoon, the President motored to Malacañang to preside over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

THIS afternoon, the President received the credentials of the first Ambassador of India to the Philippines, Mohinder Singh Chopra, at a simple ceremony held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall with all the members of the Cabinet present.

Toasts with *basi*, a local wine, for the continued friendly relations now existing between both countries were exchanged by President Garcia and Ambassador Chopra after the ceremony. Arriving at Malacañang a few minutes before 5 p.m., the Indian Ambassador was received with full military honors rendered by Malacañang guards before he was ushered to the ceremonial hall.

Present at the presentation ceremony were Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z Romualdez, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Acting Agriculture Secretary Jose Trinidad, Economic Coordination Administrator Juan Concon, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, National Integration Commissioner Madki Alonto, and Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

Among those present at the ceremony were Rep. Miguel Cuenco of Cebu, Ministers Tomas de Castro and Juan Arreglado, and Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel G. Zamora.

EARLIER in the afternoon, President Garcia received Manuel Nieto, Philippine ambassador to Spain, who arrived this morning on the SAS Madrid-Rome-Manila inaugural flight.

Ambassador Nieto informed the President that the *Spolarium*, a painting by Juan Luna which was recently turned over to the Philippine Government by the Spanish Government, will arrive by boat, as it could not be transported by plane.

FINANCE Secretary Jaime Hernandez reported to the President and the Cabinet at their meeting this afternoon the action of the Monetary Board, allowing all oil companies during the first semester of 1958 to utilize in full their 1957 first half actual importation. The Hernandez report follows:

“The Monetary Board, acting swiftly on the representations made by industries affected, decided at its meeting today, January 22, 1958, to allow the oil companies during the first semester of 1958 the utilization in full of their 1957 first half actual importation. This decision means the restoration of the cuts previously made upon the oil companies. The Monetary Board arrived at this decision in order to assure the steady and smooth operations of the essential industries of the country, particularly of manufacturing and dollar-earning industries, and after considering the foreign exchange savings effected in the allocations of other sectors.

“In addition, the Monetary Board approved the grant of the full quotas of dollar-earning industries to the level of their 1957 semestral regular allocations in order that the contribution of these industries to our dollar reserves shall continue unhampered. Furthermore, in line with the Administration’s policy of attaining self-sufficiency in foodstuff, the Monetary Board has seen to it that importers of fertilizers and insecticides shall utilize in full their 1957 semestral allocations during the first semester of 1958.”

THE Cabinet approved a draft agreement between the Department of Health of Vietnam and the Department of Health of the Philippines providing for the recruitment of 20 Filipino physicians who will serve under contract for a period of one year in Vietnam in connection with the implementation of a Joint Vietnamese Government and ICA Rural Health Program.

Under this agreement which was submitted to the Cabinet by Health Secretary Paulino Garcia, the Philippine department of health will request Filipino physicians interested in the project to file formal letters of applications to be accompanied with statement of academic accomplishments and experience; thereafter the applicants will be screened by the Philippine department of health and the USOM/Philippines to determine whether or not they are qualified to participate in the project.

The Vietnamese department of health and USOM/Vietnam will review the applications, after which the Philippine department, through the USOM/ Philippines, will be notified of the acceptance or rejection of the applicant. The Philippine department will then notify any applicant by letter of his acceptance or rejection. If accepted, the physician may either be designated a general practitioner or a general surgeon.

Any physician recruited by the Philippine department will serve for a period of one year, or until earlier terminated, in places where he will be assigned under the supervision of a Vietnamese physician designated by the Vietnamese department. He will be licensed to practice in Vietnam only in a health facility of the Vietnamese department. He cannot engage in any other employment during the period of his service, or receive or accept any gift or remuneration other than what is provided in the agreement.

The Cabinet approved the agreement upon the assurance of Health Secretary Garcia that the release of 20 Filipino physicians for service in foreign land would not affect the Philippines’ own rural health program.

The agreement contains, among others, the following conditions:

1. For consideration of services rendered, each general surgeon will receive the equivalent in pesos of \$350 a month; each general practitioner, the equivalent of \$300 a month. These amounts will be paid in the Philippines to the respective agents designated in writing filed with the Philippine department, subject to reimbursement in dollars by USOM/Vietnam.

2. Each physician will be entitled to the following allowances:

- (a) Free first class transportation from Manila to Saigon and return.

(b) Free transportation within Vietnam only for all journeys undertaken in the performance of official duties.

(c) Each physician will be entitled to baggage and personal effects weighing not more than 200 pounds to be sent as unaccompanied air freight at the expense of USOM/Vietnam.

(d) Each physician will be provided furnished living quarters by the Vietnamese department without charge.

(e) Each physician shall receive transfer allowance of VN\$ 1,000 to be paid by USOM/Vietnam. After the one-year period, he shall receive one-half month's salary in lieu of leave rights in the same manner as regular salary. Cost-of-living allowances shall be determined by USOM/Vietnam in accordance with conditions in the area where the physician is assigned, but such allowance shall not be less than VN\$ 200 nor more than VN\$400 a day.

3. The physicians will not be required to furnish any medical instruments, drugs, or supplies in connection with their employment in Vietnam.

4. The Philippine department, with prior concurrence of USOM/Philippines, will provide group insurance for sickness, accident, and death, premiums therefor to be paid by USOM/Philippines. The amount involved will be reimbursed by USOM/Vietnam.

5. A physician may resign by giving 30 days written notice to the Vietnamese department, and resignation will not entitle him to return transportation. In case of gross misconduct, a "physician may be discharged immediately, as major be determined by a committee composed of one representative each from the Vietnamese department, the Philippine Embassy in Vietnam, and USCOM/Vietnam, and returned to the Philippines without the benefit of severance pay or return transportation.

PRESIDENT Garcia and his Cabinet at their meeting today took further steps to insure sufficient rice supply in the Philippines by approving an additional importation of 50,000 metric tons of rice, bringing the total to 150,000 metric tons to be imported as follows:

(1) 50,000 metric tons of rice as already approved in the Cabinet meeting on Jan. 15, to be bartered with Philippine copra on a back-to-back letter of credit per ton;

(2) 50,000 metric tons of rice which has been under negotiation for barter was decided to be imported from the United States under the U. S. Public Law 480. This change in the manner of importing the rice was decided at the Cabinet meeting today; and

(3) 50,000 metric tons of rice to be imported from the United States under the same U. S. Public Law 480.

The Cabinet decided to increase the importation of rice by another 50,000 metric tons in view of the latest reports from the National Rice and Corn Corporation that, owing to drought in several regions in the Philippines, the total estimated rice shortage for 1958 will be 150,000 metric tons.

During the discussion of the rice importation, the President emphasized that the copra to be bartered with the 50,000 metric tons of rice would be taken from the accumulated 15 per cent barterable copra.

The Chief Executive also stressed that the cost of the rice, \$120 per metric ton, C. & F. Manila, was the best price for this transaction because the copra to be bartered with it would cost \$170 per metric ton, C. & C. Hongkong, while in the other offer of \$114 per metric ton of rice the cost of the copra would be \$145 per metric ton.

The President and the Cabinet believed that in a barter deal like the copra-rice barter, not only the price of rice should be considered but also the price of copra. In the accepted offer, although the price per metric ton of rice was \$6 higher than the lower offer, yet it had the advantage in that the copra would be paid \$25 higher than in the second.

Besides, it was further explained that in the offer accepted the rice was only 35 per cent broken with 14 per cent moisture and 2 per cent stained, whereas in the lower offer the rice had 50 per cent broken grain.

In dropping the negotiation to barter the second 50,000 metric tons of rice for copra and preferring importation from the United States under U. S. Public Law 480, the President and the Cabinet believed that this importation would be better because the government would pay in pesos for a period of about 25 years. It, therefore, decided that the total of 100,000 metric tons of rice to fill the balance of the 150,000 metric tons shortage should all be imported from the United States.

With the major items on the agenda over, the President requested Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to read before the Cabinet the draft of the President's state-of-the-nation message to Congress.

As the reports on the achievements, needs, and problems of each department were read, the corresponding secretary made his suggestions. The reading of the state-of-the-nation message took over an hour.

The President will go over the corrected draft of his message.

For the first time, the Cabinet meeting was held in the Malacañang state dining hall. The reason for the change of place was the presentation of the credentials of Indian Ambassador Mohinder Singh Chopra which coincided with the Cabinet meeting. The Indian ambassador presented his credentials to the President at the ceremonial hall, which was only a few steps away from the Malacañang state dining hall. Since the President and all the Cabinet members had to attend the ceremony, it was deemed best to hold the meeting at the state dining hall.

The Cabinet meeting started at 4 p.m. sharp with Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason presiding during the first minutes before the arrival of the President. The Chief Executive then presided over the meeting until its adjournment at past 8 p.m.

January 23.—AS anticipated, the President stayed this day in his hideout, his new residence in Quezon City. He resumed going over the draft of his state-of-the-nation speech to be delivered at the opening of Congress on Monday.

The President had lunch with the First Lady this noon. With them were Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable and Acting Press Secretary Sison.

After lunch, the President had an afternoon siesta. He resumed going over and revising the draft of his speech at 4 p.m. Helping him in the preparation of his speech was Legislative Secretary Nable.

PRESIDENT Garcia today praised Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., of Cebu for the "sportsmanlike way" in which the latter took his defeat at yesterday's caucus.

The President commended Osmeña for his "promise of unqualified cooperation to the Nacionalista Party" which, the President said, added to Osmeña's stature as a political figure.

The Chief Executive conveyed his congratulations to Rep. Osmeña through Nic Osmeña, the congressman's brother. The President's message was telephoned to Nic by Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

The President's message was sent after the President had received a telephone call from Nic Osmeña last evening informing him that Rep. Osmeña had taken his defeat in a sportsmanlike way and that he had promised unqualified cooperation to the Nacionalista administration.

THE President today issued a proclamation declaring February 28 this year as Labor-Management Cooperation Day.

The President emphasized in his Proclamation No. 477, that in order to raise living standards through greater economic production, it was necessary to promote labor-management cooperation with a view to minimizing work stoppage which results in economic waste.

In issuing the proclamation, the President called upon all government offices and instrumentalities throughout the country as well as upon all private entities and individuals to participate in the proper observance of the day and to cooperate with the Department of Labor in fostering cooperation between labor and management in the pursuit of its program for industrial peace.

The President called especially on schools and the various chambers, professional organizations and societies, civic organizations, and service clubs to dedicate a program for the promotion of knowledge of ways and means to bring about labor and management cooperation in their economic dealings with one another and the public.

The President, moreover granted today another 30-day reprieve to Eusebio Molijon y Cantay, who was convicted of attempted robbery with multiple murder and sentenced to suffer the death penalty.

The President stated that some time was still considered necessary for a thorough and careful study of the petition for executive clemency filed in behalf of Molijon.

The reprieve will expire on February 25, 1958. The last one was granted on December 20, 1957.

January 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Malacañang in the afternoon today to preside over his weekly press conference. He arrived at 4:30 p.m.

Before showing up at the Malacañang state dining room, the President was briefed by Acting Press Secretary Sison on the probable questions the newsmen would fire at him during the press conference.

The President told the newsmen he will ask Congress for “broad powers” to cope with the worsening price situation. He said he wanted to use “strong hand” methods in dealing with uncrupulous businessmen and hoarders who, he charged, have sabotaged his austerity program.

The President, visibly incensed by the sudden upswing of the prices of prime commodities, deplored the fact that he was powerless to go after the profiteers.

“I have appealed to them,” the President said, “and if my moral influence will not be enough, I will have to use drastics measures.”

The President said he will ask Congress to give priority to his request for “broad powers.” He said he will also endorse an administration bill on price control to Congress.

Explaining his request for broad powers, the President said he was not asking for what is commonly known as “emergency powers.”

However, he said, “Congress can give it whatever name it may choose. I want to have broad powers to open warehouses with hoarded prime commodities.”

He further said he wanted authority to suspend transactions or negotiations carried beyond normal levels.

At his weekly press conference, the President also:

1. Disclosed an increase in the dollar reserves in the Central Bank, which he attributed to the implementation of his austerity program;

2. Announced he will accept the resignation of his brother, Minister Cosme Garcia, owing to the latter's political commitments before the elections;
3. Hailed the selection of Rep. Daniel Z. Romualdez as Speaker of the House of Representatives as an indication of the ability of Nacionalista solons to decide any question among themselves;
4. Said he was not in favor of increasing taxes and denied reports the government will go on deficit-spending;
5. Ordered an inquiry into reports that the National Rice and Corn Corporation has increased its prices for the *macan* variety of rice in violation of a Cabinet resolution fixing the prices of this particular variety;
6. Refused to comment on reports that the Philippines was filing an omnibus claim with the United States; and
7. Withheld comment on the bill filed by Sen. Francisco Rodrigo to 'legalize the stay in the Philippines of 2,700 over-staying Chinese temporary visitors.

AFTER the press conference, the President received Raymond Moyer, Far Eastern regional director of the International Cooperation Administration. Moyer paid a courtesy call on the President. He is proceeding to Tokyo in the course of his inspection of the Far East countries.

Moyer was accompanied to Malacañang by Paul D. Summers; local 10A head, and Ambassador Charles Bohlen.

The President also received Ambassador to Taipei Narciso Ramos, who called on the Chief Executive. The envoy is in Manila on "sick leave."

After receiving the callers, the President returned to his hideout where he resumed revising the draft of his message to Congress on the state of the nation.

January 25.—THE Chief Executive stayed in his hideout the whole day today, putting the finishing touches to his state-of-the-nation message to Congress.

Meanwhile, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo stayed in Malacañang, calling the President off-and-on by telephone or motoring to the President's hideout for consultation.

Disturbed by reports that many job-seekers and other political supporters have been seeking audience with the President by displaying GPM (Garcia-for-President) badges to the presidential guards, Secretary Pajo issued a directive banning persons from entering the President's bedroom.

It was learned that some people have been frequently entering the President's bedroom seeking audience with the President.

Secretary Pajo said that all those who want to see the President should clear appointments with the appointment secretaries.

January 26.—THE President finished polishing his state-of-the-nation message to Congress at 3 o'clock this morning. Legislative Secretary Nable and Acting Press Secretary Sison helped him put the finishing touches to his message at his hideout in Quezon City.

The President got up bleary-eyed about 8 a.m. and heard mass said before an improvised altar at his hideout.

After breakfast with Rev. Juan Tugade, Philippine Navy chaplain who said the mass, and his aide, Maj. Jose Estrella, the President read the Sunday papers brought over from Malacañang.

At noon, he had for lunch guest his son-in-law, Fernando Campos. Mrs. Garcia was not with the President because she attended a social function in Bulacan.

In the afternoon, President Garcia again went over his message to Congress.

January 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today resumed receiving callers in Malacañang after working on his state-of-the-nation message at his “hideout” for several days.

The President had breakfast with Robert Stanley Dollar, president of the Robert Dollar Co. (former owner of the American President Lines), the Dollar Associates, Inc., and the Globe Wireless Ltd., who paid a courtesy call in the course of a business and goodwill tour in the Orient.

Present during the breakfast were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, RFC Chairman Eduardo Romualdez, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Acting Agriculture Secretary Jose M. Trinidad, Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuademo, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Economic Coordination Administrator Juan Concon, Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines President Primitivo Lovina, U. S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, Dollar Company Vice-President Carl Gabrielson, Dollar Co. (Far East) Representative T. B. Wilson; Howard Cavender, Dollar Co. (Manila) manager; H. C. Hendry, Globe Wireless Ltd. (Manila) manager; and Paul H. Wood, American Chamber of Commerce president.

After the breakfast, the President received 14 year-old William A. Beban, carrier salesman of the *Minneapolis Star and Tribune*, who paid a courtesy call in the course of a worldwide tour as “centennial air ambassador” in connection with the Minnesota centennial anniversary this year.

The President received from Bevan the Minnesota Statehood Commission certificate making the Chief Executive an honorary citizen of Minnesota, which entitles him to “all the privileges and rights enjoyed by residents of this great state,” and a letter of introduction and personal invitation to visit Minnesota during its centennial year from Minnesota Gov. Orville Freeman.

Beban also handed to the President a copy of the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune*, which contains a special section devoted to Minnesota’s hundredth birthday.

The President expressed his gratitude to Gov. Freeman and congratulated Bevan for being chosen as “air ambassador” among 11,000 aspirants.

Beban was accompanied to Malacañang by U. S. Embassy Public Affairs Officer William Copelan, William Pollock, and Cesar Jayme, TWA public relations officer and assistant district sales manager, respectively.

A PLAN whereby Philippine export products could find an outlet in European markets was presented today to President Garcia by a Spanish financier.

The plan was breached during a courtesy call made by Don Julio Munoz, a multimillionaire of Barcelona, Spain, who was accompanied by his wife, Dona Carmen Villalonga de Munoz, Philippine Ambassador to Spain Manuel Nieto, Sr., and GAB Chairman Manuel Nieto, Jr.

The President said that the plan will be presented for study to Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez in his capacity as chairman of the Monetary Board, and RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez in his capacity as chairman of the National Economic Council,

The Spanish financier informed the President that Spain, after her war of liberation, faced the same problem as the one the Philippines is now facing because of lack of international reserves.

The plan submitted by Mr. Munoz was backed by a group of Swiss, Spanish, and German capitalists.

The Spanish capitalist is also exploring the possibility of investing his capital in the exploitation of Philippine natural resources, and expressed his desire to contact Filipino business elements in order to create a new industry in the country.

According to Mr. Muñoz, Spain followed with close interest the recent presidential elections, and that the triumph of President Garcia was well received by the press and official circles of Spain.

The Muñozes plan to stay for one week more in the Philippines before returning to Spain.

THE President also received Sens. Fernando Lopez, Claro M. Recto, and Gil Puyat, who formed a Senate committee created to inform the Chief Executive that the upper legislative chamber was in session.

Past noon, the lower house committee arrived at Malacañang to inform the President that the House of Representatives was already in session. The committee was composed of Reps. Francisco Ortega, Sergio Osmeña, Jr., and Cornelio Villareal.

PRESIDENT Garcia outlined before Congress this afternoon a 16-point “economic self-sufficiency” program with an urgent bid for “broad powers” to protect the people from what he called the “insatiable greed” of profiteers.

The President delivered his first state-of-the-nation address before a joint session of the Fourth Congress highlighting the opening of its first regular session.

He struck the keynote of his 75-minute address with the assertion that the country’s economy today is faced with “serious problems.”

He pointed out that the country is faced with dwindling dollar reserves and fluctuating revenues. However, he exhorted members of Congress “to rely mainly on our resources if we are to proceed with our development.”

The President said “we cannot continue to draw on our international reserve at the present rate.” He appealed for a slackening in the consumption of dollars, cutting down imports for machinery and raw materials, “sacrificing more of our consumer imports in favor of the industrial.”

The President arrived at exactly 5 p.m. at the House session hall, where members of both chambers of Congress had assembled for the joint opening session.

Prolonged applause greeted him as he strode along the center aisle of the hall, shaking hands with congressmen and senators on his way to the rostrum.

Composing the distinguished audience were Armed Forces brass, members of the Supreme Court led by Chief Justice Ricardo Paras, members of the Manila diplomatic corps, department secretaries, and ladies of senators and congressmen.

The proceedings started as soon as President Garcia had taken his seat at the rostrum between Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez and Speaker Daniel E. Romualdez.

The President started reading his address at 5:10 p.m. and finished its last sentence at 6:25 p.m.

After enumerating what he called the achievements of the past Nacionalista administration, the President proposed the following:

1. Intensified rice production estimated to cost ₱20 million to increase the rice yield by six million cavan in the first year alone which, he said, at ₱10 per cavan would represent ₱60 million in returns;
2. Establishment of more commodity exchanges for agricultural crops;
3. Conservation of natural resources;

4. Coordination of the work of the different research and scientific agencies with a view to obtaining maximum results;
5. Re-examination of the present policy of granting tax exemptions to new and necessary industries with a view to correcting certain unsound patterns of investment so far resulting from this incentive;
6. Expansion of exports by opening new markets abroad and improving the quality of local products;
7. Establishment of an economic development bank capitalized from the proceeds of the capital goods from Japanese reparations;
8. Granting tax amnesty to delinquents and setting higher interest rates for savings and time deposits to force out hoarded capital;
9. Creation of a single agency of full-time members to centralize economic controls which are at present handled by the Central Bank, the Department of Commerce, the National Marketing Corporation, and the Export Control Committee;
10. Revamp of the domestic transportation system in order to do away with wasteful practices and conserve fuel and spare parts;
11. Extension of greater incentives and encouragement to small producers on the cottage industry level;
12. Admission of foreign capital on a selective basis to protect legitimate Filipino investors;
13. Modernization of the Armed Forces as far as the resources would permit;
14. Revamp of the educational system to make it give with the Administration's program for economic development;
15. Promotion of tourism and improvement of local facilities to take care of increased passenger and cargo traffic that passes through the country; and
16. Improvement and expansion of social services for the protection and security of workers through mass insurance covering the non-governmental sector against disability, sickness, old age, and death.

The President also sounded a "stern warning" against erring public servants and pledged that his administration would "exert its utmost in combatting all forms of graft and corruption."

In his bid for broad powers, the President said the "rise in prices of prime commodities which appears to be artificial," needs the urgent attention of Congress.

He said he wanted "broad powers" to handle the "situation swiftly and effectively to protect the people from those who would exploit them and who seem motivated by insatiable greed for profit."

January 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Malacañang aides to rush the preparation of administration bills to be submitted during the current session of Congress even as solons led by Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda gave assurance of full cooperation in the strengthening of the country's economy.

The President gave the directive during a call made by Speaker Protempore Castañeda and Reps. Vicente Gustilo, Inocencio Ferrer, and Agustin Gatuslao of Negros Occidental; Manuel Enverga of Quezon; and Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte.

The Chief Executive discussed with his callers several measures he mentioned in his state-of-the-nation message yesterday, one of them being the price control bill which the President said should receive early consideration.

Castañeda informed President Garcia that Congress was waiting for the administration bills so that it could act on them.

THE President this morning received ex-Speaker Jose B. Laurel and Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano behind closed doors, which raised speculation on the assignment President Garcia may give to the former House leader.

Significantly, young Laurel's visit to the President was followed by a call on the President in the evening by former Senator Jose P. Laurel. The former Senator's visit was also held behind closed doors.

Malacañang forwarded this day to Congress a draft of a price control bill which will grant President Garcia powers:

- (1) To set ceiling prices for prime and essential commodities;
- (2) To promulgate rules and regulations which will prevent hoarding injurious speculation, manipulation, and profiteering in the supply, distribution, and movement of prime and essential commodities; and
- (3) To import prime commodities with or without foreign exchange cover;

The bill was taken to Congress by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable. The draft was prepared by Secretary Pajo and Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser. The bill was the first administration measure to be submitted to the Fourth Congress during its first regular session.

The proposed bill also fixes the penalties for persons or parties found guilty of hoarding prime commodities, injurious speculation, manipulation, and profiteering. It seeks to charge the Executive Secretary with the enforcement of its orders, rules, and regulations. All officers and members of the Constabulary, the local police forces, and the NBI will act as deputies of the Executive Secretary in the enforcement of the proposed bill.

The proposed bill will grant the President the power to fix prices of any goods or commodities when their prices threaten to rise or have risen in a manner inconsistent with the declared national policy. Exception will be in the price of palay, rice and corn which the President can fix only upon the recommendation of the NARIC.

Penalties for violation of the proposed law were fixed by the bill at imprisonment for a period of not less than two months and not more than five years or a fine of not less than ₱2,000 or not more than ₱5,000 or both. Persons, corporations, partnerships, or associations found guilty of any violation against the proposed law will be barred from the business for five years for a first offense and will be permanently barred from the business for a second or succeeding offenses.

Any government employee or official found conniving with any person or party in violating the law will be held criminally liable and will be permanently disqualified from holding public office.

January 29.—AS ANTICIPATED, President Garcia today went to his "hideout" where he plunged into a long conference with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona on his proposed budget for the next fiscal year.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo shuttled between Malacañang and the President's hideout occasionally to consult the Chief Executive on some problems.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Malacañang to preside over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

At 7 o'clock, the President motored to the Philippine Columbian Club, where he addressed the members of the Philippine Columbian Association.

President Garcia, a new member of the association, was the guest speaker of the Club's fiftieth anniversary dinner in the evening.

President Garcia this noon was given by Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona a bird's eye view of the form which the 1958-59 budget will take.

During a conference between the President and Aytona, the President laid down the general principle that no increases in salaries and appropriations will be recommended, beginning with the Office of the President.

It was, however, pointed out during the conference that in some mandatory instances, it was necessary to appropriate additional funds for such items as;

(1) Increase in the salaries of enlisted men of the Armed Forces of the Philippines to implement the law approved by the last Congress;

(2) Additional elementary classes which is a mandatory constitutional duty of the state;

(3) Increased health services in the rural areas, as approved by the past Congress, and hospital facilities to provide for one free bed in hospitals for every five thousand population, in accordance with the Rural Health Act and the Hospital Financing Act;

(4) Modernization of the Philippine Navy and the Philippine Airforce in the interest of national security;

(5) ₱20 million for increased rice production, including distribution of insecticides, fertilizers, and selected seeds to small farmers; and

(6) Economic development projects, including the integration of scientific agencies of the government in the interest of increased production.

The President this day issued Proclamation No. 480, declaring February 1 to March 1, 1958, as Philippine Tourist Promotion month.

In his proclamation President Garcia called on the people to organize themselves in civic groups in their respective communities for the location, conservation, and further beautification and development of all scenic, historical, cultural, and other attractions throughout the land, to make them more useful and effective in the promotion of both local and national tourist industry.

The President appealed particularly to organized business, civic service, labor and cultural bodies, educational institutions, both public and private, women's organizations, and all residents to support the tourist, promotion movement.

The President called attention to the wealth of scenic and beauty spots which he said are potential natural assets for the promotion of the tourist trade in the Philippines. The President said that as a result of the survey of the world travel market, the Board of Travel and Tourist Industry was fully convinced of the bright prospects of developing a profitable tourist industry.

The President called on private enterprises and the public in general to assist the government in the "immediate, consistent, and fullest possible exploitation of the country's unlimited wealth of tourist sights and resorts.

Moreover, the President issued Proclamation No. 481, declaring the period from February 16 to 22, 1958, as World Brotherhood Week.

The President in his proclamation enjoined all the people, regardless of race, color, creed, or station in life to observe the week by appropriate ceremonies, public discussions, and programs truly reflective of the common will to nourish the spirit of universal good will, understanding, and cooperation so essential to the attainment of everlasting peace.

The President said that the period is being celebrated in many countries of Asia, North America, Europe, and other regions for the 24th successive year.

The President called attention to the development of the ICBM and rockets as the latest weapons of war and stressed the imperative need of bringing about world-wide disarmament, conciliation, and cooperation among mankind as brothers under the fatherhood of God in order to avert universal suicide.

The President declared that the Filipino people have a definite stake for survival, progress, and moral fulfillment in the pursuit and preservation of peace as envisioned by the movement for world brotherhood

President Garcia at the Cabinet meeting this evening gave the go-signal to the NAMARCO for the procurement of 50,000 metric tons of rice from a Hongkong firm on the copra-rice barter basis.

The President at the Cabinet meeting also decided to have negotiations for the projected importation of 100,000 metric tons of rice from the United States followed through in-order to fill the shortage of this staple commodity in this, country which had been estimated at from 120,000 to 150,000 metric tons for the next crop year.

The Cabinet at a previous meeting had already approved the importation of rice from Hongkong. It was discussed again this evening when the case was resubmitted by the NAMARCO board of directors. The President gave final approval to the deal on the assurance by Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, NAMARCO board chairman, that the Hongkong rice would start arriving in Manila about the middle of next month.

The Cabinet spent some time discussing other offers made by foreign rice suppliers. The President instructed Secretary Hemaiez to submit complete data on these foreign offers for future discussion by the Cabinet in case negotiations for the importation of 100,000 metric tons from the United States did not come through.

The Cabinet also decided to enjoin government offices to purchase smaller, cheaper, and more economical cars for the use of its officials. This action was taken in the course of discussions on a request filed by the city engineer's office of Cebu City for permission to purchase two automobiles at ₱10,500 each for the use of its public highways division.

The request had been referred to the Cabinet in view of its policy not to allow the purchase of government cars at prices more than ₱10,000 each. The Cabinet decided to turn down the request. He urged government officials to purchase smaller and cheaper cars available in the local market.

The Cabinet at its meeting which lasted from 4 to 7 p.m., also discussed salient features of the forthcoming budgetary message of the President to Congress.

January 30.—A COMPLAINT against alleged anomalous acts committed by Santiago Perez, a former member of the Bureau of Lands, while stationed at Tabuk, Kalinga, Mountain Province, was filed this day before President Garcia by Gov. Bado Dangwa.

Perez allegedly acquired big tracts of public agricultural lands using fictitious names in violation of an administrative order, according to Dangwa.

The President directed Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson to look into the matter and submit his findings as soon as possible. The provincial executive of Mountain Province was accompanied by Reps Luis Hora and Ramon Mitra of the same province.

The President also received Gov. Leon Fernandez of Sulu, who brought to the attention of the Chief Executive the request of Muslims for dollars to be used in their pilgrimage to Mecca. Fernandez said about 400 Muslims desired to go on a pilgrimage this year and needed about \$80,000 for the trip. The matter will be studied carefully by the President in view of the austerity program.

Other callers of the President included Reps. Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte, Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Jose B. Legaspi of Aklan, and Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental; Govs. Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, Diego Ty Deling of Misamis Oriental, Leon Guinto, Sr., of Quezon, Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Oriental, and Jesus Almero of Masbate; and Ambassador Roberto Regala who had just arrived from his post in Rome for consultations.

AFTER receiving a few callers this morning, President Garcia motored to his hideout in Quezon City to resume his conference with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona on the proposed budget for the next fiscal year.

January 31.— PRESIDENT Garcia explored this morning the possibilities of obtaining American aid for the food production campaign of his administration at a conference with Paul Summers, International Cooperation Administration director in the Philippines.

The President discussed with Summers the tie-up between the exploitation of the nickel resources in Nonoc, Island, Surigao, and the integration of the steel industry in view of a new American process where iron ore extracted from nickel can be processed and then converted into low class steel.

The President requested the aid of the ICA in boosting the rice production in the country, specifically in the construction of additional irrigation system and installation of pumps to irrigate arid ricelands.

He also discussed with Summers the procurement of better seeds adaptable to Philippine conditions, fertilizers, and insecticides. As regards insecticides he said he was planning to set up a plant in the Philippines to save dollars. He also bared his plan to boost the production of better seeds in the Philippines.

The President told Summers that if the Philippines could increase its rice production to at least 50 cavanes a hectare, we would not need to import rice

Summers informed the President that American and Japanese firms are interested in bidding for the exploitation of the local nickel resources.

The President inquired about the American policy of stockpiling chromite in order to help the local industry.

AT another conference with Ernesto Rufino, Alex Adamson, and Carlos Palanca Jr., the President said he was receptive to a plan to establish a paper and pulp mill in Bataan.

The proposed Bataan paper and pulp mill will utilize *buho*, a kind of bamboo. The company has a capital of ₱15 million subscribed by Filipinos.

However, the dollar requirements for the purchase of machinery is estimated to amount to about ₱5 million. The incorporators of the Bataan mill assured the President that the establishment of the mill would mean a savings of approximately ₱14.3 million worth of dollar exchange yearly, as it would be able to manufacture first class quality paper like bond and book paper.

Aside from taxes which it would pay the government, the proposed mill would create job opportunities to at least 600 persons in its mill construction and operation, as well as direct labor and raw material payroll of about ₱2.2 million a year.

PRESIDENT Garcia received this morning members of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Rizal who informed him that the council had decided to award him the Grand Cross, the highest degree of the order.

The degree was being conferred on the President in view of his “outstanding service to the country,” according to H. B. Reyes, supreme commander of the order.

Other members of the council who saw the President were Vicente P. Arenas, Teodoro Evangelista, Dr. Herminio Velarde, Sixto Y. Orosa, Hilarion T. Feliciano, Luis Montilla, Micheal Goldenberg, Eufonio M. Alip. Juan F. Nakpil, and Francisco Zamora.

Other presidential callers this morning included Manuel Nieto, Jr., Games and Amusement chairman; Henry Grady Moore and C. W. MacElven, general manager and assistant general manager, respectively, of the Philippines regional office of the United States Veterans Administration; Carlos Maria Da Luz Nunez, Portuguese vice-consul in the Philippines; Felieiano Leviste, Batangas governor; Conrado Sevilla, PNB vice-president; and Roberto Benedicto.

AT his regular weekly press conference in the afternoon, the President said he was ready to call off the controversial copra-rice deal with a Hongkong firm if he finds it anomalous.

He followed up his threat to scrap the transaction with an announcement that he would conduct a personal inquiry into the supposed irregularities in the barter transaction.

He made the announcement shortly after receiving a Senate resolution shifting “full responsibility” for the deal to the Chief Executive.

He said he was placing under advisement the Senate resolution calling for suspension of the trip to Hongkong of a three-man committee to supervise the implementation of the deal. He pointed out that he would look into the charges of irregularities between tomorrow and Monday.

“If I find the contract irregular,” the President said, “I will call it off,” indicating at the same time that he will conduct private inquiries into the transaction to find out if any irregularities were committed in pushing it through.

The President said he may ask Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco, chairman of the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee, to submit to him the facts he has regarding the transaction. He said he was ready to receive Sen. Cuenco and discuss with him the facts of the disputed transaction.

The President told newsmen that if the rice would come from communist sources, he would abrogate the contract. But he took occasion to defend the integrity of the contract, saying that on the facts submitted to the Cabinet by Commerce Secretary Pedro C. Hernaez, he did not find any irregularity.

The President reiterated that the Cabinet decision was “the best under the circumstances” and that he was not aware of any dishonesty in the transaction.

He denied that the Senate had started an inquiry into the barter deal. He said that the Senate had merely appraised him of alleged irregularities in the transaction.

AT 6 p.m. the President and the First Lady motored to the St. Scholastica College to attend the piano concert of the famous Filipino pianist, Nena del Rosario. They were fetched from Malacañang by Impresario Alfredo Lorenzo.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: February 1-14, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

February 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia today studied a report on the steps to be taken to coordinate the work of different research and scientific agencies of the government so that they could be utilized to aid in increased production as an integral part of the economic development program.

The President also studied probable nominees to the Philippine Nuclear Energy Commission so that this scientific body could start functioning and play its role in the country's development.

A Malacañang spokesman said that the President would announce soon the appointment of a special assistant to the President for science coordination and the commissioners of the Philippine Nuclear Energy Commission to hasten the growth of scientific research and apply it to the development of the country's agriculture and industry.

In his state-of-the-nation message the President pointed out that intensive and extensive scientific research was a necessary hand-maiden of both the utilization and conservation of the country's natural resources, and urged Congress to provide appropriations for scientific research.

The Chief Executive directed that a bill be drafted immediately to create an office of science coordination. This office is expected to draft plans to organize an integrated and coordinated national scientific effort.

To make the work of the different scientific agencies of the government more effective, the proposed office will coordinate the activities of these agencies to bring about the maximum utilization of science in the country's economic development.

This proposed office will initiate the formulation of plans to promote science and make arrangements for aid and exchange of information between local and foreign sources.

The report recommended the appointment of a special assistant to the President for science coordination who will head the proposed office. It further recommended the amendment of Republic Act No. 1606, creating the National Science Board, to make the board members serve on a full time basis. The amendment will seek the establishment of an agricultural research center.

The report also recommended the amendment of Republic Act No. 1815, creating the Philippine Nuclear Energy Commission and converting the Institute of Science and Technology into an office of standards and documentation.

THE President spent the whole morning in his hideout in Quezon City.

It was learned that the President went to his weekend hideout to be able to go over pending state papers.

He had been behind in his schedule on vital state papers, among which were petitions of doomed prisoners for executive clemency.

The President left Malacañang this morning shortly after a brief conference with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who took over control of Malacañang while the President was out of the Palace.

Secretary Pajo inducted former Rep. Esteban Bernido as acting governor of Bohol. He replaced Pajo as provincial executive of President Garcia's own province.

Bernido was sworn in before a large crowd of Boholanos at the new executive secretary's office.

In the afternoon, the President received Kenichiro Yoshida, chief of the reparations division of the Gaimusho, the Japanese foreign affairs office, following his arrival. The Japanese official was accompanied by Morio Yukawa, Japanese ambassador to the Philippines.

IN the evening, the President held a two-hour conference with his financial advisers during which they discussed in general terms the fiscal policy of the Administration to be embodied in the budget message to Congress. With the President were Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Eduardo Romualdez, chairman of the Rehabilitation Finance Corporation, and Secretary of Finance Jaime Hernandez.

February 2.—THE President spent a quiet Sunday with members of his family in his hideout somewhere at the suburbs, where he had retired the night before to work on his budget message to Congress. He will deliver the message next week. He also worked on some pending papers he had taken along with him from Malacañang.

The President started the day by hearing mass before an improvised altar in his hideout. With him at the mass were Mrs. Garcia, his daughter, Linda, and son-in-law, Fernando Campos.

Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, called early at the presidential hideout and talked briefly with the President after the mass.

After breakfast, the President read the Sunday papers. Then he repaired to a private study where he worked on his budget message and on pending papers.

The President had lunch with members of his family about 1 p.m. After a brief rest, he resumed working on state papers.

February 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning obtained a three-day grace for the Santol-Sociogo tenants facing ejection, after a conference with J. Antonio Araneta, representing the Gregorio Araneta, Inc., manager of the estate, and Sen. Alejo Mabanag and Lucio A. Lindain, counsels for the tenants.

The President obtained the conformity of Araneta after the tenants had informed him that they were willing to pay the difference of ₱2.50 per square meter for the land which had been acquired through expropriation.

The Tuason family, owners of the Santol-Sociogo Estate, fixed the price at ₱20 a square meter, but the Philippine Homesite and Housing Corporation is only willing to buy the 18-hectare estate at ₱17.50 a square meter.

PHHC General Manager Vicente Y. Orosa informed the President in a telephone conversation that one-half of the estate was not occupied, as it needed filling up, and this extra expense would raise the value of the land beyond the paying capacity of the tenants.

However, President Garcia gave Orosa three days to study the matter and report to him. He also directed that Orosa contact the Government Service Insurance System for a loan to be used for the purchase of the estate in case the additional expense was not too much.

The estate, which is located along Santa Mesa Boulevard, has about 500 tenants. It was the subject of expropriation proceedings instituted by the Government Corporate Counsel on behalf of the PHHC, in pursuance of a written directive from the late President Magsaysay.

The case was dismissed by the Court of First Instance of Quezon City and the owner secured orders from the same court for the demolition of the houses in the area.

The President received this morning Judge Gavino Abaya, Rev. Fr. Wilfredo Rojo, rector of San Beda College, Archbishop Julio Rosales of Cebu, and Bishop Manuel Mascariñas of Bohol.

The President also received film producers who informed him that the Asian Film Festival would be held in Manila in April. Those who saw the President were Manuel de Leon of LVN, Mrs. Jose O. Vera and Dr. Jose Perez of Sampaguita Pictures, and Ricardo Balatbat of Premiere Productions.

THE President said today that plans for the establishment of a government clearing house for cottage industry products are now underway.

The President made this statement before a group of physically handicapped and blind persons who called at Malacañang in connection with the "Aid to the Blind and Other Physically Handicapped Week" celebration from February 3 to 10.

The President emphasized that among the aims of the project were to encourage home industries, ease unemployment, and increase the country's international reserve.

In the course of the call Edermundo Lihguete, a 24-year-old cripple, handed a charcoal sketch of the President which took him three days to draw.

The group was headed by Miss Lili Pablo, president of the Philippine Association of Social Workers. Also present were PASW Board Members Elias Ablaza and Soledad Bermejo. The group was accompanied to Malacañang by Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor.

Juan T. David, president of the Association of Fishpond Owners and Leasees of the Philippines, accompanied members of the organization who consulted the Chief Executive on problems confronting the fishing industry.

The President received callers until 2:10 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia last night junked the \$6 million rice-copra barter transaction after the Hongkong rice supplier had unexpectedly withdrawn his offer to ship the cereal to the Philippines at \$120 per metric ton.

As a result of this development, the President cancelled the trip of a four-man committee to the crown colony which he had earlier approved. The group was scheduled to leave this evening.

Malacañang was reported to have been surprised by the unexpected turn of events. A Palace spokesman said President Garcia received a cable from acting Consul General Eduardo Rosal in Hongkong reporting that the Chinese firm, Nam. Chiao Hong, had backed out of the deal.

The President, after receiving Rosal's cable from the foreign office, immediately went into a huddle with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

It was not known what transpired at their meeting, but the President minutes later directed acting Secretary Felixberto Serrano to contact Ambassador Mariano Ezpeleta in-Saigon to start government-to-government negotiations for the barter of Philippine copra with Vietnam rice.

Malacañang said that Ezpeleta had assured Serrano that Vietnam had surplus rice, which could be bartered with Philippine copra, sufficient to fill local needs.

February 4.—THIS-morning the President received from Philippine, Ambassador to Spain Manuel Nieto, Sr., a battle flaglet belonging to General Emilio Aguinaldo during the revolution.

The battle flaglet, a white cotton cloth, 40 by 41 cms, bearing an incscription *LMATE* with religious designs, was handed in Madrid to Ambassador Nieto by Luis de Zunsuneque, a Barcelona hotel owner. It was given to Zunsuneque by the son of former Spanish Governor General Camilo de Polavieja, who took it to Spain following the flaglet's capture in Cavite during the height of the Philippine Revolution in 1898.

The flaglet was handed to the Chief Executive after a breakfast which the President gave for Julio Muñoz, a prominent Spanish financier who is touring the Orient.

Present at the breakfast were Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Ambassador Manuel Nieto, Philippine Bankers Association President Alfonso Calalang, Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, GAB Commissioner Manuel Nieto, Jr., Natalio Balboa, Lorenzo Pastor, and Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel G. Zamora. Spanish Ambassador Francisco Javier Conde accompanied Muñoz to Malacañang.

PRESIDENT Garcia today authorized a committee of three to proceed to Hongkong not to consummate the copra-rice barter but with specific instructions to investigate the following developments regarding the barter:

- (1) A renewal of the offer of the Chinese trader in Hongkong of his previous offer which had been reported yesterday evening as having been withdrawn;
- (2) That the rice to be bartered with Philippine copra would come from a non-communist country;
- (3) That the first 10,000 metric tons would be delivered in February and the remaining rice every month thereafter; and
- (4) That the terms of the contract previously agreed upon will be the same.

The President emphasized the fact that the mission of the committee in going to Hongkong was merely to check on these details. The President said that, if there would be any contract at all to be signed, the signing should be done in Manila.

A Malacañang spokesman said that the President was reiterating his previous statement that, if the President find any anomaly in connection with the deal, the transaction would be cancelled.

The President appointed Consul General Eduardo Rosal to Hongkong to be the fourth member of the committee who will help the committee in its investigation.

The President said that his directive to Ambassador Mariano Ezpeleta in Saigon, Vietnam, to explore the possibility of bringing in 50,000 metric tons of rice from Saigon to be bartered with copra on a government-to-government level would go on. The President said this step was necessary in order to insure that enough stocks of rice would be made available for the Philippines.

The President gave the authority for the committee to leave for Hongkong upon receiving this noon fresh reports from Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez to the effect that the Hongkong dealer's representative in Manila had made representations for the renewal of the offer of his firm to proceed with the copra-rice barter, and had assured him that the rice would come from a non-communist country.

When it had been reported last evening by Consul General Rosal in Hongkong that Lee Bon Kim, manager of the Nam Chiao Hong firm, had withdrawn his offer, the President had stopped the committee from proceeding on its trip.

However, in view of fresh reports from Secretary Hernaez and because of the President's desire to bring in at the earliest possible time the needed rice, for the Philippines, he authorized the committee to proceed on its trip to Hongkong to investigate the facts as brought to the President's attention.

Some members of Congress assured President Garcia today of a speedy approval of the price control measure submitted by Malacañang in order to bring down the high price of rice and other essentials even as the Chief Executive received reports that prices in several provinces have been brought down.

At an impromptu caucus held at the Malacañang study room, President Garcia expressed his determination to concentrate his efforts on the rice production campaign. Boosting the rice production would bring down not only the price of rice but also that of other prime commodities, the President said.

Congressmen present at the caucus stated that the rice shortage was not so acute as believed and blamed alien manipulators for the artificial shortage and spiralling prices.

Sen. Eulogio Balao informed the President that FACOMA warehouses in the northern region of Luzon were bulging with rice while Rep. Delfin Alonzo of Isabela urged the President to direct the farmers' cooperative association to release its rice for sale to the public.

Reps. Ramon Durano and Manuel Zosa of Cebu urged that Cebu starch factories should refrain from buying corn during the period of scarcity so that the corn used in starch making could be sold for human consumption.

Durano also recommended that NARIC directors should not be rice growers in order to erase the impression that they were protecting the producers.

Zosa assured the President of the good and sincere cooperation of the Lower House in his program of government, and added that the price control bill should contain a provision giving the President the power to commandeer rice and other essentials, and sell them to the public at government prices.

The conferees also discussed the acquisition of irrigation pumps from the Japanese reparations in order to boost local rice production as well as the need for a bigger appropriation for fertilizers.

President Garcia asked Congress members to decide on a financing plan for rice producers similar to that extended by the Philippine National Bank to the sugar planters.

The President assured those present that, as soon as Congress appoint all its officials, he would exchange views with the Council of Leaders regarding the composition of his Cabinet.

In this respect, Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez, acting as spokesman of Leyte congressmen, recommended the appointment of Leyte Gov. Bernardo Torres to the Cabinet.

During the caucus President Garcia directed that illegal construction of dikes by fishpond owners of Pampanga and Bulacan be stopped and the immediate creation of a commission to study the problem posed by the construction of dikes which were closing up streams in two provinces.

Those present at the impromptu caucus were Sens. Eulogio Balao and Rogelio de la Rosa; and Reps. Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte; Ramon Durano, Manuel Zosa, and Maximino Noel of Cebu; Tobias Former of Antique; Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan; Delfin Albano of Isabela; Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan; Godofredo Reyes and Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur; and Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte.

Other presidential callers were Alan Lau, a Portuguese businessman from Hongkong who offered to sell Saigon rice to the government; Reps. Luciano Millan of Pangasinan and Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato; Sen. Domocao Alonto; and former Sen. Camilo Osias.

THE President this day appointed Marcelino E. Calinawan, Jr., as a special assistant to the President for science coordination.

A Malacañang spokesman said that Calinawan was tendering his resignation from the Navy of which he is a lieutenant commander, in order that he could dedicate his full time to his new job in preparation for the creation of an Office of Science Coordination for which a bill will be submitted to Congress.

Calinawan's appointment was the first step to be taken by the President in coordinating the work of different research and scientific agencies of the government so that they could be utilized to aid in increased production as an integral part of the economic development program.

President Garcia also signed today a proclamation declaring the last seven days of February of every year as "Philippine Industry and NEPA Week" in recognition of the long and unselfish services of the National Economic Protectionism Association in the promotion of local products.

IN the afternoon the President received Jan Th. M. Randag, director of Unilever (Rotterdam, Netherlands), considered the biggest buyer of copra export of the Philippines.

Mr. Randag called to say goodbye prior to his return to the Netherlands after a six-day survey tour in this country. He was accompanied to Malacañang by Dr. Jan M. Goudswaard, president of the Philippine Refining Company, local subsidiary of Unilever, and Benjamin Salvosa, PHILCOA administrator.

Unilever purchases some 400,000 tons of Philippine copra yearly, which is about 40 per cent of the nation's annual export. The Philippine Refining Company also exports to the United States an estimated 20 per cent of Philippine coconut oil exports.

About 6 p.m., the President conferred with Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez, who consulted him on various pending matters. Also, at the conference which lasted about 45 minutes was Capt. Francisco Calinawan, Malacañang technical assistant.

Following the conference, the President received several callers including Acting Mayor Bartolome Hernandez, Jr., and Councilor Teodulfo Mercado of Padada, Davao, who requested aid for the construction of a municipal building and feeder road in their municipality.

February 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today told members of the Tax Advisory Board that in his opinion the tax measures to be recommended by the Board: (1) should not carry additional burden to the average taxpayer; and that (2) such measures should be intended to support new essential public services.

The President gave his opinion to the Tax Advisory Board members as he discussed with them the general principles in carrying into effect the tax structure of the country based on the principle of ability to pay as enunciated by the Chief Executive in his state-of-the-nation message.

During the discussion, the President was informed by the board members that since 1954 the revenue collection agencies of the government had substantially increased the amount of collections. However the board members added that these increased collections were enough only for the country's present needs and could not sustain new and essential public services demanded by the growing needs of the country's increasing population.

The President was told that even if the work on intensified revenue collection would continue, this would not be enough to cope with the financial requirements of new additional public services.

However, the President stressed to the board to prepare measures to further intensify tax collections and prevent tax evasion so as to increase further government revenues.

The general discussion on proposed tax measures was led by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, chairman of the board. Other board members present were Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Central Bank Governor Revenue Commissioner Jose Arañas, Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capas, Philippine Bankers Association

President Alfonso Calalang, and Elias Vega, board secretary. Also present was Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

The discussion started at about 10 a.m. and lasted through luncheon, ending at 2 p.m. at the President's hideout. The conferees could not finish the discussion and the President said he would meet them again in a day or two.

The Chief Executive said he would take up tariff matters in his next meeting with the Board.

THE Cabinet at its meeting today approved the procurement this year of \$35,102 million worth of agricultural commodities from the United States under U. S. Public Law 480.

Procurement had been proposed by the National Economic Council to make up for the expected shortages of the local supply of these commodities this year. The commodities include rice, corn, cotton, skimmed milk, inedible tallow, and wheat grain.

Based on the study of the technical staff of the NEC, the proposed procurement was broken down as follows: Rice, 100,000 metric tons; yellow corn, 15,000 metric tons; white corn, 15,000 metric tons; cotton, 38,500 bales; skimmed milk, 30 million pounds; inedible tallow, 16 million pounds; and wheat grain, 34,000 long tons.

The Cabinet at its meeting this afternoon also:

1. Instructed Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano to follow up negotiations for the procurement of rice from the United States.
2. Granted permission to NBI Director Jose Lukban to undergo three-month training and observion in advanced police methods in New Scotland Yard, United Kingdom, under the Colombo Plan;
3. Instructed NARIC and PNB officials to get together and agree on a financial arrangements for the purchase by the NARIC of all rice stocks in FACOMA bodegas to stabilize prices of this commodity; and
4. Approved plans for the holding of an Agricultural Extension training center to be conducted at the U. P. College of Agriculture in Los Baños, Laguna, this coming summer without expense to the Philippine Government which will be the host country.

The procurement of corn under U. S. Public Act 480 had been requested by the NARIC in view of the reported shortage in the cereal, not only for human consumption but also for the use in the manufacture of foods. The raw cotton will be in addition to the about \$6 million worth requested for procurement under the NEC-ICA program.

Acting NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Romualdez who presented the procurement-proposal to the Cabinet, explained that the 30 million pounds of skimmed milk would meet the requirements of the five milk plants, four of which are now in operation. The quantity, of tallow to be procured is in accordance with estimates of the CB and the NEC staff of the requirements of the six manufacturing companies. The wheat grain is intended to meet one-half of the requirements of the Republic Flour Mills, Inc., Romualdez reported.

The Cabinet meeting was devoted mainly to the discussion of the possibility of procuring rice from various countries, either on a barter basis or direct purchase on a government-to-government level, to insure an adequate supply of this staple commodity in view of the expected shortages this year due to droughts and other natural calamities.

Secretary Serrano reported that on instructions from the President, he had cabled the Philippine embassy in Vietnam to explore the possibility of obtaining rice in that country and Cambodia. According to Serrano, the Philippine embassy had wired back stating that 30,000 metric tons could be procured from Vietnam and 10,000 metric tons from Cambodia. The Philippine ambassador in Vietnam, however, had reported that Vietnam did not need

Philippine copra so the discussion at the Cabinet meeting was devoted to the feasibility of procuring Vietnamese rice through triangular barter or direct purchase.

Romualdez pointed out that the Philippines was now in a position to use dollars in the direct purchase of rice owing to improved conditions of the nation's reserves.

The Cabinet also discussed details of the projected importation of 100,000 metric tons of rice from the United States. The body could not, however, arrive at a concrete decision on the matter until it received the report from the Philippine embassy in Washington that the desired quantity of the cereal would be available for the Philippines.

In the course of the discussion, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez reported that the committee charged with the responsibility of following up negotiations for the procurement of rice from a Hongkong firm had already left for the crown colony this noon. Among the instructions of the committee was to verify whether the 50,000 metric tons of rice came from Red China and to report its findings to Manila as soon as possible.

Previously, the President had announced that the deal would be called off if the rice would be coming from the China mainland. However, Secretary Hernaez informed the Cabinet this afternoon that he had received assurances that the cereal would be supplied directly from Thailand although negotiations were being made through the Hongkong firm.

The Philippine consul general in Hongkong, who had been instructed by the President to conduct his own inquiries on the transaction, was made a fourth member of the committee.

Regarding the purchase by the NARIC of all available rice stocks now stored in FACOMA bodegas to stabilize prices, Capt. Ernesto Jimenez, ACCFA administrator, who had been summoned to this afternoon's Cabinet meeting, informed the Cabinet that the ACCFA was willing to sell all the FACOMA stocks at average procurement costs.

The meeting lasted from 4 to 7 p.m. It was presided by Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason. The President did not attend the meeting, as he was busy with his budget message due for submission to Congress on Monday, February 10.

February 6.—OBVIOUSLY feeling more at home in his new residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, than in Malacañang, President Garcia spent the third consecutive day at his house, commonly referred to as his "hideout."

He resumed his conference with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona at 9 o'clock this morning regarding the budget message to be submitted to Congress next week. After his conference with Aytona, the President received the members of the Tax Advisory Board with whom he discussed proposals to increase taxes in order to avert an expected deficit in the 1959 budget. The conference started at 11 a.m. and ended at 4 p.m. It was one of the longest presidential conferences on record.

The President and the Tax Advisory Board had divergent views on the method of hiking government revenues. The President believed that intensified tax collection would solve the problem of insufficient government income, while the board is of the opinion that this step alone cannot meet an expected deficit in the new budget.

Present at the conference were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Internal Revenue Commissioner Jose Arañas, Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas, Budget Commissioner Aytona, Alfonso Calalang, president of the Bankers Association, and Elias Vega, board secretary.

After his conference with members of the board, the President relaxed.

During the conference, the First Lady, his daughter Linda, and son-in-law, Fernando Campos, came to join the President at luncheon.

EXECUTIVE Secretary Juan Pajo took steps to implement President Garcia's policy of advancing the agricultural and industrial development of the country through scientific research. He called some of the nation's top scientists to a conference in Malacañang this afternoon to discuss ways of increasing production through coordinated scientific effort. At the conference held at Malacañang's council of state room, Secretary Pajo told the scientists of the President's desire to harness the collective technical know-how available in this country towards attaining self-sufficiency in essential items, particularly food, clothing, and shelter.

The conferees suggested that the President issue a proclamation declaring a National Science Week to instill science consciousness among the people so that they might be more in a position to cooperate effectively in the general effort. This was agreed upon as an initial step toward enlisting national support and cooperation to the Administration's program of scientific and industrial research.

Other matters agreed upon at the conference were:

- (1) That a committee be formed to take charge of the proper celebration of the proposed National Science Week;
- (2) That the Week be proclaimed from March 24 to 29 this year; and
- (3) That all government offices and agencies, as well as private organizations, be called upon to cooperate in the proper observance of the Week.

The conferees agreed to meet again on February 11 to approve the final draft of the proposed proclamation.

Present at the conference presided by Secretary Pajo this afternoon were Comdr. Marcelino Calinawan, Malacañang technical assistant on science; Dr. Eduardo Quisumbing, National Museum director; Dr. Anastacio L. Teodoro, FEU Institute of Technology; Director Luis Aguilar, U. P. Forest Products Research Institute; Dr. Deogracias Villadolid, Araneta University; Dr. Manuel Roxas, Rose Packing Corp.; Dr. Patrocinio Valenzuela. U. P.;

Col. Florencio A. Medina, AFP; Dean Crisostomo Ortigas, U.P. College of Engineering; Dr. Juan Salcedo, U.P. Graduate School; Dr. Joaquin Maraño, Institute of Science and Technology director; Dr. Manuel Arguelles, National Science Board; and Dr. Jose J. Mirasol, Sr., Philippine Sugar Association.

President Garcia today issued an executive order regulating the registration and assignment of motor vehicle license plates to Philippine government officials and accredited representatives of foreign states.

The executive order grants only one low plate number each to the President of the Philippines, the Vice-President, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, but additional plate numbers would be allowed these officials, bearing the letters a, b, c, and so on.

Senators and representatives are allowed only two sets of plate numbers, one for the official car and another one for an additional car, instead of three, four, or five additional numbers for each members of Congress.

The executive order eliminates "SPL" (Special) used in plate numbers of diplomatic and consular officials, and replaces it with "CM" for chief of mission, "CD" for Corps Diplomatique, "UN" for United Nations, and "CC" for consular corps. This change was recommended by Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano.

The President issued another proclamation declaring Wednesday, February 19, 1958, as a special public holiday in Quezon province to commemorate the birthday of the late Aurora Aragon-Quezon, the famous First Lady. The proclamation was issued on the petition of leaders and prominent residents of the province.

The President today forwarded to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation the reappointment of the following members of the Board of Review for Moving Pictures:

Teodoro F. Valencia, Mrs. Trinidad F. Legarda, Mrs. Asuncion A. Asistio, Mrs Angelica Belarmino, Mabini R, Centeno, Mrs. Lourdes M. Garcia, Jose L. Guevara, Capt. Francisco Calinawan, Mrs. Dolores P. Liveste, Mrs. Pilar Hidalgo Lim, Mrs. Remedios O. Lim. Alfredo Lozano, Limneo S. Platon, Mrs. Carmen E. Vasquez, and Mrs. Adelaida R. Magsaysay.

February 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Malacañang shortly before nightfall today to preside over his weekly press conference.

The President, appeared healthy despite reports he had plunged into nightlong studies of the proposed budget for the next fiscal year in his new residence on Bohol Ayenue, Quezon City.

The President found a usually big crowd at his press conference at the state dining room, where newsmen were outnumbered by public relations counsellors and Palace hangers-on

He was swamped with questions on the controversial copra-rice barter deal and showed his inclination to push it through in spite of a threat by the Senate Blue Ribbon committee to investigate the transaction.

President Garcia today dismissed as “nothing much” the projected Senate Blue Ribbon Committee investigation of the \$6 million rice-copra barter with Hongkong firm and said he was “pushing the deal through.”

He told a press conference at Malacañang that he “will not submit to the psychological warfare of rice manipulators and profiteers.”

The Blue Ribbon Committee announced today that it would start its official probe of the barter deal sometime next week.

Sen. Alejo Mabanag, committee vice-chairman, made the announcement. He said no definite date yet has been decided.

At the same time Commerce Secretary Pedro C. Hernaez said he welcomed the investigation but warned that the investigating body “should not interfere in the delivery of the staple which is badly needed by the people.”

Hernaez reported that the Philippine team now in Hongkong and headed by Ramon Lacson was proceeding shortly to Bangkok, Thailand, to consummate the purchase of rice.

The President recalled that the price of rice has gone down considerably since the government announced its plan of importing rice to fill an expected shortage of the cereal.

At the same time, the President said, “there was nothing much” to the charges lodged by the Senate on the regularity of the barter transaction.

The President said under the separation of powers, the Senate could not investigate a member of the Cabinet.

However, he said, “its up to Commerce Secretary Hernaez” to submit or not to the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee inquiry.

During the press conference the President:

1. Reiterated his policy against trading with Communist China;
2. Expressed optimism the Philippines would be able to swing negotiations for the importation of 100,000 metric tons of United States rice under a special American law; and

3. Defended the reappointment in 1956 of Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno by the late President Magsaysay for another six years.

The President told newsmen he was against opening trade relations with Communist China.

He said the Philippines may profit a few million pesos from the trade, but would spend several millions to suppress communist subversion in the country.

The President pointed out that trade relations with communist countries may eventually abet communist infiltration into the Philippines.

He underscored the fact that he was ready to rescind the controversial copra-rice barter deal with a Hongkong firm if the cereal came from communist sources.

The President said he received another cable from Consul General Eduardo Rosal in Hongkong informing him that Nam Chiao Hong, the rice supplier, would send Thailand rice to the Philippines.

President Garcia admitted that the Hongkong trader had previously stockpiled communist-grown rice in Canton for delivery to the Philippines.

AFTER the press conference, the President inducted the officers of the Suburban Press Club and later the officers of the Visayan Writers' Club.

The President, after inducting the officers of the Suburban Press Club and Visayan Writers' Club, was immediately "cornered" by Palace hangers-on for some patronage.

After almost an hour with the newsmen, the President retired to the music room, where he was scheduled to receive Sen. Pedro Sabido and Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson.

February 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia congratulated the delegates to the constitutional convention for the "monumental work" they had achieved in drafting the fundamental law of the land, which, he said, had enhanced the prestige of the Philippines in the eyes of the nations of the world.

The occasion was the cocktail party the President gave at Malacañang this afternoon in honor of the delegates on the 23rd anniversary of Constitution Day. He said that the Philippine Constitution speaks well of the "high juristic knowledge of those who had taken part in its formulation."

In brief remarks before the delegates gathered at Malacañang's ceremonial hall, the President said that meeting the authors of "that great document" gave him moral courage in pushing through the program of democratic government as in the Constitution.

Calling the Constitution a "most valuable heritage of the nation," the President recalled he had no part in its formulation. According to him, the only contribution he had was in obtaining the almost unanimous vote of ratification of the people of Bohol of which he was then governor.

Sen. Claro M. Recto, president of the constitutional convention, who, responded on behalf of the delegates, thanked the President for having invited them to Malacañang. Speaking in Tagalog, Sen. Recto wished the President "the strength of mind and heart so that you may succeed in the next four years of your administration in fulfilling the high hopes of our country as embodied in the preamble of the Constitution," Sen. Recto concluded his response by reciting in the national language the preamble.

AFTER the cocktails, the President conferred with Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who informed him on the latest developments of the negotiations for the procurement of rice from Thailand on the copra-

rice barter basis. Serrano said that according to report from the consulate general in Hongkong, the committee sent there to negotiate was still in the Crown Colony awaiting definite word from Thailand whether there was rice available for the Philippines.

Serrano said that the availability of rice in Thailand would determine whether the committee would proceed to that country to follow up negotiations. Otherwise, the committee would return to the Philippines. Final word on the matter will probably be received from the committee tomorrow, Serrano added.

The President "also conferred with Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, who reported on the current reorganization of the House.

THE Chief Executive spent the morning in his hideout, finishing, his budget message to Congress due for delivery on Tuesday, February-11.

Returning to the Palace this afternoon for the cocktails, the President presented Sen. Recto with a birthday cake and led the delegates in singing "Happy Birthday." Among those present at the affair were former Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Cabinet members, justices, senators, and representatives who had a hand in the framing of the Constitution about 23 years ago.

During the affair, Manuel Abella, president of the Constitutional Convention Club, who acted as master of ceremonies, expressed the wish of the delegates to have the old constitutional documents published. He asked for government financial support for the project, which the President readily promised.

Last caller of the President in the evening were Mr. and Mrs. Earl Murray, who had taught in a primary school in Bohol in 1904, in the town of Guindulman. They called at Malacañang to pay their respects prior to their return to the U. S. after a six-week visit to this country.

IN his Budget Message, which he will submit to Congress on February 11, President Garcia will stress the fact that the necessary services as well as the mandatory obligations, as provided by Republic Acts or the Constitution, will increase the budget for the fiscal year 1959 by ₱265,568,930.

A Malacañang spokesman said that owing to these necessary and mandatory appropriations, the budget for the fiscal year 1959 will exceed the ₱1 billion mark. He added that the exact figures were not yet available this day.

The President will point out in his Budget Message the inevitability of taking measures for a more vigorous and effective tax collection. He will state that, where increase of old taxes or imposition of new ones are necessary, such taxes should not burden the ordinary taxpayers and should be spent only for additional essential services.

The Chief Executive will tell Congress the need to balance the government public borrowing program by a vigorous and progressive tax policy which must produce revenue to finance not only the normal operations of the government but also the overhead expenditures required by an expanding national economy.

President Garcia will state in his message that the government will reserve the use of public borrowings to finance capital outlays and investments of high priority.

PRESIDENT Garcia kept working on his budget message to Congress from 9:30 p.m. yesterday up to 3 a.m. today in his workshop in Quezon City. He was assisted by Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona, RFC Chairman Eduardo Romualdez, Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, and acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

A Malacañang spokesman said that because the "hideout" has been actually converted into a "workshop" where the President goes to whenever he has to work on important state papers, the President decided to call it "workshop."

The President's budget message will consist of Book I which contains the Five-Year Fiscal Plan and Book II which contains the Message for the Fiscal Year 1959 budget. Although the five-year fiscal plan is not an integral part of the budget message, it serves as a point of reference in relation to the 1959 budget. It also serves as the blueprint for the country's economic development program during the next five years.

Having retired about 4 o'clock this morning, the President woke up late. After breakfast he telephoned Sen. Claro M. Recto and greeted him on his birthday. They exchanged pleasantries in Spanish for a few minutes. The President personally invited Sen. Recto to attend the cocktails which the President was giving in honor of the surviving delegates to the Constitutional Convention, of which Recto was the president.

The President ate luncheon, in his workshop with acting Press Secretary Sison, Maj. Jose Estrella, and other aides. The President motored to Malacañang before 5 p.m. for the cocktails.

Before 8 p.m. the President motored to the National Press Club to attend the annual gridiron dinner. He was accompanied by acting Press Secretary Sison and Maj. Estrella.

President Garcia was "roasted" by newsmen who prepared a skit dramatizing objectively or in exaggeration the President's faults and virtues.

It was the first Gridiron Dinner attended by the President as Chief Executive although he had witnessed previous affairs when he was a member of the Cabinet.

He was observed to change expression several times but managed to smile despite pointed allusions to his actuations as President.

February 9.—THE President spent a quiet Sunday at his residence in Quezon City. He began the day by hearing mass before an improvised altar set up in his home's living room.

About 9 a.m., the President had a light breakfast alone. Then he spent some time reading the Sunday morning papers and working on state papers he had brought along from Malacañang.

The President called up Sen. Roseller T. Lim by telephone to felicitate him on his birthday.

The Chief Executive also had telephone conversations with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, who consulted him several times on certain aspects of next year's budget currently under preparation.

About 1 p.m., the President had lunch with Mrs. Garcia, who arrived about noon.

After a brief rest in the afternoon, the President went over the final draft of his budget message before having it printed for submission to Congress on February 11.

February 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia finally put into final shape his pro-posed budget for the next fiscal year and signed his budget message which he will forward to Congress tomorrow.

Having finished his work on the budget and beaten by one day the 15-day deadline fixed by the Constitution, the President returned to Malacañang and resumed his daily chores of receiving his scheduled callers.

PRESIDENT Garcia this morning announced formally that he had accepted the resignation of Col. Salvador T. Villa as general manager of the Manila Railroad Company, effective Friday, February 14, at a conference with directors and high officials of the state firm.

At the same time President Garcia, stated that he will appoint an *ad interim* successor of Col. Villa on or before Friday.

The President discussed with MRR directors the extension of the rail-road line from San Jose, Nueva Ecija, to Tuguegarao, Cagayan.

Present at the conference were Col. Villa; Juan Carlos, chairman of the Board of Directors; and Directors Vicente Olazo, Francisco Marasigan, Dr. Benjamin Garcia, Jack Arroyo; Assistant General Manager F. F. Santiago; and Col. Cipriano de Leon, general manager of the Manila Port Service.

The President next received members of the Board of Trustees of the Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement and signed an executive order declaring the third week of May of every year as Barrio Communities Week.

In signing the order the President said that it is necessary to “improve conditions in the rural areas and to help the barrio people attain a better life, more opportunities for creative living, and a higher level of social, educational, and economic development.”

Cornelio Balmaceda, PRRM president, told President Garcia that the organization is limiting its activities to pilot centers in different parts of the country.

PRRM trustees who saw the President were Dean Conrado Benitez, chairman of the board, Mrs. Geronima Pecson, Antonio de las Alas, Miss Helen Benitez, Gaudencio Antonio, Alfonso Sycip, Albino Sycip and Yao Shiong Shio.

The President also received William I. Myers, dean of the College of Agriculture of Cornell University, and member of the top agricultural advisory committee of President Eisenhower.

The President discussed with Myers the four points of his food production program and expressed his determination to lower the cost of production in the rice industry in order to lower the price of rice and give farmers an increase in their margin of profits.

Myers was accompanied by H. B. Knapp, Cornell exchange professor at the College of Agriculture (Los Baños, Laguna) of the University of the Philippines, and Leopoldo Uichangco, dean of the college.

The President moreover, received Merle D. Thompson, chairman of the executive committee of the Insular Lumber Company and director of the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce; Harvey C Pope, director and general manager of the Insular Lumber Company; Herbert Magneson, president of the Connell Bros. Co., Ltd.; Francis Florence, vice-president of the Connell Bros. Co., (Phil.); Ralph Brubaker, vice-president of the Carnation Company (Los Angeles); Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona; Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas; Manuel Leelin; and Theodore Lewin.

IN the afternoon, the President signed his budget message in the presence of Commissioner Aytona, Deputy Budget Commissioner Faustino Sychangco, Fernando Dizon, and other members of the staff of the Budget Commission.

Later he received the officials of the Commission on Tourism headed by its chairman, Commerce Secretary Pedro C. Hernaez.

Hernaez later conferred with the President and explained the latest developments in the off-and-on copra-rice barter deal with a Hongkong firm.

The President also received Fr. Mariano Gaviola, assistant secretary general of the Catholic Welfare Organization, and H. B. Reyes of the Meralco.

February 11—THE PRESIDENT directed today acting Agriculture Secretary Jose Trinidad to dispatch a team of experts to Lanao and Cotabato in order to determine the extent of destruction caused, by rats.

The new rat infestation in Cotabato, which is said to be worse than that of 1953, has spread to the neighboring province of Lanao, according to Rep. Laurentino Badilles.

The presidential directive was given at a conference at Malacañang between President Garcia, Badilles, and Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato.

The President also directed DANR authorities to determine the feasibility of draining the Liguasan marshes in Cotabato and converting them into agricultural lands. The Liguasan marshes are the breeding places of rats.

Rep. Pendatun informed President Garcia that he had presented a bill appropriating ₱2 million to combat the rat infestation. He requested the Chief Executive to certify it to Congress as a priority administration measure.

At the same time, Pendatun, acting as spokesman of the Mindanao bloc, urged the President to appoint Rep. Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon as a member of the Cabinet.

Other presidential callers were Sens. Quintin Paredes, Emmanuel Pelaez, and Roseller Lim, and Reps. Nicanor Yniguez of Leyte, Inocencio F. Ferrer of Negros Occidental, Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan, Delfin Albano of Isabela, Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, and Domitillo Abordo of Iloilo.

In the evening, the Chief Executive received Henry Clay, president of the Chase Manhattan Bank, who called to pay his respects.

Other evening callers included former acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus, who called to say goodbye prior to his departure for Australia on the invitation of the Australian government; Cebu Congressman Manuel Zosa; and Ramon Sytangco, a Manila businessman.

AN old and tattered Filipino insurrectionist battle flag captured in Mindoro by an American oldtimer on November 11, 1903, was presented today to President Garcia at Malacañang by A. F. Tegen, president of the General Public Utilities Corporation, parent company of the Manila Electric Company.

The turn-over was witnessed by Lt. Col. Henry Gilhouser (P.C., retired), who had captured the flag when he had surrounded the forces of Captain Valeriano Gasio, then operating in Mindoro.

Gasio maintained a military organization which was opposed to the sovereignty of the United States. After his capture, Gasio was placed on trial in the court of first instance of Mindoro, with the then Provincial Fiscal Manuel L. Quezon handling the prosecution. Before the American occupation, Gasio had been the municipal captain of Naujan, Mindoro.

In 1920 Gilhouser sent the flag to the United States where it was added to a collection of historical Philippine weapons of the late Maurice Lowenstein. On Lowenstein's death, it was purchased by the late John M. Switzer, of Northport, Long Island, New York. In 1937 the collection was inherited by Lane Marohn, who sold it to a New York art dealer.

Tegen heard that the flag was to be sold and cabled instructions from Manila to have the flag purchased and returned immediately to the Philippines, 54 years after its capture.

Gilhouser now 76 years old, is living at the Elks Club in Manila.

PRESIDENT Garcia issued two directives aimed to enhance the agricultural and economic development of Mindanao, Malacañang announced today.

In an executive order the President opened the port of Parang, Cotabato, as a subport of entry “in order to stimulate commerce and trade” in Mindanao. The order opened the port of Parang to both foreign and coastwise trade under the administrative jurisdiction of the Collector of Customs of Davao.

In a proclamation the President reserved certain portions of the public domain in the barrio of Musuan, Maramag, Bukidnon, for the site of the projected Mindanao Agricultural College. The President reserved the site for the MAC upon the recommendation of the secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Chief Executive opened the port of Parang as a subport of entry upon the recommendation of the secretary of finance. The commissioner of customs and the director of quarantine were designated by the President to assign personnel from their offices to take charge of immigration and quarantine matters at the subport.

THE President also signed another proclamation declaring the period from March 24 to 30, 1958, as Special Science Week in order to give more impetus to the role of science in the economic development of the country.

After signing the proclamation, the President said that he was giving much significance to the occasion. He told the committee in charge of the affair to do their best in making it a success.

Particular emphasis will be given during the week on science applications in the fields of agriculture and industry. The celebration will be observed throughout the country in schools, colleges, universities, and scientific and technical institutions and societies with appropriate ceremonies.

The National observance of the work will be undertaken by a committee headed by Marcelino Calinawan, Jr., and Patrocinio Valenzuela, dean of the U. P. College of Pharmacy, as chairman and vice-chairman, respectively.

After signing the proclamation, President Garcia together with Mrs. Garcia, motored to the Our Lady, of Lourdes Church in Quezon City, where they heard the 12 o'clock noon mass said by Archbishop Rufino J. Santos on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the apparition of Our Lady of Lourdes. They were accompanied by Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Appointments Secretary Agerico Palaypay, and Majors Jose Estrella and Ciriaco Hocson.

MEMBERS of the Board of Travel and Tourist Industry called at Malacañang in the evening to thank the President for proclaiming a tourist promotion month and to invite him to be the guest of honor at the first national tourist conference to implement the proclamation.

During their call the board members presented the President with a portrait done in oil by Oscar Navarro, showing the Chief Executive in an informal pose at his state room at the yacht *Sta. Maria*, with a huge painting of a Filipino warrior on a *vinta* in the background. The President appreciatively accepted the gift saying it was one of the best likenesses of himself among the recent paintings of him.

The President explained to the board some of his ideas on tourist facilities development, including the expansion of hotel space, and directed planning for a large-scale travel trade and tourist traffic. He suggested that studies be made on a more adequate financing of such a program.

The Board of Travel and Tourist Industry recommended three executive orders, which would implement provisions of R. A. 3478, by which (1) tourist travel regulations would be further relaxed and made competitive with those of other countries, (2) trade in tourist souvenirs facilitated, and (3) Manila's leading tourist attraction, like the walls and bastions of Intramuros, conserved and properly maintained.

Those who called on the President were Commerce Secretary Pedro C. Hernaez, BTTI chairman; Tourist Commissioner Modesto Farolan, BTTI vice-chairman; Justice Undersecretary Jesus Barrera; Finance Undersecretary Jose Trinidad; Public Works Undersecretary Rafael Contreras; and Primitive Lovina, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines.

February 12.—PLANS to requisition trainer planes to be charged against the Japanese Government under the reparations agreement were threshed out this morning at a conference between President Garcia and top defense officials.

Engines for the twelve trainer planes to be requisitioned from, Japan through reparations will be purchased from the United States.

It was understood that, the Japanese Government cannot be charged under the reparations agreement for the cost of engines of the trainer planes, as Japan does not manufacture plane engines.

Present at the conference were Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff.

IN the afternoon, the President received the credentials of Ambassador Lincoln Hoon Kim, first ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the Philippines.

In his brief response to the remarks of Ambassador Kim, the President said that the Victory in the Korean war where Filipino soldiers participated, “did not put an end to the determination of the people and the Government of the Philippines to extend whatever assistance may be within their power to help your country in the attainment of its ultimate goal of unifying Korea.”

Ambassador Kim said that the reciprocal elevation of the diplomatic missions in Manila and Seoul was no doubt a great, forward step toward strengthening the friendly ties that bind the Philippines and the Republic of Korea. He said “the memory of your gallant soldiers who fought with us shoulder to shoulder in Korea against Communist aggression remains vivid in the minds of all Koreans who are eternally grateful to your courageous nation . . .”

The ROK ambassador also stated that it was his country’s sincere desire that the Philippines would continue to stand with and assist the Republic of Korea in her efforts to achieve unification.

The President received the ROK ambassador at the Malacañang ceremonial hall at 5 p.m. The Cabinet members, who were meeting at the nearby state, dining hall, were in full attendance. The Cabinet meeting was suspended during the presentation ceremony.

After the remarks of the ROK ambassador and the President, Ambassador Kim exchanged toasts with the Chief Executive and the Cabinet members for the continued strengthening of the friendly ties between the Philippines and the Republic of Korea. Present at the ceremony were Secretary of Justice Pedro Tuason, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, Health Secretary Paulino Garcia, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Commerce and Industry Secretary Pedro Hernaez, Social Welfare Administrator Amaro P. Villamor, Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona, NEC Chairman Eduarck Z. Romualdcz, Acting Agriculture Secretary Jose Trinidad, OEC Chief Juan Concon, Integration Commissioner Madki Alonto, Acting Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, PCAC Chief Tirso Joson, Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Minister Tomas de Castro, Counsellor Juan Arreglado, and Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel G. Zamora. Presidential Senior Aide Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo and Foreign Office Protocol Officer Jose Estrada accompanied Ambassador Kim to the ceremonial hall.

President Garcia today called For Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr., and Dr. Vicente C Sinco and Dr. Amando Dalisay of the Import-Export Committee of the Central Bank to explain before the Cabinet reported delay

in processing applications for dollars for projects previously passed upon by the Industrial Development Center and the ICA

The President called to the Cabinet meeting the Central Bank officials because according to reports out of the 37 projects duly processed by the IDC only seven had been approved by the Import-Export Committee of the Central Bank. The President said that he was eager to localize any responsibility with respect to the speedy implementation of these projects which would assist in increasing substantially the productive level of the country's economy.

It was gathered during the discussion at the Cabinet meeting that the principal stumbling block in the approval of these projects was the foreign exchange requirements to support the raw materials which would be needed by the various projects presented for consideration by the Import-Export Committee.

The Central Bank officials categorically made clear to the President and the Cabinet that the ICA support was not in dollars and that it was from the country's international reserve that the raw material requirements of these projects would be filled.

The President after consultations with his Cabinet members directed the Central Bank officials to coordinate immediately with the IDC the matter of putting these projects into realization. He also directed that the Central Bank officials concerned consider the priority aspects in relation to the production potential to be generated by such projects.

The President also said that he wanted immediate action on this matter.

THE President and his Cabinet at their meeting this day discussed the establishment of an integrated steel plant in Iligan, Lanao, for which a loan is being negotiated in the United States.

It was the desire of the Cabinet to develop the steel industry in order to speed up the country's industrialization development.

The Cabinet believed that two big corporations like the NASSCO and the proposed integrated steel plant, the latter to cost approximately ₱200 million, should be managed separately. In order to study further this matter, the President appointed a committee composed of RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, as chairman, with Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno and Education Secretary Manuel Lim, as members.

During the Cabinet meeting President Garcia inquired from Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez about the progress of the work of the three-man-committee which was following up the copra-rice barter deal in Hongkong.

Hernaez said that he had received a radiogram from Ramon Lacson to the effect that the committee had left for Bangkok to look into the 50,000' metric tons of Thailand rice to be bartered with Philippine copra.

Hernaez said that according to information he had received the first shipment of Thailand rice, consisting of 5,000 metric tons would come during the first week of March. Another shipment consisting of 5,000 metric tons would follow. The reason for these two shipments according to Hernaez was that the shipping bottom could carry only 5,000 tons.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano also reported to the -President that Ambassador Mariano Ezpeleta was continuing with his explorations for the acquisition of rice from Cambodia and Saigon.

It was decided at the Cabinet meeting that the 50,000 metric tons of Thailand rice to be bartered with copra will go on. It was further decided that Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo make an official inquiry in Washington on the final status of the proposed Philippine importation of 100,000 metric tons of rice under U. S. Public Law 480.

During the discussion of the rice problem, ACCFA Administrator Ernesto Jimenez informed the President and the Cabinet that FACOMA units all over the country had as of today 700,000 cavans of Macau palay.

THE Cabinet approved this evening the proposed aerial photogram-metric survey of Bulacan province as a pilot project to be jointly undertaken by the Philippine Air Force and the Bureau of Lands.

The survey which will cover 97,684 hectares affecting 16 municipalities will pave one way for the cadastral, survey of the whole country through this modern method which is cheaper, quicker, and more accurate. It will expedite awarding of titles and the development of virgin lands.

Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas reported that the Air Force, in cooperation with the Bureau of Lands, had the technical potential to undertake the project. Vargas said the Air Force had trained men who had graduated from U. S. schools and had now from 70 to 80 per cent of the equipment needed in the project.

While the work could begin right away with the equipment now available in the country, Secretary Vargas said that highly sensitive precision equipment would have to be imported from Switzerland. He estimated that the Bulacan project, including the cost of the imported instruments, would cost about ₱880,000. Acting Agriculture Secretary Jose M. Trinidad agreed to put up the money from funds available for that purpose from the Bureau of Lands.

Nicanor Jorge, a technical man from the Bureau of Lands, informed the Cabinet that the survey of the whole country through conventional transit and tape method would take some 100 years to complete and would be much more expensive than the new method which would take 15 years.

THE Cabinet also approved the acquisition of 12 T-34 jet training, planes from Japan under the" reparations agreement. It authorized the purchase of 18 jet engines at \$5,000 per unit which would have to be secured from the U. S. for the 12 planes, as Japan does not manufacture jet engines.

Defense Secretary Vargas, who recommended the acquisition of the planes, said that the \$90,000 required for the purchase of 18 jet engines would be taken from Air Force funds.

February 13.— PRESIDENT Garcia said today that there would be no let-up in the enforcement of the carabao slaughter ban. The President made this statement before a group of provincial governors and town mayors who called at Malacañang following reports that the enforcement of the executive order prohibiting the slaughter of carabaos was lax in some provinces, particularly in remote parts of the country.

The Chief Executive enjoined the provincial executives to enforce strictly, the carabao slaughter ban until the end of the fiscal year, as provided' in the executive order, after which the feasibility of lifting the ban would be lengthily discussed.

Those who called on the President were Govs. Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, Jose Meñes of Aklan, Naga City Mayor Monico Imperial, Mayor Macario Asistio of Caloocan, Rizal, and Mayor Dator Hobart of Lucban, Quezon.

The callers also requested aid for public improvements in their respective localities.

Individual callers were Rep. Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Gil Garcia, a Cebu businessman, Maj. Arturo Sevilla, and Mrs. Gladys Vincent of Seattle, Washington.

Earlier, the President received Frank Metcalf, president of the Columbia Rope Company of Auburn, New York, which is the biggest importer of Philippine abaca in the American market.

Metcalf was accompanied by Merle Robiem, vice-president of the same company; Antonio O. Florendo, president of the Tagum Agricultural Development Company of Davao; and Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora.

The President also received Rep. Canute Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, who urged the construction of more roads in Mindanao, as well as the granting of more liberal banking facilities and the granting of more land titles to farmers in order to hasten the economic development of the island.

The President received callers until 2 p.m.

THE President today called on executives of government-owned or controlled corporations to pool their resources and launch a concerted information campaign to project to the masses especially these in the rural areas, the program “of austerity and increased production enunciated by his administration.

February 14.—THIS morning the President had “breakfast with John Mc-Cloy and James Jacobson, chairman of the board and vice-president, respectively, of the Chase-Manhattan Bank, who paid a courtesy call following their recent arrival in Manila in the course of a worldwide observation tour.

Present at the breakfast were Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, U. S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Executive. Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, former Senator Jose P. Laurel, Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Paul Wood of International Harvester, Alfonso Calalang (president-of the Philippine Bankers Association), Primitivo Lovina (president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines), Conrado Sevilla, and Col. Emilio Borromeo and Capt. Agerico Palaypay, aides.

PRESIDENT Garcia stood firm in upholding the majesty of the law when he said that no amnesty would be extended to outlaws and criminals still at large.

The President made this statement at a conference at Malacañang this morning with Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason and PC Chief Manuel Cabal.

The President added that amnesty may be considered only after the outlaws have faced trial in civil courts.

Discussed at the conference was the peace-and-order situation in Lanao.

On the recommendation of Secretary Tuason, the President rejected the proposal of some prominent Lanao datu that tribal feuds involving killings be tried according to the Moro custom, that the complaints filed against outlaws be dismissed, and that a general pardon be extended to the malefactors, especially to those whose sentences had been confirmed by the Court of Appeals.

THE President signed today a proclamation declaring Wednesday, February 19, 1958, as a special public holiday in the province of Pampanga and Tarlac to celebrate the birthday of the late Jose Abad Santos.

The Chief Executive in signing the proclamation said that the people of Pampanga and Tarlac requested that the birthday of the great jurist, patriot, and martyr be declared a holiday to afford them an opportunity to celebrate the day with appropriate ceremonies.

At the same time, the President also signed a proclamation declaring Monday, February 17, 1958, as a special public holiday in the province of Ilocos Sur to honor the martyrdom of Father Jose Burgos.

THE President was informed this day of a plan to establish in the Philippines an oil refinery to be controlled and managed by Filipinos.

The establishment of the first Filipino controlled oil refinery will be undertaken with the help of the Gulf Oil Corporation, said to be one of the largest oil companies in the world.

According to the plan, the Filipino stockholders will subscribe 60 per cent of the capital needed for the establishment of the refinery, with the Gulf Oil Corporation as minority stockholder.

The plan was presented to the President in an official call paid by leading local businessmen and industrialists composed of former NEC Chairman Filemon Rodriguez, Security Bank President Alfonso Calalang, Carlos Palanca, Leonides S. Virata, and Ramon V. del Rosario, president of the Philippine Investment and Management Consultants, Inc.

The Filipino group was accompanied by representatives of the American oil firm headed by Z. David Bonner. The other GOC officials were C. F. Skinner and Elston Law, legal counsel.

The plan will be submitted to the National Economic Council and the Central Bank. The refinery, with a daily output of 10,000 barrels is expected to be in operation by the latter part of 1961.

Rodriguez pointed out the facts that refining crude oil locally instead of importing finished products would result in dollar savings amounting to 30 per cent of the yearly importation of petroleum products which is now at a level of \$46 million.

The President was also informed that since 60 per cent of the capital of the refinery would be subscribed by Filipinos, only 40 per cent of the profits of the refinery would have to be sent abroad, which would be a big help in conserving local dollar reserves.

Conversely, the Philippines could import more crude oil and process a greater amount of petroleum products to meet its expanding needs while using the same dollar outlays that were at present being spent on importations of processed petroleum product Rodriguez further informed President Garcia.

PRESIDENT Garcia received today from Vicente Orosa, general manager, of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, a proposition to solve the problem of the squatters of the Sociego-Santol Estate who are now facing ejection.

Orosa stated that the PHHC, instead of buying the estate and selling lots to the squatters at ₱24 a square meter, is willing to sell lots in Caloocan or Novaliches at about ₱3.50 a square meter.

Orosa further informed the President that few squatters could afford to pay for their lots in the Sociego-Santol Estate. In this respect, Orosa said that the state firm was willing to finance the purchase of their lots although it would prefer that these squatters deal directly with the owners of the estate.

President Garcia directed Orosa to inform the squatters about the solution and report to him immediately about their decision.

Although the buying price amounts to only ₱20 a square meter, Orosa informed President Garcia that the state firm would have to add ₱4 a square meter to the selling price in view of the improvements it would have to undertake, like the construction of paved roads and sewerage system, as well as the extension of water and light facilities to the area.

President Garcia was also informed that the U. S. International Cooperation, Administration has approved the request of the PHHC for the transfer of the amount of ₱680,000 originally intended for Project 3 for the construction of the Tondo housing project in the reclaimed area.

The PHHC plans to construct three-story tenement houses with low rents similar to the Bagong Barangay housing project in Pandacan.

Orosa also asked the help of President Garica to secure more funds in order to expedite construction of the projects of the state firm.

THE President sounded a general appeal for “unqualified support” to this year’s national fund campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross as he handed in a check for ₱1,000 representing his personal contribution to the drive.

In his speech at the ceremonies held in Malacañang this afternoon formally launching the PNRC fund campaign, the President said: “I am confident that austerity or no austerity, our people will gladly respond to the call of the Red Cross, for everybody knows that there is no austerity in human suffering.”

The President authorized all national, provincial, city, and municipal officials and school authorities to accept for the Red Cross fund raising responsibilities, and appealed to them to take the initiative and participate in active leadership in their respective communities.

The President’s contribution was handed to Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, honorary chairman of the 1958 PNRC Fund Campaign. Then representatives of various commercial houses, civic organizations, and civic-spirited citizens started coming forward one by one to hand in their own contributions in amounts ranging from ₱5 to ₱15,000.

By the time the kick-off ceremony was over, initial contributions handed in exceeded the ₱100,000 mark. The First Lady who received all the cash donations’ was assisted by Health Secretary Paulino Garcia and GSIS General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal, chairman of the PNRC board of directors and chairman of the 1958 Manila fund campaign, respectively.

The ceremony which was held at Malacañang’s social hall started about 1 p.m. with the National Anthem played by the Constabulary band under the baton of Lt. Col Antonio Buenaventura.

The ceremony which lasted up to 5 p.m was attended by some members of the Cabinet, senators and representatives, members of the diplomatic corps, and other high government officials and their ladies. Angelo Castro, vice-chairman for radio of the PNRC national publicity committee, was master of ceremonies.

Addressing a conference of general managers and public information officers of government firms called by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo at Malacañang this afternoon, the President pointed out the necessity of acquainting the people with what the government corporations could do for them so that they might properly avail themselves of their services, increase their incomes, and participate in the stepped-up production drive.

The President placed particular emphasis on food production, especially of rice and corn. He urged the officials to educate the farmers on the advantages of fertilizers, seed selection, pest control, and other methods of scientific farming.

Earlier this afternoon, the conferees gathered at the council of State room in Malacañang and discussed the matter of organizing a central agency to push through a coordinated information campaign.

With Capt. Francisco Calinawan as temporary chairman, the conferees discussed the feasibility of having each government corporation contribute to a common fund to finance a central agency which would reach the masses through various media of disseminating information; such as, the newspapers, the radio, the movies, and posters, pamphlets, and handbills.

The conferees also discussed the formation of a steering committee charged with the responsibility of planning the activities of the proposed agency. Secretary Pajo was unanimously made chairman of the committee.

The President, in the course of his brief remarks before the group, traced the root causes of the current economic crisis to the efforts made by the government to rehabilitate the country after the last war. Liberal use of credit,

facilities by both government and private sectors had drained the nation's dollar reserves and resulted in the present predicament, he said.

The Chief Executive ended his remarks by expressing his confidence in the ability of the Filipino people to ride over their difficulties.

Represented in the conference were the Abaca Corporation, the ACCFA, CEPOC, NAMARCO, CENTRAL BANK, NARIG, Central Cooperative Exchange, OED, NASSCO, National Media Production Center, Industrial Development Center, NPC, MRR, NARRA, Philippine Tobacco Corporation, NAWASA, PHILCOA, GSIS, RFC, PNB, and the Bureau of Public Schools.

IN the evening President Garcia said that if "we can make man see the truth and make him believe the gospel of love, and make him look to his neighbor as a friend and brother ... we can attain true universal, brotherhood.

The President was the guest speaker at the annual meeting of the Supreme Council of the 33rd and Last Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Republic of the Philippines, at the Plaridel Masonic Temple.

In his address to the Masons, the President said he was happy to know that this venerable and ancient fraternity was founded on the precepts of brotherly love, relief, and truth. The President said that if men's minds and hearts could be directed toward the achievement of the brotherhood of mankind, "our hope for people will be accomplished."

He added that in the precepts of brotherly love, relief, and truth which were the foundation stone of Freemasonry "is broadly premised on the promise of peace."

President Garcia took cognizance of the great and noble work which "your grand Fraternity has done and is still doing for freedom of thought and conscience for democracy and for equality." He said that in the Philippines and in the United States, members of the fraternity led in the fight for the 'sacrosanct cause of liberty, equality, and fraternity."

The President congratulated the organization for being dedicated to such high and noble ideals.

The President said: "Freedom of thought, freedom of experience, and freedom of conscience constitute the greatest heritage of democratic civilization for which many of your greatest heroic brothers have fought and died in all climes and times."

REMEMBERING that tomorrow would be St. Valentine's day, President Garcia asked for a pen and wrote a Valentine's Day note to his lady love, the First Lady. He directed that the letter be delivered to Mrs. Garcia and not to be opened until tomorrow evening."

The President having just corrected a speech which he was to deliver before Masons this evening, changed from his oratorical prose to the more poetical phrase.

COL. Mamerto R. Montemayor was designated coordinator of all the duties, functions, work, and special missions, assignments, or activities of the technical assistants in the Office of the President, Malacañang announced today.

Col. Montemayor, who is on detail with Malacañang from the Armed Forces, was also given the job of preparing, the necessary directives to the technical assistants for signature of the executive secretary.

The designation of Montemayor was made in order that proper and necessary coordination may be made of all the duties, functions, work, and activities of the technical assistants.

The placing of the technical assistants under the direct administrative supervision of Montemayor was contained in a memorandum order issued by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo. Secretary Pajo also required all the technical assistants to submit to the President through; Col. Montemayor monthly reports of their accomplishments and/or activities, in addition to special reports they may be required to prepare;

Until his new designation, Col. Montemayor was an assistant to the President. He is a recipient of various military awards and decorations from both the Philippines and the United States Governments and has held several important assignments in the Army, including that of chief of the Southeast Asian Military Affairs Office of the Department of National Defense. Col. Montemayor is a lawyer, having finished law at the University of the Philippines in 1933.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: February 15-28, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

February 15.—THIS morning, the President stayed in his bedroom where he went over pending state papers. With him was Acting Press Secretary Sison.

While the President was poring over his papers, Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia formally launched the National Press Week by cutting the ceremonial ribbons at the National Press Club building, marking the opening of the photo and art exhibits.

The First Lady was greeted by NPC officials, stayed for a couple of minutes, and posed with the newsmen at the building.

She was shown around the building by Jose D. Aspiras, former NPC president.

With the First Lady were Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, and Mrs. Dolores Gaerlan.

IN the afternoon, the President appealed to members of the local press to emphasize in the columns of the newspapers the "positive side of things" with the view to building up a more salutary public opinion among the citizens of this young Republic.

In an extemporaneous speech delivered after luncheon given in Malacañang in honor of members of the Fourth State on the opening day of National Press Week, the President observed that the tendency of the press was to "over-emphasize the negative side and underplay the things more pleasant and worthwhile."

He said that stories of violence, criminality, and vice were often given prominent places in the pages of newspapers while acts of philanthropy and integrity and good accomplishments were given minor treatment.

"I will not be surprised if the so-called juvenile delinquency which has become a problem tile world over will someday be attributed by social scientists to the current trend in journalism," the President said.

The chief Executive warned against underestimating the power of the press to influence what he called "public thinking" and "public feeling." He said that what people read in the newspapers every day eventually would become part of their consciousness and "their very soul."

The President said that like a soldier who, after exposure to military rules and regulations, would later in life make discipline, courage, and patriotism as part of his existence, the newspaper reading public would be susceptible to making newspaper ideas part of their own.

Contending that "journalism of all times and climes is the key to progress," the President recalled that some of the world's great events had been shaped up by some of the world's great editors and publishers.

The President stated that the people were imaginative and were quick to respond to the thoughts and situations published in the daily press. He said it was about time that the press gave due recognition to good deeds rather than to scandals and notoriety.

He concluded: "I will consider it as the greatest contribution of the press if they would help build up a citizenry imbued with civic virtue and patriotism in this young Republic of ours."

The luncheon was featured with the distribution of recognition certificates awarded by the NPC to some 52 newspapermen who have been 25 years or more in the profession, J. V. Cruz was awarded a certificate for having been the first press secretary to be given a Cabinet rank. The certificates were distributed by the President.

Another feature of the affair was a reunion of former press secretaries most of whom were awarded certificates “as the grand old men of Philippine journalism.”

In keeping with the hilarious atmosphere which pervaded the affair, the President started his speech in a bantering tone as he recalled some of the funny anecdotes about old newspapermen and politicians. He complained with mock bitterness that he had not been included in the list of awardees. He said he was once a staff member of a paper edited by the late Sen. Manuel Briones in Cebu some 35 years ago.

Then shifting to a serious tone, the President said he would like to unburden himself of some thoughts that had been bothering him for some time. He delivered an extended discourse on the responsibilities of the modern press.

The affair started at 12 noon with an austerity luncheon at Malacañang’s social hall. It broke up about 2:30 p.m. after the President’s speech; Domingo Abadilla, NPC president, was master of ceremonies.

After the luncheon, the President motored to his Quezon City residence, where he stayed for the night.

February 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet Sunday at his “workshop” at Quezon City where he retired as early as yesterday afternoon.

He started the day by hearing mass said before an improvised altar at his residence.

After breakfast with Fr. Tugade and Lieut. Melchor Fronda, the President retired to his room and read the Sunday papers.

He lunched with Fronda and, after a short rest, summoned Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison to give him pointers on what he intended to discuss with the Council of Leaders on Tuesday.

After his conference with Sison, the President studied papers brought over from Malacañang.

February 17.—THIS morning the President had a breakfast conference with Northern Luzon senators and congressmen with whom he discussed measures to improve the tobacco industry. The proposed measures taken up at the conference included:

- (1) Amendment of the tobacco law so that only high-grade leaf tobacco will be given government price support; and
- (2) Classification of the tobacco purchasing by the ACCFA and the Philippine Tobacco Administration so that the ACCFA will deal only with Virginia tobacco and the PTA will handle only native tobacco.

The Northern Luzon solons also proposed looking for additional foreign markets for Philippine grown tobacco. The lawmakers from the country’s tobacco region, in proposing an amendment to the tobacco law, said that price support for high-grade tobacco will encourage production of such tobacco.

Also discussed during the conference were local problems of the solons. Present were Sens. Quintin Paredes and Eulogio Balao; Reps. Manuel Agudo of Batanes, Francisco Ortega of La Union, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Cipriano Primicias, Jr., of Pangasinan, Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan, Lucas Paredes of Abra, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, Delfin Albano of Isabela, Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, and Luis Hora of Mountain Province.

THE Administration's food production campaign was further bolstered today as members of the Philippine Poultry Association pledged their support to the program.

In a letter personally handed to President Garcia this morning by Amado E. Baladad, president of the association, the PPA members proposed a plan whereby they could gradually reduce the importation of meat and meat products, produce more meat within the shortest possible time, and ease the unemployment problem.

The PPA members further stated that the plan resolved mainly on the simple fact that chicken, aside from being the quickest and cheapest meat to produce, also produced meat in two and a half months and reproduced itself 150 times in one year.

The PPA members requested government assistance so as to "take advantage of the tremendous potentialities" of the poultry industry.

The President told Baladad to confer with the Industrial Development Center authorities with a view to exploring the possibilities of having the government assist properly the poultry industry.

THE President received Brian Boobbryer and the Honorable Juliet Boobbryer, officers of the International Moral Rearmament Movement, who paid a courtesy call following their arrival recently in the course of a tour in the Orient. The MRA officials were accompanied to Malacañang by Sen. Roseller Lim and Roberto Oca.

Then the President received the listed callers composed mostly of congressmen and town mayors who requested aid for public works improvements in their respective localities.

Such callers were Reps. Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Emilio Espinosa, Jr., of Masbate, and Mayors Pio Dao and Agustin Capines of Uson and Aroroy, Masbate.

Individual callers included Davao Gov. Alejandro Almendras, Lyric Soprano Luz Morales, Concert Pianist Ramona Lopez Sun, Vicente Buysen, Eugenio Guevarra, Gabriela Walstromm, and her daughter Gilda.

The President was presented with a lei from the Filipino community in Hawaii by Mrs. Evaristo Fernandez, who arrived recently. Mrs. Fernandez was accompanied to Malacañang by Justice Jose Ma. Paredes and Mesdames Socorro Diez and Josefa N. Pastor.

Then the President conferred briefly with Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, who consulted the President on matters concerning the veterans of the revolution.

The President received callers until 2 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia conferred today with Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason and PC Deputy Chief Col. Flaviano Olivares in connection with the riots in Muntinlupa which resulted in the death of 13 inmates and the serious wounding of several others.

Upon learning of the riots the President contacted Secretary Tuason by telephone and inquired from him what steps had been taken to stop the riots and to prevent their recurrence.

Secretary Tuason informed the President that he had been to Muntinlupa during the riot and, that some 50 PC soldiers led by Brig. Gen. Juan Relosa had gone to the riot scene to quell it. Tuason said that the riot had been stopped when he left the Muntinlupa prison.

The President inquired from Secretary Tuason why the violent type of prisoners who had been involved in the first riot had not been segregated in isolation cells. Tuason said that there were no isolation cells to keep these violent

type of prisoners for disciplinary action. The President was also informed that the guards were not enough to take care of the inmates and that there were not enough buildings to house them.

President Garcia requested Secretary Tuason to submit a full report on the Muntinglupa riots during the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday so that necessary remedial measures could be taken to prevent the recurrence of such riots.

The President also talked by telephone with Col. Olivares and asked what steps had been taken by the Constabulary. Olivares informed the President that he had dispatched two PC platoons to the Muntinglupa prison to stop the riots. He said that he would make a full report to the President on the incidents later.

IN the evening the President received a delegation from the Alliance of Philippine Tabloids, an association of publishers, editors, and staff members of tabloid newspapers, to reiterate their pledge of cooperation to the Administration.

During the call, the delegation informed the President of a fund-raising project being undertaken by their organization for the construction of a gymnasium for inmates of the Welfareville Correctional Institutions. The President started the fund drive by contributing ₱500.

Headed by Manuel Ramos, alliance president, the group included Fausto Candano, secretary; Vito Barcelo, treasurer; Pacifico Arceo, auditor; Juanito Sagun and Francisco Ramos, directors; Ramon Paquengan, Jose Marasigan, Pol Serato, Mabini Esteban, and Vic Marasigan, members.

The President also received Alexander Calhoun, vice-president of the First National City Bank of New York who is on a brief visit in Manila. Accompanied to Malacañang by Irving Sperring, manager of the NCBY local branch, and Sen. Gil Puyat, Calhoun, who had been for many years NCBY manager in Manila, recalled some of his experiences as an internee at the Japanese prison camp in Los Baños, Laguna, during the occupation.

The Chief Executive received callers from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Among his last visitors were Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, CAA Administrator Urbano Caldoza, Dr. Manuel Quimpo of Capiz, and former Gov. Paciencia G. Ysalina of Misamis Oriental.

THE President upon learning today of the results of the elections of the National Press Club officials, sent a wire of congratulations to the victorious candidates.

In his telegram to Francisco Dipasupil, elected NPC president, President Garcia said he was extending his hearty congratulations to "you and all the other elected officials of the National Press Club."

The President added, "Yours is a well-deserved triumph and I join all of your fellow newspapermen in wishing your administration great success, hoping that your administration will continue to bring about more benefits to the Fourth Estate."

President Garcia directed today Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, PAF chief, to send immediately a plane to airlift Felipe Nunez, who had been stabbed in the chest from Iligan City.

The President received a telegram from Gov. Salvador Lluch of Lanao requesting immediate evacuation of Nuñez, who received a penetrating wound in the chest.

Nuñez is the son of the chief detective of Iligan City.

February 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia this day discussed with the Council of Leaders the general program of legislation for this year and arrived at a full understanding on the working relationship between the Executive and Congress.

During the first meeting of the President with the Council of Leaders which was held aboard the *Std. Maria*, the latter promised to support the economic program of the Administration.

Regarding the question of revenues, it was agreed that Congress would try to exhaust all means of improving government revenues through a more effective system of collecting taxes to cover the mandatory obligations of the government amounting to some ₱265 million, before resorting to new levies, if necessary.

The conference discussed ways and means of improving the collection of revenues such as increasing the personnel engaged in this work and providing a check-up system on the appraisers and examiners divisions in the Bureau of Customs.

The Congress leaders promised to pass a price control bill substantially the same as the one submitted by the Chief Executive. The bill will contain whatever additional provisions as may be found advisable after the public hearings on the measure now going on have been held.

Another point of agreement during the conference was that some austerity restrictions on public works financed from the general funds will be lifted as soon as government funds show improvement to warrant such lifting.

It was understood during the conference that consultation between the President and the Council of Leaders on changes in the Cabinet will be made in the next meeting. This meeting is scheduled for next week.

With President Garcia presiding, the meeting was attended by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Senate President Pro-Tempore Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Pro-Tempore Constancio E. Castaneda, and House Majority Floor Leader Jose M. Aldeguer.

The conference started with a breakfast at 9 a.m. at the President's cabin. The meeting was held behind closed doors. At 9:30 a.m. Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano joined the conference.

The conference lasted until luncheon which was served at the yacht's salon, after which the conferees returned to the President's cabin. The conference ended at 3 p.m.

President Garcia said that he would meet more frequently with Congress leaders, tentatively scheduling these meetings twice a month.

In the evening, President Garcia received aboard the *Sta. Maria* a group of sugar planters headed by Alfredo Montelibano. The President spent the night aboard the yacht where he studied state papers he took with him.

February 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed aboard the presidential yacht the whole morning today, resting after a hectic six-hour conference with the Council of Leaders yesterday.

A Malacañang spokesman said the President stayed aboard the yacht *Santa Maria* in order that he could devote his time to pending state papers which had piled up.

Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson took the papers to the yacht this morning.

There were reports the President conferred with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona. However, the reports were not confirmed by the Malacañang press office.

Unofficial sources said the President had summoned Commissioner Aytona .to the yacht for a conference.

It was intimated that Aytona briefed the President on the developments in Congress on his ₱1.03 billion budget for the next fiscal year.

The presidential summons on Aytona also touched off speculations that the budget commissioner may be named secretary of finance shortly, vice Secretary of Finance Jaime Hernandez, who is retiring from the government soon.

THE President left the boat shortly after 5 p.m. and was late for the Cabinet meeting at Malacañang.

In the absence of the President, Secretary of Justice Pedro Tuason started the Cabinet meeting.

Upon the President's arrival, Tuason yielded the chair to him.

The President started the meeting by naming a nine-man committee to prepare for the national observance of the first anniversary of the death of President Magsaysay.

President Garcia said that fitting honors should be given to the man who had restored the Nacionalista Party to power.

He named Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo as head of the committee and recalled officials close to the late President to be members of the body.

With Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo as chairman, the committee is composed of Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez, Rep. Sergio Omena, Jr., which was Cebu provincial governor at the time of the tragic plane crash, Justice Fred Ruiz Castro of the Court of Appeals, Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, the president of the National Press Club of the Philippines, and former Press Secretary J. V. Cruz.

The President also touched on the controversial copra-rice barter deal with a Hongkong firm, following reports that the transaction was heading for the rocks.

When he asked Secretary of Commerce Pedro C. Hernaez, the President was informed that the deal was on.

However, the four-man committee headed by Hernaez's assistant, Ramon B. Lacson, did not arrive in Manila as expected. The committee members were reported still in Bangkok.

The President had previously told a press conference that the four-man committee was scheduled to arrive in Manila last Saturday.

President Garcia and the members of his Cabinet also approved the purchase with dollars of 23,000 metric tons of Saigon rice.

The price was \$125 per metric ton, five dollars higher than the quotation offered by Nam Chiao Hong of Hongkong in the controversial copra-rice barter deal.

A Malacañang observer said he hope that the deal would not go through the Senate Blue Ribbon committee for investigation.

Then the Cabinet discussion switched to the prison riotings. Touching on the problem of homo-sexuality among inmates, solutions were reported offered.

However, the solution suggested by Secretary Hernaez was placed "off the record."

February 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia received Dr. John Hanna, president of the Michigan State University, who bade goodbye prior to his departure for the United States after a three-day stay in the country.

Dr. Hanna headed a special survey team of educators who were contracted by the University of the Philippines to review its administration planning.

The Chief Executive was informed by Hanna that the team would recommend to the U. P. board of regents some policies, procedures, plans for campus development, and other vital aspects concerning the administration of the U. P.

Hanna said that he was coming back to resume working with two other members, William T. Middlebrook and Floyd Reeves, vice-president of the University of Minnesota and administrative assistant of the Michigan State University, respectively, who are staying to continue the survey.

Dr. Hanna was accompanied to Malacañang by U. S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen and Paul Summers, local ICA chief.

The President also received at the Malacañang study room the other scheduled callers consisting mostly of congressmen and provincial governors who requested aid for public works improvements in their respective localities.

Quezon Gov. Leon Guinto, Sr., together with Fabian Millar, consulted the Chief Executive on matters, concerning electric power in their province.

Sorsogon Gov. Juan Frivaldo requested the extension of the Manila Railroad to Sorsogon.

Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella presented resolutions from residents of different towns of Pangasinan requesting feeder roads and other public improvements.

Nueva Vizcaya Gov. Jose Espino reported to the President some land disputes in his province.

Earlier, the President received from Sen. Domocao Alonto a carved chess set with an Egyptian theme which was a gift from Pulong Arpa, Philippine minister to Egypt.

Then the President received Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., who discussed matters affecting the second district of Cebu.

Oriental Negros Gov. Serafin Teves and Rep. Lamberto Macias requested aid for public school teachers in their province.

Other callers included Catanduanes Gov. Juan Alberto, Reps. Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, and Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan.

The President also received Norman S. Marsh and Edward Kozera, secretary general and administrative secretary of the International Commission of Jurists, respectively, who paid a courtesy call. Marsh and Kozera, who arrived recently, are on their way to attend the UN seminar on human rights in Baguio.

The visiting ICJ officials were accompanied to Malacañang by Arturo Alafriz, president of the Philippine Lawyers Association, Tomas Barnes, Eliseo Tenza, and Angelica Belarmino.

The last caller received by the President was Manila Rep. Ramon Bagatsing, who requested aid for the construction of a health center in the district of San Miguel.

The President received callers until 2 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia received the letters of credence of Dr. Daniel Lewin as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the state of Israel to the Philippines in a ceremony held in Malacañang this afternoon.

In accepting the credentials, the President recalled that the Philippines and Israel had always taken the same side in the current ideological conflict. He expressed confidence that the two countries would continue to do their part “in the common task of keeping the bulwarks of democracy.”

Minister Lewin, in presenting his letters of credence, said that the people of his country will not forget the “sympathetic understanding which the Philippine delegation has shown during the discussions at the United Nations Assembly in Israel’s difficult hour.” He assured the President he would do his best to assist in the continuation and strengthening of the happy relations existing between their two countries.

Following the ceremony, the President and the new envoy offered a toast for the continued friendly relations between the Philippines and the Israeli governments. The toast was made with *basi*, which has become the official “austerity ceremonial wine” in Malacañang.

Present at the ceremonies were Foreign Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Ministers Tomas de Castro and Juan Arreglado, Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez, Presidential Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora, Counsellors Benjamin Tirona and Jose Espino, Assistant Protocol Officer-Pedro Angara of the foreign affairs office, and Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, chief presidential aide.

Minister Lewin succeeded Minister Yaacov Shimon, who had been reassigned by his home government (following a one-year tour of duty in this country. Lewin is concurrently ambassador of his country to Burma.

Accompanied by Consul General Ernest E. Simke, the new envoy arrived at Malacañang for the ceremonies at exactly 5 p.m. After inspecting an honor guard formed at the Palace main door, he was led up to the ceremonial hall where the President and other Philippine government officials received him. Lewin was presented to the Chief Executive by Chief Protocol Officer Jose Estrada of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The ceremony lasted about 20 minutes.

PRESIDENT Garcia in the evening pledged his administration to an expanded program of social amelioration in the rural areas as a basis for building a “progressive, happy, and enduring Philippine nation.”

He made the pledge in an address before the members of the Knights of Rizal at a dinner at the Manila Hotel shortly after he was conferred the Knight Grand Cross by the organization.

The President paid tribute to Dr. Jose Rizal as the “father of social justice in our country.” He said, “Every aspect of our present program of mass uplift was a facet of his deed and dream for the common man.”

He declared that his administration is resolved to continue and, if possible, to accelerate and expand the rural uplift program of the late President Magsaysay.

“This resolve,” President Garcia said, “is not only buttressed by our desire to keep faith with Rizal and the other patriots who made the supreme sacrifice that our people may rise from degradation and poverty to dignity and prosperity; it is also dictated by our loyalty to democracy, that kind government which alone permits the respect for human rights and the observance of human dignity for which Rizal died that his people may live to enjoy.”

Explaining his social justice program, the President said he will carry on the program of the late President Magsaysay of building artesian wells, barrio roads, barrio schools, and mobile health clinics, and of purchasing big landed estates for distribution to the landless.

He said only financial limitations will deter the Administration towards the improvement of the lot of the masses.

He took occasion to laud the aims of the Knights of Rizal. He urged them to translate their oaths into a positive living reality.

THE President signed today Proclamation No. 490, declaring Friday, February 21, as Seeds for Democracy Day.

In the proclamation the President said that the Seeds for Democracy program, which was participated in by 13 civic groups, has been greatly instrumental in strengthening democracy in the rural areas.

A Seeds for Democracy convention will be held on February 21 and 22, 1958, for the purpose of intensifying the participation of the member civic organizations in the implementation of the various community development programs.

February 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia was informed today that Manila hemp is still the world's best fiber for rope-making and that the product is in great demand in the world market, particularly in the United States.

The information was transmitted by Spencer Brewster, vice-president of the Plymouth Cordage Company, Plymouth, Massachusetts, who paid a courtesy call this morning following his arrival in Manila recently in the course of an observation tour in the Far East.

Brewster was accompanied to Malacañang by Frank P. Hill, vice-president of the Macleod and Co. of the Philippines; Robin Duncan, vice-president and general manager of the Conrad and Co.; Merle S. Robie, vice-president and general manager of the Columbian Rope Co.; and Luis Concepcion, secretary of the Philippine Fiber Association.

The President also received members of the League of Philippine Architects who pledged "its manpower and resources through the scientific use of professional and technological knowledge, skill, and experience in helping the Administration realize its ends."

The pledge of the architects was contained in a plaque which was handed to the Chief Executive by Mel V. Calderon, LPA president. Also present were LPA officers, including Nicanor Bautista, vice-president; Jose Vibar, Jr., secretary; Benedicto Laygo, treasurer; and Directors Ernesto Baylon, Jr., Leonardo Majul, Philip Wisca, Bibiano Valbuena, Terry Sanz Frial, Fritz Ruiz, Jesus Casuso, and Edilberto Florentino.

Then the President received representatives of 13 civic organization who took part in the Seeds for Democracy Day program. They presented the Chief Executive with different kinds of vegetables, the products of the seeds sent by different civic organizations of America sometime last year in connection with the Seeds for Democracy program.

The civic organization represented in this morning's call were the Boys and Girls Scouts, the Jaycees, the Lion's Club, the Federation of Free Farmers, the Salvation Army, the 4-H Clubs, the Asia Foundation, the Social Welfare Administration, the Catholic Action, the YMCA, the YWCA, and the Philippine Federation of Christian Churches. Mrs. Paz Catolico of the National Federation of Women's Clubs headed the group.

In expressing his gratitude to the representatives of the 13 civic organizations, the President said the program was in line with the Administration's food production campaign.

Members of the Philippine Boxing Association headed by Mamerto Besa, PBA president, also called at Malacañang to consult the President on matters affecting the boxing profession.

Jose H. Mendoza of Naga City informed the President that he will donate to the national government parcels of land in his city as sites for a motor pool, schoolhouse, and a post office. Mendoza was accompanied by Mesdames Lita Corpus and Rosita Piñera.

Then the President received members of the *Rangay*, a national Ilocano civic organization, who likewise pledged their support to the Administration. The group included Willie Jurado, president, and Jose de los Reyes, Eddie Florentino, and Theo Paruganan, officers.

R. Ingrisch, executive vice-president of the Binney and Smith Incorporated of New York, paid a courtesy call following his arrival recently in Manila in the course of an observation tour. Ingrisch was accompanied to Malacañang by Hilarion G. Henares, and R. E. Thompson, presidents of the H. G. Henares and Sons and the Wm. Reynolds Co., Inc., of the Philippines, respectively.

THE President was irked again during his weekly press conference today.

Swamped with questions on the controversial copra-rice barter deal, the President, at one time, showed exasperation and waved aside a newsman's question, saying the subject had already been thoroughly covered.

Touching on the status of Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, the President pointed out that if the Liberal Party leader wanted to join his Cabinet, he "must toe the line."

It was a stiff imposition on the Vice-President; who was virtually told to refrain from criticizing the Administration if he wanted to be a member of the Cabinet. The President said that Macapagal's criticism of the Administration had virtually killed his chance of getting a Cabinet portfolio.

The President also received the new officers of the National Press Club headed by President-elect Francisco C. Dipasupil of the *Manila Chronicle*.

He told them he was willing to induct them on March 3.

In the morning, the President received Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano in the President's bedroom.

Asked at the press, conference what was taken up at the bedroom conference, President Garcia expressed surprise on the penetrating coverage of Malacañang newsmen.

"I do not know" he told the newsmen, "how you learn of my bedroom conferences."

The President also conferred with Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno and decided to lift the ban against public works construction.

President Garcia had stopped all public works construction to enable the budget commissioner to tap savings to cover the expected deficit in this year's budget.

In the evening, the President motored to the Manila Hotel to address the awards dinner of the Business Writers Association of the Philippines. (See pp. 945-951, *Historical Papers and Documents*, for the full text of the President's speech.)

From the BWAP dinner, the President motored to the Philippine Navy headquarters where he boarded the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* for his second trip to Bohol, his home province, after the last presidential elections.

February 22.—THE President today signed an executive order implementing the reorganization of the Department of Health. The reorganization would bring health services of the government closer to the people, especially to those of the rural areas.

As reorganized, the Department of Health will have two undersecretaries and five bureaus.

Reorganization of the Department of Health was made with the following essential objectives: (1) decentralization which will permit expeditious conduct of business of public health at local levels or at areas of operations;

(2) avoiding duplication of functions at all levels; (3) better distribution of manpower resources for maximum coverage and strategic performance; (4) better coordination of all services; (5) economy in Operations; and (6) more time for policy and program planning and determination at central level.

Two undersecretaries in the revamped of the department will be, one for health and medical services and one for special health services. The five bureaus will be the Bureau of Health Services which will replace the present Bureau of Health, the Bureau of Medical Services which will replace the present Bureau of Hospitals, the Bureau of Disease Control which is new but will absorb the divisions of malaria, tuberculosis, sanatoria, social hygiene, cancer control, and mental hygiene, the Bureau of Quarantine, and the Bureau of Research and Laboratories.

The undersecretary for health and medical services will supervise the Bureaus of Health Services, Disease Control, and Field Operation in general. The undersecretary for special health services will supervise the Bureaus of Quarantine, Research, and Laboratories.

As a result of the revamp, 800 positions in Manila will be transferred to regional offices in the field. Two offices directly under the Department of Health will be the Office of Administrative Services and the Office of Health Education and Personnel Training. Three new divisions will be the Division of Statistics, Cancer Control, and Mental Hygiene.

Another important feature of the revamp is the transfer of existing medical and health functions of other executive departments to the Department of Health. It was pointed out that with the new setup, the secretary of health will have adequate means and facilities for controlling administrative functions of the department at top level.

The President had breakfast with his family on the deck. After breakfast he went over state papers he carried with him on the ship. He busied himself again with state papers after having lunch with the family.

February 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia formally opened the 1958 Bureau of Public Schools Interscholastic Athletic Association Meet in Tagbilaran, Bohol, this afternoon. He said that the interscholastic meet will be held annually beginning this year.

He expressed the hope that with the improved BPSIAA, the Philippines would be able to reconquer its records in past Olympics and Asian games. He counseled participating athletes and encouraged them to win for their respective teams.

The President also congratulated officials of the Bureau of Public School and of Bohol for what he called “one of the most successful BPSIAA meets in several years.”

The President was introduced by Education Secretary Manuel Dim, who recommended the annual holding of the meet and the improvement of school playgrounds and athletic fields. Other speakers at the opening ceremonies were Acting Bohol Gov. Esteban Bernido and Public Schools Director Benigno Aldana.

The President and the First Lady arrived at Tagbilaran Athletic Field at 8:30 p.m. amid the cheers of thousands gathered at the field.

Earlier in the morning, the President and family heard mass on board the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria*. The mass was said on deck by Fr. Mariano Gaviola. After the mass, the Chief Executive had breakfast with his family on board the yacht. The President had a press conference after breakfast, just before the yacht docked at Tagbilaran.

The President and party arrived in Tagbilaran about 9:30 a.m. A large crowd and the sounding of sirens greeted them at the wharf. A 21-gun salute boomed as the President went down the gangplank, Gov. Bernido led provincial officials who met the President.

After reviewing a Constabulary guard of honor with Brig. Gen. Cornelio Bondad, Gov. Bernido, and Commodore Jose Francisco, and led by Major Jose Estrella, the President proceeded to his residence in Tagbilaran where he had lunch. After a brief rest the President proceeded to the athletic field where he opened the BPSIAA meet.

February 24.—UPON orders of President Garcia an emergency patient was airlifted today from Romblon to Manila for treatment.

The President gave the order upon receiving a telegram from Leovegildo Villanueva, municipal health officer of Cajidiocan, Romblon, who stated that the patient, Adela Rabino, who was suffering from ectopic pregnancy, had to be flown to Manila for treatment.

The PAF authorities dispatched an *Albatross* to airlift the patient. The plane was piloted by Captains Oscar Bautista and Rafael Ravina.

PRESIDENT Garcia sent a message of condolence today to Mrs. Dolores Pimentel on the death of her husband, Narciso Pimentel, Sr., former secretary of the Lower House.

The full text of the President's message sent to the Pimentel residence in San Juan, Rizal, follows:

"I have just received word of the passing, away of your husband whose dedication to public service I have always admired. Please accept my heartfelt sympathies. I am sure his colleagues and all members of Congress will miss him and will deeply feel the irreparable loss caused by his untimely demise.

"Mrs. Garcia joins me in being with you in your hour of bereavement."

THIS afternoon the President signed the appointments of Oscar Illustre and Lucio Javier as members of the board of examiners for sanitary engineers. Illustre's term will expire on September 22, 1960, while that of Javier' will end September 2, 1959.

PRESIDENT Garcia saw his team, the East Visayan nine, drop a heart-breaker to the southern Tagalog baseball team at the interscholastic meet in Tagbilaran, Bohol, this morning.

However, President Garcia said, he was not "altogether disheartened" by the defeat, as the winning team hailed from, the southern Tagalog provinces, bailiwick of his son-in-law, Fernando Campos.

President Garcia, the First Lady, their daughter Linda and her husband, Fernando Campos, spent the morning watching the 1958 Bureau of Public Schools Interscholastic games which the President opened yesterday afternoon. They were accompanied by Education Secretary Lim and aides.

After the baseball game, President Garcia had lunch with Secretary Lim in his residence in Tagbilaran. He also received newsmen and nurses from Davao.

He returned to the ball park in the afternoon. President Garcia and his party are scheduled to leave Bohol aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria* at midnight tonight.

CAPT. Francisco H. Calinawan was appointed special assistant to the President on performance and efficiency, Malacañang announced today.

The announcement said that Calinawan will be sort of an executive aide to the President with instructions to meet and confer with chiefs of government agencies for the purpose of:

- (1) Following up and expediting the implementation of presidential directives;
- (2) Imparting, to them the views and attitudes of the President on various matters concerning their departments; and
- (3) Bringing to the attention of the President major problems of the agencies which need immediate consideration of the Chief Executive.

Capt. Calinawan acted as temporary chairman of a group of executives of government owned and controlled corporations which the President recently mobilized to boost his austerity and increased production campaign. He also received instructions from the President to take part in the deliberations of a four-man management committee recently created from among 18 government firms to step up the campaign.

A civil engineer, Calinawan is an officer in the AFP corps of engineers. He took engineering in the University of the Philippines and law in the University of San Carlos in Cebu. He is a graduate of advance military engineering at Fort Belvoir, Virginia (USA). A Bataan veteran, he was chief of plans and operations of the Combat Engineer Group and chief of the planning division, G-4, GHQ. He had been called to Malacañang together, with Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor T. Jimenez, in April of last year by President Garcia.

The Malacañang performance and efficiency officer is 37 years old, hails from Cagayan de Oro City. He is married to the former Julia G. Abais of Cebu City.

February 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia today brushed aside pleas of the First Lady that they stay in Tagbilaran, Bohol, for another that day. The President told newsmen he wanted to leave Bohol as he was being pestered by jobseekers.

The President boarded the yacht *Sta. Maria* yesterday afternoon and feted friends aboard the vessel until departure at midnight last night.

He woke up early this morning and, after breakfast, played chess with acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

After lunch with the First Lady, President Garcia received newsmen in a brief conference.

In the afternoon, he listened to a string band of the Presidential Guards Battallion which played aboard the yacht.

February 26.—THE President returned at 9:30 a.m. today from a five-day trip to Tagbilaran, Bohol, where he opened the national interscholastic athletic meet.

Upon reaching the Philippine Navy wharf, the President was swamped with visitors and was informed immediately of the brewing rebellion in Congress where a move to impeach him has been started.

Others came to unburden their personal problems, causing the President to delay his debarkation from the presidential yacht *Santa Maria*.

However, the President appeared rested on the return trip during which he conferred with Govs. Bernardo Torres of Leyte and Alejo Santos of Bulacan.

In the morning, upon waking up, the President was informed by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who was with him aboard the yacht, that one of his staunch political supporters in Bohol had died of heart failure.

Pajo said that Eladio Balili, the heart victim, had supported the political fights of President Garcia in Bohol.

Immediately upon receiving the news, the President wired his message of condolence to Balili's bereaved family. Pajo also joined the President in condoling with the relatives of the Bohol trader.

The President was accompanied by the First Lady and a host of Boholanos.

The First Lady headed those who heard mass aboard the boat before the presidential party disembarked.

Upon reaching the Palace, the President conferred with his aides and immediately directed Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable to arrange a breakfast conference with Congress leaders for Tuesday.

He decided on the conference to prevent the trouble brewing in Congress from getting out of hand.

In Malacañang the President was reported to have gone over the agenda to be followed at the scheduled Cabinet meeting this afternoon.

He presided over the weekly session of the Cabinet which he opened at five o'clock at the Council of State room.

The President discussed several problems topped by the rice issue, following the failure of the controversial copra-rice barter deal to go through.

The Cabinet meeting ended at 9:30 o'clock in the evening.

THE Cabinet at its meeting this afternoon approved the draft of a basic agreement proposed between the Philippines and the UNESCO in Paris on the program of participation in the activities of the member states covering assistance in the educational, cultural, and social fields.

Under this program, aid may be made available to member states in the form of (1) specialists, (2) equipment and documentation, (3) fellowships, and (4) aid to national or regional seminars.

The basic agreement should first be signed by the Philippine Government before the UNESCO in Paris could extend to this country assistance under the regular program.

The Cabinet also approved a program of activities for the commemoration of the first anniversary of the death of President Ramon Magsaysay on March 17. The program had been prepared by a committee to take charge of the proper observance of the day.

The Department of Education may hold programs in different schools for about 30 minutes to last up to high noon for the observance of one minute silent prayer. From reveille to high noon, flags of all government buildings and installations throughout the Philippines shall be flown at halfmast.

Provincial governors and city mayors will be advised of this observance. The Department of Foreign Affairs will request all Philippine embassies and missions abroad to observe one minute silent prayer at high noon.

The Cabinet also approved the issuance of a presidential proclamation making March 17 this year a special public holiday in the province of Zambales and the city of Cebu. The holiday in Zambales was recommended by Gov. Manuel Barreto while that in Cebu was requested by civic organizations which will observe the day by laying the cornerstone of a monument which the organizations will construct on Plaza Independencia in that city.

The families of the 25 other crash victims will be invited to all these ceremonies to be held for the occasion. Office hours on that day will begin at 9 a.m., in order to enable employees and workers to participate in the religious services.

In the course of the discussions the President signed the administrative order creating the committee to take charge of the observance. The committee is composed of Executive Secretary Juan .C. Pajo, chairman; Secretary Jesus Vargas, vice-chairman; Secretary Manuel Lim, Senator Emmanuel Pelaez, Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., Justice Fred Ruiz Castro, Gov. Manuel Barreto, former Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, and NPC President Francisco Dipasupil, members.

February 21.—THE President received from Vietnamese Minister Cao Thai Bao the letter of President Ngo Dinh Diem of Vietnam accepting President Garcia's invitation to be a state guest here.

During the call, the President and Minister Bao discussed the itinerary of the Vietnamese chief executive during his stay here sometime in March.

Present during the call were Manuel Zamora and Jose Estrada, protocol officers of Malacañang and the Department of Foreign Affairs, respectively.

Earlier, the President received Gale Johnston, vice-president of the Mercantile National Bank of St. Louis and his sons, Gale, Jr., and Northwick, who paid a courtesy call following their arrival in Manila recently in the course of a worldwide tour.

The Johnstons were accompanied to Malacañang by Jose Cojuangco and F. de la Costa, president and executive vice-president of the Philippine Bank of Commerce, respectively, and Jose Fernandez.

The President also received Donald M. Kendall and Samuel Desch, president and executive vice-president of the Pepsi-Cola International, respectively, who likewise paid a courtesy call following their arrival recently in the course of a Far East observation tour.

The Pepsi-Cola executives were accompanied to Malacañang by Sen. Pedro Sabido and George Anadelle, president of the local Pepsi-Cola company.

Other callers consisted mostly of provincial executives and a few congressmen requesting aid for public works and other improvements for their respective localities.

The callers included Camarines Sur Gov. Juan Triviño; Gov. Jesus Almero and Rep. Emilio Espinosa, Jr., of Masbate; Pampanga Gov. Rafael Lazatin; and Reps. Canuto Enerio and Cipriano Primicias, Jr. of Zamboanga del Sur and Pangasinan, respectively.

Capiz Gov. Jose Dinglasan requested funds for the purchase of an ambulance for the Mamburao Emergency Hospital, while Romblon Gov. Manuel Solidum requested assistance for the marble industry development in his province.

Congressman Salipada Pendatun accompanied Cotabato Gov. Datu Ugtug Matalam, who headed a delegation of town mayors. Aside from requesting aid for public works improvements in their respective municipalities, the members of the delegation expressed their gratitude to the Chief Executive for the announced plan to push through the reclaiming project of the Liguasan Marsh in Cotabato.

The Cotabato delegation consisted of Tamba Mayor C. Dumamba, Buluan Mayor S. Mangelen, Gen. Santos Mayor P. Acheron, Makilala Mayor R. Ipong, Midsayap Mayor E. Sedeño, and Tupi Mayor A. Balisi.

PRESIDENT Garcia sent the following message of condolence today to Mrs. Ruperto Kangleon on the occasion of the death of Sen. Kangleon;

“I was deeply grieved to hear of the passing of your beloved husband this morning. Both as a soldier and as a legislator who gave the best years of his life in the service of his people, Senator Kangleon will be fondly remembered. There is no doubt that the country has lost a dedicated public servant in his death. As I hasten to extend to you my heartfelt condolence I also join his colleagues in the Senate in mourning his passing.”

IN the afternoon the President received medical practitioners who requested the restoration of the dollar allocations for the importation of drugs, medicine, and medical supplies.

The delegation was composed of Dr. Francisco Duque, president of the Philippine Medical Association; Dr. Ramon Atienza, president of the Philippine Federation of Private Medical Practitioners; Dr. Rosita Rivera-Ramirez, president of the Philippine Medical Women’s Association; Dr. Guillermo del Castillo, president of the Philippine Hospital Association; Dr. Laureano Marquez, president of the Philippine Veterinary Medical Association; Dr. Genaro Felizardo, vice-president of the Philippine Dental Association; and Dr. Manuel Martinez Gil, secretary-treasurer of the PFPMP.

The delegation said that the 52 per cent cut for importers and 28 per cent for producers of existing dollar allocations will cause an acute shortage by next June of vital medicine.

President Garcia informed the members of the delegation that he would endorse the matter to the Central Bank for top priority if the international reserves of the country continue the upward swing.

After receiving the medical practitioners, the President left by car for Baguio City, where he will speak before the delegates to the UN seminar on human rights tomorrow.

February 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia today hailed the United Nations Seminar on the Protection of Human Rights in Criminal Law and Procedure, saying that “the participating nations have consistently striven to give meaning and substance to the basic human rights enumerated in the Declaration of Human Rights.”

The President addressed the delegates to the UN seminar at the closing ceremonies of their nine-day session held at the Pines Hotel in Baguio.

Justice Undersecretary Jesus Barrera, seminar chairman and head of the Philippine delegation, introduced the Chief Executive as the man who, as vice-president and concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, had been mainly responsible for the holding of the seminar on human rights in this country, the first ever held under the auspices of the United Nations and participated in by 17 nations. Barrera recalled it was President Garcia, then secretary of foreign affairs, who had extended the invitation to the UN Secretary-General for the holding of the first seminar here.

Other speakers at this morning’s ceremony were Judge Aung Khine of High Court of Burma and Chief Justice Ernest Williams of Sarawak, North Borneo, and Brunei who expressed gratitude, on behalf of the delegates, to the President and the Filipino people for their generosity in making the delegates’ stay here pleasant and memorable. They said the holding of the first UN seminar here showed how highly the Philippine Government and people regarded the protection of human rights.

The President and his party arrived at the Pines City at 11 o’clock last night after a five-hour motor trip from Manila. Waking up early this morning, the President had breakfast with members of the Philippine delegation to the seminar who had come to the Guest House to fetch him.

Arriving at the seminar hall at the Pines Hotel about 9:30 a.m., the President was met by chiefs of the various delegations of participating countries, headed by John P. Humphrey, director of the Division of Human Rights of the

United Nations. The President's speech lasted about 20 minutes. (See the next issue of the *Official Gazette*, for the full text of the President's speech.)

From the Pines Hotel, the President dropped in at the new zoo recently put up by Baguio as added tourist attraction. He returned to the Guest House shortly before noon.

After lunch the President boarded a car and went down to San Fernando airfield (La Unión), where he took a plane for Bitulok airstrip in Nueva Ecija. There he transferred to a U. S. Navy helicopter which conveyed him aboard the *USS Rochester*, flagship of the USN Seventh Fleet, out in Dingalan Bay to observe "Operations Strongback", which will be climaxed with the landing of 80,000 Filipino and American marines at Dingalan beach tomorrow morning. The President is a guest of Admiral Herbert Hopwood, commander of the USN Pacific Fleet, aboard the flagship during the massive maneuvers said to be the biggest ever undertaken since the end of World War II.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Month in Review: March 1-15, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

March 1.— PRESIDENT Garcia said today that the very successful staging of "Operation Strongback" by the armed forces of the Philippines and the United States was one more palpable demonstration of the determination of both countries to live up to their commitments in their mutual defense pact.

In the course of his inspection tour of the beachhead area where the USN Seventh Fleet landed a large contingent of Filipino and American forces along Dingalan Bay in the biggest maneuver held in the Pacific since the end of World War II, the President said that the military exercises had shown precise and complete coordination between the two teams.

He continued: "They served notice that if and when necessary, the Philippines and America are ready to meet jointly the threat of any aggressor nation. I am sure that this event has contributed to the maintenance of peace and security in this part of the world."

Congratulating some 80,000 officers and men who had participated in the operations for their excellent performance, the President said: "Their invaluable experience will go a long way in the mutual defense preparations of the Philippines and the United States."

Accompanied by Admiral Herbert Hopwood, commander-in-chief of the USN Pacific Fleet, who had flown from Honolulu to watch the maneuvers, and Vice-Admiral Wallace Beakley, commander of the USN 7th Fleet, the President cruised around Dingalan Bay, where more than 100 ships consisting of aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, submarines, landing crafts of various sizes, and other auxiliary vessels were spread over an area 22 miles wide and 12 miles deep in support of the combine amphibious exercises. The President was very much impressed with the precision with which wave after wave of landing crafts carrying troops, supplies, and equipment stormed the beaches in simulated amphibious attacks.

The President was also gratified with the efficiency of the Philippine naval and ground forces which coordinated with the US forces in the concerted effort to drive away an imaginary aggressor which had established itself in Central Luzon area. The exercises was, however, marred by inclement weather which had prevented the participation of more than 1,000 jet fighter planes and bombers of the Philippine and American forces.

Also at the maneuvers were Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Sen. Gil J. Puyat, Reps. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol and Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, U. S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, and Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff.

After addressing the delegates to the UN seminar on human rights at the Pines Hotel yesterday, the President motored down to the San Fernando (La Union) airport, where he boarded a U. S. Navy plane for Bitulok airstrip in Nueva Ecija. He originally intended to take the plane in Loakan airport in Baguio City for Dingalan Bay, but low hanging clouds which completely covered the field about noontime prevented him from doing so.

Arriving at Bitulok at 3:30 p.m., the President boarded a U. S. Navy helicopter which conveyed him to the *USS Rochester*, a heavy cruiser, out on Dingalan Bay, used by Admiral Beakley as his flagship during the exercises. He spent the night aboard the heavy cruiser as guest of Admiral Hopwood.

This morning the President transferred to a light-vessel, the *RPS Ifugao*, a Philippine Navy ship participating in the maneuvers.

From the ship's bridge, the President, together with Admiral Hopwood and Admiral Beakley and Filipino officials, watched the massive operations.

About 10 a.m., the President's party landed at the beach and, boarding an Army jeep, toured the perimeter already "secured" by the Philippine-U.S. troops.

The President was surprised by the large quantities of men and materials landed from the ships within a short time. In the course of his inspection tour, the President's jeep was stopped several time by MP's who were not aware of his presence in the area. He also noted the efficiency of the MPs which directed large number of vehicles, including heavy tanks, armored cars, artillery vans, and the latest type of amphibious trucks, along narrow dirt roads in the beachhead area.

After lunch at the Dingalan residence of Don Felipe Buencamino, the President boarded a helicopter for the first leg of her return trip to Baguio.

At the Bitulok airstrip he took the presidential plane *Dagohoy* and landed at the Loakan airport about 1:20 p.m.

The President this afternoon received Speaker Daniel Romualdez, who reported that the organization of the House had been completed.

March 2.—PRESIDENT Garbia spent this Sunday by himself at the Guest House.

He instructed his aide, Lieut. Melchor Fronda, to express to whoever wishes to see him his regrets for his inability to receive callers.

It was believed that the President refrained from stirring out of the Guest House at the instructions of his security officers.

President Garcia heard an early morning mass before an improvised altar at the Guest House.

After breakfast with Malacañang staff members who went with him to Baguio, President Garcia read the Sunday papers, after which he retired to his study room and went over state papers.

March 3.—UPON arrival from Baguio this morning, the President administered the oath of office to Dean Vicente G. Sinco as president of the University of the Philippines at a simple ceremony held at the Malacañang reception hall.

The ceremony was witnessed by high government officials, members of the Central Bank and the Monetary Board, members of the U. P. Board of Regents, U. P. college deans, and prominent alumni.

Among those present were Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, CB Deputy Governor Andres V. Castillo, Sen. Decoroso Rosales, Rep. Manuel Enverga, UP Regents Aurelio Periquet, Ernesto Sibal, Benigno Aldana, Gumersindo Garcia, Modesto Farolan, and Arturo Garcia.

Also present were Mrs. Sinco and Deans Tomas Fonacier, Patrocinio Valenzuela, Jose Belmonte, Antonio Isidro, Crisostomo Ortigas, Leopoldo Uichanco, Calixto Mabesa, Julitaj Sotejo, Dr. Jose Uichanco, Dr. Ricardo Pascual, Juan C. Canave, and Dr. Enrique T. Virata, UP executive vice-president.

After the induction President Garcia expressed the hope that the new U. P. head would maintain the prestige that the state university enjoys in the intellectual world and keep it in the lead among the world's highest institutions of learning.

President Garcia congratulated the U. P. Board of Regents for having elected the new U. P. head. He lauded Sinco and said that he is a man of intellectual stature and high prestige.

In his response Sinco pledged to help the Administration's policies and placed the services and facilities of the state university at the disposal of President Garcia towards this end.

Other presidential callers were members of the Philippine Association of Civil Engineers led by Antonio Arcilla, Felicisimo B. Serrano, former Judge Modesto Castillo, Mrs. Pacita Vargas Gella, and Mrs. Ramona Vargas Syquia.

Members of the Philippine Public School Teachers Association saw President Garcia to invite him to be the guest of honor and principal speaker at the Silver Jubilee and Annual Assembly of the association in April.

The delegation informed President Garcia of their intention to work for the amendment of the WAPCO Salary Law and asked for representation in the GSIS Board of Trustees.

The delegation was composed of Ricardo Castro, executive secretary and treasurer, Directors Erasmo Punzalan, Polirconio Domingo, Domingo Tan, Jose E. Rosario, Miss Angelita Pulgado, Policarpio Bautista, and Quirino Cruz, Manuel Flores, Miss Prisca Bautista, Mrs. Paz Vergara, Salvador Bautista, Agapito Hog, Arnulfo Castro, and Emilia Cristobal.

THE President returned to Manila about 10:10 a.m. today after a three-day absence from the city during which he had addressed the delegates of the United Nations seminar on the protection of human rights held at the Pines Hotel in Baguio, and observed "Operation Strongback", a joint PI-US military maneuvers in Dingalan Bay.

Leaving Baguio by car about 5 a.m. today to catch up with scheduled engagements in Manila, the President found a large number of callers waiting for him. He received visitors until 2 p.m. after administering the oath of office to Dean Vicente Sinco of the University of the Philippines college of law as president of the state university.

In the afternoon, the President motored to the NPC building on Aduana Street at the foot of Jones Bridge, where he was guest of honor at the inauguration of the newly-elected officers of the NPC.

Back in Malacañang in the evening, the President conferred with financial advisers; namely, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Governor Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank, and Chairman Eduardo Romualdez of the RFC. The President also conferred with Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., of Cebu.

IN the afternoon the President reiterated his appeal to the Philippine press to point out the deficiencies and defects of the government in rendering public service so that these might be corrected for the benefit of the people and in the interest of good government.

The President said that he welcomed constructive criticism against the government, including the remedies that might be offered in improving government service.

The President made these remarks in an extemporaneous speech which he delivered after inducting into office the newly elected officials of the National Press Club headed by its president, Francisco Dipasupil of the *Manila Chronicle*. The ceremony was held at the deck of the NPC building.

The Chief Executive told the newspapermen that he would back up the fullest freedom of the press in the country, but he exhorted them to uphold the truth and to publish it.

The President, however, pointed out that in the interest of writing the truth, both the positive and the negative sides of life should be displayed in the newspapers without overemphasizing the negative aspects. He said, "To do this is not suppressing the truth."

"On this policy I stand," the President stressed. He added, "The press is a tremendous power. I urge you to make the press produce among our people positive and creative thinkers who will assume the responsibilities of nation-building."

The Chief Executive took the opportunity to explain what he had said at the opening day of the celebration of National Press Week. The President's speech then had been interpreted in(some quarters to mean that when the President had decried the over-emphasis on the negative side of the news, that would be suppressing the truth.

The President said that what he had advocated and would continue to advocate was that in writing the news both the positive and negative aspects of it should be given in order that a complete picture could be presented to the people.

He said that his idea was not to hide or suppress the dark side of the news but not to overemphasize it so as to produce a negative way of thinking among the newspaper readers. He said that as a matter of fact it was impossible not to print the dark side of life, because he believed that life was a combination of "sunlight and shadows," and that the delineating of the dark side would show in bolder relief the positive side.

The President congratulated the newly elected officials of the National Press Club and wished them good luck in their administration.

Before the President's speech, former NPC president Domingo C. Abadilla turned over the responsibilities of office to the incoming president, Dipasupil. Another past NPC president, Teodoro R. Valencia, introduced President Garcia and acted as master of ceremonies.

The NPC ceremony was featured by the oath-taking of the NPC officials before President Garcia. The ceremony was held at the deck of the National Press Club building. The program was followed by cocktails.

President Garcia was accompanied to the NPC by Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Appointments Secretary Agerico Palaypay, and Lt. Melchor Fronda, aide.

From the NPC building, the President returned to Malacañang a little before 6 p.m.

March 4.— PRESIDENT Garcia stood firmly in dealing with a corrupt government official as he ordered today the dismissal of Agripino M. Ensoy as justice of the peace of Palompon, Leyte.

The dismissal was recommended by the Department of Justice, which found Ensoy guilty of violating Republic Act 145, which limits to ₱20 the maximum fee that may be charged a veteran client for assistance in obtaining veteran's benefits.

It appears that in 1949, Eduarda Casing Vda. de Villaflor filed a claim for benefits because of the death of her son who had died as a soldier during the last world war. She was assisted by Ensoy in the preparation of the pertinent papers.

As a result of the claim, Mrs. Villaflor received two checks for ₱200 and ₱2,070 from which Ensoy had allegedly collected ₱100 and ₱800 respectively.

The district judge who first had investigated Ensoy recommended three months' suspension. However, the President in Administrative Order No. 260 issued today directed the outright dismissal of the erring official following the recommendation of the secretary of justice, who reviewed the case.

Ensoy's removal from office takes effect upon receipt of a copy of the administrative order.

The secretary of justice in his report to the President said:

"After a careful review of the record of the investigation, I find from the evidence that the charge for violation of Republic Act No. 145 has been substantially established. And considering the immense amounts the respondent charged and received from the claimant in relation to the amounts collected, his perjury in connection with this count, and the fact that this is a criminal offense for which he is being prosecuted, as we have been informed, I am

of the opinion that the respondent should be removed from office, instead of merely suspended for three months, as recommended by Judge Debuque. It is so recommended. This recommendation disregards the other charges regarding some of which there are signs of guilt.”

THE President today directed: (1) ACCFA Administrator Ernesto Jimenez to speed up the investigation now going on of alleged loss of half million pesos through manipulations of government fertilizer supplies in Iloilo and to prosecute guilty parties as circumstances would warrant; and (2) NARIC General Manager Vicente Concepcion to take all precautionary measures to prevent the channeling of U.S. imported rice into the black market.

In a telephone conversation with ACCFA Administrator Jimenez, President Garcia inquired into the progress of the investigation which the ACCFA had been undertaking of the alleged anomalies in Iloilo regarding fertilizers in which the Panay Federation of FACOMAs was allegedly involved. The President told Jimenez to speed up the investigation, make it thorough, and submit a report on the matter to the Chief Executive as soon as possible.

The President took these steps upon reading reports in the newspapers about the alleged anomalies in the distribution of fertilizers in Iloilo and in the reported siphoning of U.S. rice into the black market. He gave his directives by telephoning Administrator Jimenez and General Manager Concepcion.

Jimenez submitted this afternoon to President Garcia a report in which he said that press stories about a “multi-million-peso racket involving clandestine selling of government fertilizers in Iloilo were grossly exaggerated.”

Jimenez explained that from March 28, 1956, to December 18, 1957, the Panay Federation of FACOMAs received a total of only 69,672 bags of fertilizers with a sale value of ₱339,552.59. He pointed out that from this figure, it was clear that even if all those fertilizers went into the black market, they could not have cost more than ₱339,000.

Jimenez explained that Iloilo was a trans-shipment point for fertilizers requisitioned by farmers from Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, Antique, and Capiz. It was possible, he said, that a small quantity of the fertilizers reached the blackmarket. However, he said that like all other cases of reported blackmarketing, the case had been looked into immediately, as the ACCFA would never countenance any irregular disposal of this essential farm item.

Jimenez told the President in his report: “I am personally interested in prosecuting the guilty parties in the FACOMAs so that the misdeeds of one or two persons will not reflect on the prestige and integrity of the farm cooperatives as a whole.” He said that the object of investigation was only the Panay Federation of FACOMAs in Iloilo and not the Iloilo FACOMAs themselves.

Jimenez also informed the President of the difficulties facing the probers in digging up the cases. He said that the NBI and ACCFA agents had to trace every single bag of fertilizers sent out through Iloilo to other places in the Visayas and Mindanao. He said that if any irregularity were unearthed, he would do everything within the law to have the guilty parties prosecuted.

In this connection Jimenez bared that Republic Act 1699, known as the subsidized fertilizer law, was faulty in that the provisions for the punishment of persons found blackmarketing government subsidized fertilizers were defective. In a few other cases, when ACCFA operatives found evidence of blackmarketing of fertilizers, the courts were helpless in pinning down the suspects, Jimenez said. He suggested that the law be revised to put more teeth into it and that there should be provisions for stiff penalties for black-marketing of the subsidized fertilizers.

IN the afternoon the President enlisted the cooperation of the Federation of Asian and Western Pacific Contractors Association in the construction of various public works projects of the Philippine Government aimed at boosting the economy of the country.

In an informal conversation with some 300 delegates to the first convention of the FAWPCA to be held in Manila and Baguio this week, the President said that certain phases of important government projects, such as the proposed

extension of the railroad lines in Luzon, the construction of huge irrigation systems, and the building of roads might be offered for international bidding. He asked the cooperation of the delegates in “these great tasks.”

The delegates representing 11 countries called at Malacañang this afternoon to pay their respects prior to the opening of their convention at the Manila Hotel tomorrow. Domingo V. Poblete, federation president, informed the Chief Executive that most of their sessions would be held at the Pines Hotel in Baguio.

The President in brief remarks expressed gratification over the choice of the Philippines as the site of the first convention of the organization. He welcomed the foreign delegation on behalf of the Filipino people and expressed hope that their stay here would be “both pleasant and fruitful.”

In the course of the call the President was presented with souvenirs consisting of landscape paintings, vases, and carvings by the delegations from China, Japan, and Korea. The President accepted them as a token of goodwill from their respective countries.

Earlier this afternoon, the President received Ambassador Pete Sarasin, SEATO secretary general, who called to pay his respects following his recent arrival in Manila for the annual foreign ministers’ meeting of the SEATO to be held here next week. Ambassador Sarasin, who had flown from Bangkok, Thailand, was accompanied by William Worth, deputy SEATO secretary general.

This morning, the President received members of Congress with whom he discussed problems of their respective localities.

Listed callers were former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., and his son Rep. Jose Laurel IV, and Leiut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff.

Among ether callers were Sen. Quintin Paredes, Cebu Gov. Jose Briones, and Reps. Juan Duyan of Mt. Province, Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, and Laurentino Badilles of Lanao.

IN the evening, the President motored to his new residence on Bohol Avenue, where he met Nacianalista congressmen at a dinner.

It was reported that the solons unburdened to the President their gripes against the executive officials. The meeting lasted late into the night.

CENTRAL Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno informed Malacañang this evening that the Export-Import Bank had approved the purchase of tractors and farm implements by the Planters Federation. The purchase will be made under credit lines extended by the Export-Import Bank.

March 5.—THE President this morning motored to his new residence on Bohol Avenue, where he conferred with the Council of Leaders for six hours on his plan to revamp his Cabinet.

The meeting was held behind closed doors. Malacañang said “no definite decision” was reached on the President’s plan of reorganizing the advisory body.

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda, and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer. Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo attended the meeting.

The conference started at breakfast time and wound up at 3 o’clock in the afternoon.

It was learned that the President brought up the names of prospective appointees to the Cabinet and that tentative agreement was reached on the candidates

Malacañang, however, did not disclose the names of the prospective Cabinet members, saying that the President intends to announce them as soon as complete concurrence had been reached on the matter.

It was learned that the President plans to make the announcement at the weekend.

As he conferred with the Council of Leaders, aspirants waited for the announcement of the new appointees to the Cabinet,

Aspirants for the position of press secretary stayed away from the Garcia residence, otherwise known as the President's workshop, but waited frantically like expectant fathers at the press office.

Acting Secretary G. V. Sison also stayed away from the conference saying he was personally involved in the so-called Cabinet revamp.

However, Sison said after seeing the President last night that President Garcia and the Council of Leaders had agreed to pitch into the recurrent rice crisis.

The President and the Council of Leaders, Sison said, "agreed to do their utmost" to step up rice production and avert the annual shortage of the grain.

Delayed by his conference with the Council of Leaders, President Garcia decided to cancel the presentation of credentials of the new German ambassador to the Philippines.

President Garcia likewise cancelled his weekly Cabinet meeting this afternoon but stayed in his "workshop", where he was reported to have relaxed after his six-hour meeting with the Council of Leaders.

PRESIDENT Garcia today declared March 17, the day the late President Magsaysay met sudden death in an airplane crash, as a special public holiday in the province of Zambales and Cebu City.

In a proclamation the President said that the holiday was set aside in order to give the people of Zambales and Cebu City full opportunity to observe the anniversary with appropriate ceremonies.

The special holiday in Zambales had been requested by Gov. Manuel Barretto, who said he was expressing the general sentiment in his province. That in Cebu City was on the representation of civic organizations which would like to observe the day by laying a cornerstone for a monument in honor of the late President to be erected on Plaza Independencia in that city.

THE President granted today another reprieve to death convict Crispin Verzo. The new 30-day reprieve was the 11th granted by the President to the death convict. The last reprieve given last February 4 expired yesterday.

In extending another stay of execution to convict Verzo, the President said that some time was still necessary for a thorough and careful study of the merits of the petitions for executive clemency filed in behalf of the prisoner.

March 6.—THE President received the delegates to the 4th SEATO Council of Ministers' Meeting and the 8th SEATO Military Advisers' Meeting. The delegates were accompanied by Ambassador Pote Sarasin, SEATO secretary general.

The delegates to the Council of Ministers' Meeting were U. S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen, French Ambassador Georges Cattand, British Ambassador George L. Glutton, Thai Ambassador Chitti Sucharitakul, and Pakistan Ambassador Pir Ali Mohammad Rashdi. The Ministers' meeting will start on March 11 and end two days later.

The chiefs of delegation to the SEATO Military Advisers' Meeting who saw the President were Admiral Felix B. Stump of United States, Maj. Gen. C. E. Weir, CB, CBE, DSO of New Zealand, Vice-Admiral D'Escadre Ortoli of France, Lt Gen. Sir Henry Wells, KBE, CB, DSO, of Australia, Commodore A. Rashid of Pakistan, Gen. Sir Francis Gesting, CCB, KBE, DSO of United Kingdom, Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano and Brig. Gen. Alfredo Santos of Philippines, and Gen. Jira Vichitsonggram of Thailand.

The President also received Ambassador Ali Amroussi of the United Arab Republic, who is on his way to assume his new job in Indonesia. Amroussi was accompanied by Sen. Domocao Alonto, Commissioner Madki Alonto, and Rep. Salipada Pendatun.

Dr. Hugh Keenleyside, director general of the UN Technical Assistance Administration, paid a courtesy call on President Garcia. He was accompanied by C. Hart Schaaf, local representative of the TAA.

Sorsogon Gov. Juan Frivaldo suggested to President Garcia that the extension of the railroad lines to Matnog, Sorsogon, and to Tuguegarao, Cagayan, be submitted for the consideration of the SEATO Military Advisers' Meeting.

The extension of the railroad line to Matnog has been affected by the austerity program of the Administration, according to Gov. Frivaldo, who added that during the last SEATO economic conference in Bangkok, it was agreed to support projects of economic and military value in member countries.

President Garcia certified to Congress the necessity of the immediate enactment of House Bill No. 770, entitled "An Act changing the name of the Province of Zambales to Province of Magsaysay," upon the recommendation of the Provincial Board and the Mayors' League of Zambales.

Other presidential callers were Gov. Jose Dinglasan of Capiz, Gov. Pomulo Garrovillo of Zanjboanga del Norte, Mrs. Trinidad Legarda, and William Strickland.

IN the afternoon the President was advised by his physicians to rest owing to a stomach upset which he complained of about 1:00 p.m.

After resting in the afternoon, the President felt better in the evening, according to his physicians.

Because of the President's slight indisposition, his physicians, Drs. Alejandro Gaerlan and Antonio Guytingco, cancelled the President's afternoon appointments, including the induction into office of Roberto Benedicto, as member of the board of governors of the RFC.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo substituted for the President and inducted into office Roberto Benedicto, who was designated as member of the board of governors of the Rehabilitation Finance Corporation.

Benedicto, who will serve full time, replaces Isaac Lacson, retired.

Present at the ceremony were some members of Benedicto's family and a few friends, among whom were Reps. Jose M. Aldeguez of Iloilo and Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Eugenio Lopez, and Jose M. Gomez.

PRESIDENT Garcia signed today an administrative order requiring Eufemio H. Guamos to resign as justice of the peace of Donsol, Sorsogon, within five days from receipt of a copy of the order, otherwise he would be considered removed from office effective on the day following the expiration of the period given.

Guamos was the respondent in an administrative case filed by Alfredo Hoelzl, who charged him with, among others, habitual drunkenness or conduct unbecoming a justice of the peace. The charges were investigated by the district judge and reviewed by Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, who found the respondent guilty of the charge.

The President said that the respondent's claim that he was never drunk in all his life and that when forced to drink he would simply dip his lips and return the glass "is untenable in the face of the positive and convincing testimony of several eye-witnesses."

The President, in his order punishing the respondent, said: "By his proven conduct, obviously notorious and reprehensible, the respondent does not deserve to remain in the judiciary where only men of strong personal character and upright conduct have the right to be. He has not only created public scandals and exposed himself to public ridicule and contempt but has also violated the sanctity of his courtroom where public justice is administered, thereby impairing the people's respect for his person and undermining their faith and confidence in his office."

The President today certified to Congress the urgency of a bill changing the name of the province of Zambales to Magsaysay.

The President's action was prompted by resolutions by both the provincial board and the residents of Zambales indorsing the move to change the name of their province in honor of the late president.

The approval of the bill by Congress and the President is expected to coincide with the first anniversary of the death of the late President Magsaysay on March 17.

March 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia cancelled all his engagements and appointment with callers this afternoon after complaining of abdominal pains.

Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan stayed with the President almost all night yesterday and asked him to enter a military hospital for a "check-up." He said that the President's ailment had been traced to late luncheon yesterday noon.

It was learned that President Garcia had stayed long with his callers and sat down for lunch shortly after one o'clock.

President Garcia stayed in his new residence in Quezon City last night and almost the whole day today. He cancelled all his appointments with callers in Malacañang today.

He motored back to the Palace at five o'clock this afternoon to receive the credentials of Freiderich H. von Furstenberg as ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany.

After meeting with the German envoy, the President repaired to the state dining room where he presided over his weekly press conference.

The press conference was televised and attended by a large group of newsmen and kibitzers, who had expected the President to announce the new members of his Cabinet.

President Garcia was evasive in his reply to newsmen's questions and claimed that all reports on the possible new members of the Cabinet were "purely speculative."

He said he was delaying the announcement of the new members of his Cabinet, as he had been afflicted by a stomach ailment. He said he had previously thought he could make the announcement this week-end.

The President minced no words in the press conference and observed that some questions were "abusive."

After the press conference, the President retired to his study.

He left shortly thereafter for an unidentified military hospital where he expected to stay for two days for a “medical check-up.”

PRESIDENT Garcia received the letters of credence of Friedrich H. von Furstenberg as ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in a ceremony held at Malacañang this afternoon.

The presentation ceremony climaxed for the German government the reciprocal elevation of both the Philippine legation in Germany and the German legation here to embassies.

In accepting the credentials, the President said that the elevation of the legations of the Federal Republic of Germany and of the Philippines was a manifestation of high esteem and friendship which binds our nations together.”

The President added that it was a “clear evidence of our desire to place in a firmer basis the friendly relations that happily exist between our two peoples and government.”

Ambassador von Furstenberg, in presenting his credentials, in turn said that the move was a “farsighted initiative proof of progress and intention in the friendly relations between our countries.”

He assured the President that he would “continue and intensify my efforts in furthering political understanding in developing mutually agreeable interchange of goods and services and in cultivating cultural and educational relations between our two countries.”

After the ceremony the President and the new ambassador exchanged toast for the continued friendly relations between the Philippines and Germany.

The new German Ambassador was presented to the President by Foreign Affairs Chief of Protocol Jose Estrada. Also presented to the President were officers of the new German Embassy; namely. Dr. H. U. von Schweinitz, counsellor, and W. Mueller, administrative attache. They were introduced by DFA Deputy Chief of Protocol Pedro A. Aragon.

Philippine government officials present were acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, acting Agriculture Secretary Jose Trinidad, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, and acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

March 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia has reported to be in “good health” today. Seven physicians, said to be experts along their lines, were reported to have taken turns in examining the President’s physical condition. They issued a bulletin in the evening giving the President a “clean bill.”

President Garcia entered an unidentified military hospital for his annual “medical check-up” last Friday night.

Malacañang withheld the identity of the hospital to prevent some so-called “friends” and province people from “orbiting” around the Chief Executive.

Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan, the President’s physicians, recommended a medical examination of the President’s condition after he had complained of abdominal pains.

He did not receive many visitors in his quarters.

Said to have seen him at the hospital were the First Lady, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, and Capt. Francisco Calinawan, the President's performance officer.

Sison said that the President avoided playing chess the whole day today.

However, when he saw Sison, the President was reported to have been irked by newspaper reports that Rep. Ferdinand Marcos of Ilocos Norte had accused the Chief Executive of "deliberately" abetting the soaring of prices of mime commodities to favor "certain individuals."

He directed Sison to issue a statement to the newspapers answering the Marcos charges.

March 9.—THE President rode out of the V. Luna General Hospital at * noon too assured that he "is in good health."

The President entered the hospital Friday evening. Seven physicians subjected him to such examinations as blood chemistry, X-ray, electrocardiography, urinalysis, liver function tests, and dental tests.

The physicians said "everything is normal" with the President, but prescribed that he "eat regularly and on time, get more sleep, and take more physical exercises."

President Garcia started the day by hearing an early morning mass at the hospital, with Fr. Alfredo Reyes officiating.

After breakfast, he received Executive Secretary Juan Pajo and discussed with him "routine matters."

He received the First Lady shortly after he submitted himself to the "final" physical examination at 11 a.m. He was discharged from the hospital at 12 noon.

From V. Luna, the President proceeded to his "workshop" on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

He went over the final draft of the speech he will deliver Tuesday morning before the opening session of the 4th Southeast Asia Treaty Organization council of ministers meeting at the Department of Foreign Affairs' Hall of Flags.

Late in the afternoon, he received acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and gave him information he wanted passed on to Malacañang reporters. He also composed a wire of felicitations to Senator Jose P. Laurel, who celebrated his 67th birthday yesterday.

March 10.—UPON his return from his "workshop" in Quezon City, where he spent his weekend, the President received a delegation of Filipino retailers and told them to submit a memorandum on ways and means to improve and simplify the present system of procurement and distribution of the National Marketing Corporation.

The suggestion of President Garcia was made after the delegation led by Dionisio Reyes, E. V. Mendoza, former Manila Councilor Mateo Herrera, and Jose Pascual complained against the present NAMARCO system, branding it as ineffective, inefficient, and uneconomical.

Members of the delegation charged that some NAMARCO distributors channeled goods to the black market, especially to the Divisoria Market to the prejudice of Filipino retailers.

The President also received a delegation composed of members of the Home Industries Association of the Philippines led by its president, Hilarion Henares, Sr., which reported that some members would represent the Philippines in the Seattle (US) Trade Exposition to find means to develop cottage industries.

Modesto Farolan, chairman of the Home Industries Study Group, who accompanied the delegation, submitted the report of his group which recommended as an interim measure that the NAMARCO and the Department of Education be authorized to use ₱200,000 out of the ₱1 million made available by the Cabinet for a home industries production program.

Members of the Philippine Better Roads Association led by Luis Ayesa and accompanied by Highways Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog presented a resolution of the association appointing President Garcia as its honorary president. Other members were Pat Dayrit, Vic Stater, Jack M. Le Deux, L. de Palechynden, R. M. Bayot, Lorenzo Sevilla, A. Martinez, and Jose Javier.

Hans A. Roelli, acting general manager of the Manila office of the Ed A. Keller & Co., Ltd., of Zurich, Switzerland, called on President Garcia to pay his respects, accompanied by Leandro G. Zorrilla, manager of the pharmaceutical department of the said office.

Other callers were members of the Philippine branch of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, which is affiliated with the University of North Dakota, U. S. The group presented the 5th anniversary report of the Institute. The members were Drs. Richard S. Piitman and Howard McKaughan, Mr. and Mrs. Len Newell, Mr. and Mrs. David Huey, Ben Needham, and Morris Cottle.

Sol R. Kunkis of New York informed President Garcia of a plan to establish a chemical plant in the Philippines to manufacture, among other things, fertilizers in order to control crop damage, increase local production, and export fertilizer to neighboring countries.

IN the afternoon the President received the delegates to the foreign ministers conference of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization who paid a joint courtesy call.

Headed by foreign ministers of the eight member nations, the delegates arrived at Malacañang at 4:25 p.m. and were conducted to the Malacañang ceremonial hall, where the President was waiting for them.

First to greet the President was the Australian delegation headed by External Affairs Minister Richard G. Casey. The French delegation with Foreign Minister Christian Pineau came in next, followed by New Zealand Foreign Minister Walter Nash and his group. Pakistan Foreign Minister Ali Khan Qizilbash was followed by the Philippine delegation composed of acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto Serrano, Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, Rep. Ramon Mitra, Sr., and Minister Tomas de Castro. Prince Wan Waithayakon came after the Philippine delegation. The last two delegations were those of the United Kingdom, headed by Foreign Minister Selwyn Lloyd, and the United States, led by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. Pote Zarasin, SEATO secretary-general, also came with the delegation.

The President exchanged pleasantries with the delegates as he shook their hands. After the formal introductions, the President and the delegates exchanged toasts with *basi*. The president conversed with the members of the various delegations while still and movie cameras flashed.

For about 20 minutes the President exchanged amenities and renewed acquaintances with the delegates and posed with them for pictures. The chiefs of missions of the eight member nations accompanied the delegates who were introduced to the President by Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel G. Zamora, Foreign Affairs Protocol Officer Jose Estrada, and Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, senior presidential aide.

Gov. Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija headed a big delegation from his province which called on President Garcia to present several resolutions and petitions. The President promised to study the matters presented by Aleta.

Malacañang announced today the appointment of Bartolome Fernandez as deputy auditor general to occupy the position left vacant when Pedro M. Gimenez was appointed auditor general.

President Garcia signed the appointment papers of Fernandez.

PRESIDENT Garcia held a conference with officials of the Manila Railroad Company who called at Malacañang this afternoon to apprise him of the progress made on the projected extension of the railroad line from San Jose, Nueva Ecija, to Tuguegarao, Cagayan.

Juan J. Carlos, chairman of the MRR board of directors, informed the President that the project would be finished in less than four years with an estimated total expenditure of ₱80 million. It would involve the installation of railroad trucks over a distance of 335 kilometers, the construction of five bridges totalling some 2,000 meters in length, and the boring of a 4.5 kilometer tunnel through the Cordillera Mountain ranges.

The President was impressed by the enlarged aerial photographs and colored charts brought by the MRR officials with which they graphically explained the enormity of the engineering work required by the project. He said that the extension of the railroad lines, long dreamed of by the people of the North, would provide cheap means of transportation to three northern provinces.

MRR officials present at the conference included acting General Manager Feliciano Santiago and the following board directors: Salvador T. Villa, Benjamin Alonzo, Jack Arroyo, Vicente Olazo, and Francisco Calinawan.

After his conference with MRR officials, the President held a close-door conference with Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Reps. Tobias Fornier of Antique, chairman of the House committee on appropriations; Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, and Manuel Zosa of Cebu. Also present at the conference which lasted about one hour was Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona.

March 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia today attended the SEATO conference no longer as a chief-delegate of the Philippines, but as chief of state of the host country.

The President felt the change of role he had played as he addressed the SEATO council of ministers' meeting.

He recalled that in previous conferences in Asia and in Canberra, Australia, he was just one of the foreign ministers that had traded views on the subject of collective defense and united efforts to arrest Communist subversion.

As head of state, the President was fetched from Malacañang by Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, and upon entering the Department of Foreign Affairs on Padre Faura, he was met by the foreign ministers headed by Pote Sarasin, SEATO secretary-general.

His arrival was heralded by a 21-gun salute which boomed in front of the foreign office as he was given full military honors.

The President, upon his arrival, greeted all the foreign ministers who stood in front of the flags of their respective states.

It was a great moment for President Garcia, who had attended many SEATO conferences as one of the chief delegates.

After greeting the foreign ministers, the President retired to the office of Secretary Serrano. It was his former office while Vice-President of the country and concurrently secretary of foreign affairs.

He rested at his former office until he was told that the SEATO delegates had already taken their seats and were ready to receive the President of the country.

As President of the host country, he opened the conference with a 12-minute address.

He was accompanied by Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, his senior military aide; Major Jose Estrella, junior aide; and acting Press Secretary G. V. Sison.

After delivering his opening address, the President returned to Malacañang where he retired in his bedroom.

He was reported to have gone over pending state papers.

IN the afternoon the President received Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, chief of staff of the Armed Forces.

No detail was released by Malacañang on the subject of their conference.

Later, the President conferred with his press secretary who was asked to answer the charges hurled against the President by two Liberal solons; namely, Sen. Ambrosio Padilla and Rep. Ferdinand Marcos.

It was learned that President Garcia was feeling the LP's fiscalizing pressure which has kept the Malacañang spokesman busy putting up the President's defense.

March 12.—THE President planned early this week a meeting with US Secretary of State John Foster Dulles this morning. He invited the visiting US secretary of State to a breakfast conference in his new residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, to insure complete secrecy for the affair.

However, President Garcia was surprised when he found out this morning that all the newspapers carried reports of his breakfast conference with Dulles.

Although the newspapers got wind of the conference, the President glumly motored to his new residence in Quezon City this morning to fulfill his engagement with the visiting US secretary of state.

Malacañang issued a brief statement on the meeting, saying:

“President Garcia and Secretary Dulles discussed problems of common interest to both the Philippines and the United States. The breakfast conference started at 8 o'clock and broke up at 9:40 a.m.

“Present at the conference were President Garcia, Secretary Dulles, and acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano.”

Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, who was pumped for information by newsmen, said that was the only statement given to him by President Garcia for release to the papers. He said he was barred from the breakfast conference and admitted he was not aware of the details.

Told by newsmen that his replied: “That's all I know.”

AFTER the conference, the President stayed in his residence. He motored back to Malacañang in the afternoon to preside over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

It was learned that President Garcia adjourned the Cabinet meeting promptly at 8 p.m.

A Malacañang spokesman Explained that President' Garcia cut short the Cabinet meeting “upon the advice of his physicians.”

It was learned that the President had been advised by his physicians not to strain himself too much and to observe early sleeping hours.

This development immediately drummed anew speculations on the state of the President's health.

March 13.—MALACAÑANG announced this day that President Garcia would appoint Leyte Gov. Bernardo Torres as general manager of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation.

Gov. Torres will replace PHHC Chairman-General Manager Vicente Orosa who retired.

The announcement was made after the Chief Executive had a breakfast conference at his Quezon City "workshop" with some Leyte and Samar solons who consulted the President on matters affecting their respective districts.

Present at the breakfast conference were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Reps. Dominador Tan, Nicanor Yñiguez, Marcelino Veloso, and Alberto Aguia, all of Leyte, and Reps. Valeriano Lianza, Eladio Balite, and Felipe Abrigo, all of Samar.

To be named shortly as successor to Gov. Torres is Leyte Senior Board Member Ildefonso Cinco. Cinco will be succeeded by Mayor Emiliano Melgazo of Hilongos, Leyte.

Also discussed at the conference was the feasibility of selling bonds in the province to finance urgent public works projects.

RETURNING to Malacañang about 11 a.m. from his "workshop" in Quezon City, President Garcia received American singer William Warfield, who was accompanied by Alfredo Lozano, local impresario; William Morris, cultural officer of the U. S. Embassy; and his assistant, John Reinhardt.

After receiving Warfield, President Garcia received Sen. Roseller Lim and Vicente Villamin with whom he discussed the austerity program and the different aspects of the Barter Law.

Other callers were Gov. Juab Alberto of Catanduanes, Gov. Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, and Jose Topacio Nueno.

PRESIDENT Garcia gave a state dinner at 8:30 this evening in Malacañang in honor of the chief delegates to the Fourth SEATO Council of Ministers' meeting.

The guest list follows:

Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Chief Justice Ricardo Paras;

AUSTRALIA: The Rt. Hon. R. G. Casey, minister of external affairs and chief of delegation; Mr. J. Plimsoll, head of the Department of External Affairs; Mr. K. C. O. Shann, Australian ambassador in Manila; Lt. Gen. Sir Henry Wells, Australian military adviser;

FRANCE: H. E. Christian Pineau, minister of foreign affairs and chief of delegation; H. E. Georges Cattand, French ambassador to the Philippines; Fleet Vice-Admiral Paul Ortoli, French military adviser to the SEATO; H. E. Michel Break ambassador to Thailand;

NEW ZEALAND; Rt. Hon. Walter Nash, prime minister and minister of external affairs and chief of delegation; Mr. A. D. McIntosh, secretary of external affairs; Major General C. E. Weir, chief of the General Staff, military adviser; H. E. Foss Shanahan, commissioner for New Zealand in Southeast Asia;

PAKISTAN: Hon. Muzoffar Ali Khan Quisilbash, minister of commerce and chief of delegation; Mr. M. S. A. Baig, foreign secretary; Mr. S. M. Burke, SEATO Council representative and ambassador to Thailand; H. E. Pir Ali Mohammad Rashi, ambassador of Pakistan to the Philippines; Commodore A. Rashid, Pakistan military adviser;

PHILIPPINES: Hon. Felixberto Serrano, secretary of foreign affairs and chief of delegation; Hon. Lorenzo Sumulong, chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Senate; Hon. Ramon Mitra, chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs; House Chairman, Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Ambassador Manuel A. Adeva, Minister Tomas de Castro, Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano;

THAILAND: His Royal Highness Prince Wan Waithayakon Krommum Haradhip Bongsprabandh, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs, and chief of delegation; H. E. Chitti Sucharitakul, Thai ambassador to the Philippines; Mr. Bhusana Abhorn Krairiksh, acting council representative; General Jira Vichitsonggram, military adviser; H. E. Nguyen Dinh Thuan; Police Major General Chamras Mandukananda, adviser; Mr. Sorn S. Antarikananda, adviser; Mr. Chalong Pungtrakul, adviser; Mr. Malai Havanandana, adviser; Colonel Chote Klongvicha;

UNITED KINGDOM: Rt. Hon Selwyn Lloyd, Her Majesty's principal secretary of state for foreign affairs and chief of delegation; H. E. Mr. G. L. Glutton, Her Majesty's ambassador in Manila; H. E. Sir Robert Scott, UK commissioner general in South East Asia; General Sir Francis Festing, commander-in-chief Far East land forces, United Kingdom military adviser (SEATO); Sir Charles Mott-Redelyffe, observer; Mr. O. C. Morland, foreign office; Mr. D. S. Laskey, principal private secretary to the secretary of state; Mr. C. S. Pickard, Commonwealth relations office; Mr. D. Legan, private secretary to the secretary of state;

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Hon. John Foster Dulles, secretary of state and chief of delegation; Hon. U. Alexis Johnson, U. S. ambassador to Thailand, U. S. Council representative; Hon. George V. Allen, director, U. S. Information Agency; Hon. Andrew H. Berding, assistant secretary of state for public affairs; Hon. Charles E. Bohlen, U. S. ambassador to the Philippines; Hon. John Irwin, deputy assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs; Hon. G. Frederick Reinhardt, counselor of the Department of State; Hon. Walter S. Robertson, secretary of state for Far Eastern affairs; Hon. Gerard C. Smith, assistant secretary of state for policy planning; Admiral Felix Stump, commander-in-chief, Pacific, U. S. Navy; Hon. Thomas E. Maughten, director of U. S. Operations Mission to Thailand; Minister Horace H. Smith; Major General Hunter Harris, Jr.;

SEATO SECRETARIAT-GENERAL: H. E. Mr. Pote Sarasin, secretary general; Mr. William Worth, deputy secretary general; Brig. Gen. Alfredo Santos, chief SEATO military planners group.

CHIEFS OF FOREIGN MISSIONS: H. E. Egidio Vagnozzi, apostolic nuncio; H. E. Chen Chih-mai, Chinese ambassador; H. E. Benedetto d'Acunzo, Italian ambassador, H. E. Francisco Javier Conde, Spanish ambassador; H. E. Nazir Dt. Pamontjak, Indonesian ambassador; H. E. Mohinder Singh Chopra, Indian ambassador; H. E. J. Lincoln Hoon Kim, Korean ambassador; H. E. Friedrich L. F. von Furstenberg, German ambassador; H. E. Ferdinand Buckens, Belgian minister; H. E. Cao Thai Bao, Vietnamese minister; H. E. Rogelio Tristany, Argentine minister; H. E. Walter Hofer, Swiss minister; H. E. Reinhard Maria Neubijirg, Netherlands minister; Mr. Masayuki Harigai, charge d'affaires of Japan; Mr. Carlos Gutierrez-Macias, charge d'affaires of Mexico; Mr. Lars Onsager, charge d'affaires of Norway;

THE CABINET: Secretary Jaime Hernandez; Secretary Pedro Tuason, acting Secretary Jose M. Trinidad, Secretary Florencio Moreno, Secretary Manuel Lim, Secretary Angel Castaño, Secretary Jesus Vargas, Secretary Paulino Garcia, Secretary Pedro Hernaez, Secretary Juan Pa jo, Administrator Juan Concon, Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, Administrator Amparo Villamor, Commissioner Madki Alonto, acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison;

CONGRESS LEADERS: Senator Fernando Lopez, Senate president pro tempore; Senator Cipriano Primicias, majority floor leader of the Senate; Rep. Constancio Castañeda, speaker pro tempore; Rep. Jose Aldeguez, majority floor leader of the House; Rep. Bartolome C. Cabangbang, chairman, Committee on National Defense-Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, Fernando Campos, Jose S. Estrada, Manuel G. Zamora, Jose A. Balquiedra, Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, and Major Jose A. Estrella.

PRESIDENT Garcia conferred for the third time last night with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles on various matters of common interest to the Philippines and the United States.

He met Dulles shortly after the state dinner he gave for the foreign ministers of eight nations which attended the fourth SEATO conference. The conference closed today,

Until press time, no details were available from Malacañang on the Garcia-Dulles conference.

It was recalled that President Garcia had wanted the conference kept in complete secrecy, presumably in accordance with the "positive-news" policy he expounded at the National Press Club on two occasions,

March 14.— PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received Reiner Willemsen, co-owner of Holtz & Willemsen, an independent West German oil factory, who suggested that Philippine copra be sun dried or artificially dried but not smoke dried.

Willemsen also suggested that a number of drying stations be constructed in districts most suited for the purpose.

Willemsen made these suggestions in the presence of David K. G. Chan, Far East representative of Gargill, Inc., and Hans H. Hessler, manager of the Manila branch office of the same firm. The firm of Willemsen has been buying Philippine copra since World War II.

Willemsen travelled during the last three weeks throughout the most important coconut-growing areas in the Philippines and observed that copra produced by small farmers are of inferior quality owing to the primitive methods used.

The West German businessman lauded the efforts exerted by the government towards the improvement of copra quality. He warned that the future common European market will prohibit the importation of finished products, such as crude coconut oil with high tariffs, and added that for this reason alone the Philippine Government should give more incentive to the improvement of local copra.

He also told President Garcia that, tackling this problem at its grass roots, thousands of small farmers could be offered the opportunity to dry their copra at modern drying centers and then they could sell their produce at a premium.

The President likewise received Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, who briefed him on the progress of the negotiations on the financing of the Marikina multi-purpose project. Another caller was the Rt. Hon. Walter Nash, prime minister and minister of external affairs and chief of delegation of New Zealand to the Fourth SEATO Council of Ministers' meeting, who presented a gift.

Spanish Ambassador Francisco Javier Conde also called on President Garcia to extend the invitation extended by the Spanish Minister of State to visit Spain as a guest of the government of Generalissimo Francisco Franco, in case the Chief Executive decides to go abroad this year.

Other callers were Jose Corominas, Miss Jovita Fuentes, Rep. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Justice Undersecretary Jesus Barrera, Jose W. Diokno, J. Amado Araneta, M. Silverio, and Jose Lauchengco.

President Garcia today lauded the Medical StudentsVolunteers' Rural Health Project in a simple ceremony that formally launched the second year of the movement.

The President received a plaque of appreciation for his generous and wholehearted support, which has made possible the successful implementation of the project last year, from the committee on awards composed of Director Tranquilino Elicaño of the Bureau of Hospitals; Director Jesus A. Nolasco of the Bureau of Health; Dr. Romeo Atienza, president-elect of the Philippine Medical Association; and Medical Deans Virgilio Ramos of the University of Santo Tomas, Alfredo Ortiz of Manila Central University; and Lauro Panganiban of Far Eastern University.

The movement has for its aims the promotion of the health and well-being of the rural population, as well as the advancement in the training and education of medical students in the field of public health.

The movement is designed to decongest urban medical practice in the future, arouse and awaken barrio people for their apathy and indifference towards healthful living, and gain their confidence in the government, in the fulfillment of the promise of the Administration to improve the health conditions of the remote rural areas.

The President today declared April 9, Bataan Day, as a special public holiday.

April 9 marks the fall of Bataan 16 years ago, which “has become a shining symbol of courage and heroism to all freedom-loving peoples of the world.”

In a proclamation declaring the holiday, the President said that “the commemoration of the Fall of Bataan is a fitting homage to the heroism of Filipino and American forces who fought side by side against overwhelming odds in the epic struggle for democracy and freedom.”

The President called upon all public officials and citizens of the country to observe the day with a one-minute silence at 4:30 p.m. and to hold appropriate religious rites in honor of the heroic defenders of Bataan. He also invited all American nationals residing in the country to participate in the commemoration.

IN the afternoon the President said that no nation can “aspire to the pinnacle of progress without learning and adopting the techniques of manufacturing.”

The President’s statement was contained in a message which was read by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo at the Manila Hotel before a large gathering of delegates to the Fifth National Convention of Manufacturers and Producers. The confab was sponsored by the Philippine Chamber of Industries in connection with the Philippine Industry and NEPA Week celebration.

The President said it was imperative that a nation develop a strong manufacturing economy “to achieve higher living standards and better life for all.”

PRESIDENT Garcia told his weekly press conference this afternoon he will announce the new members of his Cabinet today.

The President had previously planned to meet the Council of Leaders early tomorrow for final consultation on the new appointments.

However, Malacañang said he had abandoned the plan following reports that Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez will be on out-of-town speaking engagements.

Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison said that although President Garcia had cancelled his scheduled meeting with the Council of Leaders, he will nevertheless name new members of his Cabinet sometime tomorrow.

At the same time, the President announced today he is leaving for a state visit to the United States this summer to secure aid to hasten the economic development of the country.

The President finally broke] his silence on his much-speculated US trip and admitted for the first time he was going to Washington this summer.

He said the date of his trip is being set in an exchange of notes between the Philippines and the US governments. He hinted he may go to the States neither in May or June.

The President said a formal announcement will be issued jointly in Manila and in Washington on his trip “next week.”

In disclosing his plan to go to Washington, the President indicated he will secure aid to help straighten out local economy.

Commenting on a report submitted by experts of the International Cooperation Administration claiming that the Philippines could not speed up economic development without external aid, the President said he believed that the findings were “more or less correct.”

He said “I would be indifferent to our local problems, if I did not do something about them when I go to the United States.”

Although the President did not specify the so-called aid he intends to secure from the United States, it was hinted, however, that he may seek an early solution to the Philippine omnibus claim amounting to \$800 million with the US government.

President – Garcia had also planned to secure development loans with the US banks to finance several projects which have lain idle since the Administration launched its austerity program late last year.

At his weekly press conference, the President:

1. Said he was appointing Commissioner of Public Highways Rodolfo Maslog as chairman of the three-man Reparations Commission;
2. Disclosed that Jose W. Diokno had turned down an appointment as solicitor general, vice Ambrosio Padilla, who had been elected senator last November; and
3. Reiterated that the Philippines will recognize the Indonesian rebel government only if it wins in the current civil war and succeeds in establishing a stable form of government worthy of international recognition.

Meanwhile Malacañang also announced the (appointment of Gonzalo W. Gonzalez as chairman of the Social Security System. Gonzalez replaces Rodolfo P. Andal as SSS head.

The President said that to be affected in his Cabinet revamp is the position of press secretary.

Other than his projected US trip, the President refused to comment on his two conferences with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, who was here early this week for the Fourth SEATO Council of Ministers Meeting

He said he was “fairly” satisfied with the outcome of his talks with Dulles.

Commenting on the rebellion in Indonesia, the President reiterated his policy of “strict neutrality” in the crisis which had brought about a shooting civil war there.

He said, however, in reply to a newsman’s question, that the Philippines will recognize the rebel government only if it succeeds in overthrowing the Jakarta regime and in establishing a stable form of government worthy of international recognition.

The President did not comment on the question of whether or not the Philippines will grant asylum to any Indonesian faction which may seek refuge in the country.

“I will answer that question if a request is formally made with our government,” the President said discreetly.

The President also disclosed that the Philippines may be able to purchase only 20,000 metric tons of rice from the United States. He said the Cabinet had authorized the purchase of 100,000 metric tons of US rice under the US Public Act 480.

AFTER the press conference, the President conferred with former Chairman-General Manager Vicentje Orosa of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, who denied he had anything to do with reports he had been relieved of his PHHC post because of his refusal to accommodate some 100 persons recommended by Malacañang.

Former Manager Orosa emphasized to the President he had never made such statement to any representative of the press. He said he had welcomed the acceptance of his long pending resignation, as he had wanted to retire from the government service and lead a life of just "Juan de la Cruz" after so many years.

The President, in the course of the conference, prevailed upon Mr. Orosa to continue serving as chairman off the PHHC board of directors so that the corporation could keep on benefiting from his knowledge and experience. Orosa had been serving both as general manager and chairman of the PHHC board of directors.

The President and Orosa devoted the greater part of their conference to discussion of current problems confronting the PHHC. The President, in turn, thanked the former PHHC manager for bringing to his attention those problems and enabling him to formulate remedies for their solution.

The conference lasted from 7 to 7:30 p.m.

March 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia appointed today Jesus Barrera as secretary of justice to take the place of Secretary Pedro Tuason, who insisted on his retirement.

As of this day, Barrera's appointment is the only change the President has made in his Cabinet.

At the same time, President Garcia gave permanent status to Felixberto M. Serrano as foreign affairs secretary and Guillermo V. Sison as press secretary.

The Chief Executive has retained the following Cabinet members: Jaime Hernandez as finance secretary, Juan de G. Rodriguez as agriculture secretary, Florencio Moreno as public works secretary, Manuel Lim as education secretary, Angel M. Castaño as labor secretary, Jesus Vargas as defense secretary, Paulino Garcia as health secretary, Juan C. Pajo as executive secretary, and Dominador Aytona as budget commissioner.

President Garcia still has under consideration the positions of commerce secretary, economic coordination administrator, and social welfare administrator. Announced on these Cabinet positions will be made later.

Madki Alonto, commissioner of integration, retains his post.

Malacañang also announced that President Garcia would most likely appoint Manila City Fiscal Edilberto Barot as solicitor general.

President Garcia, moreover, issued an executive order today providing for the organization of the Department of General Services in implementation of Reorganization Plan Nos. 4-A, 5-A, 7-A, 8-A, 9-A, upon the recommendation of the Government Survey and Reorganization Commission.

The new department shall consist of the office of the secretary, administrative division, fiscal division, legal division, Bureau of Supply Coordination, Bureau of Building and Real Property Management, Bureau of Records Management, Bureau of Printing, and National Media Production Center.

Gov. Alejandro Almendras or Davao most likely will be appointed secretary of the department in order to give the people of Mindanao greater participation in the national government.

Under the executive order the functions of secretary of general services shall include the following:

(1) Advise the President on the formulation and execution of policies concerning the performance of common administrative services in the various entities of the government; and (2) Administer, coordinate, and direct the assignment, regulation, and performance of the functions related to maintenance, custody, and utilization of buildings and real property; procurement, issuance and utilization of supplies, materials, and equipment; management of government records and documents; and printing and media production services.

The undersecretary shall, among others, advise and assist the secretary in the formulation, determination, and implementation of department policies, and act as secretary in his absence or if the office becomes vacant.

THE President this afternoon reassured the veterans of his ever-increasing concern for their welfare and for the early resolution of the various problems facing the veterans today.

The President's reassurance was given in a speech delivered before the delegates to the premiere convention of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines at the Manila Hotel's petal room this afternoon. (See next issue for the full text of the President's speech.)

After his speech the President was made VFP honorary president in a ceremony which highlighted the opening day of the convention.

The President was fetched from his Quezon City workshop by Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Armed Forces chief of staff. Arriving at the convention hall at exactly 4 p.m., he was greeted by VFP officers headed by Vice-Mayor Jesus Marcos Rocas, acting president.

Earlier, the President held a conference at his workshop with the council of leaders. He also worked on pending state papers.

MALACAÑANG announced today that President Garcia called to Manila Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo from Washington and Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez from Paris, for consultation.

The two ambassadors are scheduled to arrive in Manila sometime next week. President Garcia will discuss with Romulo details of the anticipated trip of the President to the United States. Romulo will also report to the President on the latest development on the importation of American rice.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Month in Review: March 16-31, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

March 16.— PRESIDENT Garcia spent his Sunday quietly in his workshop in Quezon City. He heard mass at about 8 a.m. together with the First Lady and children.

After breakfast the President and Mrs. Garcia strolled in the garden. The President then went to his study and read the Sunday papers.

After luncheon the President had a brief rest. In the evening he went over state papers. He conferred with Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and then issued his statement on the state visit of President Diem on March 19 to Sunday, March 23.

CHAIRMAN Eduardo Z. Romualdez of the Rehabilitation Finance Corporation will remain as acting presiding officer of the National Economic Council until the permanent appointee for that office has been named. Romualdez remains in the Cabinet,

THE following is the text of President Garcia's statement on the occasion according to an announcement issued by Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison today of President Ngo Dinh Diem's state visit to the Philippines:

"The goodwill state visit to the Philippines of President Ngo Dinh Diem opens an era of closer and more cordial relations between the Filipinos and the Vietnamese. We have seen the gallant fight of the Vietnamese for their independence under the leadership of their courageous President Diem. We have witnessed the rise of the Vietnamese Republic and the establishment of a democracy dedicated to the cause of peace and freedom. That young Republic is now gradually establishing economic security for its people.

"During the formative stage of the new Vietnam we have in our humble way, through Operations Brotherhood, helped in the amelioration of the masses of the Vietnamese people, many of whom were thrown out of their homes by reason of the political upheaval at that time. Under the leadership of President Diem, the Vietnamese have the storms and stresses that have characterized the first years of their democratic life, and now we share in the pride that this young Republic has won, not only the recognition but also the admiration and faith" of all the peoples in the free world.

"The Philippines, therefore, feels happy and honored to welcome the distinguished President of South Vietnam on his first state visit to our country on March 19 to 23,"

March 17.—THE PRESIDENT Garcia this morning conferred posthumously on the late President Magsaysay the Golden Heart presidential award in an impressive ceremony held at Malacañang in connection with the first anniversary observance of the death of the late President.

After Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay had received the award, President Garcia spoke briefly and lauded the "great record of devoted and patriotic service to our country" of the late President. He added that the award "stands out as a warm and grateful recognition from our people of the many signal achievements in his lifetime which have all brought about the consummation of the desired objective of returning once again the government to the people."

Present at the ceremony were high government officials led by members of the Cabinet, members of the diplomatic corps led by their Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, members of the Philippines and U. S. armed forces, relatives, friends, and admirers of the late President.

Also present were immediate members of the family of the late President, including his father Don Exequiel Magsaysay, his son Ramon, and daughters Teresita and Milagros.

The President stood at the south end of the ceremonial hall, flanked by Mrs. Garcia, Mrs. Magsaysay, Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal, Don Exequiel Magsaysay, Ramon Magsaysay, Jr., Misses Teresita and Milagros Magsaysay, while members of the diplomatic corps and of the Cabinet stood at the sides.

The citation, read by Col. Emilio O. Borromeo, senior aide-de-camp of the President, dwelt on the “dedicated and patriotic service” to the country of the late President as a guerrilla fighter, military governor of Zambales, congressman, secretary of national defense, and finally as President.

As Secretary of National Defense, the citation read, the late President “proved to the world that the spread of Communism could be effectively contained in the Far East, as it actually was suppressed within our shores through a systematic military campaign waged on the communist Huks, tempered with the implementation of socio-economic reform measures.”

President Garcia received from Salvador M. Buazon, national vice-president of the Barrio Lieutenants of the Philippines, a bust of President Magsaysay made by sculptor Isauro Flaviano, who also presented another bust to Mrs. Magsaysay at Malacañang after the award ceremony.

Earlier, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Pro-Cathedral of San Miguel to hear mass offered by Archbishop Rufino Santos of Manila for the repose of the soul of the late President.

After the ceremony at Malacañang, the President and the First Lady led a pilgrimage to the tomb of President Magsaysay at the North Cemetery. Upon arrival at the cemetery, the President laid a wreath on the tomb amidst a 21-gun salute. Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay and her children followed in laying a wreath on the tomb of the departed leader while taps was played. Honor-guards were mounted around the tomb. Members of the diplomatic corps, ranking government officials, and people from all walks of life gathered around the tomb to pay tribute to the “Guy.”

THE President today received Lions International First Vice-President Dudley L. Simms to whom he gave presidential proclamation No. 493 declaring March 11-17 as Lions Week.

Simms was accompanied to Malacañang by Governor Eugenio Eusebio of the Philippine Lions.

Simms, the incoming president of Lions International, personally brought the Lions’ two-year scholarship offered by Lions International, California Lions, and Nevada Lions, recently accepted by Mrs. Ramon Magsaysay for her son Ramon.

Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason informed President Garcia during his call today that he would turn over his office to newly-appointed Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera.

President Garcia thanked Secretary Tuason for his long and fruitful services to the government. The President; said that Secretary Tuason’s stay as secretary of justice has helped strengthen the faith of the people in the government. He praised the outgoing secretary of justice for his invaluable services to the country and to the people.

The President, after thanking Secretary Tuason, personally directed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to write an official letter thanking Tuason for his services.

PRESIDENT Garcia today marked his first year as Chief Executive of the country with a “quiet dinner” at his new residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

President Garcia invited those who were with him in Canberra, Australia, when he received the shocking news that President Magsaysay died at a plane crash in Cebu and that he was to take over the presidency of the country.

The President then was head of a Philippine delegation to a SEATO conference in Canberra when he got a flash report that he was succeeding President Magsaysay, who had perished in a plane disaster at Mt. Manunggal in Cebu.

Invited to the “reunion” among the members of the presidential entourage to Canberra were Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, chief of staff of the Armed Forces; Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, Assistant Executive Secretary Niconor T. Jimenez, Mrs. Rafaelita Hilario-Soriano, Gov. Rafael Lazatin of Pam-panga, former Press Secretary and Mrs. J. V. Cruz, Artemio A. Garlit of the *Philippines Herald*, Nati Valentin of the *Manila Times*, and Col. Jorge Delarmente, military aide.

Malacañang said that there were other unidentified guests who were invited to join the blessed group.

In his Bohol Avenue residence the President received the officials of the Peace and Amelioration Fund Campaign headed by Manolo Elizalde, who presented a progress report to President Garcia on the drive.

March 18.— THIS morning President Garcia called upon all provincial governors and city mayors to drum up support among the people in their respective localities for the government’s program for self-sufficiency in rice, corn, and other basic needs of the people.

In an extemporaneous address delivered before the provincial and city executives at the opening of their three-day convention at the Malacañang Park this morning, the President outlined his plans of increasing production of food, clothing, and shelter and appealed for general cooperation in the implementation of these plans.

The President asked the provincial and city executives to generate enthusiasm in the campaign being waged by the government for increased production. He said that the local officials were in- the best position to assist in this campaign, as they were the ones directly in contact with the masses.

The Chief Executive devoted a considerable portion of his speech to enumerating various projects earmarked by the government; such as, the establishment of an integrated steel mill, the indoctrination of the people in scientific methods of farming and livestock raising, and other plans aimed at attaining self-sufficiency in basic commodities. He expressed hope that the local officials, irrespective of whatever party they belonged to, would support his program for the good of the country.

The President arrived at the convention hall about 10 a.m. He was accompanied by a five-man committee formed by the conventionists earlier this morning to fetch him from his “workshop” in Quezon City. The committee was composed of Govs. Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, Bernardo Torres of Leyte, Alejandro Almendras of Davao, and Esmeraldo Eco of Camarines Norte, and Mayor Cesar Climaco of Zamboanga City.

Other speakers at this morning’s session were Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who dwelt mainly on the President’s austerity program, and former Gov. Sofronio Quimson, assistant executive secretary for local governments, who delivered the opening remarks. r

After the President’s speech, the conventionists proceeded with the election of officers for the current year. Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal was unanimously elected chairman of the league.

The Chief Executive spoke before the governors find city mayors after the luncheon he tendered in their honor in Malacañang.

President Garcia came out in favor of synchronizing elections even as he urged governors and city mayors to generate enough congressional support to insure its approval.

The President said that even when he was still a senator he was in favor of the idea, saying that one election every four years would be enough.

The President cited the move in Congress to give senators a district so that they could have a specific area of service, saying that he was in favor of restoring the former senatorial districts. However, he pointed out the obstacles, constitutional in character, that bar the approval of the synchronization of elections.

First of all, he said, a constitutional amendment must be approved to extend the term of the senators to 8 years, instead of the present 6 years, and hold elections for 12 senators every 4 years.

Pointing out that this is the only way to synchronize elections, the President expressed his doubts, however, that Liberal solons would agree to it. Other after-luncheon speakers were Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, chairman of the League of Governors and City Mayors; Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon, vice-chairman of the League; and Gov. Dominador Chipeco of Laguna, secretary of the League.

The three LGCM officials promised to implement the food production campaign of the administration and pleaded for more local autonomy.

Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez declared that they were in favor of granting more autonomy to local governments. Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo acted as toastmaster.

After the luncheon, President Garcia administered the oath of office to Gov. Rodriguez, City Mayor Ganzon, and Gov. Chipeco. Other LGCM officers elected at the opening day of the convention held at the Malacañang recreation hall who were absent during the occasion were Gov. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, treasurer; Gov. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, PRO; and Basilan City Mayor Leroy Brown, sergeant-at-arms.

In the afternoon session, Ramon Binamira, head of the PACD lectured on the master plan for increased food production. The League adjourned at 4:30 p.m. They will resume their meet tomorrow at 8 a.m.

Presidential callers this day were former Sen. Francisco Delgado, Oscar Arellano, and Reps. Canuto M. S. Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, Benjamin T. Ligot and Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Faustino Tobia and Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo, Francisco Ortega of La Union, Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, and Jose Moreno of Romblon.

The President held a conference with Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona and Rep. Tobias Former of Antique, chairman of the House committee on appropriations, with whom he discussed budgetary matters.

March 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia, in welcoming Vietnam President Ngo Dinh Diem this morning, said that it was “an honor to have you the leader of the Viet Nam people and defender of freedom and democracy, with us.”

The President said that he was looking forward to a hearty conversation with President Diem on the reaffirmation and strengthening of the close relationship between the Philippines and Viet Nam.

In his reply to the President at the Manila International Airport a few minutes after his arrival, President Diem said that “it is with a deep sense of emotion and delight that I set foot on this, land of freedom.” President Diem praised President Garcia as “a man who has an impressive record as a champion of the cause of freedom not only in his country, but also throughout the Free World, and to whom the Filipino people entrusted the task of continuing the work left unfinished by your predecessor.”

President Diem and his party arrived at 11 a.m. at the Manila International Airport on board of four engine Air Viet Nam plane which was escorted by six PAF mustangs. President Garcia, who led high government officials and members of the diplomatic corps in welcoming the Viet Nam chief of state, arrived at the MIA at 10: 50 a.m.

First to board the plane carrying president Diem when it stopped in front of the MIA building was President Garcia followed by his aide, Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, and Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, A few minutes after President

Garcia stepped down the plane, President Diem, dressed in the Viet Nam national costume, followed and was met with a warm applause by the welcomers.

President Garcia introduced the Viet Nam President to the ranking government officials, including Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, and members of the Cabinet, members of the diplomatic corps, and the top brass of the Armed Forces led by Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano. Members of the Philippine Jaycees were also at the airport. After the introductions, the National Anthem of Viet Nam was played amidst the booms of a 21-gun salute.

A composite company of men of the Philippine Army, the Philippine Navy, and the Philippine Air Force served as the honor guard. After the playing of the Viet Nam National Anthem, President Diem and President Garcia, with Lieut. Gen. Arellano and Brig. Gen. Le Van Kim, aide to President Diem, inspected the guard of honor. The Philippine National Anthem was played after the inspection of the guard of honor.

Proceeding to the improvised platform, President Garcia and President Diem delivered their messages of welcome and response. President Diem expressed the belief that his visit here would be "most inspiring and will contribute to strengthen still further the very happy and brotherly relations existing between our two countries."

Members of President Diem's party included Vu Mau, secretary of state for foreign affairs; Tran Huu The, secretary of state for national education; Bui Van Luong, high commissioner general for agricultural development; Quach Tong Due, director of Cabinet of the President; Hoang Thuc Dam, director of protocol; Brig. Gen. Le Van Kim, aide-de-camp; Vo Van Hai, chief of Cabinet of the President; and Ton That Thien, press secretary to the President.

From the airport after the ceremonies, President Garcia and President Diem boarded a cream colored *Cadillac* top-down with plate No. 1 and headed a motorcade to Malacañang passing through Dewey Boulevard, Taft Avenue, Escolta, Rizal Avenue, Azcarraga, and Aviles streets.

President Garcia and President Diem arrived at Malacañang at 12:30 p.m.

President Garcia was conferred by visiting President Ngo Dinh Diem with the *Kim Khanh*, the highest decoration within the gift of the Viet Nam Government, in a ceremony held in Malacañang shortly before lunch today.

President Diem, in conferring the award, said: "It gives me great pleasure in presenting to you the *Kim, Khanh* as a token of the friendship of the Vietnamese people and in acknowledgement of your services in the cause of Filipino-Vietnamese friendship."

President Garcia responded: "It is to me a great pleasure as well as an honor to receive this decoration which your government has deemed appropriate to confer upon me and, subject to approval by Congress, I shall vocally accept it. I hope it will grow in significance as our friendship and our relations grow closer and warmer."

The *Kim Khanh* consisted of medals in the form of miniature gold crowns. Its presentation which was held at Malacañang's ceremonial hall was witnessed by Mrs. Garcia, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos' members of President Diem's party, and Philippine Government high officials.

Escorted by a fleet of motorcycle cops and prowl cars' of the Manila Police Department, Presidents Garcia and Diem arrived at Malacañang about 12:30 p.m. at the head of along motorcade from the airport. They rode in an open, gray convertible.

The visiting Viet Nam President inspected an honor guard formed by Companies A and B of the presidential guard battalion, which played the Vietnamese and Filipino national anthems.

After acknowledging the raffles and flourishes offered by the honor guard, President Diem was accompanied up the Palace by President Garcia.

At the music room the President offered a toast to the “continued good health” of his guest. The toast was made with *basi*, which has become the official ceremonial wine in Malacañang.

After a brief exchange of pleasantries at the music room, President Diem was shown to his room on the northeast corner of the Palace. About 1 p.m. Presidents Garcia and Diem were at the ceremonial hall for the award presentation ceremonies which lasted about 10 minutes.

President and Mrs. Garcia were later presented with a laminated bamboo wind screen, with a lacquered painting of a typical Vietnamese rural scene. Said to be the third of its kind produced in Viet Nam the first having been presented to the President of Korea and the second to the King of Thailand, the wind screen is said to last for centuries.

President Garcia had lunch with his visitor at the state dining hall. With them at the lunch table were Mrs. Garcia, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, and Vu Van Mau, Viet Nam secretary of state for foreign affairs.

President and Mrs. Garcia gave a state dinner in honor of visiting President Ngo Dinh Diem of Viet Nam at the social hall in Malacañang in the evening.

President Liem’s party who were present at the dinner were Va Van Mau, secretary of states for foreign affairs; Tran Huu The, secretary of state for national education; Bui Van Luang, high commissioner for agricultural development;. Quach Tong Due, director de Cabinet of the President Hoang Thuc Dam, director of protocol; General Le Van Kim, presidential aide-de-camp; Vo Van Hai, the chief de Cabinet of the President; Ton That Thien, press secretary; and Dr. Bui Kien Tin, personal physician of President Diem.

Vice-President and Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal, Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, and Chief Justice Ricardo Paras; the chief of foreign missions; Cabinet members, Congress leaders and their ladies, and top brass of the Armed and U. S. Army were invited to the state dinner.

March 20.— PRESIDENT Garcia was kept busy the whole day today attending to his state visitor, President Ngo Dinh Diem of Viet Nam.

President Diem, who arrived Wednesday, is the house guest of the President at Malacañang.

However, the Vietnamese Chief of State had breakfast alone in his room, while the President had his with the members of his family.

In the morning, the President motored to his residence in Quezon City to wait for President Diem, who was moving from Malacañang to the house on Bohol Avenue.

President Diem, on the other hand, went to Camp Murphy, where he was honored by the Armed Forces.

After the Camp Murphy ceremonies, the President received President Diem at his residence.

IN the evening, the President and the First Lady motored to the Vietnamese Embassy in Forbes Park, where President Diem gave a dinner in honor of the First Couple.

At the dinner Mrs. Garcia was given a corsage by President Diem.

It was the second dinner the two residents had in two’ days since President Diem’s arrival in Manila.

The two presidents conferred at the anteroom of President Garcia's Bohol Avenue residence. They exchanged views on matters of mutual interest between the Philippines and Viet Nam. A joint statement will be issued later by the two presidents prior to President Diem's departure for Saigon.

President Garcia thanked President Ngo Dinh Diem for making possible the importation by the Philippines of 30,000 tons of rice from Saigon. He also thanked the Vietnamese President for donating some rice to the Philippine Government for distribution among the needy.

President Garcia thanked President Diem after Ambassador Mariano Ezpeleta had informed him last night that through the intervention of President Diem, the Philippines had succeeded in importing 30,000 tons of Vietnamese rice.

According to Ezpeleta, the Philippines could not have imported the total of 30,000 tons of rice because of government regulations limiting the amount of rice to be exported per quarter.

It was through the personal intercession of President Diem, Ezpeleta said, that an exception was made, allowing the approval of the Philippine importation of the needed amount of rice.

President Diem arrived at the residence of President Garcia at 9:20 a.m. after attending the ceremonies in his honor at Camp Murphy. President and Mrs. Garcia greeted him at the entrance of their residence. President Garcia then personally conducted President Diem to his room and later on showed him the other parts of the house. Then the two presidents went into a huddle. The conference lasted from 9:35 to 10:15 a.m.

March 21.—HIGH officers of the Philippine Copra Exporters Association today informed President Garcia of their determination to increase the volume of exports in order to bolster the dollar reserves of the country and strengthen the national economy.

Led by their president, Tommy Qua, members of the board of directors of the association presented a resolution to the Chief Executive promising to cooperate with the Administration.

After receiving the resolution, President Garcia expressed his gratitude for the promised cooperation.

In promising to increase the tonnage of copra export to the United States, Europe, and other countries, the association members informed the President that a goal of from 30,000 to 40,000 tons of copra was set for export within 20 days.

The association placed at the disposal of President Garcia its facilities in the solution of the problems of the country, particularly the need for the immediate purchase of rice and other basic foodstuffs, consistent with existing rules and regulations of the Central Bank.

Other PCEA officers who saw President Garcia were C. Richard, first vice-president; J. Jacobi, second vice-president; M. Igual, J. Lim, C. L. Tan, F. Tussing, directors; and J. Collas, PCEA secretary Jose Corominas, B. Rocca, and N. T. Whitting accompanied the group.

Earlier this morning, President Garcia saw Victor Laurel, president of the Worldwide Progressive Company, Leonardo Padilla, and Alfredo R. Gomez. The callers informed the President of their plan to establish a plant to exploit a new process to utilize the food value of the coconut.

The President also received Michael Tsur, director of foreign trade of Israel, who presented on behalf of President Ben Zvi a silver and gold chess set. Tsur was accompanied by Israeli Consul General Ernest E. Simke.

Ambassador Horace Smith called on the President before leaving on Tuesday for his new post at Laos. President and Mrs. Garcia are honoring Ambassador Smith with a farwell breakfast on Monday.

Other presidential callers were Andres Castillo, deputy governor of the Central Bank; Marcial P. Lichauco; A. G. Norrhan, managing director of Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd. of London; M. C. Fitz Gerald, Southeast Asia sales manager of the same firm; Mrs. Mary Ford; and Mr. and Mrs. A. J. McGuire of California.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon branded as “absolutely baseless” charges of alleged anomalies in the implementation of the reparations agreement, but refused to comment on the departure at noon of two congressmen on a fact-finding trip to Japan.

At his weekly press conference, the President said he had “very little to do with the reparations schedules.”

The President’s statement was apparently intended to exculpate himself from charges of irregularities even as he emphatically denied there is “such a reparations mess.”

President Garcia devoted a great portion of his press conference to explaining that reparations schedules were prepared by the “ad interim” reparations office and approved by both the Cabinet and the Council of State.

At the same time, the President said he will meet the Council of Leaders next week to discuss the composition of the three-man Reparations Commission.

He said he is considering the appointment of a political lame-duck, possibly former Sen. Jose Locsin, to the reparations body.

The President told newsmen he was in favor of appointing “lameducks” to non-Cabinet positions, depending on their “ability and integrity.” At the press conference the President also:

1. Said that while the Philippines is an Asian country and is a part of Asia, this does not preclude her from associating with the West, especially with the countries to which she is historically linked—the United States and Spain.
2. Indicated he may go to Europe after his state visit to the United States on June 16;
3. Claimed as “unnecessary a proposal in Congress to have the nominations of holdover Cabinet members submitted to the Commission of Appointments for re-confirmation; and
4. Inducted Guillermo V. Sison as press secretary.

In explaining the reparations schedules, the President pointed out that the Reparations Commission was created by law only last June.

He said that in the presentation to Japan of the last two schedules, his participation was “merely in the capacity of a Cabinet member,” as the then vice-president and secretary of foreign affairs.

The President also pointed out that rules and regulations have been adopted to govern the preparations of the yearly schedules.

He took occasion of the news conference to praise the work of Minister Caesar Z. Lanuza, head of the Reparations Mission in Tokyo.

“I believe he has been implementing the reparations agreement very well,” the President said.

However, President Garcia refused to comment on the trip of Reps. Francisco Ortega of La Union and Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, who left for Japan shortly before noon today.

The two* solons went to Tokyo to conduct an on-the-spot inquiry into disposition of the reparations items. They make up a bipartisan team, to check on the reparations instalment.

House members had asked the President to recall Lanuza to Manila to testify on the disposal of war indemnity good. However, they abandoned the plan and instead decided to send the bipartisan team to Japan.

March 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia and Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo this morning exchanged views on all questions concerning Philippine-American relations which, it was understood, would be discussed by President Garcia during his forthcoming state visit to the United States. They also discussed the details of the President's trip to the United States.

Ambassador Romulo, who had been called to Manila by the President, arrived early this morning by plane. Immediately upon arrival, he proceeded to President Garcia's residence on Bohol Avenue. He arrived there before 8 a.m. A few minutes later, the President arrived from Malacañang and then invited the Ambassador for breakfast. Present at the breakfast were Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

After the breakfast, the President, Ambassador Romulo, and Secretary Pajo went to the President's anteroom and resumed their talks behind closed doors.

Ambassador Romulo presented to the President a gift consisting of a chess set suitable for use during airplane trips. Together with the chess set was a time clock for chess players.

The conference started from 8 a.m. at breakfast and lasted up to 10:30 a.m. After the breakfast, President Garcia received Reps. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Bartolome Cabangbang, Maximino Garcia, and Natalio Castillo, all of Bohol, with whom he discussed matters pertaining to their respective districts.

The President ate his lunch at his residence. In the afternoon he returned to Malacañang and went over state papers.

March 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia and President Ngo Dinh Diem of Viet-Nam issued a joint communique after holding their final talks this morning.

Earlier in the morning a mass was held at the Malacañang chapel attended by President and Mrs. Garcia and President Diem, together with Vietnamese Ambassador Cao Thai Bao and some members of his entourage. Also present were Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos.

AFTER the mass, the President accompanied President Diem to the Palace. Before entering the family dining room, President Diem presented to Mrs. Garcia a token sack of rice representing President Diem's donation of rice for poor and needy families.

Breakfast was served at the family dining room. After breakfast, President Garcia presented President Diem and ranking members of his entourage with souvenirs. President Garcia also presented President Diem with an album containing a pictorial account of his visit. The album was prepared by the Malacañang press office.

Before leaving the Palace, President Diem thanked President and Mrs. Garcia for their hospitality. President Diem then motored to the residence of President Garcia on Bohol Avenue where some ceremonies were held. From there President Diem proceeded to the Manila International Airport, where he boarded his plane for Saigon.

President Garcia motored to the Manila International Airport this morning, arriving there at 10:15 to bid goodbye to President Diem, who had been his house guest during Diem's state visit to the Philippines. President Diem and his entourage arrived at the airport five minutes later.

Upon Diem's arrival a 21-gun salute was fired. President Garcia and President Diem then mounted an improvised platform to receive military honors. First, the Vietnamese National Anthem was played. It was followed by the Philippine National Anthem.

President Diem then shook hands with the members of the diplomatic corps and other Philippine officials who had assembled at the airport to see him off. President Garcia accompanied President Diem to the ramp of President Diem's plane where they shook hands. President Diem thanked President Garcia for the hospitality accorded him during his stay here and President Garcia wished President Diem *bon voyage*.

Before entering his plane, Diem faced the people at the airport and waived his hand. The plane carrying President Diem taxied out of the airport at 10: 30 a.m., the scheduled time of its departure.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to look into the reason why Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco's letter to Secretary Pajo had not been received by the executive secretary although it was reportedly receipted for at the Records Division of Malacañang.

The President said that after an investigation of the case, the person who may be found remiss in the performance of his duty would be properly dealt with.

President Garcia gave this directive upon reading Sen. Cuenco's statement in the newspapers refuting Secretary Pajo's assertion that he had not received Sen. Cuenco's letter to him. Cuenco, according to news reports, attached a photostat copy of the return registry receipt showing that the letter had been received at the Malacañang Records Division.

Secretary Pajo earlier had denied receiving the Cuenco letter.

The President also ordered this morning all government relief agencies to rush aid to the fire victims in Iloilo City.

The President's order was given upon receiving reports that a fl million fire had hit Iloilo City, rendering many families homeless.

Ordered to coordinate in the distribution of relief goods were the Social Welfare Administration and the Philippine National Red Cross.

The President also ordered the Constabulary to maintain order in the fire stricken area and to determine the extent of damage wrought by the conflagration.

The Department of Health was also ordered to extend medical aid to the fire victims.

President Garcia this day started his yearly two-week fasting.

During his first day of fast, the President took water with only a dash of sugar.

At the breakfast which President and Mrs. Garcia gave in honor of President Diem, President Garcia did not take anything but water.

The President fasts annually as a health measure which he has been observing the past several years.

March 24.— THIS morning the President urged coconut producers to take A the necessary steps to take advantage of scientific discoveries about the nutritive value of coconuts and to assume the initiative in research. He assured them of government help in this respect.

The President cited the progress made by the sugar industry through scientific research with government help. He expressed the hope that coconut producers would seize the initiative for progress.

At the same time, President Garcia approved in principle the recommendation made by Gov. Juan Triviño of Camarines Sur, president of the Philippine Coconut Producers Federation, that producers be allowed to barter copra outside the Philippines so that funds could be raised for the establishment of a research center and the purchase of machinery for the industrialization of the coconut industry.

The President spoke extemporaneously at the opening day of the sixth national convention of the Philippine Coconut Producers Federation held at the Manila Hotel's Winter Garden.

By *viva voce* vote, President Garcia was named honorary president of the federation, upon motion of Davao delegate Roque Monfort, seconded by another Davao delegate, Angel Villarica.

The President suggested that copra producers exert more effort to seize more of the European market where Philippine copra is finding more buyers owing to the improvement of its quality and displacing those of other countries.

The President decried that until now no report had been submitted on the progress of operations of the Hiller machine. He urged the conventionists to study the means to solve the marketing problem facing the coconut industry.

Earlier in the morning, President and Mrs. Garcia gave a farewell breakfast in honor of American Ambassador Horace C. Smith, who is leaving soon for his new post in Laos.

PRESIDENT Garcia administered the oath of office to former Gov. Bernardo Torres of Leyte as general manager of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, vice former Public Works Secretary Vicente Orosa, retired, in a ceremony held at Malacañang this afternoon.

In inducting Torres the President said that the PHHC was considered one of the most important branches of the social services program of the Administration. He said that its success so far has been due to the interest of the Administration in uplifting the lot of the masses.

Stating that the PHHC should carry on until every citizen of this country owns a home in accordance with his means, the President continued: "A man who lives in his own house acquires a better perspective in life, develops a sense of self-reliance, and brightens his chances of advancement. That is why the housing program is considered one of the most essential services of the government."

The President then impressed upon the PHHC officials, particularly the new inductee, the enormity of their responsibilities. He cautioned them to be careful in carrying on with the installment system of home-acquisition to prevent the possible breakdown of the corporation.

Manager Torres, in turn, thanked the President for the opportunity given him to serve in such a responsible position. He said he considered it a challenge and promised to do his best to measure up to the responsibilities of the post.

The President also inducted this afternoon officers and members of the supreme council of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines. Among those inducted were Col. Jose Razon, president; Ben Florentino, executive vice-president; Col. Nicanor Jimenez, Jose del Rosario, and Jose Ma. Barredo, vice-presidents; Col. C. B. Rigor, secretary general; Augusto Espiritu, treasurer general; Col. Daniel Victoria, auditor; and the following council members: Vice-Mayor Jesus: Marcos Roces of Manila, Antonio Varias, Fausto Alberto, Tereso Pia, Francisco Offemaria, Col. Dionisio Ojeda, Eugenio Recto, Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Col. Jose G. Arambulo, and Onesimo Soriano.

Present at the oath-taking of Manager Torres were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Rep. Dominador Tan of Leyte, NAWASA General Manager Susano Negado, and the following PHHC officials: Directos Salud Pareño and Isidro Retiroz; Benjamin Gray, board secretary; Jacobo de Vera, assistant general manager, Vicente Mercado, treasurer; and Jose Barce, Simeon Garcia and Jesus Merritt, technical assistants.

The President appealed this afternoon to the nation's scientists for united and concerted effort to resolve the current economic problems of the country through science and technology.

In his brief extemporaneous remarks before reading a prepared speech in the ceremony held at Malacañang social hall ushering in the 1858 National Science Week, the President outlined his plan to harness the collective know-how available in this country towards attaining self-sufficiency in essential items; such as food, clothing, and shelter

The President was introduced by Commander Marcelino Calinawan, Jr., (PN), who called the President's attention that among the personages gathered to witness, the ceremony were industrialists, agriculturists, legislators, scientists, engineers, and educators.

The President replied: "With the array of personages I see before me, I feel more confident than ever that there is no impossibility to the solution of our economic problems."

The ceremony was featured by the President's disseminating the staccato sound effect of atomic radiation over the air for one-half minute with the aid of a scientific gadget. The proceedings were broadcast by radio stations by remote control from Malacañang.

FIFTEEN Nacionalista senators this evening assured President Garcia of speedy action on 24 administration measures which he had referred to Congress for legislative implementation.

The senators' assurance was made at a dinner-conference held this evening with President Garcia at the latter's residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable said late in the evening that President Garcia's meeting with the senators was cordial and discounted early reports that the solons would convert the dinner into a "gripe session."

It was learned that the senators had agreed to take immediate action on the President's request for a price control law in an effort to arm him with powers to go after profiteers and hoarders.

At the same time, the senators promised to take up the budget as soon as the House approves the general appropriations bill.

President Garcia and the senators also agreed to consider "integrity and capability" as the overriding qualifications in the choice of the membership of the three-man Reparations Commission.

The President pointed out that "integrity and capability" should be the main consideration in the choice of members of the Reparations Commission following reports that many candidates have been recommended for this body.

The President, it was learned, was considering the appointment of former Sen. Jose Locsin to head the commission.

Others mentioned to compose the reparations body are Commissioner on Public Highways Rodolfo Maslog, Gov. Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, Gregorio Abad, Francisco Ortigas, Jr., and Judge Jesus de Veyra.

The President and the senators took up the case of Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco, staunch critic of President Garcia and Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo. Some senators defended Cuenco during the conference, while others took the cudgels for Secretary Pajo.

Cuenco boycotted the meeting saying that he did not want to embarrass the President and the senators with his presence. The Cebu solon said that he wanted the Chief Executive and the senators to take up his case “freely.”

At the dinner conference this evening the President and the senators also agreed to appoint the undersecretaries of foreign affairs and of justice next week.

Present at the conference last night were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, and Sens. Cipriano Primicias, Oscar Ledesma, Lorenzo Sumulong, Francisco Rodrigo, Eulogio . Balao, Quintin Paredes, Ale jo Mabanag, Domocao Alonto, Emmanuel Pelaeiz, Edmundo Cea, Gil J. Puyat, Pedro Sab’ido, Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez, and Decoroso Rosales.

March 25.— MEMBERS of the League of Provincial Governors and City Mayors, led by their president, Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, this morning presented President Garcia with a resolution approved during their recent convention lauding the appointment of Juan C. Pajo as executive secretary.

In approving the resolution, the provincial and city executives cited the distinguished government career of Secretary Pajo as provincial fiscal, provincial board member, and provincial governor, as well as his tact, diplomacy, and courtesy in his dealing with government officials and the general public in his present job.

In another resolution presented to the President, the League members pledged an all-out cooperation in the effective and successful implementation of the food production campaign of President Garcia.

Members of the League who saw the President were Govs. Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, Mariano Peñaflorida of Iloilo, Cnrado Estrella of Pangasinan, Jose Briones of Cebu, Fernando Veloso of Samar, Diego Ty Deling of Oriental Misamis, Dominador Chipeco of Laguna, Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Marcelo Adduru of Cagayan, Jesus Almero of Masbate, Marcos Malupa of Batanes, Leon Fernandez of Sulu, Esmeraldo Eco of Camarines Norte, Serafin Teves of Negros Oriental, Bienvenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Alfredo Abueg, of Palawan, and Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, and City Mayors Teopisto Cordova of Bacolod, Leroy Brown of Basilan, and Jose Dorado of Roxas.

Reps. Pascual Espinosa, Domitilo Abordo, and Pedro Trono and Gov. Peñaflorida, all of Iloilo, in separate conferences with President Garcia, asked for more funds for the fire victims of Iloilo City.

The Chief Executive stated that he would look for funds for the fire victims and added that he had no more contingent funds.

The Iloilo solons told the President that the recent fire was the biggest ever to hit Iloilo City.

President Garcia also received Lady Olave Baden-Powel, world chief guide, who had arrived by plane in the course of a round the world trip. The widow of the founder of the Boy Scouts movement was accompanied to Malacañang by high officials of the Girl Scouts of the Philippines. Miss Betty Haugh, secretary to Lady Powell, was with the group.

The GSP officials who accompanied the distinguished visitor were Mesdames Concepcion R. Gonzales, Angelina Chipeco, Pilar Hidalgo-Lim, Mary Kalaw-Katigbak, Geronima T. Pecson, Trinidad F. Legarda, and Concepcion Gil.

President Garcia approved the immediate purchase of eight vitally needed fire and rescue trucks for distribution to important local airports, Malacañang announced today.

Responding to the need of local airports for fire fighting and rescue equipment of the specialized nature, the President had earlier ordered the immediate release of the fund appropriated by Congress in 1953 for the procurement of fire and rescue trucks.

It will be recalled that the Cabinet had approved the procurement of fire and rescue trucks through the Philippine Procurement Mission in New York. The Civil Aeronautics Administration has been negotiating for the fire and rescue trucks since last year.

Major Arturo D. Sevilla, Malacañang technical adviser on aviation, had been designated to follow up the early procurement of the much needed equipment. The eight fire and rescue trucks will be distributed to the airports in Manila, Cebu, Baguio, Bacolod, Zamboanga, Iloilo, Cagayan de Oro, and Naga.

THE President this day reprimanded Edilberto Y. David, deputy collector of customs (airport) and former acting commissioner of customs, saying that the evidences submitted to substantiate the charges against the former acting customs commissioner were “not of such nature as to warrant the taking of drastic disciplinary action against the respondent.”

In an administrative order reprimanding David, the President warned the respondent that the commission of similar acts in the future will be dealt with more severely. David had been charged with, and investigated for, (1) maladministration, (2) conduct prejudicial to the service, (3) corruption in office, and (4) moral unfitness in public office.

The President said that after a thorough review of the records of the case, he was satisfied with the explanations offered by the respondent except that he (David) overstepped his powers by interfering with functions properly belonging to the collector of customs in connection with the case of a certain shipment of undeclared saccharine and jewelry involved in the first charge, and that he made a poor choice of occasion in boarding a ship owned by a strike-bound company for his inspection trip to the South embraced in the second charged.

The President further said that with regard to the third charge, David had already been properly rebuked while he was arrastre superintendent in 1949. The fourth charge, according to the findings, had not been properly established.

THIS afternoon the President appealed to the members of the Chamber of Agriculture and Natural Resources to help the greater production of the country's prime necessities: food, shelter, and clothing. He laid stress on food production and the exploitation of the natural resources and mineral deposits “so that we can attain economic security.”

The President was guest speaker at the first convention of the CANRP at the Manila Hotel.

“We must do first things first and there is nothing more urgent than the matter of food because the average man needs three meals a day,” the President said.

Citing food, shelter, and clothing as the three fundamental necessities of life, the President said that agriculture was an institution created by man to answer his need for food, shelter, and clothing. “I am appealing for help to a composite group that can produce all the necessities of life,” the President remarked.

Touching first on the subject of increased food production, the President said that modern methods of technology should be applied,, including more irrigation systems, fertilizers, insecticides, and selected seeds for planting. He urged the bringing down of the cost of production as the best means of helping the farmers. He said that the giving of a price support of ₱12 per cavan of palay would be perpetuating the high cost of production. He stated that if the farmers would be able to produce 100 cavans of palay per hectare instead of 21 cavans, the cost of the production of rice would be reduced to about one-fourth of the present ₱. 81 per ganta. This, the President said, would mean lower cost of rice and more profit for the producers.

As regards natural resources and mineral deposits, the President cited the fact that the Philippines was importing as much as ₱300 million worth of construction materials every year “in spite of our rich forests and mineral deposits.”

The President told the CANRP members that the government was establishing integrated steel industry in order to process local iron ore but only on a pioneering basis to prepare private firms and nationals to take over when they were prepared for the job. He appealed to the CANRP members to “help in this movement so that you will be able to prepare yourselves when you take over.”

Speaking extemporaneously, the President also touched on the development of the textile industry and said that it was experimentally proven that we could produce raw materials, especially cotton for the textile industry. He called upon the farmers to help in the raising of raw cotton and other raw materials for the textile industry.

On other matters which included foreign exchange, controls, and marketing brought to his attention by the CANRP members, the President counselled them “to approach the problems with caution.” He assured them that he would give a firm decision on the said matters after a thorough study.

Arriving at the Manila Hotel with Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison about 5 p.m., the President was met by officials of the CANRP led by Alfredo Montelibano, president. From the lobby, the President proceeded to the Winter Garden, where the convention was held.

Before he spoke, the President inducted the members of the board of directors of the CANRP, among whom were Mario Moreno, Alberto Dimayuga, Juan Ledesma, Gov. Juan Trivihio of Camarines Sur, Felix Maramba, Benjamin Guiang, Manuel Gallego, Alex Reyes, Jr., Jose Mapa Gomez, Juan T. David, and Conrado S. Ramirez.

The President was flanked on the platform by Sen. Oscar Ledesma, Montelibano, Moreno, and Gov. Trivifio, and the other officers of the chamber.

President Garcia today said, “I have no plans to change General Carlos P. Romulo as ambassador to Washington.”

Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison said the President made this statement in view of some news reports giving the impression that Ambassador Romulo might be affected by the plans to reshuffle Philippine diplomatic personnel.

According to reports, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano said that he had left entirely in the hands of the President the question of the diplomatic assignment of Ambassador Romulo in Washington.

Sison said that this statement was interpreted in some quarters as meaning to say that Romulo might be affected by the projected reshuffle of diplomatic personnel.

March 26.— PRESIDENT Garcia this morning motored to his Quezon City residence, where he conferred with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona on the f 1.2 billion budget he had proposed for the next fiscal year.

The budget is now with the House of Representatives. Rep. Tobias Fornier, chairman of the House appropriations committee, has recommended its approval but some dissenting voice has been heard.

Aytona assured the President that Rep. Fornier and other Nacionalista solons are taking the cudgels for the budget measure and its approval in the House is expected before the Congress recesses for the Holy Week.

The President’s conference with Aytona lasted up to almost noontime. He did not receive any other caller until lunchtime.

The President, on his fourth day of fasting, rested in the forenoon.

He motored back to Malacañang shortly before four o’clock and presided over the Cabinet meeting.

During the Cabinet meeting, the President signed an executive order fixing the office hours during the summer season from 7:30 in the morning to 12:30 in the afternoon.

The summer schedule will be enforced from April 1 to June 15.

The President was elated by reports that the Monetary Board had lifted its dollar restrictions in the importation of essential commodities. He said that the MB action proved that the government had “taken the right path” in launching its austerity program late last year.

He congratulated Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez during the Cabinet meeting for the MB action. Hernandez is concurrently MB chairman. The President concluded his Cabinet meeting at 8 o’clock and retired to his new residence in Quezon City for the night.

March 27.—THIS morning, the President received Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, who called to say goodbye prior to his return to his post in Washington D.C. During their brief conference, the President and Romulo discussed further details of the President’s forthcoming visit to the United States.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening received Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, who rendered a preliminary verbal report on the result of his mission. Members of his mission were Benjamin Gozon, director of mines, in Surigao.

Secretary Rodriguez informed the President that American capitalists had indicated to him their willingness to invest some \$100 million for the development of the Nonoc mines. Rodriguez said he would submit a formal written report on the matter at the earliest possible time.

The President said he was very glad to know of the favorable reaction shown by American businessmen on the development of the mines which would be a great source of dollars for the Philippines and at the same time provide employment to the people.

Rodriguez recently returned from a few months abroad as head of a mission. Members of his mission were Benjamin Gozon, director of mines, and Leopoldo Abad.

The President this evening also received officials of the Department of Health headed by Secretary Paulino Garcia, who reported some of the effects of the recent implementation of the reorganization plan of their department as recently effected by the President through an executive order.

Secretary Garcia explained that with the decentralization of his department, health services had been brought closer to the people. His explanations were graphically illustrated by charts.

March 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning had a breakfast conference with ranking officials of the Mindanao-Palawan-Sulu Association who made a formal bid for more participation in the national government.

Headed by Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez, president of the association, the MPSA officials told the President that to implement more effectively the development of Mindanao, Palawan, and Sulu able men from these areas should be in the national government.

The President assured his guests that he will give the matter a serious consideration. He also told the MPSA officials to submit the names of their recommendees with their respective qualifications and experiences.

Present at the breakfast conference were Sens. Roseller T. Lim and Domacao Alonto; Reps. Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, and Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan; Govs. Alejandro Almendras of Davao, Diego Ty Deling of Misamis Occidental, and Vicente’ Lara of Misamis Oriental; and City Mayors Carmelo Porras of Davao City and Leroy Brown of Basilan City.

Also discussed at the conference were the general conditions of Mindanao and Sulu, particularly, peace and order and smuggling problems in these regions.

The breakfast conference lasted from 8 to 9:30 a.m.

THE President this day directed Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno to find means to release ₱1 million in order to rush the completion of the ramie textile mills of the National Development Company in Davao.

The establishment of the NDC ramie textile mill had been authorized under the bond issue at a cost of ₱8 million, with the NDC advancing about ₱3 million from its operating capital.

In order to finish the construction of the buildings, the NDC entered into a financing plan with the RFC, which in turn requested the Monetary Board to release the amount needed for the purpose.

However, the Monetary Board denied the RFC request to support the approved arrangement for financing the ramie textile mill in view of the austerity program of the Administration which suspended the release of funds from bond issue.

The delay in the construction of the buildings was brought to the attention of the President by Davao Gov. Alejandro Almendras at a conference with the Chief Executive. Present at the conference were NDC General Manager Jose Panganiban, Davao City Mayor Carmelo Porras, Ricardo Ledesma, president of the Ramie Planters Association, Angel Padilla, former Rep. Carmen Dinglasan-Consing, and Batak, Davao, Mayor Isario Daguman.

Panganiban informed President Garcia that most of the machinery ordered from Europe are already stored in Davao warehouses. Installation of the machinery is awaiting completion of the buildings.

Ramie planters told President Garcia that the early operation of the Davao mill would stop further drain on the Philippine dollar reserves, as ramie at present sent to Japan for processing can be processed locally.

The early operation of the mill would effect a cut in the importation of textiles from abroad, the planters claimed.

The President also received the delegates to the Second Asian Dental Congress led by Dr. A. Karim, newly elected president of the congress; Dr. Bienvenido Eraña, president of the Asian-Pacific Dental Federation; and Col. Agustin Zarate, president of the Philippine Dental Association.

During the call, Dr. W. R. Alstadt, president of the American Dental Association, extended to President Garcia the greetings of the association, while Dr. Don Jose F. Aubertine gave the "President a letter of Mayor George Christopher of San Francisco extending the greetings and best wishes of the citizens of his city to the President, who is expected to pass the city on his forthcoming trip to the United States.

The President also received three prominent residents of San Francisco, California, who arrived recently on a combined business and pleasure trip accompanied by Captain and Mrs. Carmelo Manzano.

The visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dant, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Jones, and Mr. and Mrs. John Bradley. Dant is the president of the States Steamship Company.

Other presidential callers were Arsenio Jison, president of the Philippine National Bank; former Representative Jose Topacio Nueno, Hans Menzi, Vittorio Pinto, and Charles J. Graemiger.

PRESIDENT Garcia today accepted the resignation of four governors of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration as he defended the controversial P10 million tobacco-for-tobacco barter deal.

At his weekly press conference this afternoon the President justified the ACCFA's transaction with the Philippine Tobacco Flue-curing and Re-drying Corporation and announced, "I am accepting the resignation of the four governors."

Those who resigned in protest of the barter deal were Ramon V. del Rosario, Agustin Fabian, Dr. Roberto Soler, and Mrs. Belen E. Gutierrez. They claimed there were "irregular actuations" involved in the transaction.

They tendered their resignation last evening after a six-hour stormy session of the board of governors over the controversial transaction.

A fifth ACCFA governor, Hilario de Pedro, was also reported to have indicated his desire to quit the government agency. However, his resignation has not been received at Malacañang until press time this evening.

President Garcia opened his press conference by explaining the tobacco barter transaction.

He said he had summoned Ernesto T. Jimenez, ACCFA general manager, to Malacañang to shed light on the disputed barter transaction.

However, Jimenez was reported still convalescing from a recent illness and instead submitted a written explanation to the President.

President Garcia said he had gone over Jimenez's report and was "satisfied" with his explanation.

March 29.— AFTER a meeting with the Council of Leaders at breakfast this morning, the President announced the following appointments:

Highways Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog as chairman of the Reparations Commission, Catanduanes Gov. Juan Alberto and Bulacan Gov. Alejo Santos as members of the Commission, former Senator Jose C. Locsin as chairman of the National Economic Council, Judge Enrique Fernandez as undersecretary of justice, and former Rep. Juan Alcazaren as undersecretary of foreign affairs.

These important appointments were made by the President after consultations with the Council of Leaders at the President's residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City. The conference lasted from 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer. Also present was Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez and Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda could not attend the conference as they were out of town fulfilling some previous engagements.

During the conference it was agreed that President Garcia certify to Congress the Zosa bill which aims to amend the law requiring full complement of officers for fishing boats.

President Garcia decided to certify to the urgency of the bill in view of representations made by operators of small fishing boats that enforcement of the law would work hardships on them and that they would not be able to send out their boats to fish. This eventually would result in less supply of fish and higher prices, it was pointed out.

President Garcia today accepted with regret the resignation of Domingo Imperial as chairman of the Commission on Elections.

In his letter of acceptance President Garcia congratulated Imperial for the "splendid performance" of his duties as chairman of the Commission and extended his "sincere best wishes for further success in your subsequent undertakings."

President Garcia today issued three proclamations. One declares Saturday, April 5, as special public holiday, another extends by 30 days the 11th annual fund campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross, and the third designates the period from July 1 to August 15 this year for the national fund campaign of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines.

The President said that as April 3 (Holy, Thursday) and April 4 (Good Friday) are public holidays, April 5 could be declared a special public holiday without any prejudice to the public interest.

The 11th annual fund campaign of the PNRC was originally proclaimed to last from February 14 to March 31 this year. The President had to extend the period until April 31, as the drive “has been affected adversely by the failure of crops due either to drought or disasters in many areas.”

In designating the period for the Boy Scouts national fund campaign, the President said that the organization was “in need of funds to carry out its operations effectively, to intensify its nation-wide training and recruiting program so that the great number of boys of scout age seeking admission into the organization may be served.”

The President called upon all government officials and employees as well as upon all citizens and residents of this country to assist in the Boy Scouts campaign. He also authorized all national authorities and teachers to accept, in behalf of the BSP, “fund-raising responsibilities” and urged them “to give active support and leadership in their respective communities.”

March 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia started this day by reading the Holy Bible, particularly the chapter on Palm Sunday. He used the Bible presented to him by Francis Cardinal Spellman on one of the latter’s recent visits to Manila.

The President today started taking fruit juice on the seventh day of his fasting. He sipped orange juice from slices of fresh oranges for breakfast, lunch, and supper. In between meals he took water with little sugar.

After breakfast this morning, the President weighed himself and found that he had lost four pounds since he started fasting seven days ago. He weighed 159 pounds compared to his 163 pounds before he started his fast,

The President heard mass early this morning before an improvised altar at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. Also at the mass was Major Jose Estrella, presidential aide, and members of the household.

About 9 a.m., the President read the Sunday papers. Then he was joined by his daughter Linda, and son-in-law, Fernando Campos, who had arrived to visit him.

The President read the Holy Bible the rest of the day.

March 31.—THE President had a breakfast conference with Manila City Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson and Vice-Mayor Jesus Roces, after which he received a delegation led by Mrs. Rizalina T. Buenaseda, dean of student affairs of the Philippine Normal College.

The delegation urged the appointment of Dr. Jesus I. Martinez, incumbent dean of instruction of the college, as president of the institution upon the retirement of Dr. Macario Naval.

Other members of the delegation were Mrs. Victoria B. Castro, directress of the training department; Regino Gyco, president of the faculty association; Mrs. Herminia Ancheta, and Basilio Santos, president of the student council.

President Garcia announced today the appointment of Gov. Alejandro Almendras of Davao as secretary of the Department of General Services, which was created recently by an executive order pursuant to the provisions of the Reorganization Law.

The nomination of the new department head was immediately sent to the Commission on Appointments by President Garcia for confirmation.

The President granted a reprieve of 30 days to Manuel Daet, Jose Villaroya, and Enrique Arejola, who were sentenced to death. The three prisoners were found guilty of murder by the Court of First Instance of Camarines Sur and later by the Supreme Court on two cases.

The three were granted a reprieve until April 29, 1958.

THE President today directed the suspension of “all actuations of purchase of Hacienda San Luis until further orders.”

The suspension of the purchase was contained in a telegram sent by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to Land Tenure Administration Commissioner Manuel Castañeda. Commissioner Castañeda was also directed to confer immediately with the President and Secretary Pajo upon receipt of the telegram.

Secretary Pajo informed Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco and Rep. Genaro Magsaysay of Zambales of the suspension of the purchase in separated telegrams.

Meanwhile, tenants of Hacienda San Luis called at the office of Commissioner Castañeda early this morning and urged the continuance of the purchase. The tenants claimed that if the negotiable land certificates in payment of the hacienda were not delivered March 31, 1958, last day of payment as stipulated in the contract, products worth ₱40,000 would go to the Compania General de Tabacalera as owner of the hacienda.

The contract between the LTA and the Tabacalera stipulated March 31, 1958, as the last day of delivering the negotiable land certificates to the latter in payment of the hacienda. The tenants said that the ₱40,000 worth of tobacco products could go to the LTA coffers as their installment if the hacienda was paid for by the government on March 31.

The tenants belonging to the San Luis Hacienda Tenants’ and Petitioners’ Association were headed by Rosendo Antonio, president; Domingo Luna, vice-president; Delfin Respicio, secretary; Elias V. Lelina, treasurer; Manuel Bañez, counsel; and members of the board of directors. They were received by Julian U. de Vera and Numeriano A. Fabie, members of the LTA, and Eicardo S. Lieu, LTA administrative assistant.

President Garcia was informed today by Rep. Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya that it was the consensus of Nueva Vizcaya mayors, councilors, and barrio councils that the low-grade tobacco barter deal was “the best way out to dispose of inferior tobacco to save ACCFA capital for farmers.”

In a telegram sent to the President, Rep. Perez said that if the inferior tobacco was not disposed of, it would have tied up ACCFA capital to the prejudice of farmers who- badly need more loans.

The President issued a proclamation today declaring Wednesday, April 2, this year, is special public holiday in Bataan and Bulacan provinces in commemoration of the birthday of Francisco Balagtas, “Prince of Filipino Poets.”

The President issued the proclamation on representations made by political and civic leaders from the two provinces who would like to be afforded opportunity to celebrate the day. Bulacan was the birthplace of the poet while Bataan was the place where he had lived and died.

President Garcia today directed all government relief agencies to extend assistance to victims of the ₱1 million fire in Hagonoy, Bulacan.

The President directed the Social Welfare Administration, the Department of Health, the Philippine! National Red Cross, and the Armed Forces to send immediately relief units to the stricken area to give necessary assistance to the fire sufferers.

IN the evening the President directed Land Tenure Administration Commissioner Manuel F. Castañeda to cooperate fully in the proposed investigation by Congress of land purchases by the LTA.

The President told Castañeda to offer all the facilities of his office and make available all records which may be needed in the forthcoming investigation.

The Chief Executive also directed that government agencies which may be needed to aid in the investigation, such as the NBI or the Constabulary, should cooperate with the Congress investigating committee, should their services be needed.

The President issued these directives tonight following a statement issued last night that Malacañang welcomed the investigation of the landed estate purchases made by the LTA.

Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison said that President Garcia expressed regret upon reading news reports today that Malacañang was backing up the LTA. Sison said that the President precisely said that Malacañang welcomed the investigation and, therefore, it was contrary to reason that Malacañang would prematurely absolve the LTA even before the investigation had started.

Sison said that to show further that Malacañang welcomed the investigation, President Garcia issued today a directive suspending "all actuations of purchase of Hacienda San Luis until further orders." The deadline for the payment is Monday, March 31, 1958.

Sison said further that the order to suspend the purchase of the hacienda would mean a loss of f 40,000 worth of products which the government would get from the harvest of the hacienda. However, in spite of this loss, the President issued the directive to clear the way for the investigation of the purchase, Sison added.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Official Week in Review: April 1 – April 15, 1958

April 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia this day continued receiving telegrams from politicians and spokesmen of farmers' groups endorsing his stand on the tobacco barter deal and expressing their complete confidence in the actions of Ernesto Jimenez, administrator of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration.

Rep. Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, after consultations with members of the Mayors' League as well as of the councilors and barrio councils league of his province, wired President Garcia that the preponderant sentiment is that the barter deal "is the best way to dispose of the Virginia inferior tobacco to save ACCFA capital for farmers."

The Nueva Vizcaya solon further informed President Garcia that the inferior tobacco which ACCFA was compelled by law to purchase, if not disposed of, would tie up ACCFA capital to the detriment of small farmers who need loans.

"Your immediate acceptance of the resignation of ACCFA governors shows your deep concern over the welfare of small farmers who depend on ACCFA for loans. There is widespread belief here that the resigning ACCFA governors, by subtle maneuvers and by opposing the barter deal, benefit aliens in business," Perez told President Garcia.

From Cebu, Besinga of the Central Cooperative Exchange wired President Garcia stating that the dissension in the ACCFA Board was caused by the presence of vested interest in its membership. He reiterated his complete confidence in Jimenez.

Teafilo Allas, president of the Pangasinan Federation of Facomas, informed President Garcia that 30 Pangasinan Facomas "endorsed the ACCFA administrator's stand which precipitated the resignation of ACCFA governors."

Thomas Smith, president of the Mountain Province Federation of Facomas; Juan M. Medina, president of the Pampanga Federation of Facomas; Jose Bañez, CCE director representing the Western Visayas Facoma as well as the Ilocos region Facomas, also wired President Garcia lauding him for his "wise decision" on the matter.

Members of the ACCFA Board of Governors recently tendered their irrevocable resignations to President Garcia after disowning the barter deal. The Chief Executive accepted their resignations.

The President this morning received Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez, who recently arrived from his post in Paris, France. Earlier, the President received Sen. Pedro Sabido.

THE President gave orders to Capt. Francisco H. Calinawan, presidential performance officer, to visit some provinces in the Visayas and Mindanao to survey the progress of the food production campaign in the provinces of Cebu, Leyte, Iloilo, Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, Zamboanga del Norte, and Zamboanga del Sur.

Capt. Calinawan was also instructed: (1) to see the operation and management of the Cebu Portland Cement Company in. Naga, Cebu; (2) to see the progress of government help at the areas damaged by the recent fire in Iloilo City; (3) to verify reports received by Malacañang regarding the wanton destruction of forest reserves at Misamis, Zamboanga, and Cotabato; (4) to investigate the complaints of about 300 settlers within the reservations of the Davao Penal Colony who according to some sources have illegally settled there; and (5) to join the recently created presidential committee composed of representatives from the ACCFA, BPW, and AFP, of which Calinawan is the chairman, and to study and recommend to the President immediate measures that will help solve the perennial problems of the Sulu archipelago.

In Negros Occidental, Capt. Calinawan will also confer with the sugar cane planters on the fertilizer situation and will make appropriate studies on the feasibility of the government's adopting the production of artificial rain which have been successfully experimented there. This artificial rain, it is believed, may yet prove to be the answer to the

destruction caused by the long draught which has brought misery, especially to those engaged in rice and corn production.

The President's performance officer is expected to be out of Manila for three weeks.

April 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet day at the Guest House reading the Holy Bible in spiritual meditation in observance of the Holy Week. He did not receive any caller.

The President started the day by hearing mass said by Capt. Emilio Palma, Philippine Military Academy chaplain, before an improvised altar at the Guest House living room. With him at the mass were the First Lady and children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, who were having their first real reunion with the President in a long time.

After breakfast, the President and the First Lady went on a brief stroll of the Mansion House grounds. They were accompanied by Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Lt. Melchor Fronda, naval aide, Lt. Eustaquio Meim, and Segundo Guila, caretaker of the presidential residence in the Pines City.

The President and the First Lady were very much impressed with the lush of flower garden with its vari-colored flowered plants in full bloom. At one point during the stroll of the garden, the First Lady picked a little light violet flower and pinned it on the boutonniere of the President.

In the course of their stroll of the spacious Mansion House grounds, the President and the First Lady were kept constantly busy acknowledging the greetings of vacationists from various parts of the country which abound all over the place. They paused briefly at the amphitheater and later at the kiosk, where the President conferred informally with his press secretary, who took advantage of the opportunity to brief him on various matters.

The President took milk today for breakfast, lunch, and supper. He is now on the eleventh day of a fourteen-day fast. He started taking milk yesterday. In between "meals", the President continued taking water with a dash of sugar.

THE President expressed satisfaction upon receiving reports today from newspapermen that the 1951 Cadillac which Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal had junked had been road-tested by them last night and was found in perfect running condition.

The Cadillac laid aside by the VP made the 250 kilometers from Manila to Baguio last evening at 70 to 80 kilometers an hour without any hitch. The driver, Teodulo Felicidadario, who had been driving presidential cars since President Quezon, wondered especially at the magnificent pick-up performance of the car at the famous Zigzag Road which it negotiated smoothly. The passengers of the car were Amante Bigornia on the *Manila Daily Bulletin*, Celestino M. Vega of the *Bagong Buhay*, Johnny Yeh of the *Fookien Times*, Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, and Malacañang chief photographer, Rolando Manuel.

The President remarked that his firm belief in the Cadillac's readability had been confirmed and that there was nothing basically wrong with it except the manner it was taken care of. He said that even a 1958 car model would stall on the road if it was not given due attention. He recalled that he liked the car very much when as vice-president he used it.

The 1951 Cadillac was returned by Vice-President Macapagal to the Malacañang garage recently, reportedly because on occasions it had stalled on the road, and thus embarrassed or inconvenienced the VP.

President Garcia granted conditional pardons to 14 prisoners, absolute pardon to five other, and commuted the sentence of one for the Holy Week, Malacañang announced this day. The pardons and the commutation were granted by the President upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening mobilized all government relief agencies to extend immediate assistance to fire victims in Tayug, Pangasinan. He gave the order following receipt of reports that fire broke out in that town this evening rendering many families homeless.

Agencies alerted were the Social Welfare Administration, the Philippine National Red Cross, the Philippine Constabulary, and the Department of Health.

April 3.—THE President today directed ACCFA to provide farmers who were hard hit by the recent fire in Capas, Tarlac, with 150 sacks of seedlings to enable them to continue with their planting and facilitate their rehabilitation. The President issued the directive on receipt of report of his representative whom he had dispatched to the fire area to survey the extent of damage and to find out how the Government could be of immediate help to the victims. Capt. Francisco Calinawan, Malacañang performance officer, informed the President that farmers had promised they would return next harvest the quantity of seedlings received from the ACCFA. Calinawan reported that the fire had razed approximately two-thirds of barrio Sta. Lucia, Capas, with an area of 12,000 square meters, bringing misfortune to 120 families of about 850 persons. Estimated cost of property destroyed was P200,000 belonging mostly to farmers.

Calinawan reported that the distribution of relief goods were promptly undertaken by the SWA and the PNRC with 80 sacks of rice, 14 cases of milk, 5 cases of sardines, 10 sacks of flour; 1,200 pieces of assorted clothings, and several cases of other canned goods and local stuffs. SWA had also authorized the release of P2,000 for relief in compliance with previous presidential directive.

In his report Calinawan said that a well organized relief activities had been accomplished by the SWA, the Red Cross, the Constabulary, and civic organizations under the joint leadership of Gov. Arsenio Lugay, the PC provincial commander, and Barrio Lieut. Patricio Malonzo. Active participation was also given by the American soldiers stationed in Camp O'Donnell.

President Garcia expressed gratification over the assistance of the U. S. armed forces which had promised 50 canvas tents to help shelter temporarily the fire sufferers, as well as canned goods. He said that the coordinated efforts of several civic organizations like the YLAC, the Daughters of Isabela, the K of C, and the Jayces to alleviate sufferings of the victims was worthy of commendation.

President Garcia today resumed his spiritual meditation and reading of the Holy Bible in observance of the Holy Week. He resumed taking milk at the rate of half a glass every two hours on the twelfth day of his 14 day's fast.

The President started the day by going to confession early this morning. He was scheduled to receive Holy Communion today, Saturday, and Sunday in fulfillment of his Easter obligations.

ABOUT 9:00 a.m., the President and the First Lady boarded the car and motored around the Pines City. Among the places they visited were the Country Club, Camp John Hay, and the City Zoo. They were accompanied during their brief tour by Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

At Camp John Hay, the President viewed the forest fire which had destroyed many trees in the vicinity. He was glad to see the fire was now under control and almost completely put out.

At the Zoo, the President inspected the progress being made by the City Government to make the zoo a real tourist attraction. He approved Mayor Alfonso Tabora's plans to improve further the facilities of the zoo and make it more attractive to visitors.

The President and the First Lady were joined in the course of their tour by Mayor Tabora and Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella.

THE President continued reading the Holy Bible in the afternoon and evening. He did not receive any caller at the Guest House the whole day.

April 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia, observed Good Friday by making the traditional “Visita Iglesia” at the Baguio Cathedral.

The President and Mrs. Garcia arrived at the cathedral and proceeded to the pew fronting the tabernacle. They made their religious devotion for about 20 minutes. The President and the First Lady knelt together with the crowd. Their coming to the cathedral was unnoticed, as they entered like ordinary citizens observing their religious duties.

President and Mrs. Garcia were accompanied to the cathedral by Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and Lt. Melchor Fronda, aide. The President’s daughter, Linda, and her husband, Fernando Campos, followed in a separate car.

Earlier in the morning, at about 8 o’clock, the President resumed his spiritual exercises by reading the Bible, especially the section on the Passion of the Lord. After taking his half-glass of milk and a glass of water in observance of his fasting, now on its 13th day, the President met with Malacañang reporter covering him in Baguio and gave his regular daily news conference.

From the Baguio Cathedral the President motored around Burnham Park for some air. He noted a great number of tourists in the Pines City which he said meant good business for Baguio. As the President’s car was traveling slowly, the President also noted that the majority of the car plates of parked cars were from Manila and suburbs. “This is a real exodus of Manila people to Baguio,” the President remarked.

After arriving at the Guest House, the President went to his bedroom and continued reading the Bible. He spent a great portion of the day in spiritual reading and meditation.

The President and the First Lady heard Maundy Thursday mass at 5 p.m. at the Guest House.

PRESIDENT Garcia mobilized today relief agencies to extend immediate assistance to some 100 families rendered homeless by a fire which razed five barrios in Basilan City. He issued the mobilization order upon receipt of a message from Basilan Mayor Leroy S. Brown, who estimated the loss due to the conflagration at P3 million. Mayor Brown reported that houses, farms, and coconut plantations were among those destroyed by the fire.

On the direction of the President, the Social Welfare Administration released P5,000 for the purchase of supplies locally available in the area for the immediate assistance to the sufferers, pending arrival of relief goods from Manila. The SWA had already arranged with the Philippine Air Force for the air-lifting of clothing, blanket, and other commodities to the fire area.

The President today received a message from Administrator Alfredo Eugenio of the Civil Defense, who reported that recent fires in Marinduque, Zamboanga City, Taytay (Rizal), Hagonoy (Bulacan), and Tayug (Pangasinan) had been controlled and put out by fire engines from Japan obtained under the reparations agreement.

Eugenio in his message recommended that the Reparations Mission in Tokyo be instructed to expedite shipment of 200 fire fighting units included in the list for the second reparations year, to minimize further fire losses during the current dry season. Eugenio also reported that he had circularized municipal and city mayors to activate the ronda fire patrol as an additional measure to reduce to a minimum the destruction caused by fire.

President Garcia also received today a message from Gov. Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, who conveyed the gratitude of fire victims in barrio Sta. Lucia, Capas, for the prompt assistance extended them by the government.

The President had directed yesterday the ACCFA to provide farmers who were the most hard hit by the conflagration, with 150 sacks of seedling to enable them to continue planting and facilitate their rehabilitation. He had also mobilized relief agencies to extend immediate assistance to the fire sufferers.

Capt. Francisco Calinawan, Malacañang performance officer who had been dispatched to Capas to survey the extent of the fire damage and to find out how the government could be of further help to the fire victims, reported that the conflagration had destroyed two-thirds of the barrio proper, rendering homeless some 120 families, most of whom were small farmers.

Calinawan reported that the distribution of relief goods was promptly undertaken by the SWA and the Red Cross with 80 sacks of rice, 14 cases of milk, 5 cans of sardines, 10 sacks of flour, 1,200 pieces of assorted clothing, and other local commodities. Calinawan also reported the U. S. Army in Camp O'Donnell had helped in the relief work with 15 canvas tents to shelter temporarily homeless farmers as well as with canned goods.

The President sent the message to Camp O'Donnell and civic organizations, expressing his deep appreciation for their splendid cooperation in alleviating the suffering of the unfortunate victims. The message was sent this afternoon through Gov. Lugay.

April 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today granted conditional pardon to former Rep. Narciso H. Umali on the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

The President also commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence imposed on Crispin Verzo, who had been convicted by the court of first instance of Camarines Norte of the crimes of multiple murder and damage to property.

Six other prisoners were granted conditional pardon on the recommendation of the parole board this Easter season.

The board, in its resolution of January 9, 1958, recommending executive clemency to Umali, took note of the fact that the prisoner is suffering from cancer and is at present confined in the University of Santo Tomas hospital for a series of surgical operations.

Dr. Ricardo S. Juico, who had conducted an operation, stated that Umali's sickness was such that only an expert operation and a well-equipped hospital could save his life and that a slight mistake in the operation would prove fatal to the prisoner.

The parole board also took into consideration the period the prisoner had served, that is, about six years, during which time he had displayed constructive leadership among his fellow prisoners and contributed his knowledge and experience as an engineer in the construction of the seawall in the San Ramon penal farm in Zamboanga.

Umali had been convicted by the court of first instance of Quezon and the Supreme Court of the crimes of sedition, multiple murder, arson, frustrated murder, and physical injuries. On the recommendation of the Parole Board, all his prison sentences and fines imposed for these crimes had been commuted on July 4, 1957, to a single prison term of from 12 years and one day to 20 years, and to pay a total indemnity of P85,423.

Among the conditions of his pardon were that he shall report to a parole officer twice a month during the first six months, and thereafter, once a month, and that he shall give monthly one-fifth of his earnings during the period of his parole to the payment of the indemnity.

The President's grant of clemency to Crispin Verzo was prompted by numerous petitions received in Malacañang from various political, civic, and religious organizations, as well as from prominent residents of Camarines Norte, including the provincial board, the mayor's league, and the lawyers' league.

In view of the numerous petitions from practically all sectors of the province, the President, in granting clemency, felt that prisoner Verzo must be basically a good man and that if he had committed the crimes, he must have been perhaps prompted "by one of those emotional upheavals in life."

A review of the records of the case showed that the conviction of Verzo was based on circumstantial evidence and that the prisoner had consistently maintained his protestation of innocence. Judge Salvador V. Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, in a memorandum to the President on March 26, 1956, regarding the Verzo case, said in part as follows:

"I, for one, believe that the exercise of the pardoning power of the President in the present case would absolutely preclude possible miscarriage of justice in case future events should show that Crispin Verzo is innocent, as he claimed he is, even as a chain of circumstantial evidence shows otherwise."

Judge Esguerra also had called the President's attention to the following excerpts from a resolution of the municipal council of Daet, Camarines Norte, one of many which sought clemency for the prisoner:

"... that notwithstanding the findings of the court, it is noteworthy that since the tragic crash as alleged, or disappearance of the ill-fated PAL plane of which crime Crispin Verzo was made to own, a series of similar, if not identical incidents or accidents invariably occurred, not only in several parts of this country but in many lands, without necessarily constituting the product of any scheming criminal hands, but normally traceable to either inherent craft defect, or navigational errors, also communist-inspired hijacking in the open space, and other were causes only the Infinite Wisdom of God can pin-point most assertively."

Other considerations which weighed in favor of prisoner Verzo were that:

- (1) He is not a hardened criminal; in fact, he has a good reputation in the community as evidenced by the numerous petitions for clemency;
- (2) He rendered public service and his record as clerk and school teacher spoke well of his character;
- (3) He had helped effectively in the resistance movement during the Japanese occupation;
- (4) He had served in prison for about nine years during which he had shown excellent deportment; and
- (5) He is a diesel engine mechanic and a radio technician and his services as such could be utilized to advantage in confinement.

Verzo was previously granted 11 reprieves in view of the President's desire to study his case thoroughly in the face of numerous petitions received in Malacañang pleading to spare the life of the prisoner. The last of these reprieves expires tomorrow, April 6.

Verzo had two co-accused, Amado Salazar and Gabino Largo, who were also sentenced to death by the trial court but were later found by the Supreme Court guilty as accomplices only and each sentenced to serve 17 years and four months of imprisonment.

The records of the case showed that in the afternoon of May 7, 1949, a PAL plane while winging its way to Manila from Daet was disabled by an explosion in its baggage compartment which caused it to drop into the sea near Alabat island, on the southeast coast of Luzon. All 13 persons aboard, including the crew, were killed and the PAL sustained a loss of P100,000, the value of the plane.

THIS evening the President received a delegation from Pangasinan which presented him with a resolution pledging support to his program of administration, especially his food production campaign.

The delegation, headed by Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella, also invited the President to inaugurate a P15 million irrigation system in San Manuel, Pangasinan, sometime at the end of this month or the first week of May. Said to be the biggest project so far in this country, the system will serve seven municipalities.

Another resolution thanked the President for the retention of Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez and the appointment of Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

The delegation included board members Nancy Q. Sison and Dolores Acuña and 45 mayors of the province. Also with the group was PNB Director Porfirio V. Sison.

Meanwhile, the President formally accepted to be guest speaker during the 10th anniversary celebration of the death of the late President Manuel Roxas in Clark Field, Pampanga. The invitation was extended tonight by Felixberto Bustos, secretary of the Friends of Roxas society.

April 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today started breaking his 14 day fast by taking solid food in small amount. His return to normal diet would be gradual and would take a few days more.

A physical check-up made on the President today on the completion of his annual fast showed that he had lost 8 pounds. He now weighs 155 lbs. compared to his original 163 before he started his fast exactly two weeks ago.

The President started the day by hearing mass with members of his family before an improvised altar at the Guest House.

Following the mass, the President gave a breakfast in honor of Celestino M. Vega of the *Bagong Buhay*, one of the Malacañang newsmen covering him in Baguio, who was celebrating his 48th birthday. The affair was attended by members of the President's family, Malacañang newsmen, and Baguio correspondents.

Main part of the affair was the reading of a poem which Vega had written especially for the occasion and which he dedicated to the President and to each of the members of his family.

AFTER breakfast President Garcia received Judge Natividad Almeda Lopez, who called at the Guest House to pay her respects. Then he boarded his car and motored to the Trinidad Valley and inspected a vegetable farm there. He spent some time talking with farmers and was impressed by the lush vegetables which abound in the area. He expressed hope that more vegetable farms be grown all over the country to increase food production.

Returning to the Guest House shortly before noon, the President found ranking government officials and their ladies awaiting him to extend their Easter greetings. He later gave a luncheon in honor of his well-wishers at the kiosk on the northern side of the Guest House lawn.

Among those present at the luncheon were Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Chief Justice Ricardo Paras, Presiding Justice Jose Gutierrez David of the Court of Appeals, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, members of the Cabinet, and other ranking officials of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government and their ladies. Also present were former Sen. Jose P. Laurel and Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson of Manila.

After luncheon the President conferred with Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Armed Forces chief of staff, who had just returned from a mission in the South.

In the afternoon the President received a message from Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia in Legaspi, Albay, who reported the result of his visit in the fire area in Iloilo City. Secretary Garcia, who is currently on a tour of the Bicol and the Visayan regions, said that medicine worth P2,000 was distributed in the fire ravage area. The health secretary further reported that there was no cause for apprehension for possible breakout of epidemic, as sanitation and health conditions were under control. Secretary Garcia also said that he was surveying regional areas in the

Visayas and Mindanao for the early implementation of Executive Order No. 288, which provided for the reorganization of the Department of Health.

April 7.—THE President returned to Malacañang by car at 10 o'clock from "a seven-day sojourn" in Baguio City.

The President left the Guest House in Baguio for Poro Point in San Fernando, La Union, after breakfast this morning, on the first leg of his return trip in Manila.

Arriving at the Point at 10:35 a.m., the President hurriedly donned a pair of ordinary drawers and plunged into the inviting Poro Point swimming pool.

After negotiating a few laps, the President got dressed and conferred with La Union officials headed by Gov. Bernardo Gapuz and San Fernando Mayor Godofredo Rilloraza.

Gapuz requested the President to intercede with the GSIS to expedite action on a loan applied for by the provincial government in the amount of P130,000 for the expansion of the facilities of the government electric plant in San Fernando, its connection with the Ambuklao hydro-electric plant, and the extension of its services to the barrios.

Gapuz called the President's attention to a private-owned electric plant in San Fernando which allegedly was charging exorbitant rates. The La Union governor said that this plant bought its power at 1 1/3 centavos per kilowatt hour from the National Power Corporation and sold it to its consumers at P0.40 per kilowatt hour. He said that the consumers were now on strike refusing to use the power and asking the plant to cut off their electric connections.

The governor also recommended that the ACCFA be provided with adequate funds to enable it to pay its purchases from local farmers promptly. According to the governor, the ACCFA usually took several months to pay the tobacco leaves it bought from local farmers who needed the cash very badly.

The President said he would act on their requests on his return to Manila.

During lunch at the guest house of the Poro Point naval reservation the President gave a press conference to Malacañang newsmen who had gone with him on the trip.

After a brief rest, he boarded his car at 4 p.m. and proceeded to Manila.

April 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia after a seven-day stay in Baguio City during the Holy Week found himself deep in pending state papers which had piled up during the Lenten season.

He cancelled his appointments with callers and went over the papers. He signed the appointment of Roman L. Paguio as sugar administrator, and Rufino Tolentino as assistant director of the Bureau of Telecommunications.

The President also signed the pardon papers of Guillermo Salvador, a former Manila detective, who was sentenced to a prison term ranging from six years to ten years for the slaying of Ricardo Deblois, a crack NBI agent, at the City Hall in 1948.

The President, after going over the pending state papers, went to his room and drafted his speech which he will deliver tomorrow afternoon in connection with the "Bataan Day" celebration.

IN the afternoon, the President received Sen. Gil J. Puyat, who conferred with him for almost an hour.

No release was available from Malacañang on the subject matter of the conference.

The President also received Ambassador George L. Clutton of the United Kingdom, who conferred with the President behind closed doors. No mention was made of Clutton's visit.

Minister and Mrs. Luis Moreno Salcedo also saw the President and paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive.

The Salcedos returned two weeks ago from the Vatican, where they were assigned. Salcedo is the new political counsellor of the Department of Foreign Affairs, replacing Minister Tomas de Castro, who was assigned to Berne, Switzerland.

IN the evening the President told Homobono A. Adaza to write a formal letter to the President, as chairman of the Board of Visitors of the University of the Philippines, in seeking an appeal from the decision of the U. P. authorities against him.

Adaza, editor of the *Philippine Collegian*, had been expelled from the University of the Philippines by the U. P. Executive Committee for allegedly being guilty of maligning the U. P. Board of Regents, among other things.

Adaza called on President Garcia this evening and verbally presented his side of the case. He was accompanied by his father, Pedro Adaza. He said that he was not seeking pardon but justice.

President Garcia told Adaza to put his petition in writing and address it to the President, who is chairman of the U. P. Board of Visitors, which is the supreme ruling body in the state university.

PRESIDENT Garcia today certified to the necessity of the immediate enactment by Congress of a bill designed to encourage deep-sea fishing in the country.

The bill seeks to require only one licensed navigator and only one licensed engineer in addition to licensed fishermen as provided for in Act No. 4003, known as the Fisheries Act of 1932, to man any vessel of Philippine registry of not less than 15 gross tons but not more than 150 gross tons which is operated exclusively for catching fish in Philippine territorial waters.

The certified bill is a joint Senate-House measure and was submitted to Congress immediately after the President had signed the certification.

April 9.—THIS morning the President took a positive step to bring down the price of fish when he directed Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas to suspend the implementation of the opinion of the secretary of justice holding that fishing vessels are governed by the provisions of section 830 of the new Tariff and Customs Code.

The directive was given at his conference with members of the Inter-Island Deep Sea Fishing Association, Inc., held at Malacañang. The fishing operators informed President Garcia that they had presented a motion for the reconsideration of the opinion on the grounds that it is not supported by law and jurisprudence and that it is inimical to public interest and welfare.

Fishing operators had tied up their fishing vessels when the secretary of justice ruled that fishing has been held to be a part of the coastwise trade and hence fishing vessels are governed by the provisions of section 830 (k) of the Tariff and Customs Code.

The operators alleged before the President that they could not profitably continue operations if they followed Customs requirement to hire the same complement as vessels engaged in the coastwise trade.

The directive followed a presidential certification to Congress on the necessity of immediate enactment of an amendatory bill to break the impasse between Customs authorities and fishing boat owners. The bill requires only one licensed navigator and one licensed engineer to man fishing boats of not less than 15 gross tons.

The fishing operators profusely expressed their gratitude to President Garcia for his directive and assured him that their boat will resume operations immediately.

THE President in a speech this afternoon said that the epic of Bataan and Corregidor had shown the world how a determined, freedom-loving people could translate material defeat into victory and overcome material inadequacies and obstacles “in its forward march to greatness and a place of honor in the great family of nations.”

In a ten-minute speech delivered at the Independence Memorial Grandstand on the Luneta this afternoon, the President extolled the valiant efforts of Philippine-American forces in defending the last bastion of freedom in this country 16 years ago. He also congratulated officers and members of the Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor for having sponsored the festivities commemorating the anniversary of the Fall of Bataan. He said that the people should take time out “now and then from the hectic grind of our existence to rededicate ourselves to the memory of the heroes and martyrs of that epic” (See pp. 2154–2156, *Historical Papers and Documents*, for the full text of President’s speech.)

Accompanied by Mrs. Garcia and Gen. Basilio J. Valdez, grand marshal of the military parade which featured the Luneta rites, the President arrived at the grandstand from Malacañang about 3:15 p.m. Among those with him on the reviewing stand were Mrs. Trinidad de Leon-Roxas, widow of the late President Manuel A. Roxas; Miss Ira Van, representative of Mrs. Jonathan Wainright, widow of the late American general who had commanded the Bataan defenders; Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo; Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas; and Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff. Also at the ceremony were members of the diplomatic corps, senators, representatives, and some members of the judiciary.

The military parade started about 3:20 p.m. It was participated in by various units which had fought in the gallant defense of the peninsula 16 years ago. They were each given a hearty applause as they marched smartly past the reviewing stand. It was, however, noted that the men in some of the units were pitifully few which brought to mind the tremendous casualties sustained in the peninsula and, later, at the concentration camp in Capas, Tarlac, in 1942.

Bringing up the rear were motorized units which included atomic cannons and the medium American guided missile “Honest John,” which were putting in their public appearance in this country for the first time, and bazookas, recoilless rifles, mortars, and machine guns of different calibers mounted on jeeps and special launching trucks.

The President was introduced by Defense Secretary Vargas. Other features of the ceremony were a one-minute silent prayer marked by sounding of sirens; floral offerings on the cenotaphs of the Unknown Filipino soldier by the representative of Gen. Wainright and of the Unknown American soldier by Mrs. Roxas, which were accompanied by a volley and taps; and the playing of the Philippine and American national anthems as the flags of both countries were lowered in a flag pole in front of the grandstand at the close of the ceremony. The flag-draped cenotaphs of the unknown soldiers were erected immediately in front of the grandstand.

A distinguished service medal was also presented posthumously to the late President Roxas by the Defenders of Bataan. The medal was received by Mrs. Roxas for the late president.

President Garcia returned to Malacañang about 5:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia pinned Philippine Legion of Honor medals with the rank of a legionnaire on 12 women in a ceremony held at the Malacañang social hall this afternoon in connection with the celebrations commemorating the 16th anniversary of Bataan Day.

The recipients were awarded the medals for having demonstrated “exceptionally distinguished services rendered during the Death March and at the concentration camp at Capas, Tarlac, until the return of the prisoners of war to Manila or their respective provinces, at various times from 1942 to 1945.”

The awardees included Mesdames Geronima T. Pecson, Concepcion M. Trias, Ruby Roxas de Roxas, Maria Carmen G. Ford, Carmen Sapinoso de Rivera, Conchita Liboro Benitez, Betty Magalona Gomez, and Misses Fanny Adarna, Conchita Sunico, Paching Gana, Maria Luisa Mendoza, and Lourdes Alunan.

The citation further stated that these women, “disregarding the dangers of the time and motivated by their own desires to help alleviate the sufferings of their countrymen, wholeheartedly extended financial and material aids to the prisoners of war.”

The citation concluded: “Through their untiring energy and patriotic services, thousands of men in the service and their families were greatly relieved of their sufferings and miseries in life.”

Present during the occasion was Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia. The ceremony started at 2:45 p.m. with the reading of the citation by Maj. Jose Estrella, presidential aide. The ceremony lasted for about 15 minutes.

April 10.—THIS morning the President instructed Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to look into the possibility of extending additional financial aid to the victims of the recent fire in Iloilo City.

The President’s directive was contained in a note to Commissioner Aytona following representations made by Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon, who informed the Chief Executive that the recent fire in that southern metropolis was the worst since 1920.

Ganzon said that the city government found it difficult to house the fire victims who were either housed in public school buildings or makeshift huts.

This morning’s callers consisted mostly of provincial officials who requested funds for public works improvements in their respective provinces.

Pampanga Gov. Rafael Lazatin requested aid for the construction of additional public schools in his province.

Misamis Occidental Gov. Diego Ty Deling discussed improvements of the ports in that province.

Other callers were Tarlac Gov. Arsenio Lugay, Camarines Sur Gov. Juan Triviño, Rep. Felipe Abrigo of Samar, and Severe Aragon.

Sen. Domocao Alonto was called to consult the President on matters affecting the Moslem problems. He denied reports that people in the southern regions of Mindanao were participating in the Indonesian civil strife.

The President received callers until 12:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia created this afternoon a special task force to stop smuggling in the South which has reportedly reached “scandalous proportions.”

The President signed an executive order during the regular Cabinet meeting, creating the President’s Law Enforcement Unit for Southern Philippines. He said that rampant violation of the customs, revenue, immigration, and other laws of the Philippines has remained unchecked in the southern areas of the country.

Discussing the matter with the Cabinet, the President pointed out that the illicit traffic and activities in the southern areas were depriving the government of substantial revenue and were providing ruinous competition to legitimate business. He said the government was annually losing about P3 million in taxes because of smuggling. He also declared that legitimate businessmen were being demoralized.

The President charged the special task force with the supervision and coordination of the administration and enforcement of Philippine tariff, customs, internal revenue, immigration, firearms, and currency laws and regulations, including the apprehension and prosecution of violators thereof in southern Philippines.

The President's Law Enforcement Unit for Southern Philippines will operate in the Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan areas, including all the surrounding or adjacent waters, and in such other areas as the President may direct.

The Chief Executive told the Cabinet that the uncontrolled traffic of persons carrying on their illegal activities through the southern frontier of the country may provide opportunities for the conduct of foreign-inspired clandestine activities inimical to the national economy, political institutions, and way of life, especially to the national security.

The special task force will be composed of one representative of the Armed Forces to be designated by the President and to act as chairman of the unit, one representative from the Department of Justice, two representatives from the Department of Finance, representing the Bureau of Customs and the Bureau of Internal Revenue, and one representative each from the Bureau of Immigration and the Philippine Constabulary. All of the members will be designated by the respective heads or chiefs of the departments or bureaus concerned within seven days from the date of the executive order.

The special task force will have its office or headquarters at such places as the chairman shall designate. Each member, as the direct representative of the department head or chief of the bureau or office, shall exercise all the powers and duties vested by law in such department head or chief of bureau or office, including such additional powers and duties as may be specifically delegated by them.

Each member of the unit shall also have authority to require officers, agents, or deputies in the area belonging to, or under the jurisdiction of, the department, bureau, or office he represents to perform any duty or do any act which the head or office thereof could lawfully require them to do.

The heads of the departments, bureaus, and offices represented in the unit shall extend their full support and assistance to the unit and to their representatives therein and shall take immediate steps to carry out the purpose and intent of the executive order within their respective organizations and capabilities.

The task force was also directed by the President to study continually ways and means to improve law enforcement in the area of its operation and to submit periodically reports of its activities and recommendations to the President.

In issuing the executive order, the President took cognizance of "the urgent need for a vigorous, coordinated, and continuing national effort to counteract the illegal activities."

The President told the Cabinet that the AFP chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, whom the Chief Executive had sent to Mindanao to check on the smuggling reports, practically confirmed the illegal activities. The President said that smuggling was being conducted in two ways—into and out of the country.

The President also called on the Departments of Justice, National Defense, and Finance to pool their efforts together in the move to stop the illegal activities in the South. He informed the Cabinet that he had asked Filipino Moslem leaders to cooperate and help in the project.

President Garcia and his Cabinet this evening at their meeting approved Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernandez's action in revoking his previous department order freezing the issuance of domestic sugar quotas with the understanding that the NAMARCO would be sold enough B sugar in order to stabilize sugar prices.

The Cabinet heard Secretary Hernandez explain his reason for issuing his previous order freezing the issuance of domestic sugar quotas. He said that earlier in the day he held a meeting with representatives of the sugar industry during which he made his announcement of his decision.

The President and the Cabinet unanimously approved the action taken by Hernaez.

The Cabinet also approved the membership of the Philippine panel to the PI-Japan joint committee which will continue discussing trade arrangements between Japan and the Philippines. The members of the Philippine panel are Counselor Jose Ma. Espino, chairman; Dr. Marcelino Bernardo, vice-chairman; Dr. Benito Legarda, Jr., member; a representative of the Department of Finance; and Director Bonifacio Quiaoit, members.

The Cabinet, moreover, approved the recommendation of Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano for the approval of the application by the Philippine Government of the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of Specialized Agencies to the World Meteorological Organization. The Philippines is the host country to the present session of the Regional Association V (Southwest Pacific) of the World Meteorological Association which has been holding its meetings in Manila since April 7.

The President discussed with the Cabinet the request made to Malacañang to amend further the proclamation which increase the area of the fishing grounds in Bulacan, Bulacan. Present during the discussion were technical men of the Department of Agriculture. The Cabinet decided to continue discussion of the subject matter in its next meeting.

April 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia devised means to stop the channelling of NAMARCO goods into the black market and to extend its distribution to the barrios at a breakfast conference with NAMARCO high officials held this morning at Malacañang.

Feuding NAMARCO officials promised to “bury the hatchet” and work harder in order to help the administration of President Garcia. NAMARCO officials present at the conference were General Manager Ben Estrella, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, who is the chairman of the board of directors, and Directors German Neri, Martiniano Abad, Pablo Tapia, Jose Castillo, Salvador Balane, and Isaac Saldaña.

The President reminded the NAMARCO officials that the state corporation was created not for profit but to serve the people, and in this connection he reiterated his previous directive to channel more NAMARCO goods to the barrios.

He stated that he had received confidential reports to the effect that provincial distributors are disposing NAMARCO goods in Manila. He urged that constant vigilance be maintained in order to stop the practice.

The President decried the fact that in cases of anomalies, the persons concerned did not receive the full penalty prescribed by law.

To extend the NAMARCO distribution system to the barrios, the President said that he would request Congress for more operating capital for the state firm.

The conferees also took up the plan of abolishing distributors and setting up provincial branches. Secretary Hernaez and Estrella assured the President that, in doing away with distributors, the corporation would save the 5 per cent profit they make and, with the money thus saved, pay for the establishment of provincial branches.

Under this plan, NAMARCO would deal directly with the retailers through its office in Manila and its provincial branches.

THE President today expressed determination to implement a recent Cabinet ruling to the effect that all government purchases of rice from abroad should be conducted through public biddings.

The President turned down an offer of J. Carlos, a rice dealer, to promote a government-to-government transaction between the Philippines and Thailand wherein the latter would sell to the former 60,000 tons of rice at \$126.10 per metric ton.

The President said that while he appreciated the rice dealer's desire to help ease the country's rice problem, he could not go against the ruling of his own Cabinet.

Meanwhile, the President received NARIC Assistant General Manager Federico Yambao, who submitted a report on: (1) the corn stock of the NARIC; and (2) the price of corn in production and consumers areas as reported to the NARIC from the field.

In his report Yambao said that the NARIC has at present approximately 624,000 cavans of shelled corn in the bodegas at the principal corn producing and consuming regions. The report estimated that this stock would last up to June on the assumption that the NARIC would be able to market from 150,000 to 200,000 cavans of corn a month.

About the current prices of corn, Yambao said that the latest quotations of corn grits in Cebu, considered the price barometer in the Visayas, are for grits No. 10, from P12.25 to P12.75 a cavan, and for grits Nos. 12–14, from P12.50 to P13.00 a cavan. Yambao pointed out that the prices of corn grits in Cebu and other corn-eating regions had never risen to P16.

THEN the President received officers and members of the Surety Association of the Philippines who, aside from pledging their support to the Administration, also invited the President to be their guest at the 10th anniversary celebration of their association.

The SAP members who called were Antonio Tankiang, president; Jesus San Luis, treasurer; and P. M. Venoya, Julian Yson, Romualdo Constantino, and Simeon Reyes, members. Present during the call were Insurance Commissioner Ceferino Villar and Romeo Echaus, former SAP president.

The President also received Zambales Gov. Manuel Barretto, who sought the President's assistance in making representation with authorities of the U. S. Navy at Olongapo to reconsider reported plans of the U. S. Navy to lay off thousands of Filipino workers in the navy yard.

Gov. Barreto also requested assistance for mining industries in his province.

Roberto Oca, president of the Philippine Transport Association, requested the President that a representative of the labor group in the Philippine Air Lines be appointed to the board of directors of the PAL.

The President received callers until 1 p.m.

THE President today cleared the Land Tenure Administration of any irregularity in connection with its projected purchase of the Hacienda San Luis in Isabela at P2.4 million.

At his weekly press conference this afternoon, the President told newsmen: "Apparently there is nothing wrong with the LTA."

But as he gave the LTA a clean bill of health, the President said he welcomed a congressional investigation of the purchase of the 3,300-hectare hacienda.

President Garcia indicated that he did not want to give the impression that he wanted to "shield anybody." He added that the investigation would "better inform" the people of the functions of the Land Tenure Administration.

The President presented at the conference Manuel E. Castañeda, LTA chairman, and Commissioner Julian U. de Veyra, who explained the controversial purchase of the hacienda from the Tabacalera company.

Castañeda told newsmen that the Hacienda San Luis was a "good buy" at P2.4 million and presented facts and figures to justify his statement.

At the weekly press conference, the President also:

1. Reiterated his invitation to the Liberal Party to send a representative to join him in his trip to the United States; and

2. Kept his hands off the rift between Secretary of Justice Jesus G. Barrera and Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson over the appointments by Barrera of employees in the municipal court and the city fiscal's office.

Castañeda debunked reports that an LTA appraiser recommended the purchase of the hacienda for only P800,000.

A House fact-finding team had declared that the hacienda was overpriced by P1.6 million.

The LTA chairman said that his representative submitted a report recommending the purchase of the hacienda at varying prices, ranging from P300 to P1,000 per hectare.

Castañeda also stressed that the hacienda is arable and, with the aid of a map, pointed to the area near the Cagayan River as fertile and suitable to tobacco planting.

The LTA chairman refused to answer a question on whether or not the congressional inquiry was politically-motivated.

April 12.—THE President and the Council of Leaders at breakfast this morning discussed legislation:

- (1) To eliminate or minimize graft and corruption in the government and to improve the collection of taxes so as to increase government revenues; and

- (2) To give more attraction to foreign capital to invest in the Philippines and help in the economic development of the country.

The President and the Council of Leaders also agreed on the need to speed up legislative work during the remaining days of the current congressional session.

The President and the Council of Leaders agreed to create two executive-legislative committees to take charge of drafting the necessary legislation to carry out the two policies enumerated above.

The first committee will draft a bill aimed at eliminating or minimizing the commission of graft and corruption in revenue-producing office, such as the Bureaus of Customs and Internal Revenue, and at the same time increasing government revenues.

It was planned that one of the means of achieving this end, for instance in the case of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, was to spread out the functions of the collector of internal revenue among different deputies.

One deputy would take care of the collection of income taxes; another, the collection of specific taxes; and still another, the administrative functions. The collector of internal revenue would have supervisory powers over the work of these deputies.

This proposal may also be applied in the case of the Bureau of Customs. It was believed that by following this system, there will be more effective means of intensifying the collection of revenues and there will be lesser chances of temptation to commit graft and corruption in these revenue-producing offices.

It was also further believed that although these innovations, which will be introduced in different offices, might mean additional appropriations, yet these new expenditures would be justified because the new positions to be created would contribute to the increase in the revenues of the government.

It was believed that the adoption of these measures would be able to plug leakages in the collection of taxes.

With regard to the bill on foreign investment, the President and the Council of Leaders recalled that three bills had been introduced in the last session of Congress but none passed. The conferees agreed that the executive-legislative committee which would draft a new bill to give more attraction to foreign capital, should incorporate the good provisions of the three bills with the view to attracting foreign investors by giving them more incentives.

The conferees also said that the bill to be drafted would define the government's policy on foreign investment. This policy would be based on the statement of President Garcia as he enunciated in his state-of-the-nation message as follows:

"It is my considered opinion that foreign investments, though welcome, should be admitted on a selective basis in order that legitimate Filipino business may be protected, particularly in fields already being fully exploited by our own nationals. The remittance of net profits and repatriation of capital by foreign investors should be under most reasonable terms compatible with our exchange resources and development."

Those who attended the conference which was presided by President Garcia were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, and Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda. House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer was not able to attend the conference. The breakfast conference was held at the residence of the President in Quezon City. It lasted from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

During the conference with the Council of Leaders, the President took occasion to congratulate Sen. Fernando Lopez, who is celebrating his birthday today, together with Mrs. Mariquit Lopez. The President earlier had tape-recorded a congratulatory message on the occasion of Sen. Lopez's birthday.

Earlier in the morning, the President visited Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia at a local hospital, where she had been confined since last night for a gynecological check-up.

THIS afternoon the President received Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, who informed him of the implementation of the creation of the President's Law Enforcement Unit for Southern Philippines, which had been formed by the President last Thursday to curb smuggling in the South.

Gen. Arellano reported to the President that he had already dispatched an LST to Sanga-Sanga in Tawi-Tawi fully loaded with equipment and men to help implement the mission of the task force. Arellano also discussed with the President the measures to improve further the relations between Christian Filipinos and Moslems in the South.

Among the measures approved were the proposed establishment of a settlement in Jolo Island, the construction of more artesian wells, and the repair of roads. The proposed settlement project in Jolo will be undertaken by the NARRA with the aid of the Armed Forces.

In this connection, President Garcia directed Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor T. Jimenez, who is leaving for Washington tomorrow night, to work for the acquisition of fast small boats of the cutter type which are very badly needed by the President's task force in curbing smuggling activities in the South. Also present at the conference was Capt. Carlos J. Albert.

The President congratulated Arellano for his quick action in implementing the work of the task force which had been created only last Thursday evening by the President.

April 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took positive steps to implement his policy as enunciated in his state-of-the-nation message to integrate, coordinate, and intensify the scientific and technological efforts in the country by certifying to Congress the urgency of a bill to carry out this objective.

The main purpose of this measure is to utilize fully both public and private resources in pursuing common scientific processes, methods, and technique to fill the country's basic and immediate economic needs in order to accelerate the Administration's economic development program.

The bill aims to enable private sectors to participate fully and partake of the facilities, equipment, and personnel of the government in order to solve and investigate problems of production and development through project proposals.

It also aims to pool together the finances, manpower, time, and effort of governmental agencies and private facilities in the formulation and implementation of plans and programs necessary to the country's economic and social uplift.

The proposed legislation has been drafted by the country's best minds in the scientific, technological, and agro-industrial circles who were drawn together for the purpose. The draft of the bill was presented to President Garcia this morning by Marcelino Calinawan, the President's technical assistant and coordinator on science.

The bill proposes among other things the reconstitution of the National Science Board into a National Science Coordination Board and placing under it an institute to take care of all controversial sciences and the Atomic Energy Commission to take care of all the nuclear sciences.

All other existing science agencies will be included in the overall pattern. Science and technological centers will be created in order to concentrate the limited personnel and equipment stock and thus avoid a thinning out of critical talents.

The proposed National Science Coordinating Board will be the top coordinating agency whose chairman is proposed to have a cabinet rank and position. It is envisioned that all projects of all other government agencies in science and technology will be coordinated by the board expressly to determine only whether such projects will be necessary and to follow a plan of priority. The board will also determine that such projects should avoid a lateral overlapping with existing or progressing projects.

The bill proposes to intensify scientific research by providing the direction and substance of the entire national effort and the active participation of the private sector. Research effort will be undertaken up to pilot plant levels in order to afford the country the production facilities with a sound basis for establishment, development, and operations.

Malacañang will request the Senate committee on scientific advancement and the House committee on scientific and technological research to sponsor the bill in Congress.

The ultimate objective of the coordination of all scientific works in the Philippines will be to insure a continually rising standard of living of the Filipino people.

The program for the development through scientific efforts in order to fill the country's immediate economic needs are:

- (1) Extensive use of locally made products;
- (2) Increased production of existing production facilities; and
- (3) Increased production of expanding existing production facilities and educating the people in this nation-wide campaign to speed up the country's development through scientific efforts.

THE President spent his Sunday quietly at his residence on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City.

He started the day by hearing mass before an improvised altar in his residence.

After breakfast, he conferred briefly with Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, who had called to report on "routine matters."

The President also had a brief conference with Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor T. Jimenez, who received his final instructions prior to his departure for Washington, D.C., tonight, to help prepare the ground for the Chief Executive's state visit to the United States in June.

After lunch with some assistants who consulted him on pending matters, the President accompanied by Maj. Jose Estrella, military aide, boarded his car and motored to the Veterans Memorial Hospital, where he visited Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, who had undergone a minor operation yesterday morning.

The President found the First Lady in fine spirits. With her at the hospital during the President's visit were their children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, and some close relatives and friends. The First Lady is scheduled to be discharged from the hospital tomorrow morning.

Returning to his Bohol Avenue residence about 3 p.m., the President spent some time in his study, going over some papers he had brought with him from Malacañang. He did not receive any caller in the evening.

April 14.—THIS morning the President urged local textile manufacturers to step up production to enable the Philippines to attain self-sufficiency within the shortest time possible.

Accordingly, the President promised the officers of the Textile Mills Association of the Philippines, led by Jesus Yujuico and P. L. Lim, sufficient incentives and support to reach that goal.

At the same time, the Chief Executive informed the TMAP members that he was going to look into the possibility of drastic cut in the importation of cotton knitting yarn, after being informed that the local spinning industry could meet local requirements.

Yujuico told the President that the limitation of the present importation of knitting yarn would result in savings of dollar reserves. About \$6.6 million is granted annually for yarn importation.

Yujuico also appealed to President Garcia to work for an increase of U.S. raw cotton export allocation to the Philippines. An estimated 115,000 bales of cotton would be needed for the more than 200,000 spindles in the local textile mills.

The other members of the TMAP delegation were Martin Tinio of Crown Textiles Corp., Domingo Celis of Lirag Textile Mills, Julio D. Tan of Philip Manufacturing Corp., Moises Malca of Synthetic Textile Manufactures, Felix Assad of United Textile Mills, Benedicto Dakanay of National Development Co., C. B. Lim of Central Manufacturing Corp., Joseph Mycock of Allied Thread Co., Steven Cheng of Eastern Textile Mills, and Jose Chioco of United Textile Mills.

High officials of the World War II Veterans Enterprises, Incorporated, led by retired Generals Calixto Duque, Florencio Selga, and Alberto Ramos, called on President Garcia to ask for a copy of the report submitted by Baldomero Viilamor and Catalino Macaraig, Jr., to then Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason and recently submitted to Malacañang. Tuason had recommended that the privileges granted to the Warvets Enterprises by the Cabinet on August 14, 1957, be revoked respecting, however, its legal and bona fide transactions with private parties affecting goods that had already been delivered to it in the Philippines.

The Cabinet had granted the Warvets the privilege to undertake the sale and distribution of reparations goods at a gross profit of 15 per cent.

Earlier, the President received Dudley Colton, an American businessman who bared his plan to establish here an asbestos cement pipe plant. Colton was accompanied by Gerald Wilkinson, Aurelio Montinola, Berto Benedicto, and Jose L. Africa.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Garland paid a courtesy call on President Garcia. The Garlands were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Jorge B. Vargas.

Other presidential callers were a group of CB employees led by Domingo Enerio and Ciceron Angeles.

April 15.—THIS morning, the President received several Nacionalista congressmen who had protested the withholding of the “pork barrel” funds.

Some 40 NP solons headed by Speaker Daniel Z. Romtialdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda, and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, agitated for the release of the “pork barrel” funds.

The President called Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and in a move to stave off an impending rebellion in the House, authorized the release of P8 from the public works funds.

The President also received Major General Thomas Moorman, new commander of the 13th U.S. Air Force. Moorman arrived the other day to take over the command of the base.

He was accompanied to the President’s residence in Quezon City by Ambassador Bohlen; Major General Emery Wetzel, chief of staff, Pacific Air Forces headquarters; and Col. William G. Lee, Jr., vice-commander of the 13th Air Force.

PRESIDENT Garcia today led the nation in paying tribute to the late President Roxas on the 10th anniversary observance of the death of the illustrious leader.

In ceremonies held early this afternoon on the spot where the first President of the Philippine Republic met his untimely death at Clark Field Airbase, President Garcia reviewed the brilliant record of the late Chief Executive as an orator and parliamentarian, as an economist, as Speaker of the House of Representatives, as a nationalist statesman, as a constitutionalist, and as President of the Philippines.

President Garcia said: “What places does Roxas occupy in Philippine history? It might be too early now to render a definitive answer to this question. Let history have the perspective of time to do that. But, as one of his contemporaries, I feel that I owe it to history to make of record my opinion about Roxas, the man and the public servant.” (See next issue of the *Official Gazette* for full text of President’s speech).

The President was introduced by Felixberto Bustos, executive secretary of the Friends of Roxas under whose auspices the celebration was held. Other speakers were former Ambassador Manuel Gallego, president of the Friends of Roxas, Maj. Gen. Thomas S. Moorman, new commander of Clark Airbase; and Rep. Gerardo Roxas of Capiz, son of the late President, who delivered the response on behalf of the family.

Present at the ceremonies were Vice-President and Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal, Mrs. Trinidad de Leon-Roxas, widow of the late President, Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay, U. S. Ambassador and Mrs. Charles Bohlen, and officials under the administration of President Roxas.

The ceremonies were featured by laying wreaths on a permanent marker constructed on the very spot where the late President Roxas expired in the residence of the then commander of the 13th airforce. Wreaths were laid by the President, the Vice-President, Ambassador Bohlen, Gen. Moorman, former Ambassador Gallego, and Mrs. Magsaysay. An airforce chaplain intoned the invocation.

President Garcia arrived at the base at 1:40 p.m. aboard the Philippine Air Force plane *Dagohoy* after a 40-minute flight from Manila. He was welcomed at the base by Gen. Moorman, together with the Vice-President, the U. S. Ambassador, Mrs. Roxas, and Mrs. Magsaysay, who had arrived earlier by car. With the President was Rep. Gerardo Roxas.

After acknowledging the raffles and flourishes offered by an honor guard formed by American airforce personnel at the landing field, the President led a long motorcade to the site of the ceremonies. The affair was attended by Filipinos and Americans.

Gen. Moorman, in his speech, considered himself fortunate that he had arrived at the base in time to participate in the commemoration rites. Rep. Roxas, on the other hand, expressed the gratitude of the family which, he said, is not alone in its bereavement “even after all these years.”

The President returned to Malacañang by plane about 3:30 p.m.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1958). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 54(7), cxxxiii-cl.

Official Month in Review: April 16 – April 30, 1958

April 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today met with his top economic advisers and discussed with them measures which the Administration plans to take in solving the problem of lack of rice in the provinces due to drought.

The conference was held behind closed doors and no details so far were given about the measures to be adopted.

The President took this step in view of reports reaching Malacañang that people in the provinces were facing difficulties in securing rice as a result of the drought which had affected not only the Philippines but the entire Southeast Asia.

Those who attended the conference were RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno.

THE President this day gave full authority and backing to Elias Vega, internal revenue stamp racket investigator, to carry on his work of probing anomalies involving collection of specific taxes.

Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison said that the President had given this authority in view of Vega's desire that he be given support in carrying on his work.

Sison, added that the President would not comment yet on news report that Internal Revenue Commissioner Jose Aranas and Deputy Commissioner Melecio Domingo had concurred with three proposals of tobacco firms which, Vega had explained, might nullify his current investigation. Sison said that the President had not yet been officially informed of this reported oral agreement.

The presidential authority given to Vega was by way of implementing the Chief Executive's determination to prosecute his anti-graft policy without let-up.

AT the Cabinet meeting this evening President Garcia turned down as unsatisfactory an offer made by the Gas Workers' Union to purchase 15,000 shares of stock owned by the government in the Manila Gas Corporation.

In line with the Administration's policy of withdrawing from business ventures that can be undertaken by private entities, the Cabinet sometime last year approved the sale of the shares which constitute 60 per cent of the Manila Gas Corporation stock. The remaining 40 per cent is owned by the Island Gas and Electric Company.

The Cabinet had approved the sale "subject to the condition among other things that the government shares shall be sold at public auction at no less than P362.76, the book value per share as of March 31, 1957, and that the sale shall be made for the whole bloc of government shares, the payment to be on cash basis."

Before bidding could be formally announced, the Gas Workers Union had offered to purchase on a negotiated sale with a bid price of P4,665,000, or P311 per share, and a down payment of 25 per cent, the balance to be paid semi-annually for 11 years at 6 per cent interest.

The Cabinet at its regular weekly meeting this evening decided to turn down the offer and to stick to the terms it had laid down in its previous resolution approving the sale of the stocks.

PRESIDENT Garcia summoned Press Secretary G. V. Sison and took up with him until late this evening the derogatory *Time* magazine article on his first year as Chief Executive of the country.

The critical report entitled "A Year after Magsaysay," was the first broadside from the American press against President Garcia's administration. It referred to the President as an "undistinguished politician."

However, Malacañang was silent on the President's reaction, but it was learned that President Garcia had his misgivings about the report.

The President and his press secretary conferred at length at President Garcia's residence in Quezon City.

The President also received at his residence Dr. John Hanna, president of the Michigan State University, who submitted a report entitled "A Study of the University of the Philippines."

Dr. Hanna headed a four-man body, composed of prominent American educators, in a survey of various aspects, from campus development to curricular management, in the state university.

With Dr. Hanna were Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen and Paul D. Summers, local chief of the International Cooperation Administration.

April 17.—THIS morning the President received a suggestion to barter chrome ore with surplus agricultural products of the United States at a conference with Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales and Jesus Cabarrus, president of the Acoje Mining Company.

Cabarrus informed President Garcia that the sales of chrome ore to the United States and other markets had suffered a big slump. He expressed the fear that unless there was a demand for chrome ore he would be forced to shut down the mine.

Since November last, Cabarrus added, sales to the United States had tapered and now it was practically nil, forcing the company to initiate a five-day-a-week work program in order to avoid laying off men.

Barretto seconded the suggestion of Cabarrus and added that negotiations be started immediately on a government-to-government basis.

Other presidential callers were Sens. Quintin Paredes and Lorenzo Su-mulong. Govs. Esmeraldo Eco of Camarines Norte and Jose Dinglasan of Capiz, and Reps. Agustin Gatuslao of Negros Occidental and Leon Guinto, Jr. of Quezon.

Earlier, the President received Alderman H. F. Jensen, lord mayor of Sydney, Australia, who paid a courtesy call following his arrival in the country this morning in the course of a two-day visit as an official guest of the City of Manila.

Alderman Jensen was accompanied to the President's Quezon City residence by Manila Vice-Mayor Jesus M. Roeses, Foreign Affairs Protocol Officer Pedro A. Aragon, and Australian Embassy Charge d'Affaires Douglas Kieth.

The visit lasted about 15 minutes.

THIS evening the President continued to drum up national enthusiasm towards his program of attaining self-sufficiency in basic commodities through coordinated and intensified scientific effort.

In his conference with some of the nation's top scientists at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this evening, the President pointed out that no progressive nation in the world had made economic advancement without the "mighty arm of science." He said that in the United States, United Kingdom, and Germany, science had always played an important role in the furtherance of their economic objectives.

The President expressed gratification that he had the full support of the nation's technologists who had pledged their accumulated knowledge and know-how behind his program. He expressed confidence that with sufficient determination, this country would succeed even with the limited resources at its disposal.

“Our goal is to make this country economically stable and independent so that the humblest citizens could feel some measure of security” he said. The President recalled the country’s struggle for political independence years ago. After July 4, 1946, the struggle had shifted to economic independence which, he said, was equally as important to the people.

The Chief Executive took occasion to consult the scientists on the various provisions of the bill he had recently certified to Congress providing for the necessary machinery to pool the nation’s scientific, technological and agro-industrial resources and channel them towards promoting the country’s economic and social uplift. He called the bill the ‘Magna Charta of Science.’”

Dr. Juan Salcedo, who delivered the response on behalf of the group, reiterated the pledge of support and cooperation of Filipino technologists.

The group called, on the President this evening to present him with records of proceedings during the series of seminars held in connection with the recent National Science Week. Among the proceedings presented were 16 resolutions passed by the 1958 National Science Week Committee.

The resolutions included (1) endorsing approval of the proposed Rice-Enrichment bill; (2) recommendations on irrigation, certified rice seeds, hybrid corn, and fertilizers; (3) government support and financial aid on livestock and other industries; (4) recommending the inclusion of fish in any appropriation set aside prime necessities, such as by the government for increased production of rice and corn; (5) recommending amendment of certain provisions of the Minimum Wage Law so as to promote and regulate contracts on *pakiao* labor in the Philippines so far as home industries (like shelter and clothing) are concerned.

Headed by Navy Lt. Cdr. Marcelino Calinawan, chairman of the 1958 National Science Week, the group which called on the President this evening, included Patrocinio Valenzuela (vice-chairman), Dr. Juan Salcedo, Joaquin Marahon, Leopoldo Uichangco, Eduardo Quisumbing, Marcos Alicante, Manuel Arguelles, Eugenio Cruz, Eugenia de la Cruz, Faustino Lozada, Laureano Marquez, Florencio Medina, Jose Mirasol, Heraclio Montalban, Crisostomo Ortigas, Domingo Paguirigan, Anastacio Teodoro, Deogracias Villadolid, and Gregorio Zara,

Earlier this afternoon, the President conferred with General Manager Bernardo Torres of the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation, who consulted him on pressing problems of the corporation.

April 18.—THIS morning President Garcia told Col. Flaviano Olivares, head of the Presidential Law Enforcement Unit for Southern Philippines, to leave at the earliest possible time for the South so that the government’s campaign against smuggling could get underway.

Olivares called on the President at the President’s workshop in Quezon City with the information that he had already organized fully his unit and that he was set to go. Olivares said that as head of the task force he will stay with his unit wherever there was need for it so that he could make decisions on the spot.

The President told Olivares that his unit should always be in those places where its services are most needed in effecting the anti-smuggling campaign, of the government.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed that judicial proceedings be instituted to stay the demolition of the houses of residents of the Santol-Sociogo estate.

The Chief Executive gave this directive after Marcelo A. Bautista, president of the tenants’ association said that they were willing to transfer their houses in the unfilled areas of the estate and pay the purchase price of P20 per square meter, provided that the government buy the estate *for bona fide* tenants.

The President told Bautista to inform General Manager Bernardo Torres of the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation of the tenants’ decision.

J. M. Tuason and Company, owners of the estate, are willing to sell the whole estate amounting to 18 hectares for P20 a square meter, but the PHHC could pay only P17.50; so the tenants offered to pay the difference.

However, when the negotiation did not prosper in view of the desire of the tenants to purchase only the lots where they were residing, the owners proceeded to demolish their houses through a court order.

TENANTS of the San Luis estate charged before President Garcia this noon that the opposition of Gov, Felix Caro and Rep. Delfin Albano, both of Isabela, to the purchase of the estate was “politically inspired” even as former Rep. Samuel Reyes stated in an affidavit that it was a “good buy.”

The charge was made by a representative group of San Luis tenants, led by their president, Rosendo Antonio, and accompanied by their legal counsels, Manuel D. Banez and Silvestre Bello.

The delegation asked President Garcia to lift his order suspending the payment to Tabacalera, owners of the estate, but the Chief Executive informed the tenants that he could not grant their request while Congress was investigating the matter.

The President told the tenants to appear before the good government committee headed by Rep. Joaquin R. Roces to present their side.

The tenants told President Garcia that Albano was “getting even” with them and opposing the purchase of the estate, as he got only 11 votes in the five precincts of the estate.

The tenants also told President Garcia that the purchase price was “not high” and that they were even “willing” to pay more than the P53 a hectare per year for 25 years that the Land Tenure Administration is charging them.

They alleged that they were the best judges of the purchase price, as they would have to pay the government for the land that they have been cultivating for a long time.

The delegation said that the annual amortization” of P53 per hectare is less than the rentals they are paying the Tabacalera which amounts to about P200 a year for every hectare they cultivate.

Other members of the tenants’ delegation were Domingo de Luna, vice-president; Delfin Respicio, Secretary; Elias V. Lelina, treasurer; and Nemesio Galicen, Faustino Sawit, Eduardo Acasio, and Juan Agcaoili, directors.

Other presidential callers were Dr. Alvin H. Hansen, professor emeritus of Harvard University who is returning to the United States after six years as exchange professor in Bombay University in India; Marcial Lichauco; G. P. Aplomar; Sen. Eulogio Balao; former Ambassador Jose Romero; Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto Laguio; Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez; Fred Imhoff; E. M. Grimm, president of Luzon Stevedoring Company; Byron S. Huie; and Dick Baldwin.

PRESIDENT Garcia inducted former Undersecretary Jesus Barrera as secretary of justice and former Sen. Jose Locsin as chairman of the National Economic Council in ceremonies held at Malacañang this afternoon.

The President also administered this afternoon the oaths of office to (1) Board Member Ildefonso Cinco, as governor of Leyte; (2) Mayor Emiliano Melgaso of Hilongos as board member of Leyte; (3) the officers of the Federation of Coconut Producers; and (4) the officers of the Association of Agriculturists.

Secretary Barrera succeeded former Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, retired. Leyte Gov. Cinco took the place of Bernardo Torres, who had been appointed general manager of the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation, while Hilongos Mayor Melgaso succeeded Gov. Cinco as board member.

Secretary Barrera had been in the government service for the last 20 years, having been appointed judge of the court of first instance in 1938. He was subsequently named justice undersecretary, which position he held until his elevation to the secretaryship.

Chairman Locsin on the other hand had been in the public service for more than 30 years, first as a member of the provincial board of Negros Occidental, then as provincial governor, congressman, secretary of health under the Osmeña administration, and lastly as senator during which term of office he was representative of the Senate in the National Economic Council. He was also a member of the Constitutional Convention.

Officers of the Federation of Coconut Producers who took their oath before the President this afternoon are Governor Juan F. Trivino of Camarines Sur, president; Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., vice-president for Luzon; Rep. Manuel Zosa, vice-president for the Visayas; Benjamin Guiang, vice-president for Mindanao; Santiago Gancayco, secretary-treasurer; and the following directors: Ernesto Gala and Jose Mercado for Luzon; Rep. Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental and Tirso Uytengsu for the Visayas; Gov. Romulo Garrovillo of Zamboanga del Norte and Luis Lorenzo for Mindanao.

These officers had been elected in the recent national convention held at the Manila Hotel.

Officers of the Association of Agriculturists inducted were Dr. Jose J. Mirasol, president; Dr. Leopoldo P. Uichangco, first vice-president; Eugenio E. Cruz, second vice-president; and the following directors: Undersecretary Jose L. Trinidad of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Cornelio V. Crucillo, Domingo Paguirigan, Dr. Dioscoro L. Umali, and Alejandro Apacible.

The ceremonies were held at the reception hall in Malacañang from 4:30 to 5 p.m. Among those present were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Reps. Dominador Tan, Alberto Aguja, and Marcelino Veloso, all of Leyte; other congressmen and senators; members of the judiciary and prominent legal practitioners, including Sen. Claro M. Recto; and relatives and friends of the inductees.

Earlier, the President received Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, who consulted the Chief Executive on the implementation of the plan to improve the port of Manila.

The President also received Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, who bade farewell to the First Family prior to his departure for Europe next week.

PRESIDENT Garcia today told a press conference he may cancel his projected state visit to the United States if “developments and public opinion in America may tend to embarrass me during my stay in Washington.”

He angrily reacted to an unflattering article in the current issue of *Time* magazine which referred to him as an “undistinguished politician.” The President called the article “unfair.”

The President said that, “at the moment,” he is still considering on going through with his state visit to Washington scheduled in June.

During the press conference, the President issued a statement calling upon the Liberal Party to “re-examine its view on my invitation to join me in my state visit to the United States for the purpose of strengthening further Philippine-American relations and getting assistance for the bolstering of our national economy.”

He said he had talked to Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, titular head of the Liberal Party, and the latter indicated he would take the matter up with his colleagues in the opposition.

The President is scheduled to emplane for the United States early in June to be in Washington on the 16th of that month.

Asked if he would sue *Time* magazine for what he called an “unfair” report, the President said he will make a decision after a due deliberation.”

But in announcing his plans of going on with the trip unless adverse developments tend to embarrass him in Washington, the President minimized the effects of the *Time* report.

He said that *Time* magazine did not reflect the prevailing public opinion in the United States.

The President added that he will shortly issue a formal statement after he had made an assessment of the reaction to the article in the United States.

At the same time, he expressed elation over the reaction in the Philippines against the report. He said it was a vindication of his honor which the American magazine had sought to discredit.

The President also indicated there are indications that forces or groups exist which are seeking to discredit him before the American people in order to subvert his mission to secure economic aid from the United States.

He said he is conducting a silent inquiry into the sources of the *Time* article. However, he did not say what action he would take against such sources.

The President hedged on questions as to whether the report was communist-inspired or abetted by the Liberals.

He said “it is too early to accuse anyone of feeding the *Time* magazine with malicious information.”

In announcing his plan to watch developments, the President also said “it is too early to apprise the result of the report.”

However, he said he had read the report with a “clear conscience” and expressed the belief that the information was malicious.

In reiterating his invitation to the Liberal Party to join his trip to the United States, the President said, “I have not lost all hope that in the higher interest of our country and people, the opposition will yet re-examine its views on my invitation.”

He said that in previous occasions, the majority and the opposition patriotically stood on a united front.

“I have not lost all hope that in the higher interest of our country and people, the opposition will yet re-examine its views on my invitation to join me in my state visit to the United States for the purpose of strengthening further Philippine-American relations and getting assistance for the bolstering of our national economy. These are vital matters in which all Filipinos are one and united.

“In previous eras when we were fighting for our independence, the majority and the opposition patriotically stood on a united front. This time, the common cause of national economic stability is involved. Believing in the patriotism of the leaders and men in the opposition, I hope the same national unity as shown in the past will be demonstrated by them and the entire Filipino people.

“I have full faith that as Filipinos first and foremost, we can still rally together for the common good and welfare of the nation.”

April 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered the immediate return to the Philippines of Minister Caesar Lanuza, chief of the Reparations Mission in Tokyo, Japan to explain certain aspects of reparations transaction

The President issued the order upon reading a news report that Rep. Antonio V. Raquiza of Ilocos Norte had made some charges against the manner of implementing the Reparations Act, in his report to Congress.

The President said that he would like Lanuza to explain particularly the charges on overpricing of reparations items as claimed by Raquiza.

Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison said Lanuza had been recalled several days ago from Tokyo to shed light on the reparations transaction, but until now Lanuza has not arrived yet.

The President upon reading Rep. Raquiza's charges this morning, sent a tracer directive to Lanuza requiring him to return to Manila immediately.

The President spent this day in his Quezon City residence owing to an indisposition. He cancelled all callers because of cold which he developed. His physicians advised him to stay in his room.

April 20.—THE President today spent his second quiet day at his residence on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City.

Disregarding his personal physician's order that he remained in bed, the Chief Executive spent some time pouring over state papers which needed his immediate attention.

Yesterday, the President had cancelled all his engagements owing to a bad cold.

His physicians, however, said today that the President's condition "had improved a lot".

Earlier in the morning, the President heard mass, together with his family, before an improvised altar at his Quezon City residence.

Shortly before noon, the President conferred with Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, who briefed him on various matters. They also discussed the proposed revamp of the Presidential Complaints and Action Committee.

THE President said today he would revamp the PCAC in order to make it a more effective government instrumentality not only in combatting graft and corruption but also in getting maximum efficiency in the work of government officials and employees and in implementing effectively government policies.

The President will soon sign an executive order amending the order which created the PCAC.

The Malacañang spokesman said that as envisioned by the President, the revitalized PCAC will have as its main functions:

- (1) To see to it that government offices concerned perform effectively their role in implementing the government's program of service to the people.
- (2) To see to it that government officials and employees render maximum efficiency in their work; and
- (3) To combat the commission by government officials and employees of graft and corruption.

The Malacañang spokesman said that in revamping the PCAC the President planned a constant follow-through of the performance of the various government agencies concerned in the implementation of the government's program, of action. In this manner, the spokesman said, any project that the government would launch could be carried through until its successful completion. Besides, difficulties that might be encountered in the execution of government policies or projects would be more easily solved.

The revamped PCAC will also be charged with following up the status of all matters which the Office of the President will refer to government agencies for action.

The spokesman added that another aim in revamping the PCAC was to get the maximum efficiency from government officials and employees in the performance of their duties. He said that with greater efficiency, the government could render better service to the people.

The other function of the revamped PCAC, according to the spokesman, would be to find ways and means of maintaining the integrity of government officials and employees. It would implement the President's policy of attacking the problem of graft and corruption through preventive measures, aside from the punitive measures already being carried out.

The spokesman said that the present functions of the PCAC of attending to all complaints from the people would be continued vigorously by the revamped office. The spokesman added that the present fact-finding duties of the PCAC would be retained by the new office.

The President, according to the spokesman, is considering the names of several persons who may probably head the revamped PCAC.

April 21.—TODAY the President received high officials of the Manila Tobacco Association who lodged a protest against congressional proposals to establish floor prices on native filler type of tobacco. They reiterated their petition that American cigar wrappers be included among the items to be imported under the United States Public Law No. 480.

In presenting their opposition to the proposal to establish floor prices on native filler tobacco, MTA officials said the government instead should help the farmers more effectively in trying to increase the productivity of their fields, which they added, was less than half per unit of acreage, of that in Central and South American countries.

The tobacco men alleged that roughly two-thirds of the native filler tobacco were sold abroad and, therefore the prices must stay always within competitive level with other foreign sources. They also pointed out the keen competition offered in the U.S. market by Cuban and Central and South American tobaccos, and the move to lower the U.S. tariff duty on leaf tobacco entering the United States.

The tobacco men favored the agreement reached upon in a conference called by the late President Magsaysay which was attended by buyers of tobacco and by high government officials to establish floor prices of P20 and P18 per quintal for the fourth class current Isabela tobacco and Cagayan tobacco, respectively. They alleged that the proposed bills introduced during the current session of Congress were "beyond any realistic approach."

The President said he would study the protest of the MTA officials.

MTA officials who saw President Garcia were Dr. Roque D. Yap, president; Alfonso R. de Campierre, Tomas Hernandez, and Col. Salvador T. Villa of Tabacalera; Wolfgang Deerner of Bunning & Co.; J. Huber of Alhambra Cigar & Cigarette Manufacturing Co.; Hamilton Parrish of Isabela-La Yebana Tobacco Corp.; and Alberto Go of Go Foy & Company.

Another presidential caller was Dr. Melquiades G. Virata, who, on behalf of the Filipino Social Club of New York, presented a congratulatory plaque to the President on his election as President of the Philippines.

The President also received Alberto Philippe, president of Junior Chamber International, who was accompanied by a group of local Jaycees headed by Sotero Laurel and P. W. Tantoco, president and vice-president of the Philippine Jaycees, respectively; and Alfonso Yuchangco, president of the Manila Jaycees.

Education Secretary Manuel Lim; Jorge B. Vargas, and H. B. Reyes headed a group of officials of the local scouting movement and members of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines who presented to the President the annual report of the scout organization.

The President also received Victor H. Zeller, W. Helmerich, William R. Horkey, E. Conrad Geeslin, and H. Stuart Scott, who called to give him a fill-in on their oil exploration in the country for the last year.

A Japanese delegation headed by Ikkaku Matsuzawa also called on President Garcia to pay their respects. The delegation arrived to light the torch kept in the Rizal Memorial Field and relay it to Tokyo where the Third Asian Games will be held from May 24 to June 1, 1958.

Earlier, the President called Jose Arañas and Melecio Domingo, commissioner and deputy commissioner of internal revenue, respectively, for a briefing on the doings in the Bureau of Internal Revenue, especially with reference to the specific tax campaign.

PRESIDENT Garcia said today that he is definitely going to the United States in June, despite any reaction to the unfavorable article in *Time* magazine, in an exclusive interview with Jim Baker, a foreign correspondent.

“My plans have not changed, simply because of a story in one American magazine,” he said in the interview.

The President also said that if he is successful in his trip in America in search of development loans there will be no need to continue the import and dollar reserve restrictions of the austerity program.

President Garcia also made these points:

1. As a “general rule” Japanese reparations goods sent to the Philippines are higher in price than the same goods produced by Japan for export sales.
2. He was assured Ly Indonesian Foreign Minister Subandrio that the Djakarta Government will put down any communist uprising. But President Garcia said he would like Indonesia to follow a more pro-western course and would welcome that nation as member of SEATO.
3. The Formosa Government has apparently turned down a plan submitted to handle the problem of overstaying Chinese here.

Discussing the austerity program, the President said that the downward trend in the dollar reserve has been arrested. He said he expected the reserve to hit a peak in May and June when proceeds from the sales on the sugar crop flow in.

“Beginning in August,” President Garcia said, “the copra, hemp, lumber, and mineral industries will carry the load and we expect to break even until the end of the year, judging by past experience. In January the sugar receipts will again be flowing in.”

The President said he has already lifted 80 per cent of the restrictions on imports and dollar spending and “we are lifting these controls one after another as conditions warrant.

He said that if he is successful in his quest for \$300 million in development loans from the United States, “there will be no more need” for these controls.

April 22.—ONE hundred Igorot families displaced from their former lands in the Philippine Military Academy site will receive lands from the government to cultivate, pursuant to a proclamation signed today by President Garcia at a conference in Malacañang with Rep. Luis Hora of Mountain Province.

The proclamation signed by the President amends Proclamation No. 208, series of 1955, which released a portion of the agricultural station site of the Bureau of Plant Industry located in Baguio City, by declaring the said portion of land open to disposition under the homestead provisions of the Public Land Act.

In signing the proclamation, President Garcia stated that he would honor the commitment of the government made by the late President Magsaysay.

The President today named five congressmen to the Tobacco Watchdog Committee, which he created to look into the proper implementation of the importation and exportation of tobacco and to seek ways and means to improve the local tobacco industry in order to expand the markets for local tobacco.

Those named were Reps. Francisco Ortega of La Union, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Lucas Paredes of Abra, and Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte.

Presidential callers included British Ambassador George Glutton, former Senator Pablo Angeles David, Sens. Roseller Lim and Pedro Sabido, and Reps. Ramon Mitr'a of Mt. Province, Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Antonio de Pio of Cebu, Natalio Castillo of Bohol, Ricardo Ladrido of Iloilo, Nicanor Yniguez of Leyte, Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Pedro Trono of Iloilo, Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Vicente Gustilo of Negros Oriental, Inocencio Ferrer of Negros Occidental, and Felipe Garduque of Cagayan.

PRESIDENT Garcia today urged superintendents of schools all over the country to help in the campaign for self-sufficiency in food, shelter, and clothing.

In appealing to the superintendents, the President said that the teacher is the central figure in the barrios. The superintendents, members of the Philippine Association of Superintendents of School, called on the President following their conference in Baguio. They were accompanied by Education Secretary Manuel Lim and Public Schools Director Benigno Aldana.

The superintendents, through their president, Superintendent Roman Lorenzo of Rizal, expressed their support of the President's food production campaign and his trip to the United States.

The Chief Executive said that by reducing the cost of production and doubling the yield per hectare, the country not only could become self-sufficient in rice but would be able to export the cereal to neighboring countries.

The President cited the important roles of the superintendents and the teachers in the community and how they could help in the campaign for self-sufficiency in food, shelter, and clothing. He assured the superintendents that the means and equipment in conducting the campaign would be improved.

The superintendents informed the Chief Executive that public vocational schools have been conducting a reforestation campaign. They also told the President that they needed better equipment and facilities for the food production campaign.

After meeting the superintendents, the Chief Executive received retired Admiral Ellery Wheeler Stone, president of the American Cable and Radio Corporation. Admiral Stone paid a courtesy call and was accompanied by William Moser.

The President at 6 p.m. motored to the residence of Manila Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, where he attended the silver wedding anniversary of the Mayor and Mrs. Lacson.

THE President this day launched a "new deal" for the Sulu Archipelago.

The President directed Capt. Francisco H. Calinawan, Malacañang performance officer and chairman of the newly created Committee on Sulu Affairs, to leave immediately for Sulu with members of his committee to undertake a comprehensive survey of the economic conditions in that area and to prepare a master plan for its development with all its implications to the national security.

The President made this decision because of numerous reports he has been receiving pointing to the urgency of improving the deplorable conditions in the Sulu archipelago.

In directing Calinawan and the members of the Committee on Sulu Affairs to proceed to the South, the President said that they “approach their task with a fresh outlook, free from prejudice or bias, so that the plan will be factual and objective and that the solutions will be non-partisan and statesmanlike.”

The President reminded the committee that “the people of Sulu constitute the proudest and most patriotic sector of our nation who have never succumbed to alien domination in the past and that it is now the duty of the Republic to uplift them in order to make up for time lost during their non-collaboration with colonial rule.”

The President said: “This is the ‘new deal’ which my administration wants to give to Sulu.”

With Capt. Calinawan as chairman, the members of the Committee on Sulu Affairs are ex-Gov. Perfecto Balili of the division of local governments, Major Federico Salcedo of the Department of National Defense, Capt. Benjamin Labayen of ACCFA, Alvaro Martinez of the PACD, Feliciano Serrano of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Engineer F. S. Salvador of the Department of Public Works and Communications, and Armando A. Rivera of Malacañang.

President Garcia received today from Capt. Calinawan a report of his eight-day extensive tour of the province of Iloilo, Negros Occidental, Cebu, Misamis Oriental, and Bukidnon.

Calinawan toured these provinces in connection with his duty as Malacañang performance officer.

The President also instructed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to issue a memorandum to all national government officials to go out of their way and make more visits to the provinces. The President said this would boost the morale of the people and show the concern of the Administration for their welfare.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the National Bureau of Investigation to investigate the mass jailbreak last Sunday in the provincial jail of Nueva Vizcaya.

Rep. Leonardo B. Perez asked the help of the President, alleging that the jailbreak was made possible through the laxity of the jail guards.

Of the fourteen prisoners who escaped from jail, five were members of the dreaded murder syndicate of Nueva Vizcaya, according to the Nueva Vizcaya solon.

Perez told President Garcia that he had received reports that the jail-breakers are out on a mission to liquidate ranking members of the Nacionalista Party in Nueva Vizcaya.

He recalled that during the last election campaign, one prisoner was “allowed” to escape and, after being recaptured, confessed before government investigators that he was sent out to liquidate him (Rep. Perez).

April 23.—THIS morning, the President conferred with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, concurrently president of the Nacionalista Party and chairman of the Commission on Appointments.

The conference started at breakfast and ended shortly before lunchtime.

While no details were released to the press on the conference, it was indicated that the President urged the Senate President to speed up the confirmation of his nominations in the Reparations Commission.

The conference immediately bore fruits at the Commission on Appointments when the body confirmed the nomination this afternoon of Chairman Rodolfo Maslog, and Commissioners Juan Alberto and Alejo Santos.

It was learned that the President and Senate President Rodriguez also discussed the question of appointments to the mayoralty of Quezon City.

After Rodriguez had left, Senator Lorenzo Sumulong also saw the President. Sumulong is also from the province of the Senate President.

The President also conferred with Rodolfo Andal, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, who informed him that the GSIS had loaned the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation P1 million to finance the construction of PHHC housing units in Davao City.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon did his share in the nation-wide food production campaign of his administration by putting up a vegetable garden in Malacañang and planting it to eggplants, radishes, tomatoes, lettuce, pechay, and other staple plants.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President crossed over to Malacañang Park this afternoon and inspected a 500-square meter lot which he had ordered cultivated and turned into vegetable plots,

The President and the First Lady spent about one hour going around the lot, talking to a gardener in charge, and planting a few plots with vegetable seedlings. The President also inspected a mound of fertilizers donated by Dr. Gonzalo Montemayor, a noted chemist who had processed the fertilizers but of garbage waste.

The First Lady tended her flower plots which she had set up near the vegetable plots. She launched a flower-for-every-home campaign not only to beautify the homes but also to have extra income for the families from the sale of the flowers.

With the President at the vegetable garden this afternoon were Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Director Eugenio Cruz of the Bureau of Plant Industry, and Dr. Dionisio Aquino, a soil chemist.

AFTER consultation with his Cabinet this evening President Garcia approved the sending of a delegation to the 13th general meeting of the International Social Security Association to be held in London, United Kingdom, from May 12 to 23 this year.

The Social Security Commission, which had recommended the sending of the delegation, explained that the Philippine social security system which had commenced operations some time last year was one of the most recent members of the international association. The commission felt it advisable that the Philippines be represented in the general meeting which the association holds but once in every three years.

The commission further explained that the system in the Philippines being in its infancy, the participation of this country in the international assembly would be of value in the solution of problems of administration of social security benefits here.

The delegation will be composed of Chairman Gonzalo Gonzalez of the SSC, as chief delegate, and Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, Social Security Commissioner and Acting Administrator Rodolfo P. Andal, Commissioner Ildefonso Remolona, Hilarion Corpus, and Alfredo Gomez.

The delegation is scheduled to leave for London on May 4 and return to the Philippines in the first week of June. Expenses of the group will be borne by the SSC, except in the case of Commissioner Andal, one-half of whose expenses would be borne by the GSIS. Corpus and Gomez will defray their own expenses.

April 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received Maj. Gen. Don Spry, a director of the International Bureau of the Boy Scouts.

Spry paid his respects to the President upon his arrival in Manila to attend the Far East conference of Boy Scout leaders to be held in the Mansion House, Baguio, from April 26 to 28.

Spry thanked the President for the invitation extended by the Philippine Government to hold the 10th World Boy Scout Jamboree in Manila in 1959. He said that the Boy Scouts of the Philippines was considered as the leading organization of boy scouts in Asia today. As a result of this, Spry said, the International Bureau of Boy Scouts, with which are affiliated 67 nations, approved the holding of the Jamboree in Manila.

Others who accompanied Gen. Spry were Bill Campbell, international commissioner of the Boy Scouts of America; Jorge B. Vargas, president of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines; Judge Enrique Fernandez, president of the Davao Council and member of the national executive board of the BSP; Guillermo Padolina, traveling commissioner of Boy Scouts International Bureau; and Jose Panlilio, national scout director, BSP.

Secretary-designate Alejandro Almendras of the Department of General Services informed the President today that the construction of the P4.5 million waterworks system of the City of Davao will suffer a delay.

Pipes, fittings, and couplings have already arrived in Davao but, according to Almendras, they did not fit.

President Garcia learned from NAWASA General Manager Susano R. Negado, whom he called by telephone, that the German firm which supplied the pipes did not comply with the specifications.

The President was also informed by Negado that the contractor had promised to defray the expenses for the manufacture of new fittings and couplings to fit the pipes. To save time, the fittings and couplings will be ordered by the contractor from Japan, Negado said.

Almendras also informed the President that the drought in Davao was over, as it started raining there the last four days. People were already planting rice and corn in Davao, Secretary Almendras said.

Almendras, who until recently was governor of Davao, handed over a check for P17,000 collected in his province for the peace-and-amelioration fund campaign. The President said the money will be utilized in the peace-and-order campaign in Sulu.

Almendras was accompanied by Judge Enrique Fernandez, Davao City Vice-Mayor Ramon Morada, and political leaders, who expressed their gratitude to President Garcia for nominating Almendras as head of the newly created Department of General Services.

Earlier, President Garcia received at his residence Rep. Joaquin R. Roces, chairman of the good government committee; Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela, and Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol and discussed with them the controversial purchase of the Hacienda San Luis by the Land Tenure Administration.

It was agreed at the conference that more attention should be paid to legislation during the current congressional session and the congressional investigation of the purchase should be continued during the recess of Congress.

A goodwill delegation from the Norwegian Export Council paid a courtesy call on the President. The delegation consisted of Soren Christian Sommerfeldt, vice-president of the Norwegian Export Council and chief of the Trade Political section of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Lars Fronth, vice-president of the Norwegian Export

Council; Thorolf Prytz, vice-president of the council; Torkel Ruud, director of the council; and Sverre Lindeberg, department manager of the Scandinavian Airlines System. They were accompanied by Lars Onsager, charge d'affaires of the Norwegian Legation here; Arne S. Fonkalarud; Per C. Odner, Manila manager of SAS; and Jose Blaquiedra, acting protocol officer of Malacañang.

Gov. Conrado Estrella conferred with President Garcia over the visit of the Chief Executive to Pangasinan on May 17 to inaugurate the P15 million Agno Irrigation System which will water 27,000 hectares, covering 11 towns.

Other presidential callers were Sens. Quintin Paredes and Domocao Alonto, Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto, Reps. Benjamin Ligot and Salvador Enciñas, Govs. Juan Trivino of Camarines Sur and Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, former Gov. Hadji G. Rasul, and former Rep. Godofredo Ramos.

PRESIDENT Garcia this day sent a cable to U. S. Rep. John McCormack (D-Mass.) extending the "sincerest appreciation and gratitude of the Filipino people and of myself for your strong and generous support to the economic assistance which the Philippines needs."

The President sent the cable to McCormack upon reading news report that Rep. McCormack had said in the congressional session that President Garcia "should be given all the assistance he needs to help his country weather the current economic recession in the Philippines."

President Garcia in his cable added that McCormack's thoughts and sentiments would "go a long way in further strengthening the love and faith between the American and Filipino peoples."

The President was informed by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo today of the operational profits of three companies where the government is a majority stockholder.

According to Secretary Pajo, the Philippine Air Lines, Inc., realized a net profit of P4,007,444 in 1957, and P5,223,832 in 1956. Pajo also told the President that the annual report of the Philippine Electrical Manufacturing Company, Inc., revealed a net profit of P419,469 in 1957 and P803,308 in 1956. The third company mentioned in the report of the Executive Secretary was the Manila Gas Corporation, which realized a net profit of P772,396 in 1957 and P745,751 in 1956.

President Garcia and the First Lady this afternoon received some 80 delegates to the Fifth Asian Film Festival being held in Manila.

The movie stars, dressed in their native costumes, suffered from the heat and busily primed themselves while waiting for the President and the First Lady to show up at the Malacañang reception hall.

A number of Malacañang officials and employees packed the reception hall as they curiously watched the top movie actresses from Asian countries.

The delegates were introduced to the President and the First Lady by Manuel de Leon of the LVN, who is executive secretary of the Asian film festival.

After greeting the delegates individually, the President and the First Lady tendered a merienda for their guests. They also posed with the delegates.

THE President this evening instructed the Presidential Law Enforcement Unit for Southern Philippines (PLEUSP) to exert all efforts to eradicate rampant violations of customs, revenue, and immigration laws in the South which had deprived the government of substantial revenues and provided ruinous competition to legitimate business.

In his conferences with the PLEUSP which called at Malacañang this evening for final instructions prior to its departure for the South early tomorrow morning, the President pointed out that the uncontrolled illegal activities

might provide opportunities for foreign-inspired clandestine activities inimical to the nation's economy, its political institutions and way of life, as well as its national security.

The President expressed hope that, with the creation of this special task force, the rampant law violations would be greatly minimized, if not totally eradicated.

Col. Flaviano Olivares, group chairman, promised that this organization would do its best to perform its assigned mission.

Members of the group are Solicitor Pacifico Querubin of the Department of Justice⁷, Collector Edilberto David of the Bureau of Customs, Deputy Commissioner Melecio B. Domingo of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Tirso Santillan of the Bureau of Immigration, and Lt. Col. Mamarinta Lao of the Constabulary.

Also at the conference was Navy Capt. Emilio Liwanag, commander of the naval unit which will serve as the executing arm of the group.

The task force will establish its headquarters in Jolo, Sulu. It will supervise and coordinate the administration and enforcement of Philippine tariff, customs, internal revenue, immigration, firearms, and currency laws and regulations, including the apprehension and prosecution of violators.

Its area of operation will be Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan, and such other areas as the President may direct.

April 25.—THIS morning President Garcia received NAWASA General Manager Susano Negado, who urged the restoration of funds appropriated for the construction of artesian wells

Negado expressed the fear that, unless the funds cut by the austerity program were restored, the wells construction program would suffer a great delay.

The NAWASA head also discussed with the President the programming of about \$63 million earmarked for the construction of 800 new waterworks systems in the entire country. The amount represents the dollar requirements for the construction of the systems.

Board Members of the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration led by their chairman, Mrs. Remedios O. Fortich, submitted to President Garcia the 1957 Annual Report of the government corporation.

At the same time, the President administered the oath of office to Mario Morelos as NARRA assistant general manager during the occasion.

The report stressed the fact that in its 17 resettlement projects, the corporation had been able to resettle more than 22,000 families in three years at a cost of only P762.18 per family as against 2,308 families in 1950-1953 at a cost of P1,325 per family.

Other NARRA officials who accompanied Mrs. Fortich were Directors Eugenio Reyes, Valeriano Plantilla, Rafael Hilado, Angelino Banzon, and Severo Yap; Board Secretary Delfin Manlapid; and Oscar Sarte.

Other presidential callers this morning were MRR General Manager Feliciano F. Santiago, Manila Port Service General Manager Francisco Medrano, Civil Defense Administrator Alfredo Eugenio, Reps. Manuel Zosa and Ramon Durano of Cebu, Vicente Araneta, Serafin Salvador, and Felisberto Verano.

PRESIDENT Garcia accepted today "with regret" the resignation of Vicente Y. Orosa as chairman of the PHHC board and as member of the NAWASA board.

The President accepted Orosa's resignation upon insistence of Orosa to resign because of his desire to engage in private business as consulting, engineer. Acceptance of his resignation takes effect upon the appointment and qualification of his successor.

The letter of acceptance which was signed by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo extended to Orosa the President's "sincere appreciation for the invaluable services you have rendered to the government in various capacities."

Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison said that the President will name Ambrosio Magsaysay to replace Orosa in the NAWASA board.

Other nominations made by President Garcia today were Ladislao Yap, director of the Wage and Position Classification Office; Gregorio Alfabeto, treasurer of the City of Silay; Jose L. Gonzalez, clerk of court of Surigao; and Jose C. Sering, board member of Surigao.

The President also appointed the following as members of the Board of National Education: Felicidad A. de Silva, Salih Ututalum, Leon O. Ty, and Feliciano Ledesma.

The President earlier, after breakfast at his Quezon City residence, conferred with Executive Secretary Pajo, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Press Secretary Sison, Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, and Legislative Liaison Officer Vicente Logarta on various matters.

At 10 a.m., the President proceeded to Malacañang and received his morning callers.

THE President today suspended from office for one month without pay Justice of the Peace Salvador F. Calizo of Balete, Capiz, after finding him guilty of "a cynical and deliberate disregard" of an official duty,

The suspension of Calizo was the result of an administrative case filed against him by a Mrs. Fructuosa C. Yaza. Of the three charges filed against the Balete justice of the peace, he was found guilty of only one after an investigation conducted by the district judge of Capiz.

The suspended justice of the peace was found guilty of deliberately not issuing to the complainant a copy of the order committing to jail the accused in a criminal case so as to enable the complainant to collect the cost of their (the accused) subsistence which the complainant, who was a caterer, had furnished.

The complainant, Mrs. Yaza, furnished the subsistence of five accused in a criminal case under a contract with the municipality. When she presented her bill to the municipal treasurer, however, the latter declined to pay because she did not have a copy of the order committing the five accused to jail.

Mrs. Yaza claimed that when she approached Calizo for the copy of the order of commitment to jail, the justice of the peace refused to give her one saying that he had not docketed the case.

In his decision following the investigation, the district judge of Capiz observed: "It is to be remembered always that the record of criminal or civil cases are public records and . . . as the legal custodian of the whole and every part thereof he (Calizo) is duty bound to show and furnish true or certified copies of any part of it when required to do so on demand of any interested party upon payment of the corresponding fees."

The President's action on the case followed recommendations by the Capiz district judge and the secretary of justice. Calizo was likewise ordered by the President to issue to the complainant a copy of the commitment order in the criminal case.

PRESIDENT Garcia today announced he will take "drastic measures" to step up revenue collections which he said have "sagged" for the last nine months.

He made the announcement at his weekly press conference this afternoon as he rejected the petition of Ilocos solons who had interceded for Internal Revenue Commissioner Jose Aranas in his dispute with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and Elias Vega, head of the assessment division of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

At the same time, the President said he had appealed to Congress to rush its legislative work on vital measures during its remaining 27 days of the current session.

He said he had appealed to the “sense of patriotism” of Congress to suspend in the meantime its investigations of several cases and devote its remaining 27 days of session to legislative matters.

The President admitted to newsmen he had received the resolution of Ilocos solons interceding for Aranas, who had been virtually stripped of his powers to investigate the tax liabilities of tobacco firms.

He upheld Secretary Hernandez in naming Vega as head of an 11-man body to check into the tax liabilities of tobacco firms.

However, the President refused to comment on reports that Finance Secretary Hernandez had lost confidence in Aranas.

He pointed out that Aranas and Deputy Commissioner Melecio Domingo could not justify the slump in the revenue collection.

The President stressed that “obviously there is a faulty system of revenue collection.”

At his press conference, the President also:

1. Reiterated his statement that there was no “reparations mess; and
2. Said he was naming a new man as chairman of the board of directors of the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation, vice Vicente Y. Orosa, who resigned.

President Garcia observed that while Congress has only 100 days of session, it has 300 investigation days.

He asked Congress leaders to undertake their investigations after the regular session.

He pointed out that the legislature has only 27 day of session work left, but have practically not passed any measure of vital importance.

However, he expressed optimism that Congress, which is conscious of its responsibility, may be able to clear its dockets at the end of the 100-day session.

The President commenting on the move to extend the regular session to 150 days, said that “will require a constitutional amendment.”

He also hit the Liberals for the slack in the congressional work. Pie said that “the Liberals have also their days in privilege speeches.”

In announcing his plan to take “drastic measures” to boost tax collections, the President said he was not at the moment contemplating to revamp the BIR.

He disclosed that when the specific taxes were imposed in 1955, an increase in revenue collection of P12 million was registered for the fiscal year 1955-56 and P16 million for the fiscal year 1956-57.

However, he noted that for the last nine months, there has been an abrupt drop in the collection.

The President said that when he summoned Arañas and Domingo to Malacañang, the two BIR officials could not explain the decline.

Touching on the resolution of the Ilocos solons urging for the return of porters to Arañas, the President said that Secretary Hernandez has not withdrawn the powers from the BIR chief. He explained that Hernandez merely clothed Vega's committee with the same powers.

President Garcia justified Hernandez's action as based on a law which empowers "anybody in his department to undertake a special task in relation to any matter and clothe his man with the necessary power."

The President said he was endorsing Hernandez in this action in an effort to step up revenue collection.

Commenting on reports that United States may not give him the amount he would seek for development loans, the President said, "I will justify every dollar I will secure as loan from the United States."

He expressed elation anew over the speech of Rep. John McCormack, House majority floor leader of the US' Congress. He said McCormack's speech was "encouraging and augurs well for my coming state visit."

At the same time, the President virtually closed the door to the Liberals to join him in his trip to the United States.

He previously invited the Liberals to join him in his economic mission to Washington, D. C.

At the press conference, the President said he has given the Liberals "sufficient time" and that "it seems there has not been any favorable reaction."

However, the President said he was appreciative of the point of view of Rep. Ramon D. Bagatsing (L-Manila), who was in favor of naming a minority member in the presidential entourage.

President Garcia refused to comment on reports that the Philippines should take the initiative for the reopening of the bases talks with the U.S.

Touching on the reparations questions, the President said that Minister Caesar Z. Lanuza, chief of the Philippine reparations mission in Japan, is still "too busy" in Japan for him to return here and explain alleged irregularities in the mission.

However, he denied there is a reparations mess and pointed out that "prices of reparations items are the same as those charged to other countries like Indonesia and Burma, which are getting war indemnity from Japan."

The President also told newsmen he was naming a new chairman of the PHHC. He said he was not inclined to name Bernardo Torres, PHHC general manager, as concurrent chairman of the board.

He indicated he wanted to separate the management of PHHC from the board of directors.

Commenting on the charge of Sen. Ambrosio Padilla that he should be blamed for the faulty filing system in the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Chief Executive retorted:

"Is Sen. Padilla willing to accept any blame for any missing document in the Office of the Solicitor General after he has resigned from office? It is not fair, no?"

He also remarked that Sen. Padilla "has many novel constitutional theories."

April 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia and the Council of Leaders today agreed that during the remaining days of the session, right of way be given to the discussion of the Administration's economic measures.

Among the bills intended to hasten the country's economic development which will be given priority attention are those amending the Nickel law, encouraging foreign investments, coordinating scientific efforts, establishing the Economic Development Bank to be capitalized from reparations proceeds, and increasing food production. These bills were first recommended by the President in his state-of-the-nation message to Congress.

During the conference, the nomination of Serafin Salvador, former congressman from Rizal, as undersecretary of the newly created Department of General Services, was approved.

The conferees agreed that during the remaining days of the session, the legislators would concentrate their work on legislative measures and would continue with investigation work during the recess.

Minister Ceasar Lanuza's return to Manila to shed light on reparations transactions, especially on alleged overpricing, was deferred in view of urgent business which the Reparations Mission in Tokyo is concluding in the procurement of the second-year reparations installment and in preparing for the third-year installment schedule which is due at the end of April.

In this connection, Congress leaders said that Congress was agreeable to continuing the reparations investigation after the session, confronted as it is with important and necessary legislation.

It was understood at the conference that in the Senate, there would be morning and afternoon sessions every day, including Saturdays, beginning May 2.

The Council of Leaders meeting which was presided over by President Garcia was held at the President's residence in Quezon City. Those who attended were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano P. Primicias, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer. Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez could not attend the meeting which was held beginning at breakfast and lasting up to noon.

FIVE hundred settlers from Diffun and Aglipay, Nueva Vizcaya, hailed the recent order of President Garcia cancelling the sale of patents of five big government lands in Isabela and Nueva Vizcaya, according to a telegram sent by Gov. Jose Espino to the President.

Gov. Espino requested President Garcia to issue orders to government agencies for on-the-spot issuance of free patents to individual settlers to avoid further agrarian troubles in his province.

Espino alleged that the 500 settlers who occupied lands within the five government tracts have been victimized when patents were applied for them by other persons.

EXECUTIVE Secretary and Mrs. Juan C. Pajo left this morning by plane for Tagbilaran, Bohol, after receipt of a rush telegram notifying them of the tragic death of their only son, Eduardo, in a jeep accident on the road between Tagbilaran and Baklayan.

The accident occurred at 12:30 yesterday afternoon, according to the sketchy report received by Secretary Pajo.

The sad news was relayed to President and Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia, who immediately expressed their condolence to the Pajos.

THE President today considered the *Time* magazine article incident closed-

In declaring the incident closed, President Garcia said he was glad that our people had shown in an unmistakable way that they could forget partisanship, and in complete solidarity rally in defense of the country's honor and dignity of which the President is the personification.

The President was also pleased to know that the article did not represent the sentiment of the American press and the American people toward him and the Filipino people.

The Chief Executive said that the statement of Rep. John McCormack (D. Mass.), majority leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, vigorously supporting our government and our President in the effort to strengthen the country's economy with American assistance, was an eloquent indication of the great American reservoir of goodwill and understanding toward the Filipino people.

April 21.—MALACAÑANG today referred to the Department of Public Works and Communications the cases of a paymaster and a Bureau of Public Works foreman in Kalibo, Aklan, for further study and possible prosecution for alleged anomalies in the handling of laborers' payrolls.

Malacañang also transmitted to the Department of Education the cases of teachers in Cebu who had allegedly falsified their service records in order to qualify for the promotional junior teacher's civil service examination.

In forwarding these cases to the departments concerned, Malacañang called attention to the President's policy of dealing firmly with irregularities in the government service. Malacañang directed a prompt implementation of this policy.

Tirso C. Josen, vice-chairman of the Presidential Complaints and Action Committee, reported that one of his investigators, Tex P. Carillo, had unearthed alleged anomalous activities of one Pedro Medula, a foreman of the Bureau of Public Works in Kalibo. Medula reportedly had forged signatures of his laborers and gave them fictitious residence certificate numbers so that he could collect certain amounts from their salaries. The foreman was also said to have padded some payrolls by making it appear in the time book that those laborers had worked for a period longer than they actually did.

PCAC man also suggested that one Urbano Perroco, acting paymaster in the provincial treasury of Aklan, might be charged administratively for having allegedly certified under official oath that the laborers under Medula had gone to him personally to get their salaries. The PCAC investigator had recommended that a special prosecutor be sent to Aklan to handle these cases.

Acting on a presidential directive to look further into the case of allegedly fraudulent civil service junior teachers examinations in Cebu province, PCAC Vice-Chairman Josen has dispatched Carillo and another investigator, Constancio Bernaldes, to that province. The investigating team recently returned and reported that many teachers in the locality who had failed in the regular junior teachers examination had applied for conversion from regular to promotional in order to obtain the required passing mark of 70 per cent.

To cover the period of ten years' teaching experience required by the Bureau of Civil Service for conversion from regular to promotional, the teachers involved executed affidavits to the effect that they had taught during the Japanese occupation from 1943 to 1945, as the period of teaching during that time is recognized by the Bureau of Civil Service.

The investigators, however, found that most of these teachers could not have possibly taught during the occupation, for the places mentioned in their affidavits were then the center of guerrilla activities and classes were closed in those localities. It was also found that some of those teachers were only 13 or 14 years old during the time and, hence, were still too young to be teachers. It was noted that some 200 teachers in Cebu had executed such affidavits.

Vice-Chairman Joson, in his report, pointed out that “teachers as moral leaders of their respective communities must set good examples to the people, especially to the young.” According to him, what those teachers had done was “an evident cheapening of their official op. this certainly degrading to their noble profession.”

PRESIDENT Garcia spent today another quiet Sunday at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. Except for a few close friends who called on him early in the morning, the President did not receive any visitor.

The Chief Executive started the day by hearing mass before an improvised altar set up in the living room of his house. At the mass were some close friends of the President, Maj. Jose Estrella, military aide, and members of the household.

After the mass, the President had a brief stroll around the lawn. He showed his friends some newly planted fruit trees in his backyard and an orchid house which the First Lady was maintaining. He also spent some time talking with gardeners whom he found tending to the fruit trees which included a few oranges, coconuts, and calamansi.

After breakfast, the President repaired to his study where he read the Sunday morning papers. He also went over some papers which he had taken along from Malacañang.

IN the afternoon, the President worked on a prepared speech which he will deliver at the opening ceremonies of the Third Philippine Foreign Trade Conference of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines at the Manila Hotel tomorrow morning.

The President later in the evening conferred with Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, who briefed him on varied matters.

April 28.—THIS morning President Garcia was the guest speaker at the opening session of the Third Philippine Foreign Trade Conference held at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines. (*See Historical Papers*, for May 15th issue, for full text of the President’s speech.)

Members of the diplomatic corps, foreign and local businessmen, and commerce students heard the President speak on foreign trade. A delegation of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce led by Dwight K. Tripp was also present.

The President arrived at the Manila Hotel accompanied by CCP acting President Marcelo S. Balatbat and Director P. E. Domingo, who fetched the President from his Quezon City residence.

At the presidential table were high CCP officials and members of the diplomatic corps. Education Secretary Manuel Lim, in his capacity as CCP director, was the presiding officer at the opening ceremonies.

PRESIDENT Garcia this noon ordered the confiscation of all the banned goods brought into the country in the guise of personal effects and directed that those violating the law be prosecuted and the guilty meted out the highest penalty.

The President gave this order as he personally directed the opening up of big crates containing banned items in Pier 7 which had been brought in as personal effects of persons who had travelled abroad.

The President was informed that some 92 crates had been stored in Pier 7 and in another bodega of the Bureau of Customs. These goods had come in as personal effects of travelers, who are entitled to bring in \$500 worth of personal effects.

The President had been tipped off earlier that these crates contained banned items. The President motored to the Customs House and then to Pier 7, where several of these crates had been in storage. He was accompanied by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

Upon arrival at the Customs House, the President was informed that Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas was out on inspection. However, several customs officials, among them Assistant Commissioner Pablo C. Mariano, Manila Customs Collector Isidro Angangco, and Col. James Keefe, were on hand. Finance Undersecretary Jose Trinidad and other customs officials were also present.

Upon the President's direction, the first crate marked "AM, R-370" and allegedly belonging to one Albert Magallona of Manila, was opened. The crate contained banned items; such as, dried shrimps, chocolate candies, Nescafe tins, pickled lettuce, black pepper, and tea. Another item shown the President was cigarette paper.

The President was informed that although each traveler was entitled to personal effects amounting to \$500, it was estimated that each of the big crates stored in Pier 7, measuring about three meters high and two meters wide, contained goods worth about P20,000 in the black market.

The President showed indignation upon learning that some travelers had been abusing the privilege of bringing in personal effects by violating the country's laws in the bringing in of banned item.

The President was further informed that in some crates cigarettes, fancy jewelry, and other banned items were found.

The President directed Col. Keefe to have all the remaining crates opened and inspected and said he was going to send his personal representatives in the person of Commander Marcelino Calinawan, Capt. Abdinaso Ortiz, and Lorenzo Licad to be present during the opening of all the remaining crates.

The Chief Executive told the customs officials to check with the Department of Foreign Affairs to verify the names of those travelers who had allegedly brought in the crates. It was held probable that some of the names listed were fictitious.

The President was also informed that the investigation of the alleged illegal importation of textiles by the Roxas-Kalaw firm was proceeding apace. The discovery of this alleged illegal importation had been made by secret operatives assigned by the President to prevent the violation of customs and internal revenue laws.

The President arrived at the Customs House shortly before 11 a.m. He motored to Pier 7 immediately after he had delivered his speech at the Manila Hotel, Fiesta Pavilion on the occasion of the opening of the Foreign Trade Week celebration. Staying for about an hour at Pier 7, the President returned to Malacañang shortly before 12 noon.

IN the evening, the President conferred in Malacañang with the nominated members of the Reparations Commission and discussed with them some details of the third-year reparations schedule due for submission on April. 30.

Present at this conference were Rodolfo Maslog, Reparations Commission chairman; and Governors Alejo Santos and Juan Alberto, commission members; Gregorio Abad; and Anacleto Mangaser, reparations assistant.

April 29.—AT a conference starting at breakfast today, President Garcia and House leaders agreed in principle to pass legislation which will more effectively check on the integrity of tax collecting agents.

This agreement was made to implement further the Administration's determination to combat graft and corruption and to help increase the revenues of the government.

Under the plan, it was agreed in principle between the President and House leaders to classify the positions of tax collecting agents as primarily confidential and highly technical in nature and for them to hold the position at the pleasure of the appointing power.

The purpose of this action will be to make effective the removal from office of the tax collecting agents, both in the Bureau of Customs and in the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the moment they have lost the confidence of the appointing power.

It is believed by the conferees that this measure will minimize the commission of graft and corruption in the tax collecting agencies and at the same time increase the amount of taxes due the government.

To effect this measure it will be necessary to amend the internal Revenue Code and, indirectly, the Civil Service Law.

The President and the House leaders also agreed to speed up the legislation on economic measures designed to strengthen the economy of the country.

The conferees approved the proposed anti-smuggling bill and the amendments to the provisions of the law; exempting new and necessary industries from the payment of taxes. Regarding the latter bill, it was agreed in principle that new and necessary industries which are already making profits should pay income tax.

The conferees agreed in principle to back up a bill which aims to develop cottage industries. They also agreed in principle to amend the No-Dollar Import Law so as to abolish barter.

It was moreover, agreed to support a bill creating the Foreign Import-Export Trade Office to be known as the FIETO.

The conferees agreed to amend the law giving awards to tax informers in such a way as to keep the identity of the informer secret.

The President presided over the conference which was attended by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Reps. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Justiniano Montano of Cavite, Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, Sergio Osmeña, Jr., of Cebu, Bartolome Cabangbang and Natalia Castillo of Bohol, Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Jose Roy of Tarlac, Lucas Paredes of Abra, Jose Leido of Mindoro Oriental, Valeriano Yancha of Samar, and Eladio Balite of Leyte, and Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur. Also present were Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio C. Quimson and Malacañang legal advisers, Salvador Esguerra and Enrique Fernando.

The conference started at 8 a.m. and lasted up to luncheon about 1:30 p.m. The conference was held at the President's residence in Quezon City.

THE President authorized today the Cultural Foundation of the Philippines to conduct a national fund campaign during the period from May 1 to June 30, 1958.

In authorizing the fund campaign, the President said that the propagation and dissemination of Philippine art and culture would further enhance the prestige of the Philippines abroad and enable her to have closer relations with other countries.

The Cultural Foundation of the Philippines is at present undertaking an extensive cultural promotion program between the Philippines and other countries through increased knowledge and better understanding of their history, art, literature, music, political institutions, and common problems and interests in the economic and social fields.

The President's authorization of the fund campaign was contained in a presidential proclamation. The Chief Executive called upon all citizens and residents of the Philippines to assist in this noble campaign by giving generously of their means in the interest of Philippine culture.

PRESIDENT Garcia this day granted another reprieve to three Muntinglupa convicts who were scheduled to “burn” tomorrow afternoon. The 30-day reprieve was granted to enable President Garcia to study more carefully the case.

The convicts, Manuel Daet, Jose Villaroya, and Enrique Areloja, were sentenced to death for the slaying of a couple, Felix Refugio and Victoria Toy, in Tinambac, Camarines Sur, in June 1951.

THIS evening President Garcia administered the oaths of office to members of the Reparations Commission and to Bartolome Fernandez, supervising auditor of the General Auditing Office, as deputy auditor general.

Reparations commissioners inducted were Rodolfo Maslog, chairman; and Govs. Alejo Santos of Bulacan and Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, members. The inductions were held this evening at the President’s residence on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City.

The new deputy auditor general has been in the government service for a total of 40 years, 38 of which were spent with the GAO where he started as clerk in 1920. He succeeded the former deputy auditor general, Pedro Gimenez, who had been promoted to auditor general in January of last year. Fernandez is from Libon, Albay.

Present at the ceremonies were officials of the GAO headed by Auditor General Gimenez, relatives, and friends of the inductees.

Following the inductions, Gimenez took occasion to thank the President for having approved the reorganization plan of the GAO so as to make it a more effective fiscalizing arm of the government. The administrative order providing for the revamp signed by the President this noon pursuant to Republic Act 1890, which authorizes the auditor general to reorganize the office,

The President this evening also conferred with former Gov. Bernardo Torres, general manager of the People’s Homesite & Housing Corporation, who informed him of the latest developments in the projected purchase of the Santo-Sociego Estate in Quezon City by the PHHC from private owners, for subdivision and distribution to present tenants. Torres was accompanied by Tirso Joson, vice-chairman of the PCAC who conducted investigations on some 500 families living in the 18-hectare estate.

Another caller this evening was Agriculture Secretary Juan de G Rodriguez.

April 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning expressed to Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper the gratitude of the Philippine Government and the Filipino people for his services as JUSMAG chief.

The President made these remarks after a *despedida* breakfast given by President and Mrs. Garcia at Malacañang honoring the Harpers.

The President said that General Harper’s stay in the Philippines had enhanced friendly relations between the Philippines and the United States. He expressed the hope that although the Philippines would lose a military adviser, it would gain an additional friend in the United States where he could be of great service to the Philippines.

General Harper in thanking the President for his remarks said that the help he had rendered the Philippines was the result of the joint efforts of the Armed Forces of the Philippines represented by Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff.

Harper paid high tribute to the Armed Forces of the Philippines, which he said, is composed of “magnificent troops.”

After the breakfast, the President gave a cane and a buntal hat to Gen. Harper, while Mrs. Garcia gave Mrs. Harper a salad set made of native hard wood, as souvenirs.

THE President this morning received members of the Senate committee on agriculture and natural resources who appraised him on problems of various fishing grounds of the country, particularly in Pampanga and Bulacan.

The committee, composed of Sens. Oscar Ledesma, chairman; and Lorenzo M. Tañada, Francisco Rodrigo, and Rogelio de la Rosa, members, informed the President that they had been conducting on-the-spot investigations on the matter and that they had agreed on the following temporary remedial measures for the President's approval:

(1) *Status Quo* should be maintained in controversial areas in the sense that constructions of new dikes should be considered illegal; and

(2) Authorities concerned should set up provisional markers with the view to upholding the lineage defined as communal fishing grounds in Executive Order No. 449.

At the same time, the committee members presented a copy of Senate Bill No. 196, sponsored by Sens. Ledesma, Tanada, Rodrigo, and De la Rosa, to the President. The bill seeks to prohibit constructing dams, dikes, or any other works in public navigable waters and to provide penalties for its violations.

Then the President received Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, who consulted him on various problems in the Moslem regions.

PRESIDENT Garcia administered the oaths of office to some 40 officers of the newly-organized Good Administration Supporters Association (GASA) in a ceremony held at Malacañang this afternoon.

The organization is composed of various political groups which had helped campaign for the President's victory during the last elections. They had combined into one civic organization to assist the Administration in attaining its objectives designed for the welfare of the people.

The President thanked the association for its offer of cooperation. He said that with civic organizations behind him, he felt all the more encouraged to push through his economic program to attain self-sufficiency in the basic needs of the people, until every citizen of this country could have some measure of security.

Headed by Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, national chairman, among those inducted were Tereso Dumon, national executive vice-chairman; Teofilo Manalo, executive secretary; Ramon Ludovico, assistant executive secretary; Elpidio Cusio, vice-chairman for Luzon; Sergio Tucao, vice-chairman for Mindanao; and Emilio Benedicto, Jr., regional director for Western Visayas.

After the ceremony, the President received members of the Committee on Sulu Affairs headed by Capt. Francisco H. Calinawan, Malacañang performance officer. The President reiterated his desire to solve the Sulu problem once and for all for the benefit of our Moslem brothers in the South.

The Chief Executive recalled that there had been various attempts in the past to solve this perennial problems in Sulu. He hoped the present committee could learn a lot from these attempts, avoid their mistakes, and improve their methods which had produced some results.

The President created the committee recently with his launching of a "new deal" for the Sulu archipelago.

The President convoked his regular weekly Cabinet meeting at 5:25 p.m.

THE President and the Cabinet at their meeting this afternoon approved the importation of 30,000 metric tons of rice from Burma on a government-to-government level transaction.

Ten thousand metric tons of this rice, which is 255 per cent broken, will cost \$117 per ton, C. & F. Manila. The remaining 20,000 metric tons, which is 20 per cent broken, will cost \$122 per metric tons, C. & F. Manila.

The Cabinet took this action to insure the country's supply of rice and to prevent undue increase in rice prices.

It was understood that the Burmese rice could be shipped to Manila at any moment. The importation of the rice will be made through the NAMARCO.

The President directed that NARIC General Manager Vicente Concepcion, a representative of NAMARCO, and Mayor Arsenio Lacson leave for Rangoon to supervise the shipment of the rice.

The President appointed a committee to screen some 33 bills drafted by the different governments in order that only those which are really necessary would be endorsed to the Congress.

The committee is composed of Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano as chairman, with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera, members. The committee will meet on Friday to screen the bills.

The President set a special Cabinet meeting for Monday in order to discuss the report of the committee and decide which bills will be recommended by the President to Congress.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1958). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 54(8), cliii-clxxv.

President's Month in Review: May 1-15, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

May 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning authorized Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson to make exploratory talks for the acquisition of additional Burmese rice as the Manila mayor called on the President to receive final instructions prior to his departure for Rangoon. The Mayor called on the President at the latter's workshop in Quezon City.

Afterwards the President received Maj. Gen. William H. Nutter, who will replace Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper as JUSMAG chief. Nutter was scheduled to take over today.

Nutter was accompanied by Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, Maj. Gen. Harper, Col. H. L. Conner, JUSMAG chief of staff; and Capt. Boyd T. Bashore, Harper's aide.

After receiving Nutter, the President retired to his study room and worked on his Labor Day speech to be delivered this evening.

The President alerted today all government relief agencies to extend relief to the victims of the ₱2.5 million Cotabato fire which, according to news reports, burned four blocks of commercial and residential establishments, including government offices in Cotabato, Cotabato.

The agencies alerted were the Social Welfare Administration, the Philippine National Red Cross, the Department of Health, and the Armed Forces.

President Garcia this evening capped the celebration of Labor Day by paying tribute to Philippine labor as "the real backbone and strength of our country."

Addressing in Tagalog a crowd estimated at 10,000 from the independence grandstand on the Luneta, the President said that the absence of serious labor strikes at a time when economic difficulties beset the country is "a good and excellent index of the good qualities of Philippine labor."

Speaking in halting, accented Tagalog, President Garcia asked the workers to be stout-hearted in the face of economic difficulties.

"Of course, my countrymen, we are not alone in our present economic state, because the whole world is experiencing it too," he said. "Even the richest countries are suffering the effects of economic disequilibrium."

The President observed that it is noteworthy that it is the better-placed in life who are complaining of the austerity program.

"The poor, unsung workers and laborers silently suffer so that they can give better opportunities for this administration to put our country in order and improve the economic life of the Filipino people."

President Garcia then proceeded to extol labor thus: "Whatever progress our country has achieved today, we owe it in great measure to the masses of our laboring class who are the most forgotten but who nevertheless give their utmost for the welfare of our government, and while less fortunate in the aspects of life, are willing to sacrifice for the common weal and glory of our native land."

A torch parade, in which at least 30,000 men and women took part, preceded the presidential address.

The participation in the parade was believed one of the biggest in the past four years. However, the crowd which usually come to watch the parade never exceed 10,000.

May 2.—THIS noon the President administered the oath of office to Gonzalo Gonzalez as acting chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Social Security System.

The oath-taking ceremony took place at the Malacañang study room and was witnessed by three members of the SSS Board; namely, Labor Secretary Angel Castaho, Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia, and Ildefonso Remolona.

Earlier, problems of the cordage industry were taken up at a conference the President had with Howard P. Strickler, chairman of the board of directors of the Manila Cordage Company, and Don Manolo Elizalde, president of the Elizalde and Company.

The cordage executives requested President Garcia to direct Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo to intensify his fight against the unfair practice of some American importers of labelling as “Manila Type Rope” foreign-made rope made of sisal.

The President assured the cordage executives that the government would be willing to extend a helping hand to the cordage industry in its efforts to recapture European and South American markets which it had lost owing to the lack of dollars in other parts of the world.

The President also received John Roelli, resident manager of Ed Keller and Company, Ltd., who gave him a high precision aerial photogram-metric camera for the use of the government.

Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, who was present at the turnover ceremony, informed the President that the camera would be used for the early execution of a surveying pilot project of the province of Bulacan to be carried out jointly by various entities under the Department of National Defense and the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Other presidential callers were Commissioner Madki Alonto; Richard Pockmire and A. Ponce Enrile, general manager and director, respectively, of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company (Philippines); former Secretary Sotero Baluyot and Mariano Agaoli.

First to be received by the President this morning was Ambassador Jose Fuentebella. The Philippine envoy to Djakarta was accompanied by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and his brother, Rep. Felix Fuentebella.

PRESIDENT Garcia today received the final report of the Presidential Incentives Committee, which recommended the lifting of control on foreign exchange as soon as possible but not later than two years provided that measures to increase production and to safeguard the stability of the currency are adopted and implemented.

Antonio de las Alas, committee chairman, submitted the report to President Garcia in the presence of Alfredo Montelibano, Alfonso Calalang, Fernando E. V. Sison, Helen Benitez, Jose Hernandez, and Gaudencio Antonino, committee members.

The committee also recommended that during the interim period prior to the complete lifting of exchange control, the government adopt a policy of granting adequate allocations of foreign exchange for the direct importation by agricultural producers and manufacturers of machinery, equipment, spare parts, fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides, weedicides, and fuel essential to production, with a view to increasing production at lower costs.

The committee also recommended that as a matter of policy, whenever the obstacles to trade are purely in the nature of payments difficulties, the Philippines should adopt a multiple currency payment system, under which stable and freely convertible currencies other than the U. S. dollar can be accepted.

President Garcia stated that he was in favor of gradual decontrol and added that he was considering endorsing to Congress the adoption of the multiple currency payment system in order to aid local industries which are encountering difficulties in the non-dollar areas owing to dollar scarcity.

PRESIDENT Garcia intimated at his weekly press conference this afternoon that Ambassador Jose Fuentebella was on his way out of the Philippine foreign service.

In hinting on Fuentebella's fate, the President pointed out that there are three courses of action open to a diplomat who disagrees with the policy of his home office.

These are (1) resignation, (2) a request for a reassignment to another diplomatic post, and (3) an appeal directly to the President.

"Pat it is a little bit too late now," President Garcia said ominously, as he admitted that Fuentebella has resorted to the third alternative. Fuentebella has not asked for a reassignment,

With Fuentebella's appeal, the President took official cognizance of the raging controversy between Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano and the ambassador to Indonesia.

At the same time, the Chief Executive declared, that the current conflict over the conduct of Philippine-Indonesian relations will be decided "on its merits" and not on political considerations.

The probability of Fuentebella's being asked to "resign" appeared when the President pointed out that the ambassador has not availed of "easier" courses of action for a diplomat who differs with the policy of the home office.

At his press conference, the President also:

1. Declared that the Philippines will maintain "friendly relations with the Sukarno regime pending final resolution of the Indonesian civil war;
2. Said he was considering calling a special Congress session to tackle proposed amendments to the Constitution, but that there was "nothing sure" about it yet;
3. Reiterated his appeal to Congress to work faster during the remaining session day in acting on his various economic proposals to help out the limping Philippine economy;
4. Warned that he will continue to conduct "lightning" raids on government offices suspected of being graft-ridden;
5. Said that Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson was the one who arranged the purchase on a government-to-government transaction of 30,000 metric tons of rice from Burma; and.
8. Minimized the adverse effect on the civil service system of a plan to change the status of tax collecting agents from civil service men to employees holding positions confidential and highly technical in nature.

The President said he would wait for the action which Congress might deem fit to take on the Serrano-Fuentebella row before he himself makes a move on the part of the executive department.

He temporarily ruled out the possibility that Fuentebella might be charged with insubordination for his bitter criticisms of Serrano.

"That is still too early," he said.

However, the President upheld the authority of the Foreign Service Board to initiate the investigation of Fuentebella on charges of alleged mismanagement of the embassy in Jakarta. ,

He said: "That is theirs to decide. That is clearly within the province of the Foreign Service Board."

The President said he might call Secretary Serrano either today or early next week to ask him to give his side on his row with Fuentebella since the Palace has taken official cognizance of the controversy.

The Chief Executive was reminded by a newsman that Fuentebella's seeming defiance of Serrano apparently stemmed from the fact that he counts with the support of the politically-powerful Bicol bloc of senators and representatives.

President Garcia stressed that the diplomatic controversy could not be settled on the basis of partisan considerations, but purely "on its merits," indicating that he would resist political pressure on the ease.

He said: "We cannot afford to decide this case on political considerations. We have to decide the case on the merits regardless of who gets more votes."

Then the President proceeded to explain the three courses of action available to diplomats who differ with the policy of the foreign secretary,

Asked if Fuentebella had appealed to him, the President said: "He sort of did that. But it is a little bit too late now."

The Chief Executive rejected a suggestion that Fuentebella be retired under the compulsory retirement law, the ambassador now being over 73.

"The matter of an ambassador's age is not a very important consideration in the foreign service," he said.

Queried about the present Philippine relations with strife-torn Indonesia, President Garcia said that it was "just in a sort of suspended animation."

"We are waiting for developments," he said. "In the meantime, we will maintain our friendly relations with the Djakarta Government."

May 3.—THIS morning the President held a preliminary discussion with the Council of Leaders on the proposed amendments to the Constitution. The proposed constitutional amendments will affect the holding of simultaneous elections in the Philippines.

It was agreed that if a special session were to be held, it should be only for the purpose of constitutional amendments.

The President also discussed with the Council of Leaders important legislative matters, especially bills which would bolster the country's economy. The President was assured by the Congress leaders of their support to these important legislations.

Presided by the President, the conference was attended by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Rornualdez, Senate President Pro-tempore Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer. House Speaker Protempore Constancio Castafieda could not attend the conference.

The conference was held at the President's residence in Quezon City at breakfast from 8 a.m. until noon.

PRESIDENT Garcia's campaign against graft and corruption in the government went into high gear this afternoon when he directed Lt. Cdr. Marcelino Calinawan to push vigorously his investigation of alleged anomalies in the Bureau of Customs.

Calinawan who made a progress report on his work in the Bureau of Customs reported to the President that he found the situation to be explosive. The President told Calinawan: "Let it explode."

The President officially designated Calinawan today as his investigator to clean up the Bureau of Customs. The designation followed Calinawan's acting as one of the President's personal representatives at the opening up of 92 crates of alleged personal effects brought in the country by returning travelers abroad.

The President who made a surprise visit last Monday to the Bureau of Customs was angered upon seeing for himself the personal effects brought in by returning tourists which turned out to be banned items. The President at that time ordered the confiscation of all these goods and directed that those violating the law be prosecuted vigorously and those found guilty be meted out the highest penalty.

President Garcia was informed by Calinawan that 14 out of the 92 crates stored in the Bureau of Customs' storeroom had already been opened. He said that the crates were owned by only a few persons.

Calinawan said that aside from banned items, such as dried shrimps, chocolate candies, Nescafe tin, pickled lettuce, black pepper, tea, and cigarette paper which the President had seen during his surprise visit, other items found so far were fancy jewelry, cigarettes, rayon pajamas, *sotanghon*, ornaments, fishing rods, reels, and ladies wear.

Calinawan also told the President that owing to anomalous practices in the Bureau of Customs the government was losing millions of pesos on account of uncollected taxes.

President Garcia told Calinawan to do his job thoroughly and to go hard against the guilty parties.

The President conferred with Calinawan this afternoon at the President's residence in Quezon City.

The President stepped out of his residence in the evening to talk about economics before Filipino insurance men on the 10th anniversary of the Surety Associations of the Philippines.

He arrived at the club about 8:42 p.m. Although the invitation was for 7:30 p.m., the President found very few people in the hall and had to wait for 45 minutes before other guests arrived and the ceremonies started.

President Garcia was introduced by Romeo Echaz, immediate past president of the association.

May 4.— PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet Sunday today with members of his family at his private residence on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City. He did not receive any caller the whole day.

The President woke up early this morning at his Quezon City home, where he had proceeded the night before, after attending a dinner held at the Philippine Columbian Club commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Surety Association of the Philippines in which he was guest speaker.

He had a brief stroll around his backyard and spent some time chatting with gardeners tending to the few fruit trees he had planted there and to the orchid house which Mrs. Garcia was maintaining in the premises.

About 8 a.m., the President heard Sunday mass at his living room. Also at the mass was the First Lady, Lt. Melchor Fronda, naval aide, and members of the household.

After breakfast with the First Lady, the President repaired to his study where he read the Sunday papers. He also spent some time reading state documents which he had brought along from Malacañang.

The Chief Executive had lunch at 1 p.m. with the First Lady and their children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, who had arrived shortly before noon to join them. Then the President went to his bedroom to rest.

In the evening, the President resumed reading some state papers.

May 5.— PRESIDENT Garcia today took up the problems of local Virginia tobacco industry with a delegation of the United Growers Association led by Dr. Rizal de Peralta.

Showing his deep interest in the industry which is the livelihood of about 2 million Ilocanos, the President discussed the disposition of low grade Virginia tobacco with the delegation.

As a temporary solution, the UGA members proposed the barter of low-grade Virginia tobacco, to be handled by the growers themselves, with essential commodities like machinery. The President said that the Cabinet had made a stand against barter.

Another solution more permanent in nature offered by the delegation was the amendment of Republic Act 1194 by eliminating the price support for sun-dried stock.

The UGA delegation told President Garcia that low-grade Virginia tobacco which amounts to about 45 per cent of the annual production, is hard to eliminate but added that efforts were being exerted by the planters themselves to minimize its production.

President Garcia said that if price support for low-grade Virginia tobacco cannot be eliminated, the local Virginia tobacco industry will suffer in two or three years, as the ACCFA by then would have no funds available even for the purchase of high-grade Virginia tobacco.

The President also received a delegation of health officers, led by Health Undersecretary Tranquilino Elicaño; Dr. Marcos Corpus, president of the Health Officers Association; and Dr. Jose Reyes, president of the League of Hospital Directors.

The callers are holding their annual convention in Manila. They reiterated their pledge of support to the President.

Ralph Boyd, representing a group of foreign investors, also called on President Garcia to submit a proposal to finance the fishing industry. He also said that his group is interested in setting up a canning factory for the industry as well as a rayon factory.

The group will accept payment for supplies to be extended to fishing operators not in dollars but in products like canned fish.

Other presidential callers were Secretary Alejandro Almendras of the Department of General Services; C. V. Starr and William S. Youngman, board chairman and president, respectively, of the C. V. Starr and Co., Earl Carroll and Leonides Virata of the Philippine-American Insurance Co.; Gov. Leon Fernandez of Sulu; ex-Rep. Carmen D. Consing; and Mayor Justiniano Borja of Cagayan de Oro City.

Bothered by the low government revenues collections, the President called the members of his Cabinet to a special meeting this afternoon and drafted a measure for immediate congressional action seeking to reorganize the Bureaus of Internal Revenue and Customs.

After listening to the President's report, the Cabinet immediately approved a measure seeking the reorganization of these two government offices and classifying the top positions in these agencies as "confidential in nature."

Under the plan, the top officials may be removed at any time even without cause.

After his Cabinet meeting which adjourned at 8 p.m.; the President retired to his private residence in Quezon City, where he stayed for the night.

May 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed the need for congressional approval of a bill he had certified as urgent which seeks to cloak the President with the authority to order the removal of all illegally constructed dikes or dams across any river or stream.

The President made this move in order to solve the problem in the provinces of Pampanga, Bulacan, and Iloilo where rich landowners reportedly closed rivers and converted them into their own fishponds.

The matter was taken up at a conference President Garcia had with Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo and Dr. Leodegario Bedia.

The President was informed that certain Marta Espinosa had allegedly constructed a dam on the Darajogan River in Barotoc Nuevo, Iloilo, for fishpond purposes to the prejudice of the residents of six barrios

Rep. Ladrado called the attention of President Garcia to the fact that there is a government project to construct a port in Guintas not far from the site of the dam with an appropriation of ₱100,000. He added that the dam has impeded navigation upstream.

Upon the petition of Rep. Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya and confirmed by Mariano Almeda, assistant to the NBI director, the President directed that all insular prisoners who bolted last April 21 from the provincial jail of Nueva Vizcaya be returned to Muntinlupa.

The insular prisoners were transferred to the provincial jail for trial which was later postponed until August in view of their escape.

Sen. Domocao Alonto and Hadji Ibrahim Ali asked the help of President Garcia in the matter of dollar requirements of more than 2,000 Moslem pilgrims who are going to Mecca within two months. President Garcia told Sen. Alonto that the matter would be taken up at the Cabinet meeting tomorrow.

Cebu Gov. Jose Briones appealed to President Garcia for relief for the inhabitants of seven towns of Cebu who are suffering from hunger.

President Garcia immediately directed SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor to dispatch ₱5,000 worth of relief goods to Cebu and coordinate relief work with Gov. Briones.

Other callers were Reps. Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Faustino Tobia and Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Luis Hora of Mountain Province, Benjamin T. Ligot of Cagayan, Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, Francisco Ortega of La Union, Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, Jose Legaspi of Aklan, Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Isidro Kintanar of Cebu, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Pedro Trono of Iloilo, and Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal.

THE President this day took steps to prevent jailbreaks throughout the country. In several directives wired through Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio C. Quimson, the President:

- (1) Placed the provincial jail of Nueva Vizcaya under Constabulary control;
- (2) Approved the holding of a ten-day in-service training among all provincial and city jail wardens beginning May 12, to be held at the New Bilibid Prisons in Muntinlupa, Rizal, under the auspices of the director of prisons;
- (3) Directed the forming of a committee in each province and city composed of provincial board members or city councilors and the provincial commander to conduct on-the-spot investigation in all provincial and city jails and to submit a report within two days upon receipt of the directive; and

(4) Inquired from the provincial governor of Nueva Vizcaya about what action had been taken against the provincial warden and/or provincial guards found negligent in connection with the recent jailbreak in the provincial jail of that province.

The President approved the holding of the ten days⁵ in-service training among all provincial and city wardens “in the interest of effective administration of provincial and city jails.” During the duration of the training, the President directed the provincial governors and city mayors that if necessary the provincial commanders should be asked to detail PC officers to supervise the provincial and city jails in the absence of the provincial and city wardens.

In directing the forming of the committee to look into the conditions of the provincial or the city jail, the President specified that the on-the-spot investigation should be centered on the problems confronting the administration of the jails, particularly on the accommodation or living space of prisoners, the necessity of training the jail wardens and guards, the maintenance and subsistence of prisoners, the work and recreation of the prisoners, and other aspects.

The President informed the provincial governors and city mayors that the secretary of justice requested the judges of courts of first instance and municipal judges to cooperate with the committees in their respective provinces and cities.

The directives to the provincial governors and city mayors were contained in circular telegrams sent by Secretary Quimson. The secretary of justice, the secretary of national defense, the chief of the PC, and the director of prisons were accordingly informed of the action taken by the President in separate communications.

Reports and recommendations of the provincial and city committees will be submitted to the secretary of justice who will furnish the President with a copy. The President told the provincial governors and city mayors that the provincial board or the city council should implement immediately such recommendations of the committee as may be done without assistance or approval of national authorities.

President Garcia today directed Philippine National Bank President Arsenio Jison to look into the possibility of granting buildings loans to the victims of the recent fire in Cotabato, Cotabato.

The request for the building loans was made by the civic leaders and citizens of the fire-gutted town through Sergio F. Toca, Malacañang technical assistant on Mindanao and Sulu Affairs.

After receiving the President’s directive, PNB President Jison said that he would immediately send a special representative to Cotabato to assist the PNB branch manager there in appraising the loans needed by the fire victims.

The President this day declared May 7 as a special public holiday in Morong, Rizal, in order to afford the citizens of that municipality an opportunity to commemorate the birthday anniversary of the World War I hero, Tomas Claudio, a native of Morong.

THE President created today a national committee to take charge of the Twelfth Anniversary celebration of the Republic of the Philippines on July 4, 1958. The 26-member committee will formulate plans and devise ways and means for the appropriate celebration of the Twelfth Anniversary of Philippine independence.

With Education Secretary Manuel Lim as chairman and Dr. Manuel Gallego as vice-chairman, the members of the committee include RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Labor Secretary Angel Castano, Health Secretary Paulino Garcia, OEC Administrator Juan Concon, National Integration Commissioner Madki Alonto, Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, the Chairman of the League of Provincial Governors and City Mayors, the Chairman of the League of Provincial Board Members, CB Deputy Governor Andres V. Castillo, PNB President Arsenio J. Jison, the President of the University of the Philippines, the President of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, the President of the Philippine Chamber of Industries, the President of the Philippine Chamber of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the President of the Bankers Association of the Philippines, the Administrator of the ACCFA, the President of the Manila Rotary Club, the President of the Manila Junior Chamber

of Commerce, the President of the National Press Club, the President of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines, the Secretary General of the Philippine Association, and Aguinaldo C. Maaba, who will also acts as secretary of the committee.

IN the evening the President met the Committee on Sulu affairs headed by Capt. Francisco H. Calinawan, Malacañang performance officer, and gave his final instructions prior to the committee's departure for Sulu.

Inspired by laudatory public reaction to the "new deal" he has launched recently for the upliftment of Sulu, the President reiterated his "desire to solve the Sulu problem once and for all for the benefit of our Muslim brethren in the South." The President recalled that there had been many attempts in the past to solve this perennial problems. "The present Committee can learn a lot from these attempts—to avoid their mistakes and improve on those methods that produced some results," he said.

The Chief Executive said that the national government in Manila is "a father trying to help her children in Sulu so that they, too, may love our common Motherland, the Philippines."

The President warned that "we can no longer afford to fail," and urged the committee to exert its utmost effort to succeed at all costs. He assured the committee of his full support.

May 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia this noon directed Lt. Cdr. Marcelino Calinawan to turn over to government prosecutors the first cases of customs officials and employees against whom charges would be filed. The President told Calinawan to take speedy action on several pending cases in which customs men are involved. These cases have not been decided for some time now.

Calinawan conferred with President Garcia at luncheon today aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria* and made a progress report on his fact-finding mission on alleged anomalies in the customs bureau.

He said that he had gathered evidence and facts against several persons in the bureau which would justify the filing of criminal or administrative charges against them.

Calinawan added that the filing of the charges would be made after due consultation with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera, and prosecuting attorneys of the two departments.

President Garcia's "racket buster" in the Bureau of Customs said that in the course of his fact-finding work, he had discovered several violations of customs laws which had cost tremendous financial losses to the government owing to uncollected taxes. He added that he had barely scratched the surface and that he was digging deeper into several other cases.

President Garcia made another surprise inspection before noon today at the NAMARCO. The President went to the auditor's section of the strike-bound government corporation to look into the financial situation of the NAMARCO, but he found out that auditor Alfredo Liboro and his assistants were also on strike.

Irked by the absence of the NAMARCO auditor and his clerks, the President later inquired from Auditor General Pedro Gimenez why members of the GAO are allowed to stage a strike although they are regular government employees.

The President was accompanied to the NAMARCO auditor's office by Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez and NAMARCO Board Member German Neri.

Earlier in the morning, President Garcia conferred at his residence in Quezon City with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., and Sen. Edmundo B. Cea. They discussed some administration bills, especially those on economic development in which there was some disagreement in the Senate. They also took up some presidential nominations which were under question.

From his residence the President, accompanied by Mrs. Garcia, Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, and Maj. Jose Estrelia, aide, motored to St. Ignatius chapel in Camp Murphy, where he visited the body of the late Brig. Gen. Climaco Pintoy.

Earlier in the day the President and Mrs. Garcia had sent a wreath and a telegram of condolence.

The President and the First Lady were met at the chapel by Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yencko, Jr. The President and Mrs. Garcia condoled with Mrs. Pintoy and the children of the deceased.

From the chapel, the President and the First Lady motored back to Malacañang from where the President proceeded to the NAMARCO office. After inspecting the NAMARCO office, the President went to the yacht *Sta. Maria* where he spent the rest of the day preparing materials for the speeches which he will deliver in the United States during his state visit there.

The President cancelled all his afternoon callers today, including those scheduled for tomorrow in order that he can work on his speeches.

May 8.— TODAY the President spent most of his time on the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* working on speeches that he will deliver in the United States during his state visit in that country in June.

Earlier in the morning, the Chief Executive received U. S. Air Force Secretary James H. Douglas, who paid a courtesy call following his arrival in the country yesterday afternoon in the course of an inspection trip of air force installations in the Far East.

Secretary Douglas was accompanied to Malacañang by U. S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen; Lewis Thompson, deputy secretary for military assistance program; Gen. Lawrence Kuter, commander-in-chief of U. S. Air Force in the Pacific; and Maj. Gen. Thomas Moorman, commanding general of the 13th Air Force.

The President also received Admiral Gerald Gladstone, British Navy commander-in-chief in the Far East, who paid a courtesy call a few minutes after his flagship *Alert* anchored at Manila from Singapore.

Admiral Gladstone was accompanied to Malacañang by British Ambassador George Glutton and Lt. George Drake, aide.

Thai Ambassador and Madame Chitti Sucharitakul also called on the President to bade farewell prior to their departure for Bangkok. Sucharitakul will assume a new post at the SEATO secretariat in Bangkok.

THIS afternoon the President administered the oaths of office to Gov. Alejandro Almendras of Davao as Secretary of General Services and Madki Alonto as Commissioner of Integration.

Present at the ceremonies was a large delegation composed of Mindanao political leaders, including Sens. Emmanuel Pelaez, Reseller Lim, and Domocao Alonto; Reps Sergio Osmeña, Jr., of Cebu, Gavino Sepulveda of Davao Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, William Chiongbian of Misamis Occidental, Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, Laurentino Badiiles of Lanao, Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, and Conrado Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur.

The ceremonies were held at the Philippine Navy Officers Clubhouse on Dewey Boulevard at 4 p.m. today.

The induction was originally scheduled to be held on board the *RPS Sta. Maria* anchored at the Navy yacht basin on where the President had been staying since yesterday drafting some of the speeches he expected to deliver during his forthcoming state visit to the United States. However, owing to the big crowd which attended the ceremonies, the President decided to hold the induction at the Navy Officers Clubhouse nearby.

Almendras has been provincial governor of Davao for seven years before his appointment as head of the newly-created Department of General Services,

May 9.—IN the absence of President Garcia who spent this morning going over his speeches for his state visit to the United States, the First Lady and Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo received a delegation of the Philippine War Widows Association led by Mrs. Victoria de Jesus.

The war widows requested a share in the reparations goods earmarked for World War II veterans and informed Mrs. Garcia and Secretary Pajo that for this purpose they had organized the Great Pacific Traders Co., Inc.

Secretary Pajo informed the war widows to present a memorandum to the Cabinet for consideration.

Other members of the delegation were Mrs. Vicenta Domaoal, Mrs. Pacita Ramirez, Mrs. Anita de Jesus, Mrs. Filomena Alvarez, and Mrs. Minerva Kierulf.

Other callers received by Secretary Pajo were Tom Bavin, an American union leader, and Carlos P. Ramos, who explained the purpose of the Regional Conference on Public Administration to be held in Manila and Baguio on June 7-21.

The conference had been called by the Institute of Public Administration of the University of the Philippines to exchange information and experiences of government administrators in Asia in order to find the solution to mutual problems and help hasten and assure the success of government efforts in the economic and social development of the area.

The Executive Secretary also received a delegation of the Cattle Raisers Association led by Ricardo Ledesma, which asked for the temporary suspension of the distribution of the Australian bulls and cows acquired by the government.

Ledesma expressed the fear that the Australian cattle were infected with a highly communicable disease and that the distribution might spread the disease.

Ledesma also requested that the 200 Santa Gertrudes cattle acquired by the government from the United States be distributed to the association members who are in a better position to propagate the high breed cattle. Present plans call for distribution of the cattle to farmers.

Secretary Pajo endorsed the matter to Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez for action.

PRESIDENT Garcia today said he would not call Congress to a special session unless legislators assured him it would lead to the amendment of the Constitution for a synchronization of all elections every four years.

He made the statement at his weekly press conference this afternoon when asked to comment on a House resolution that a special session be called to discuss constitutional amendments.

The amendment would postpone the local elections scheduled next year until 1961 when both local and national officials could be chosen at the polls.

At his weekly press conference, the President also:

1. Denied having received the letter of resignation of Ambassador to Japan Felino Neri;
2. Said he has referred the plea for re-entry of Ted Lewin, an American sportsman, to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Bureau of Immigration;
3. Announced that his entourage to the United States will not include more than ten persons; and

4. Explained that he went to the office of the National Marketing Corporation to check on the books of the agency and on reports of irregularities in the NAMARCO.

The President indicated that Neri's resignation would be one of the matters he would take up with. Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano today.

The President also refused to comment on the House-approved measure converting Tagaytay City into a gambling casino. He said he was reserving his decision until he gets hold of the bill.

However, President Garcia said he will sign the bill which had been approved by the conference committees of both houses of Congress amending the customs and tariff code provision requiring fishing vessels to have a full crew complement before setting out to sea.

Informed that Ted Lewin, who has been allowed to re-enter the Philippines for 60 days in order to "wind up his affairs here," had sent up new business enterprises, the President said "that is up to the Department of Foreign Affairs and the immigration office to determine."

He said that Lewin was allowed to re-enter the country for "humanitarian reasons."

At the same time, the President indicated that his entourage to the United States will not exceed ten members. He said that members of his entourage will be mostly economists and technicians.

May 10.— THE President was assured this morning by Congress leaders that they would submit as soon as possible for his signature all bills which both houses of Congress would pass during the current session.

This assurance was given by the Congress leaders during a meeting of the Council of Leaders held at the President's residence in Quezon City, in view of President Garcia's departure for the United States on a state visit on June 15.

The President said that he would like to act on all bills approved by both Houses before he leaves for Washington.

The Chief Executive, with the approval of the Council of Leaders, formed a committee headed by Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera, with Judge Salvador Esguerra and Professor Enrique Fernando, as members, to study the constitutionality of the section of the administration bill requiring certain positions in the Bureau of Customs and Internal Revenue to be classified as primarily confidential and highly technical in nature.

This provision of the bill if approved will enable the appointing power to remove from office, subject to presidential approval, all officials and employees referred to in the bill, upon loss of confidence. This provision has been embodied in the bill as a means of enabling the Administration to help stamp out graft and corruption. It is believed that this provision will also help increase tremendously the revenue collections of the government.

The Council of Leaders reiterated their determination to pass the economic measures submitted by Malacañang to Congress.

The conferees also agreed on the appointment of former Rep. Serafin Salvador as undersecretary of the Department of General Services.

The President conferred with the Council of Leaders during the breakfast which lasted up to noon time. Those present were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castaheda, and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer. Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez could not attend the conference.

President Garcia said today that he was considering the acceptance of Ambassador Felino Neri's resignation.

The Philippine ambassador to Japan had submitted his resignation to Secretary Serrano a few day ago. Neri said that he was resigning owing to personal reasons. It was understood he would join a private business concern.

Serrano formally transmitted Neri's resignation to the President this morning. This was one of the matters discussed by Serrano with the President before the conference of the Council of Leaders with the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon received judges and prosecutors who marched to his private residence in Quezon City to pay their respects to the Chief Executive before returning to the provinces.

The judges and prosecutors came to Manila early this week to attend a three-day conference.

President Garcia congratulated the judges and prosecutors for their "splendid work" in the conference.

The delegation was headed by Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera and Chief Prosecutor Baldomero Villamor.

After receiving the judges and prosecutors, the President conferred with Lt. Cdr. Marcelino Calinawan, Malacañang racket buster, who heads a team investigating corruption in the Bureau of Customs.

Also present at the conference was Secretary Barrera, whom the President directed to assign prosecutors to assist Calinawan, a Navy man, in the evaluation of the evidence.

With Calinawan were members of his team, S. P. Fausto of the National Bureau of Investigation, Major Zoilo Estrella of the Constabulary, and Capt. Jose Diosimito of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency.

May 11.— PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia today led the traditional pilgrimage to Antipolo, Rizal, and paid homage to the Holy Patron of Peace and Good Voyage.

Like almost every Catholic who holds yearly visits to the miraculous Virgin, the President and the First Lady heard mass at the town's church and later visited the famed *Hinulugang Taktak*, which the President called the summer resort of the common man.

Accompanied by Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong and Antipolo Mayor Isaias Tapales, the President and the First Lady stayed at one of the improvised rest booths overlooking the falls where thousands of men, women, and children, after hearing mass, converge for a little swimming, boating, and picnicking, waiting for the summer heat to subside before starting the trip back home in the cooler hours of the afternoon.

The President noted that the facilities of Antipolo's public recreation center were not adequate to serve the needs of the faithful who visit the place in large numbers every year. He said that the resort should be further expanded and improved to serve better the common people who could not afford to pay the required fees in private resthouses set up around the town during summer.

Fetches by Sen. Sumulong, President and Mrs. Garcia arrived in Antipolo about 10 a.m. after a half-hour car ride from their Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, Mrs. Garcia wore a red and white Balintawak dress.

They proceeded direct to the town church where, along with hundreds of other people, they heard mass. After the mass, Mrs. Garcia presented Mons. Fernandez, Antipolo parish priest, with a cash contribution for the reconstruction of the church which had been destroyed during the war.

On learning from Mayor Tapales that thousands of people were expecting them at the *Hinulugang Taktak*, the President and the First Lady visited the famed resort where they stayed about 20 minutes talking with a large group of cheering people which flocked around them.

The presidential party had lunch at the Antipolo farm of Sen. Sumulong. Other guests at the farm included senators, representatives, members of the diplomatic corps, and other high government officials.

President and Mrs. Garcia left the farm after lunch. They were back at their Quezon City residence about 2 p.m.

May 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia announced this morning he would invite Rep. Cornelio T. Villareal, Liberal Party president, to accompany him in his forthcoming state visit to the United States.

He made this announcement at a breakfast press conference with congressional reporters at his Bohol Avenue residence.

The President's announcement coincided with a reported administration propose to expand the Council of State and name opposition leaders to the President's highest advisory body.

The Chief Executive confirmed previous reports that he had in mind Villareal, Sen. Claro M. Recto, president of the Nacionalist-Citizens Party, and former Sen. Jose P. Laurel for the Council of State posts.

In making the announcement, the President said he feels there should be a "bipartisan approach to our national problems."

Informed of the President's proposal, Villareal said he would not comment on it because he had not yet received any formal invitation. However, he indicated willingness to consider the matter and consult LP leaders on the advisability of joining both the Council of State and the presidential trip to the United States.

Likewise, Recto gave the assurance he would consult his party's directorate to consider the President's proposal.

At his press conference this morning, the President also:

1. Announced he would get into, the bottom of the explosive dispute over the closing of public streams and rivers by big fishpond owners. The President said he would soon make an on-the-spot investigation of these troubled waters.
2. Denounced rival cliques in the Bureaus of Internal Revenue and Customs which, he said, are concerned more with enriching themselves than in collecting bigger revenues.

It was for this reason that the President called for public support to administration bill that would place key officials of these revenue collection agencies "at the pleasure" of the President.

This morning President Garcia received from Bernardo P. Abrera, general manager of the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation, the "Feasibility and Economic Justification Report" submitted to the Export-Import Bank by Kopper's Company in connection with a pending NASSCO loan application to finance the proposed integrated steel plant at Iligan.

The American consulting engineers' firm recommended to the Export-Import Bank that the 300,000-ton integrated steel plant at Iligan is justified both economically and technically.

The Export-Import Bank had required the NASSCO to secure a favorable report from reputable American consulting engineers before approving its application for a loan.

The firm was commissioned by the Philippine Government to review the work performed in the Iligan integrated steel plant.

The firm alluded to the NASSCO general manager in its report stating that “it has, indeed, been a pleasure to work so closely with Mr. Abrera and it can be said that seldom in our experience have we been able to initiate a project with such a wealth of information available in the early stages.”

Abrera was accompanied by Messrs. Frank Senior, J. Marshall Orris and Richard C. Andres of Kopper’s Company, and Jacques V. Louire and Theodore Wutscher of the Baldwin-Lima-Hamilton Corporation.

President Garcia also conferred with Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Public Works Secretary Floreneio Moreno, Walter Shriro V. Kaspar, Julian Carmona, H. W. Hagedron, V. E. del Rosario, and Miguel Norel regarding the contract awarded by the Cabinet to the Guttenthofnungshute (GHH) of Germany for the manufacture of oxygen top-blown converters for the Iligan steel plant at a cost of about \$2,699,700.

The President also received Richard Perkins, vice-chairman of the National City Bank of New York who was accompanied by Richard Henry, manager of the local branch of the bank.

Members of the board of directors of the Filipino Economic Defense League took their oaths of office today before President Garcia. ‘They were Mateo Herrera, president; Lorenzo Valdez, executive vice-president; Alberto Bordallo, treasurer; Irineo Dellosa, secretary; Florentine Garcia, Macario Cruz, and Danilo Sotto, directors; and Dionisio Reyes, legal counsel. Also received by President Garcia was a delegation of the *Araw Na* Tenants Association, composed of residents in the Hacienda De Guia in Tondo, which requested that the price of the lots be lowered and the sale of lots to non-bona-fide tenants be cancelled.

The tenants alleged that the estate was acquired by the Government at a cost of f 3.50 a square meter but is being sold from ₱11 to ₱25 a square meter.

The delegation was composed of Juan Trinidad, president; Pio Balingongan, Dr. Iluminado Cada, Miguel R. Cornejo, Ramon Masangkay, and Antonio Mendoza.

The President had breakfast with Congress newspapermen before whom he signed the nominations of Serafin Salvador as undersecretary of General Services and of Hermogenes Concepcion, Jr., as city fiscal of Manila.

IN order to retain public confidence in the Armed Forces President Garcia today directed National Defense Secretary Jesus B. Vargas to crack down firmly but justly on cases of abuses and disturbances of the peace by Armed Forces elements.

In a telephone conversation with the defense chief, the President commended Vargas for the latter’s stern treatment of Armed Forces personnel involved recently in a near clash with civil officers in Basilan City, Zamboanga del Sur.

The President issued this directive to arrest Armed Forces abuses and unbecoming conduct in the face of an apparent upsurge of cases of this nature. He told Vargas that “more than one-half of the success of the Armed Forces mission to keep down dissidence and maintain peace and order depends on the esteem, in which our soldiers are held by the civilian population.”

The President added: “Once the civilian population loses faith in the Armed Forces, we will be in very real danger of back-sliding to the situation of eight or 10 years ago.”

For these reasons, the President told Vargas, it was essential that the strictest discipline must be maintained in the ranks of the Armed Forces. The President said the full force of both military and civil laws must be applied on offenders. He added that other cases of violations of the articles of war, like malversation, falsification, estafa, and other crimes should be dealt with sternly and without delay.

The President said further it was a matter of justice to the large majority of the Armed Forces who are carrying out their duties “efficiently conscientiously” that the few whose much-publicized misdeeds tend to put the entire organization into disrepute, be dealt with firmly and swiftly.

Secretary Vargas said that he was in full agreement with the President’s directive to punish Armed Forces excesses “mercilessly” and pledged to implement it to the letter.

THE President this day inquired by telephone from NAWASA General Manager Susano R. Negado about the alleged water shortage in Manila and suburbs due to a reported shortage by 40 million gallons of water a day.

The President asked Negado what steps the NAWASA had taken to meet the situation and insure a steady water supply for the people.

Manager Negado assured the President that although there was a drop in the water supply, the situation was not acute. Negado added that he had already ordered the construction of additional artesian wells in neighboring areas like Forbes Park, Paranaque, and the different housing projects of the government in order to lessen the load of the water lines to Manila. He assured that the people of Manila and the suburbs would not have to fear for their water supply.

PRESIDENT Garcia signed today a proclamation designating the period from June 1 to July 15, 1958, for the tenth annual fund campaign of the Community Chest of Greater Manila.

Present on the occasion were former Education Secretary Teodoro Evangelista, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Judge Natividad Almeda Lopez, A. B. Isip, Mrs. Estela Faust, and Mrs. Pacita Peredo.

The President called upon all residents, firms, and organizations in Manila, Quezon, and Pasay cities, and the municipalities of Navotas, Malabon, Caloocan, San Juan, Mandaluyong, Makati, and Parahaque to support the campaign.

The Community Chest fund campaign unites in one the fund drives of the following: Abiertas House of Friendship, American-Philippine Guardian Association, Asilo de San Vicente de Paul, Asociacion de Damas de Filipinas, Boy Scouts of the Philippines, Catholic Youth Organization, Council of Welfare Agencies, Free Legal Aid Clinic, Girl Scouts of the Philippines, Good Shepherd Convent, La Proteccion de la Infancia, National Federation of Women’s Clubs, Patronatos, Philippine Association of the Deaf, Philippine Band of Mercy, Philippine Mental Health Association, Young Men’s Christian Association, and Young Women’s Christian Association.

May 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received ranking members of the Airline Pilots Association of the Philippines who requested his help in order to get dollar allocations for their insurance.

Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, who accompanied the group, explained that no local insurance firm is willing- to underwrite the loss of license insurance of Filipino airline pilots and that only the Johnson and Company of Chicago, Illinois, issues policies of this kind.

The Bohol solon further explained that in case ALPOP members lose their license owing to physical disability, they would get their benefits in dollars.

During the conference, President Garcia developed a slight headache. On advice of his physician, the rest of his morning appointments were cancelled.

Members of the pilots’ association who saw the President were Capts. Nilo de Guia, J. Ballesteros, E. Sanches, C. Villareal, R. Tomacruz, M. Cuevas, P. Dangoy, F. Garcia, B. Nario, Jr., R. Nera, and V. Fernandez. Major Arturo Sevilla, presidential adviser on aviation, was present at the “conference.

Earlier in the morning, President Garcia received Gov. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, and Reps. Leon Guinto, Jr., and Manuel Enverga of Quezon, Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Antonio de Pio of Cebu, Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon, Isidro Kintanar and Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, Nicanor Yhiquez of Leyte, Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, and Emilio Espinosa of Masbate.

In the afternoon, the President felt better after resting.

May 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia has recovered from an indisposition which had forced him to cancel his engagements the other day.

The President, during a conference with airline pilots last Tuesday, developed a slight headache upon listening to his callers' request for dollar allocations.

The President stayed in his Quezon City residence the whole day today. It was learned he was resting and occasionally turned to state papers needing his attention. Although he was reported ready to preside over the Cabinet meeting, it was learned that he remained in his residence.

Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez presided over the Cabinet meeting today.

PRESIDENT Garcia named today Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal and two minority leaders to the Council of State.

Named with Macapagal, titular head of the Liberal Party, were Sen. Claro M. Recto, president of the Nationalist-Citizens Party, and Rep. Cornelio T. Villareal of Capiz, LP president.

The seat in the Council of State is the first position to be given to Macapagal in the various government bodies.

At the same time, President Garcia called the council to its first meeting Tuesday noon. He said it would be "organizational" in nature.

However, Malacañang said the President may take up with the council "matters relating to his forthcoming trip to the United States."

The President also appointed former Sen. Jose P. Laurel to the body.

In re-creating the Council of State, the President named the following as its members: Vice-President Macapagal, the Senate president, the Speaker of the House, the Senate president pro tempore, the Speaker pro tempore of the House, the majority floor leaders of both Chambers, members of the Cabinet with portfolios, the chairman of the National Economic Council, the president of the governors and city mayors league, former President Sergio Osmeña, Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, president of the first Philippine Republic, Laurel, president of the wartime republic, Sen. Recto, and Rep. Villareal.

Members of the old Council of State not reappointed were Sen. Lorenzo M. Tañada, former Gov. Juan O. Chioco, Alfonso Ponce Enrile, and Vicente Noble.

A Malacañang spokesman said the Council of State will advise the President on "matters of public policy." He said the President will from time to time call the body to a meeting to take up such matters.

The President named minority members to the Council of State upon the suggestion of the Council of Leaders at their meeting last Saturday.

Sen. Recto last Sunday said he was willing to join the Council of State, but he must consult the national directorate of his party.

Malacañang identified the Cabinet members with portfolio who are members of the Council of State. They are the secretaries of finance, foreign affairs, justice, agriculture, public works, education, labor, defense, health, commerce, general services, and the executive secretary.

PRESIDENT Garcia will formally launch the sale of Philippine development bonds abroad during his state visit in the United States when he will “start the ball rolling” for the disposal of \$200 million on the American market.

The \$200 million set aside for sale in the American market will be redeemable in 20 years. The sale was approved at the Cabinet meeting this afternoon.

Today’s Cabinet meeting was presided by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, in the absence of President Garcia, who was still resting owing to a headache developed the previous day.

Upon recommendation of Secretary Hernandez, the proceeds from the sale of the \$200 million bonds in the U.S. will be used in procuring capital goods and raw materials to develop self-liquidating projects in the Philippines which will either earn dollars or save dollars.

The Cabinet this afternoon also:

1. Approved the sale of 5,000 government shares in the PEMCO (Philippine Electrical Manufacturing Corporation), at the close of the present fiscal year, which will be worth anywhere between ₱120 and ₱130 a share, at public bidding; and
2. Approved in principle the purchase of machinery and equipment for the cottage industry pilot plant utilizing coconut by-products in the manufacture of coirmats, carpets, rugs, and others, for ₱622. The machinery and equipment will be purchased from either England or West Germany or procured as reparations items.

The President received reassurance that all legal and justified claims he might present in behalf of the Philippines during his visit to the United States in June would be given the “most careful and sympathetic consideration” by the American people.

The reassurance was given by Acting Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Mansfield in a recent speech delivered on the floor of the U. S. Senate. The Senator said: “I am sure the American people will be ready to extend to President Garcia whatever assistance his country needs, consistent with our domestic and international commitments.”

Calling President Garcia a friend, ally, and patriot, Sen. Mansfield said he was certain that the Philippine Chief Executive will find everyone here willing to cooperate and help the Filipino people, especially because under President Garcia’s leadership they are carrying out an austerity program that is proving both effective and salutary.”

May 15.— AT A BREAKFAST conference this morning with Senate reporters at his house in Quezon City, President Garcia said he would govern the country “by remote control” during his stay in the U.S.

He said “it was a natural course of action to take” since Macapagal “cannot be trusted,” being a member of the opposition.

President Garcia said he will transmit to Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo definite instructions as to the manner of running the government.

He noted that Macapagal, who should logically act for him during his absence, is in a peculiar situation because he belongs to the opposition party.

Besides, the President observed, the Vice-President has been attacking the Administration and his policies while Ca a “thank-you tour” of the country.

President Garcia stressed the need for securing development loans from the United States on strictly business terms by pointing out to the many power projects which the government must establish to boost its economy.

He observed that by 1960, Manila and its environs will suffer from power shortage if multi-purpose power projects are not established.

He said the Marikina project and a new one, the Angat power project which is capable of 230,000-kilowatt power, should be set up by that time.

In his talk with Senate reporters, the Chief Executive also hinted that former Senator Francisco Delgado will be named ambassador to the United Nations, vice acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano.

Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez later confirmed the projected designation of Delgado as in accordance with an agreement reached between President Garcia and the Council of Leaders.

The President also told the newsmen:

1. He would not press for the \$800 million omnibus claims of the Philippines against the United States Government in view of the recession period in America. However, he indicated that exploratory talks might be initiated on the matter.

2. No Filipino citizens are fighting on the side of the Indonesian rebels as charged by certain quarters in the Sukarno government. President Garcia pointed out that the foreign office records will show that no passports have been issued to Filipinos during the past months for travel to Indonesia.

3. Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez had been chosen by his colleagues in the Cabinet to preside at the meeting of the body during the absence of the President.

4. He would call a special session of Congress only if both chambers could give assurances they would agree on certain fundamental points regarding some proposed amendments to the Constitution.

5. His proposal to revamp both the Bureaus of Customs and Internal Revenue by a congressional declaration that certain positions could be held only at the President’s discretion “is within constitutional limits.”

The President said the government’s policy of non-intervention in the Indonesia civil war v/as being consistently followed.

With regard to Indonesian government claims that some Filipinos are fighting with the rebels, President Garcia explained it was possible certain Filipinos who have been residents of Singapore, Malaya, and other places but who are already British subjects have enlisted with the rebel government.

Delgado’s nomination, it was pointed out, was with the sanction of Nacionalista Party leaders. The former senator has been a resident commissioner to Washington and member of the US War Damage Commission.

After his breakfast with Senate newspapermen, the President received Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera and discussed with him the legality of some of the administration measures which Malacañang referred to Congress.

Barrera headed a three-man committee which studied the constitutionality of several measures, including the plan to reclassify the top positions in the Bureaus of Customs and Internal Revenue as “highly technical and confidential in nature. The other two members are Judge Salvador Esguerra and Prof. Enrique M. Fernando.

The Barrera committee, it was learned, upheld the legality of the administration measures.

Barrera also discussed with the President appointments to the judiciary to fill up many vacancies in the bench.

The President stayed in his Quezon City residence where he went over various state papers.

However, in the evening, the President received Rep. Cornelio T. Villareal, president of the Liberal Party.

President Garcia invited Villareal to a conference to offer him formally two positions in the Council of State for top LP men.

At the same time, the President reiterated his invitation to the Liberal Party president to join him in his state visit to the United States.

Rep. Villareal was reported to have accepted President Garcia’s invitation to join the latter’s entourage on a state visit to the United States next month.

It was learned that Villareal also indicated his willingness to join the Council of State to which he and two other minority leaders, Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, titular head of the Liberal Party, and Senator Claro M. Recto, president of the Nationalist-Citizens Party, had been appointed.

PRESIDENT Garcia issued an executive order this day creating his Council of State to advise him “on such matters of public policy as he may from time to time lay before it.”

The council, as constituted by the order, is composed of the following and such other persons as the President may appoint from time to time:

1. The Vice-President
2. The President of the Senate
3. The Speaker of the House of Representatives
4. The Members of the Cabinet with portfolios
5. The President Protempore of the Senate.
6. The Speaker Protempore of the House of Representatives
7. The Majority Floor Leader of the Senate
8. The Majority Floor Leader of the House of Representatives
9. The Chairman of the National Economic Council, who is concurrently coordinator of U. S Aid and Philippine Counterpart Funds
10. The President of the Governors and City Mayors League of the Philippines

11. The Commissioner of the Budget

12. Hon. Sergio Osmeña, Sr.

13. Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo

14. Hon. Jose P. Laurel

15. Hon. Claro M. Recto

16. Hon. Cornelio T. Villareal

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: May 16-31, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

May 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning pointed out the important role that rural banks are playing in the rural areas and said that his administration is cognizant of their help in the increasing economic development of the country.

The Chief Executive made these remarks after administering the oath of office to the newly-elected members of the Board of Directors of the Rural Banks Association of the Philippines in ceremonies held at Malacañang.

The rural banks are especially important in the rural areas because of their role in implementing the retail trade nationalization, financing small farmers, and boosting cottage industries, President Garcia said.

The President expressed his desire to help in a small measure the rural banks when he stated that he favors the amendment of Republic Act 720, better known as the Rural Bank Act, in order to remedy the difficulties encountered by rural banks in extending more liberal loans to farmers and homesteaders to enable them to develop their lands.

Officers of the association who were inducted by President Garcia were the following: Jose Rodriguez, president; Jose Desiderio, vice-president; Mrs. Conchita Jalandoni, vice-president; Eduardo A. Barretto, secretary-treasurer; and Procopio Reyes, Virgilio Garcia, Jose Segismundo, Gaudencio Poblete, Sergio F. Naguiat, Jose R. Platon, Patricio Pineda, Isagani Galang, Jose V. Perez, Gregorio Concon, and Juan Baun, members of the board.

Aside from being RBS president, Rodriguez is also chairman of the National Development Company. Among those present were Florencio Garcia, RFC governor and former vice-president of the association; and Augusto Espiritu, director of the loans, credit, and rural bank administration of the Central Bank.

The President also received the faculty and students of the National War College of the United States, who were accompanied by Ambassador Charles Bohlen. Members of the faculty and staff were Col. J. W. Keating, Col. C. O. Collier, Capt. J. A. Tyree, CWO G. X. Beckham, Dr. A. T. Bouscaren, and B. H. Klosson.

Other presidential callers were Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez; Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong; J. P. Roxas, Caltex executive; Dennet Howe, president of the Philippine Manufacturing Company; and Manuel Leelin, vice-president of the Leelin and Company.

THE President today approved the retirement of five brigadier generals, four colonels, and one major who have rendered more than 30 years of active service in the army.

To be retired as on June 30, 1958, are Brig. Gen. Cornelio Bondad, 3rd MA commanding general; Brig. Gen. Leoncio S. Tan, Philippine Army commanding general; Brig. Gen. Nicanor Velarde, 1st MA commanding general; Brig. Gen. Diosdado L. Rodriguez, AFP deputy chief of staff; Brig. Gen. Juan Relosa, 2nd MA commanding general; Col. Demetrio J. Camua; Col. Joaquin Celis, Jr.; Col. Angel D. Magallanes; Col. Louis R. Morohomb-sar; and Maj. Dominador O. Santiano, who will be retired with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

The retirement of the 10 Army officers was recommended by National Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas.

PRESIDENT Garcia administered the oath of office to Judge Enrique Fernandez as undersecretary of justice in a ceremony held in Malacañang this afternoon.

Present at the induction which was held at Malacañang's ceremonial hall were large delegations of ranking officials from, the Department of Justice headed by Secretary Jesus G. Barrera; Sens. Emmanuel Pelaez, Domocao Alonto,

and Roseller T. Lim, Reps. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato and Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon; Education Secretary Manuel Lim; and some members of the judiciary.

The new secretary has been in the government service for the last 19 years, having started as cadastral judge in 1939. Subsequently, he was appointed judge-at-large and later district judge of Davao, a position he had held until his appointment as undersecretary. He succeeds former Undersecretary Barrera, who was elevated to the secretaryship upon the retirement of Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason.

Following the ceremony, the President held his regular weekly press conference. Then he proceeded to his study where he received some callers.

Justice Secretary Barrera conferred with the President on the appointment of judges to fill up existing vacancies in the judiciary. Present at the conference were Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser. Commodore Jose V. Andrada also called to consult him on pressing problems of the Home Financing Commission.

Other callers included Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson of Manila, who reported on his recent mission to procure rice in Burma, Ambassador Francisco Javier Conde of Spain, Mr. and Mrs. Duran van Doren, and Judge and Mrs. Luther A. Smith of Mississippi, who paid their respects following their recent arrival in this country in the course of a tour of Asian cities.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon announced he will extend his "house-cleaning" campaign to the Bureau of Internal Revenue as he prepared to suspend more officials and employees of the Bureau of Customs on charges of corruption.

He told his weekly press conference: "The drive is on. It will spread wherever it is necessary. The Bureau of Internal Revenue is on the deck."

The President said the suspension of 26 customs officials and employees yesterday was a positive result of the investigation being undertaken by the team under Calinawan.

He said that Calinawan had assured him that as a result of the inquiry into customs anomalies, collection figures are expected to pick up. "This will be seen sometime next month," the President added.

The President also announced he has accepted a compromise bill on the reorganization of the BIR and the Bureau of Customs by limiting confidential positions "only to the commissioners and deputy commissioners,

However, he said that under the compromise bill, he will be empowered to revamp the two bureaus in the manner he previously planned.

In accepting the compromise bill, the President said, "It will achieve the same purpose."

DURING the press conference the President accepted "with regret" the resignation of Teodoro F. Valencia from the Board of Review for Moving Pictures.

The President thanked Valencia "for your great work as executive secretary, member, and chairman of the Board of Review for Moving-Pictures since 1946, positions which you held without compensation."

"It is with regret that I accede to your request to be relieved of further service in a position that you have occupied with great credit for more than 12 years under four administrations," the President said in his letter accepting the resignation of Valencia.

Valencia, who was the chairman of the board until his resignation, expressed his inability to accept his reappointment to the board because of the pressure of his work *in* the newspapers and radio.

May 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia repaired to this summer resort for a weekend rest today after a tight whole-day schedule of inaugurating projects in Pangasinan calculated to boost his economic program.

Before he left for Pangasinan this morning, President Garcia signed the appointments of Judges Edmundo Piccio and Juan Lanting to vacancies in the Court of Appeals.

He also appointed 19 nominees to courts of first instance and shifted 20 judges to other districts,

The President submitted the appointments to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation.

In Pangasinan the President plugged for the success of the administration's program of food self-sufficiency when he inaugurated the ₱17 million Agno River irrigation system and cold storage plants in the towns of San Manuel and Urdaneta.

The Agno River irrigation system is the largest single system of its kind in the Philippines. It will serve nine towns; namely, San Manuel, Asingan, Binalonan, Urdaneta, Villasis, Manaoag, Mapandan, Malasiqui, and Sta. Barbara.

President Garcia and his party arrived in Pangasinan at 11 a.m. They were met at the border at barrio Carmen, Rosales, by a big delegation of Pangasinan officials and residents.

From Carmen, the President proceeded to Villasis where he inaugurated the Amanperez-Cabulaan barrio road.

After the inauguration of the barrio road, President Garcia inaugurated the refrigeration plant in Urdaneta. He had his lunch at the Sta. Barbara nursery in the town of Sta. Barbara.

IN the afternoon, before proceeding to the Agno River irrigation system, the President inaugurated the ICA-NAWASA artesian well in barrio Minien, Sta. Barbara, and also a feeder road in that barrio, a project realized with the helps of barrio folks.

In the town of Binalonan, on his way to San Miguel, the President was stopped by a big crowd and was offered garlands.

After inaugurating the Agno River irrigation system, the President tried his hand at planting rice in a barrio in San Manuel where he waded into the muddy rice field together with Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella and some farmers.

After a merienda, the President motored to Baguio. He was accompanied by Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson.

May 18.—TAKING a dim view of the strike at the Philippine Air Lines, President Garcia today decided to certify the dispute to the Court of Industrial Relations.

He wired instructions to Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo in Manila, directing the certification.

Waking up refreshed by the salubrious Baguio air, President Garcia invited newsmen who had joined his Pangasinan-Baguio trip, to have breakfast with him. He also held an informal press conference.

The President told newsmen of his high hopes that the country would be self-sufficient in rice next year because the Administration's intensive food production campaign will fill the country's annual shortage of two million cavans of palay.

Early this morning, the President heard mass at the Guest House. After the mass the President had breakfast with reporters.

Then he received Reps. Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan, and Ramon P. Mitra of Mt. Province; Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora; and Brig. Gen. Marcos Soliman, PMA superintendent.

IN the afternoon, the President gave cocktails for about 50 military leaders from Asian and Western Pacific countries now in the Baguio City for a two-day meet prior to an observation of a massive US Armed Forces demonstration at Okinawa next week.

Seventeen nations, including the Philippines, are attending the demonstration which will last for five days.

Admiral Felix Stump, US commander-in-chief for the Pacific area, and Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Armed Forces chief of staff, accompanied the military leaders.

PRESIDENT Garcia announced today he was ready to use Navy personnel to prevent paralyzation of the Bureau of Customs as a result of the suspension of several officials and employees of that office.

He made the announcement after reading reports that Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino Calinawan, head of a presidential team investigating corruption in the bureau, was ready to recommend the suspension of 37 other customs officials and employees allegedly linked to irregularities.

President Garcia said he had been informed that the suspension of the 26 officials and employees had not adversely affected the functions of the customs bureau. However, he expressed fear that the relief of more may cripple customs work.

In order to prevent such a situation, the President said he was ready to employ personnel from the Navy and the Department of Finance to carry on the functions of the customs office on an emergency basis.

Commenting on reports that Rolando Geotina, suspended head of the customs inter-audit service, had threatened to make an "expose" of the Calinawan team, President Garcia said, "Let him come out with the charges."

The President viewed Geotina's threat as a "counter-offensive" to harass Calinawan's group in its investigations. He indicated that he was satisfied with the progress of the inquiry so far.

The Chief Executive also called upon civic-spirited citizens to come out and cooperate with the Malacañang investigators.

He asserted that he was determined to rid the customs bureau of grafters who had cheated the government of considerable revenues.

President Garcia also reiterated he was planning to extend the probe from the Bureau of Customs to the Bureau of Internal Revenue and other offices where investigation is warranted.

May 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia resumed his speech-writing at the Guest House and did not receive any callers during the day.

His Press Secretary said the President was working on a speech he will deliver at Fordham University, where he is scheduled to be conferred an honorary degree.

He had planned to stay in Baguio until tomorrow morning to finish his speech-writing but after receiving a wire from Rep. Jose Aldeguer, the President decided to return to Manila at five o'clock this afternoon.

THE President arrived in Manila at 8 o'clock this evening and proceeded directly to his Bohol Avenue residence. Former President Sergio Osmeña paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive immediately upon his arrival.

May 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia was assured today by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez at the enactment of administration measures now pending in Congress. The assurance was made at a conference held at the residence of President Garcia in Quezon City.

At the same time, Speaker Romualdez belied newspaper reports about a Malacañang-Congress controversy when he informed the Chief Executive that 90 per cent of the administration measures were already approved and the rest were still being discussed with good chances of being approved.

After the conference, the President sent to Congress a batch of legislative measures which he certified as urgent, among them a bill promoting the development of the coconut industry and creating a coconut bank, a bill granting life pension and franking privileges to former Presidents of the Philippines or their widows, a bill granting death compensation to the family of the late Sen. Manuel Briones, the dual citizenship bill, and the ratification of the conventions adopted and entered into by the Philippine delegation to the Geneva Labor Conference.

The President also received Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Reps. Natalio Castillo of Bohol, Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, and Benjamin T. Ligot of Cagayan before going to Malacañang to induct Jose S. Rodriguez, well-known banker, insurance executive, and businessman, as chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Development Company.

THIS noon the President administered the oath of office to Jose S. Rodriguez as chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Development Company in a simple ceremony held at Malacañang.

Present on the occasion were high government officials led by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo; Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez; NDC officials; Marcelo S. Balatbat, acting president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines; RFC Governor Florencio Garcia; directors of the Rural Bankers' Association of the Philippines; and relatives and numerous friends of the new NDC board chairman.

Also present were Acting Secretary of Labor Agapito Braganza, Gov. Jose Dinglasan of Capiz, Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, Mrs. J. S. Rodriguez, Mrs. Lilia R. Esteves, and Mrs. Delly R. Mendoza.

After his induction, Rodriguez said that he will continue the sound policy laid down by his predecessors and implement to the best of his ability the economic program of President Garcia for the industrial development of the country.

He emphasized the fact that the state firm plays an important role in the national economy, especially the development of the NDC ramie textile mill in Davao City and the cotton-growing project in Cotabato.

He pleaded for the cooperation and loyalty of NDC officials and personnel and urged them to give him constructive suggestions in order to improve public service and insure the success of all NDC activities, projects, and programs designed to remedy the economic situation of the Philippines.

THE Council of State at its organizational meeting this afternoon since the inauguration of President Garcia, unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing the President's state visit to the United States for the purpose of seeking development loans to strengthen the country's economy.

The resolution was drafted by former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., and was sponsored in the Council by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr. Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano read the resolution.

The reconstituted Council was attended among others by the Liberal Party president, Rep. Cornelio T. Villareal, and the Nacionalista-Citizens Party president, Sen. Claro M. Recto. Vice-President Macapagal who was made a member of the Council by an executive order of the President, was not present because he was on a tour of Southern Philippines. General Emilio Aguinaldo, who is also a Council member, was not present owing to illness. Secretary Alejandro Almendras of General Services and House Majority Floorleader Jose M. Aldeguer were not present because they were both out of town.

The Council of State approved the implementation of projects to be financed from bond issues amounting to ₱80,249,400. These projects are broken down as follows: highways ₱14,357,000; irrigation, ₱39,800,000; river control, ₱3,650,000; NAWASA waterworks, ₱12,420,00; and portworks ₱10,022,400.

In this connection, the Council decided that in deciding matters, like the floating of bonds to finance government projects, the Council of State should first approve the policy, then the projects are referred to the National Economic Council and the Monetary Board for screening, and finally these projects are returned to the Council of State for decision before being acted upon by the President.

At the same time, the Council approved, as recommended by the President, the membership of a reconstituted screening committee which will go over such projects as follows: Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, as chairman; with Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano P. Primicias, House Speaker Protempore Constancio Castaheda, Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona, Finance Secretary and Monetary Board Chairman Jaime Hernandez, NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, LP President Cornelio T. Villareal,

NCP President Claro M. Recto, and Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, as members.

The inclusion of Rep. Villareal and Sen. Recto in the screening committee was sponsored by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez and seconded by Dr. Jose P. Laurel, Sr.

Since the meeting of the Council of State was organizational in nature, Sen. Recto, at the start of the meeting moved that the Council of State meet every first Tuesday of the month without prejudice to the President's calling the Council to a meeting in case there are urgent matters to be taken up. The motion, which was seconded by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, was approved unanimously.

The meeting was presided over by President Garcia, who started the proceedings by thanking the members of the reconstituted Council of State in accepting their appointments and for their being present. He said he was especially happy over the fact that LP President Villareal and NCP President Recto were present so that they could exchange views with the members of the highest advisory body to the government and with the President.

The President also expressed gratification over the fact that other members of the Council of State were men who enjoyed the highest prestige in the country in view of the services that they had rendered to the country like those who had been past Presidents of the Philippines.

The Council meeting started with a luncheon at 12:30 p.m. at the Malacañang banquet hall. The luncheon was immediately followed by the meeting which lasted up to about 3 p.m.

Council members present were:

Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker of the House of Representatives Daniel Z. Romualdez, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Commerce Secretary Pedro M. Hernaez, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Justice

Secretary Jesus Barrera, Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza;

Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor-leader Cipriano P. Primicias, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castaneda, LP President Cornelio T. Villareal, NCP President Claro M. Recto, former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., former Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., and Gov. Isidro Rodriguez, chairman of the Governors and City Mayors' League. Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison also attended the meeting.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon inducted into office former Rep. Serafin Salvador of Rizal as undersecretary of the newly-created Department of General Services in a ceremony held at the Malacañang reception hall.

The appointment of Salvador to that new department fills the two top positions of the DGS. Former Davao Gov. Alejandro Almendras had been sworn in by the Chief Executive as DGS secretary on May 8.

Salvador has been in the government service for more than 20 years, having started as legal assistant in the Bureau of Prisons in 1936. Subsequently, he was a member of the legal staff of the Department of Justice and later represented the second district of his province in Congress.

As congressman, Salvador had been chairman of the House committee on labor and industrial relations, vice-chairman of the committee on civil service, and member of the commission on appointments.

Among those present at this afternoon's ceremony were Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Acting Labor Secretary Agapito Braganza, Rizal Gov. Isidro Rodriguez, RFC Governor Bobby Benedict, Miss Helen Z. Benitez, Estefania Aldaba-Lim, Mesdames Leonarda Salvador and Maxima Nepo-muceno, wife and mother,, respectively, of the inductee, and some political leaders from Rizal

IN the evening, the President signed the first bill approved by Congress appropriated ₱150,000 to defray the expenses of the Philippine delegation to the Third Asian Games in Tokyo.

Signing of the bill into law was witnessed by Secretary Pajo, Assistant Legislative Secretary Logarta, and RFC Governor Benedicto.

May 21.—UPON instructions of President Garcia antitoxins were airlifted today to Aurora, Zamboanga, for an indigent patient suffering from tetanus at a hospital in that town.

The president's directive was given to PCAC Vice-Chairman Tirso Joson following receipt of a telegram from the Aurora town mayor who said that no medicine could be obtained in that locality for the tetanus victim, Jesus Catan.

Joson immediately secured the needed medicine from the Bureau of Hospitals and had it rushed to the Aurora hospital.

THIS afternoon President Garcia submitted for confirmation by the commission on Appointments the nomination of Brig. Gen Manuel Cabal, chief of the Constabulary, as major general and vice-chief of staff of the Armed Forces.

The President also nominated three colonels as brigadier generals. They are Cols. Isagani Campo of the IV Infantry Division, Ramon Aguirre of the Veterans Affairs Division, and Benjamin Molina of the 4th Military Area.

The President today cancelled all scheduled callers in order to devote his time to clearing his desk of pending state papers, particularly important bills which needed certification to Congress.

He spent the day with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and Assistant Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta in his residence on Bohol Avenue,

Among those certified as urgent was House Bill No 1727, providing for the extension of the southern line of the Manila Railroad to Matnog, Sorsogon at a cost of ₱15 million.

The President also certified bills seeking to amend the charter of Pasay City and recreate the City of Legaspi.

Other nominations signed today by the Chief Executive were those of local officials including judges and fiscals.

In the evening the President attended a send-off dinner given in his honor by managers of provincial branches of the Philippine National Bank at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel.

The President spent the day at his residence with Executive Secretary Pajo and assistant Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta.

Pajo and Logarta helped the President sort out the different measures which President Garcia certified today as “urgent” to Congress.

President Garcia signed several appointments as he stayed at his Quezon City residence the whole day.

Several solons had tried to see the President but most of them were reported barred from seeing him. .

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening signed two bills passed during the current session of the Congress. They are:

(1) House Bill No. 481, amending the Tariff and Customs Code so as not to require fishing vessels from 10 to 150 gross tons to employ a full complement of deck and engine officers. They shall only be required to carry one licensed navigator and one licensed engineer regardless of grade

(2) House Bill No. 1090, increasing the participation of the Philippines in the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development from \$15 to \$50 million.

These two measures had been certified by the President to Congress as urgent.

May 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia, on the last day of the 100-day session of Congress, today invited the members of the House, irrespective of party affiliation, to a breakfast get-together in the Malacañang social hall.

Some 70 tired but still enthusiastic solons responded to the President’s invitation. There were three Liberal solons who attended the breakfast “pow-wow.”

At the breakfast conference, the President plugged for administration bills which were earlier reported to have been pigeon-holed by Senate-House conflict.

The President said he was interested in the passage of the reclamation bill and the measure authorizing him to reorganize the graft-ridden Bureaus of Internal Revenue and Customs.

The House members were headed by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez and Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda.

Minority solons present were Reps. Gerardo Roxas, Ramon Bagatsing, and Tecla Ziga.

Acting Majority Floor Leader Justiniano S. Montano, in expressing his thanks to the President on behalf of his colleagues, said that they will reciprocate the Palace hospitality with a midnight snack at a downtown eatery.

It was learned that the President will meet the solons at the Jai Alai shortly after the end of the regular session.

After breakfast, the President held separate conferences with the congressmen on problems in their respective districts.

Those who saw the President after the breakfast were Reps. Inocencio Ferrer, Vicente Gustilo, Apolinario Apacible, Benjamin Ligot, Salipada Pendatun, Lamberto Macias, Lucas Paredes, and Marcelino Veloso.

IN the afternoon, the President inducted into office Nicolas L. Cuenco as commissioner of public highways. Cuenca succeeded Rodolfo Maslog, who has been named chairman of the Reparations Commission.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Francisco H. Calinawan, chairman of the Committee on Sulu Affairs and presidential performance officer, to confer immediately with department secretaries and other government officials concerned and discuss with them the solutions to the various problems confronting the people of the Sulu Archipelago.

The President told Calinawan to submit to the Cabinet at its next meeting the proposed solutions to the Sulu problems for final approval and implementation.

Calinawan who had been sent by the President a few days ago to survey the situation in the South, reported that there was food shortage in that area which had been worsened by long, drought. He said that rice was selling at ₱1.60 a ganta at Sitangkai, and cassava, at five times its normal price.

Other problems found by Calinawan in his survey trip are:

(1) There is deficiency in water supply. More than one-half of the artesian wells are not working and the others have either dried up or are giving salty water. Drinking water in Sitangkai is selling at 10 centavos a gallon.

(2) Farmers, particularly in Tawi-Tawi and Jolo Islands, cannot raise sufficient food crops owing to the presence of an estimated 400,000 wild hogs. Farmers are clamoring for barbed wire fences as an aid from the government.

(3) Educational facilities are utterly deficient. Forty thousand elementary pupils have only 5,000 desks and 300 blackboards. Textbooks and schoolhouses are inadequate.

(4) The 150,000 inhabitants of Siasi, Bongao, Simunul, Sibutu, and Sitangkai districts do not have doctors, nurses, and midwives to attend to the health needs of the people.

Calinawan reported that the peace-and-order situation in the South was not as bad as pictured in previous reports. He added that the fishing industry had a bright future in Sulu and that, if this industry could be developed there, the Philippines would increase its fish supply.

The President had sent Calinawan to make a survey of the situation in Sulu before formally launching his new program of social amelioration in that part of the country.

May 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today listed eight administration measures, topped by the 1958-1959 budget and the public works bill for the agenda of Congress at its special session which opens at 10 o'clock Monday morning.

He signed today a proclamation formally recalling the Legislature to a special session to take up the important measures left unacted upon when Congress adjourned its 100-day regular session at midnight Thursday night.

At his weekly press conference in the afternoon, the President said that, although he had given Congress an unspecified period for the special session, the number of days not to exceed the 30-day constitutional limitation, he expects the legislature to wind up its unfinished business in a week's time.

Aside from the budget and public works bill, among those lined up by the President for legislative implementation in the special session are the bills on the proposed reorganization of the Bureaus of Customs and Internal Revenue and the controversial Dewey Boulevard reclamation project.

President Garcia was asked to comment at the press conference on the accomplishment of Congress during its regular session.

He paused for a second and said, "I wish to defer my appraisal until after the close of the special session."

Pressed on the point, he commented, "So far, Congress has approved the nickel, science, and food production bill."

The President decided to call Congress to a special session after it adjourned at midnight Thursday without having passed the budget and public works measure.

The President had announced he was opposed to calling Congress back for a special session unless he could be assured of the passage of an amendment to the Constitution to synchronize elections every four years.

Today, he said he would take up his plan to amend the Constitution after the special session.

At his press conference, President Garcia defended the right of Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to follow up the general appropriations bill.

He took up the cudgels for Aytona against the attacks hurled Thursday night by Sen. Gil J. Puyat, who accused the budget commissioner of interfering in the work of Congress.

It was learned that the Senate-House conference committees were about to sign the compromise measure when Puyat fulminated against Aytona and broke up the meeting without the agreement being finalized.

In defending Aytona the President said that the budget commissioner has often been consulted by senators and representatives on the proposed budget.

He said Aytona's presence in the legislature was justified under the circumstances.

President Garcia sailed with the First Lady and a group of Manila newspapermen late in the evening on board the yacht *Sta. Maria* for Talibon, Bohol, where the President and Mrs. Garcia will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary.

The First Family will celebrate the wedding anniversary on Monday to make it coincide with the town fiesta of the President's town, Talibon.

President Garcia today officiated at a mass induction of recently confirmed government officials in a very well attended ceremony at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

Inducted by the President in the presence of high ranking government officials, relatives, and friends were: Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, National Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas; Acting Commerce Secretary Pedro C. Hernaez, National Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenko, Jr., Agriculture Undersecretary Jose Trinidad, Health Undersecretary Tranquilino Elicafio, Maj. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP vice chief of staff, Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, Brig. Gen. Ramon Z. Aguirre, Brig. Gen. Benjamin Molina, Philippine Normal College President Emiliano Ramirez, Fisheries Assistant Director Jose R. Montilla, Sugar Quota Administrator Ramon Pagua, Health Services Director Jesus Nolasco, Pasay City Police Chief Basilio Pineda, and Iloilo City Police Chief Lucio Dumapias.

The President inducted the officials immediately after arriving at Malacañang from his residence in Quezon City. After the induction, the Chief Executive presided over his weekly press conference.

The President then received the officials of the 1958 Cerebral Palsy Fund Drive and personally contributed ₱500 to the drive. He congratulated the officials and wished success for the project. The 1958 Cerebral Palsy Fund Drive officials were headed by John P. Feeley, chairman of the Elks Cerebral Palsy project and Director of the Board, and H. B. Reyes, chairman of the 1958 fund campaign.

May 24.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia renewed their marriage vows in a simple ceremony held before an improvised altar aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria* early this morning on the occasion of their silver wedding anniversary.

Present at the simple rites were a few close relatives and friends, including Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, who had gone to the Navy yacht basin on Dewey Boulevard to see the couple off for Bohol to attend the town fiesta of Talibon, the President's hometown.

The ceremony was officiated by Father Gerald Trienikenes, the same priest who had married the couple in Opon, Cebu, the hometown of Mrs. Garcia, exactly 25 years ago. The priest remembered that the ceremony of May 25, 1933, was also held on a Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos were best man and matron of honor, respectively. Rep. Maximino Noel of Cebu and Mrs. Providencia Vizarra stood as sponsors. They took the place of Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco and Mrs. Asuncion Alonzo.

The ceremony started at 1:10 a.m. when the wedding procession emerged from the presidential cabin and marched around the dining saloon to a simple altar set up against the cabin wall. The President wore a cutaway, the same suit he wore on his inauguration, while the First Lady wore a white terno. The ceremony lasted about 15 minutes. Father Trienikenes was assisted by Capt. Juan Tugade, Army chaplain.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, those who witnessed the rites clamored for the groom to kiss his bride, to which, the First Lady replied coyly: "No need." The President, however, obliged and gave his "bride" a quick buzz on the left cheek.

The President decided to hold the ceremony only about 5:30 yesterday afternoon on learning that the priest, who had married them years ago happened to be in Manila, putting his papers in order and preparing to return to his native Holland after spending 33 years of missionary work in this country. Also at this morning's ceremony was Father Luis Boeren, present parish priest of Opon. Jing Ramos, seven-year old nephew of the First Lady, was ring-bearer.

Following the ceremony, the First Lady cut a simple wedding cake hurriedly ordered by Palace assistants from a Manila bakery as soon as they learned of the President's decision to hold an impromptu ceremony. Mrs. Avelina Mayuga sang *Ave Maria* by Santiago, accompanied by a four-man string band of the Presidential Guard Battalion.

The yacht *Sta. Maria* shoved off for Bohol shortly after 2 p.m. Among those present at the ceremony were Speaker Romualdez, Representatives Bartolome Cabangbang and Ramon Mitra, and Secretaries Jesus Vargas and Jaime Hernandez.

FOREIGN Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Felixberto M. Serrano headed the well-wishers of President and Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia this day on the occasion of their silver wedding anniversary.

Secretary and Mrs. Serrano in their congratulatory telegram said that both the President and Mrs. Garcia "in sharing the travails and reaping together the fruits of success of a political life, have produced a living example in Philippine life of how a husband and wife should contribute their respective lot not only for their common benefit and happiness but also for their country and people."

The foreign affairs secretary's telegram congratulated the President and Mrs. Garcia for the devotion and affection which they have both manifested to each other during the long period of their marriage.

Other officials and Malacañang newsmen have also congratulated the President and the First Lady on their silver wedding anniversary.

May 25.—THE President and his family arrived in Talibon at 12:30 p.m. aboard the yacht *Santa Maria*, following a 33 hour trip from Manila. The arrival was delayed a few hours, for the yacht had to slow down as it gingerly traversed the approaches off Talibon which abound in treacherous reefs larking below sea surface.

The yacht dropped anchor about a mile off Talibon harbor. The presidential party was conveyed ashore on the ship's motor launch.

The people of the quiet little fishing town of Talibon on the northern coast of Bohol turned out *en masse*, complete with fireworks, brass bands, and parade, to welcome the presidential party. They were glad their favorite son, "Caloy," had returned once again to his hometown on the eve of its fiesta as he had been doing every year for many years in the past.

From the wharf, the President and his family headed a long procession to the church, where a *Te Deum* was sung, officiated by Father Marcelino de Castro, parish priest.

Then the presidential party repaired to the guest house nearby, where the presidential family were billeted during their two-day stay there.

PRESIDENT Garcia administered oaths of office to Felix Marfori and Patricio Ceniza as judges of the courts of first instance of Samar and Misamis Occidental, respectively, in ceremonies held in Talibon today.

Present at the ceremony were provincial and municipal officials headed by Gov. Esteban Bernido, Rep. Maximino Garcia, and Mayor Lazaro Evardo of Talibon. The induction was held at the town's guest house shortly after the President's arrival here.

Judge Marfori has been in the government service for 33 years and was fiscal in Palawan, Zambales, Bataan, Mt. Province, La Union, Negros Oriental, and for 12 years in Bohol before his appointment as judge.

Judge Ceniza, likewise, has been in the government for 34 years, 17 years as provincial fiscal and another 17 years as judge. He has been assigned to some 20 provinces all over the country.

May 26.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia today reenacted the veil and cord JKT ceremony in Talibon in connection with the celebration of their Silver wedding anniversary.

Like the simple rites held aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria* at the Navy yacht basin early last Saturday morning when the President and the First Lady only exchanged marriage vows, this morning's ceremony held at the town church was as simple with only close relatives and friends in attendance.

It was explained the veil and cord rites were held separately from the rest of the ceremony because such was the case 25 years ago. The marriage had been solemnized in Opon, Cebu, and during those days no veil and cord ceremonies were held in the afternoon when the wedding took place. Cord and veil rites were held the following morning in Talibon, a few hours' trip from Opon by sailboat.

The ceremony this morning was officiated by Moris. Manuel Mascarifias, Bishop of Tagbilaran. Emilio Quiachon and Mrs. Fortuna Garcia, close relatives, stood as sponsors. Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos were veil sponsors while Rep. and Mrs. Maximino Garcia were cord sponsors. The same cord used 25 years ago was brought over from Opon and used at this morning rites.

The President and the First Lady received holy communion during the pontifical mass held in connection with the ceremony. All through the ceremony, both celebrants appeared very solemn and in deep thought, as they relived the happy event which took place a quarter of a century ago.

Following the church rites, at Talibon, the parish priest honored the celebrants with breakfast at the Convent. The church rites lasted from 8 to 9 a.m.

A rare wedding gift was presented by the Constabulary today to President Garcia and the First Lady with the news that the PC had captured Leonardo "Putik" Manecio, most wanted Cavite outlaw.

News of Manecio's capture was read to the President by Maj. Jose Estrella, junior aide, a few minutes after he and Mrs. Garcia had reenacted at the Talibon church the veil and cord ceremony in connection with the celebration of their silver wedding anniversary.

IN the afternoon, the President held a series of conferences with local officials who called on him at the guest house in Talibon and consulted him on problems of their respective municipalities.

The President and his family then regrouped late this afternoon to join the fiesta procession in honor of the patron saint, the Holy Trinity.

Then the party boarded a launch which conveyed them to the yacht anchored off Talibon. The yacht pulled out for the return trip to Manila about 8 p.m.

President Garcia returned to the presidential yacht after enjoying the Talibon fiesta with his townspeople.

The yacht *Sta. Maria* pulled out of the Talibon coast about 8 p.m. with the President, Mrs. Garcia, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, and newsmen.

The Chief Executive is returning to Manila to stave off the revolt brewing in Congress over the agenda he had set for the special session

May 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia administered the oath of office to Marciano Camacho, Sr., as justice of the peace of Inabanga, Bohol, at a ceremony held in Talibon, shortly before he embarked for the return trip to Manila last night.

The President, the First Lady, and their children, Linda and Nanding, joined the religious procession in honor of the Blessed Trinity, patrons of the President's native town. They joined the procession which went through Talibon's principal streets and wound back to church some 45 minutes later. All through the procession, security officers were alert owing to numerous firecrackers thrown from houses and exploding near the images of the patrons close behind which the President and his family were following.

Commodore Jose Francisco took personal command of the yacht as it pulled out of dangerous Talibon waters at 8 p.m. yesterday. Unknown to the passengers aboard, a full complement of the ship was mobilized and ordered on post as *Sta. Maria* spent almost three hours zigzagging and playing hide and seek with numerous reefs and shoals scattered all over the place.

At one point during the tense passage, the yacht's escort ship which was also doing its own plotting of the course flashed an urgent warning that the yacht was heading straight for a shoal. There was tension on the *Sta. Maria's* bridge as officers rechecked their computations and calculations. Satisfied that they were on the right course, Commodore Francisco ordered no change but ordered the ship slowed down to creeping speed.

The most dangerous part of the passage came shortly before 10 p.m. when the *Sta. Maria* was about to enter a "channel" only about 600 yards wide formed by rock formation almost all of which were below sea surface. The ship's officers found the channel under heavy rain which blotted out the "pips" of rock formation from the

radarscope. The commodore ordered the ship completely stopped, weighed anchor, and waited almost one hour for the rain to lift over the channel.

It was 11:30 p.m. when the yacht was pronounced out of the danger area. Breathing a sigh of relief, Francisco explained it was easier to negotiate the area during daytime because although the reefs were below the water the sea appeared darker where they were; and one could steer the ship around them visually. He further said he would recommend to the President the installation of lights, markers, and other aides of navigation in the area to encourage shipping in the northern coast of Bohol.

THE President spent the day working on state papers he brought along during the trip, including records of prisoners recommended for executive clemency by the Board of Pardons and Parole.

The President wanted to act on some of them on the occasion of his wedding-anniversary.

At lunch this noon, the First Lady ordered a bottle of whisky opened and served when she learned that it was Major Jose Estrella's 35th birthday. Passengers on board held an impromptu program, and there was group singing wishing the President's military aide happy birthday.

May 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Manila early yesterday from a five-day cruise to his hometown, Talibon, Bohol.

The yacht docked at 5: 30 a.m. at the Navy yacht basin, but the President did not land immediately.

He received on board a few callers who reported to him the state of affairs in Congress and in various offices of the government while the Chief Executive was on his "second honeymoon."

Upon returning to Malacañang at 9 o'clock in the morning, the President named Adriano Gardella and James R. Paton as consuls *ad honorem* of the Philippines in Genoa, Italy, and Glasgow, Scotland, respectively.

The President also received a big delegation of workers affiliated with the National Textile Workers Union, led by their president, Leovigildo de Castro, and Eulogio Lerum, president of the National Labor Union.

The workers presented a resolution urging the government to reconsider its decision to sell the NDC textile mills to private parties.

The President explained that the Cabinet decision was prompted by an administration policy to withdraw gradually from business in cases where private businessmen are willing to take over.

The President said that the Cabinet believed that now is the most opportune time for the sale of the mills in order to insure an easier adjustment of the laborers who might be laid off, although a great majority of them would be retained by the firm which would purchase the mills.

The President said he would refer their petition to the Cabinet at its meeting today.

In the afternoon, the President presided over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

At 5 o'clock President Garcia suspended the Cabinet meeting to receive the credentials of Air Marshal Prince Rangsiyakorn Abakorn as the new ambassador of Thailand to the Philippines.

Ambassador Abakorn received full military honors upon his arrival at the Malacañang ground from the model company of the Presidential Guard Battalion under the command of Lt. Artemio S. Bustamante.

Pledges of continued friendship, mutual assistance, and cooperation were exchanged between the President and the new Thai envoy.

After their- meeting, the President and the members of his Cabinet previewed a television show of the Chief Executive entitled *A Challenge in Asia*, which will be shown in the United States shortly.

The President and the Cabinet at their meeting this day took a long look at the problems confronting the Sulu Archipelago and decided to adopt a long-range program for a permanent solution, and at the same time approved measures to provide for the immediate needs of the people in that area.

The President and the Cabinet heard a long report submitted by the Presidential Committee on Sulu Affairs, headed by Francisco M. Calinawan, chairman. With the aid of charts, Calinawan outlined before the Cabinet the pressing problems of the Sulu Archipelago as follows: (1) peace and order; (2) socio-economic-cultural, (3) education; and (4) health and sanitation.

The President and the Cabinet, realizing the enormity of the problems facing the Sulu Archipelago, decided that the Presidential Committee on Sulu Affairs, which had made a survey of the Sulu situation during the past several days, will be responsible in doing the spadework and will present all the important problems in the South, together with its recommendations to a Cabinet committee which will study further the report before final approval and implementation. The President and the Cabinet believed that the problems were so important and ramified that they need a thorough study for a permanent solution. They adopted measures' to be carried out immediately to meet the needs of the people in the South,

Regarding peace and order, the President directed Integration Commissioner Madki Alonto to organize the *sultans*, *datus*, and *panglimas* into a strong civic organization which will work intensively for the collection of loose firearms which are a menace to the peace and order situation in that area. Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas was also directed by the President to intensify further the work of the Armed Forces in the maintenance of peace and order.

In this connection, the President said that the Sulu task force which he had recently created, headed by Col. Flaviano Olivares, would contribute its share in the maintenance of peace and order by minimizing smuggling in that area.

Regarding the improvement of the health of the people, President Garcia directed Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbokon and Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor to conduct a special training of personnel to be composed of doctors, nurses, and midwives who are natives to be sent to that area in order that they can become more effective in ministering to the health needs of the people. Secretary Vargas informed the President that it was planned by the Army to install a mobile hospital in the area to provide more health facilities for the people of that region.

Owing to the report that water supply in the area was deficient because 29 artesian wells out of 69 in Jolo, Tapul, Siasi, and Bongao were not functioning, the President directed Secretary Vaigas, as chairman of the NAWASA board, to order the immediate repair of these wells and to build some more as needed to insure good and sufficient water supply.

In order to promote the administration of justice in that area, President Garcia directed Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera to assign one judge of the court of first instance in Jolo and to appoint eight additional justices of the peace in that area.

In order to step up food production in* the South, the President directed Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez to study ways of disposing of thousands of wild hogs infesting Jolo and Tawi-Tawi which are a great obstacle to agricultural production. Secretary Rodriguez will study ways of eradicating these wild hogs or converting them into food in order that the farms would not be destroyed and thus enable production of more crops. The President also directed Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, as chairman of the NAMARCO, to study ways to provide the farmers in Jolo and Tawi-Tawi with 600 meters of hog wire fence to fence four hectares. This will enable the farmers to produce cassava and palay.

The President also directed Secretary Vargas to provide more prefabricated school buildings for Sulu barrio schools. These prefabs will be erected by the people living in the barrios.

The Cabinet also approved the purchase of 20,000 metric tons of Burmese rice, 25 per cent broken, at \$119 to \$120 per metric ton, on a government-to-government basis.

This is in addition to the 30,000 metric tons of Burmese rice which is scheduled to arrive here on the first or second week of June. The purchases have been negotiated by Mayor Arsenio II Lacson of Manila,

NAMARCO Manager Benjamin Estrella, and NARIC Manager Vicente Concepcion, on their recent trip to Rangoon.

The offer for the additional 20,000 metric tons was contained in a letter sent to the President by Chan Kee Hwa, who urged immediate action on the offer as six countries were trying to purchase the same stocks. The purchase price, although two to three dollars higher than that of the original 30,000 metric tons, was still considered reasonable.

May 29—AT THEIR meeting today, President Garcia and the Council of Leaders agreed to pass during the current special session of Congress three tax measures and four other bills recommended by the President.

The President conferred with the Council of Leaders during breakfast which started at 8 o'clock and lasted until 10:15 a.m. at the President's workshop in Quezon City.

Those present at the meeting were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, and Reps. Jose J. Roy of Tarlac, Justiniano S. Montano of Cavite, and Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato. Also present was Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo to work for an early consideration in the U. S. Senate of a House bill which would- allow orphans of Philippine Scouts or of Filipino U. S. Navy men to study in the Philippines under the provisions of U. S. Public Law 634 of the 84th Congress, which provides for educational assistance benefits to war orphans of U. S. veterans.

The presidential directive was sent by wire to Ambassador Romulo after a conference President Garcia had with Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato in the President's residence in Quezon City.

The Cotabato solon informed President Garcia that the bill had been approved by the U. S. House of Representatives without any objection in the last session of the current U. S. Congress and is now pending in the Senate Labor Committee headed by Sen. Lister Hill of Alabama.

The measure, the President was further informed, has the backing of the American Legion at the urging of its Philippine chapter. It will give about 2,000 eligible war orphans in the Philippines the opportunity to study in local educational institutions.

The President was told that Public Law 634 provides for educational benefits to war orphans of U. S. veterans at the rate of \$110 a month for a period of 36 months with the proviso, however, that the educational benefits may be enjoyed only in the United States.

Rep. Pendatun told President Garcia that only six per cent of the eligible Filipino war orphans have applied for the educational benefits provided for by Public Law 634 owing to the said proviso.

President Garcia was also told that the exchange regulations of the Central Bank are an obstacle to Filipino war orphans who would like to avail themselves of, the said educational benefits.

Filipino war orphans need dollars for travel and subsistence expenses in the United States while awaiting the release of dollars by the U. S. Veterans Administration for their allowances and are often stymied by the Central Bank regulations, according to Rep. Pendatun.

After the breakfast conference with leaders of Congress, President Garcia received Rep. Tobias Fornier of Antique, Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, and Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur.

After conferring with the Council of Leaders, the President and the First Lady motored to Funeraria Naciohal to view the remains of the late Felix Gatmaitan, a prominent political leader from Tondo.

The President and the First Lady condoled with Mrs. Remedios Vda. de Gatmaitan, the widow, and her two children, Josefina and Avelina.

The President was accompanied by Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and Major Jose Estrella, aide.

PRESIDENT Garcia this day designated Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez as permanent representative of this country to the UNESCO in Paris in order to effect a more effective presentation of the policies of the Philippine Government in that body,

The President also issued today an executive order designating Reps. Benedicto Padilla and Francisco Sumulong of Rizal as members of the Pinaglabanan commemorative commission, replacing the late Rep. Eulogio Rodriguez, Jr., and former Rep. Serafin Salvador in that body.

The new executive order which amended a previous order issued on August 15, 1957, creating the commission, also named the secretary of public works and the commissioner of public highways as additional members of the commission.

THE President granted executive clemency today to 42 prisoners on the occasion of his silver wedding anniversary. Pardon of these prisoners had been recommended by the Board of Pardons and Parole.

The President extended another reprieve to three prisoners scheduled for execution tomorrow, as he needed more time to study their petitions for pardon or commutation of their death sentences.

The condemned men are Jose Villaroya, Manuel Daet, and Enrique Arejola. They had been meted the death penalty by the court of first instance of Camarines Sur for the murder of a couple in the municipality of Tinambac some seven years ago.

Of the 42 prisoners extended clemency today, seven were granted absolute pardons, two special absolute, 27 conditional, and six commutation of sentences.

IN the evening, the President received Col. Flaviano Olivares, head of the Presidential Law Enforcement Unit for the Southern Philippines, which was recently created to crack down on the smuggling in the South.

The President directed Olivares to go after big-time smugglers. He pointed out that he would not be satisfied if the Administration's campaign would merely bag small-time smugglers.

After his conference with Olivares, the President received Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Armed Forces chief of staff.

It was learned that Gen. Arellano wanted to take up with the President the proposed revamp of the Armed Forces.

However, as the President was leaving for his Quezon City residence, he asked Arellano to return at some other date.

The President motored to his Quezon City residence where he spent the night.

Earlier in the afternoon, the President inducted Numeriano Estenzo as judge of the court of first instance of Leyte, Ormoc City, and Tacloban City. The judge was sworn in at Malacañang in the presence of Reps. Manuel Zosa and Ramon Durano of Cebu.

After the induction of Judge Estenzo, the President received more callers, including Sens. Quintin Paredes, Alejo Mabanag, and Eulogio Balao; Reps. Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental and Felix Fuentebella of Camarines Sur; Gov. Salvador Lluch of Lanao; and acting Gov. Jack Arroyo of Camarines Sur.

May 30.—CHARLES O'CONNOR, chairman of the board of Reichhold Chemicals, Inc., paid a courtesy call on President Garcia at Malacañang this morning and offered the facilities of his company, the world's largest producer of synthetic resins, to the Chief Executive during his coming trip to the United States.

O'Connor was accompanied by Meneleo Carlos, president of Resins, Inc., Manila affiliate of Reichhold Chemicals, who informed the President of the start of operations of his firm.

Carlos told President Garcia that Resins, Inc., has been producing alkyd, plywood adhesives, and textile resins since the latter part of March. He said the plant has a normal capacity of 1,000 tons of resin a month.

O'Connor informed the President that the American people were anxiously awaiting his arrival in the United States and predicted that he would receive a rousing welcome there. He said the American people would be very happy to roll out the red carpet for the Chief Executive of a country which has been openly friendly to the United States.

O'Connor also said that his firm, which is one of the world's leading producers of industrial chemicals, was very happy to be associated in the economic development of the country through its affiliation with Resins, Inc., in Manila. Reichhold Chemicals, with head offices in White Plains, New York, has 13 plants in the United States and 24 plants in 18 countries all over the world. O'Connor himself had just come from Japan, where he had opened the third plant of Japan Reichhold Chemicals.

The firm rose to its present eminence in the chemical industry after starting in a garage in Detroit in 1925. Its shares of stock went on the open market in March this year at \$25 and are quoted today at \$32.58, on a par value of \$1 each.

President Garcia told O'Connor and Carlos the business relationship between Reichhold Chemicals and Resins, Inc., with the American firm furnishing experience and know-how to a 100 per cent Filipino corporation, was an example of a tangible and concrete way in which American enterprise could assist and cooperate in Philippine economic development.

Carlos said his newly-established company was producing an essential ingredient in the plywood and wood, surface coating, textile, paper, leather finishing, and printing ink industries.

He said it would help save a considerable part of the \$4 million expended by the country annually for the importation of resins.

O'Connor enplaned aboard a Pan American Airways flight for the United States, at midnight tonight on his way home.

The President also received Paul Wood, president of the International Harvester Company (Philippines), who called to bid goodbye before going to the United States to prepare for the visit of the President to Chicago.

President Garcia accepted the invitation of the City of Chicago and while there will be guest of the International Harvester Company. Mr. Wood was accompanied by Antonio Arizabal, former press secretary.

Eugenio Santos took his oath of office before President Garcia as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office. Present at the ceremony was Mayor Roberto Monroy of Navotas, Rizal, who is a PCSO board member.

Alumni of the Philippine Law School led by UE President Francisco Dalupan, PNB Vice-President Conrado Sevilla, Justice Juan Lanting, and Ricardo Lacson also saw the President. Other members of the group were Judge Minerva Inocencio-Piguing, Fiscal Demetrio Vinzon, Pastor Gonzalez, Eleuterio Gustilo, Venancio Benetua, and Protacio Amonoy.

Other callers were Speaker Protempore Constancio Castaneda, Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenko, and Col. Joaquin Sanchez, director of the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

PRESIDENT Garcia administered the oaths of office to Judge Juan L. Lanting, as associate justice of the Court of Appeals, and to former Cagayan Gov. Jose Carag, as chairman of the Commission on Elections, in ceremonies held at Malacañang this afternoon.

The President also inducted this afternoon:

(1) Montano Tejam and Anacleto Francisco, as commissioner and assistant commissioner, respectively, of the Tariff Commission;

(2) Peregrino Quinto, as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Philippine Tobacco Administration;

(3) Raymundo Villacete, as judge of the court of first instance of Romblon;

(4) UNESCO commissioners Geronima T. Pecson, chairman; and Emiliano Ramirez, Manuel Gallego, Mariano de los Santos, Arsenio Manuel,

Joaquin Maranon, Leoncio Monson, Patrocinio Valenzuela, Severino Velasco, and Alberto Javier, members;

(5) Newly-elected officers of the Society for Public Administration of the Philippines, an organization composed of government officials.

Officers of the Society for Public Administration who took their oath were Faustino Sy-Changeo, president; Vicente Valdellon, vice-president; Independencia Drilon, secretary; Ligaya Jorge, treasurer; and Primitivo de Leon, Carlos Ramos, Lester Shepherd, and Jesus Garilao, members.

Justice Lanting has been in the government service for about 40 years, having started as clerk in the Bureau of Supply. He was subsequently law clerk of the pre-war Executive Bureau, chief public defender, Department of Labor: director, Bureau of Labor; undersecretary of labor; and judge of the Court of Industrial Relations for about 11 years before his elevation to the Court of Appeals. He replaces Justice Sotero Rodas, who retired last year from the Court of Appeals.

Carag, the new chairman of the Commission on Elections, had been justice of the peace in Tuguegarao, Cagayan; provincial fiscal of the same province; judge of the court of first instance of Nueva Ecija, and governor of Cagayan. He was also law professor, having graduated *cum laude* from the University of the Philippines and placing second in the bar examinations in 1922.

Following the oath-taking ceremonies, the President held his regular weekly press conference.

Then he received several callers, including James Buckley of the San Jose Oil Company and Engineer Zosimo Falcon of the CEPOC, who was accompanied by Capt. Pablo Magaro.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon called upon the leaders of Congress to “show their leadership” and make good their commitment, to pass four administration tax measures in both Chambers during the current special session.

He made the statement in commenting on reports that the Senate had junked the four tax measures which the Council of Leaders, in a conference with the President yesterday, had agreed to push through the legislative mill during the current special session.

Visibly disturbed by the overwhelming opposition in the Senate to the tax measures, the President told newsmen at his regular press conference today, “It’s their (Congress leaders) turn to show their leadership.”

At the same time, the President said he had given up his fight for the approval of the Dewey Boulevard reclamation bill in view of the reluctance of Congress leaders to enact the measure during the special session.

He said Congress leaders reacting sharply to what he called “outside talks” on the measure, had decided to “freeze” the bill until the regular session next year.

The President indicated he was not pressing for the approval of the measure in view of the opposition of the Council of Leaders to its immediate passage.

Until press time this evening the President had not made up his mind whether he would meet again with the members of the Council of Leaders tomorrow.

The President also told newsmen he was not going to submit to Congress the re-nomination of Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez.

He said that the Council of Leaders had assured him the Commission on Appointments will not meet during the special session.

The President also said he was still studying a plan to re-convene Congress anew to take up proposed amendments to the Constitution.

However, he refused to elaborate on this plan until sentiment has crystalized in Congress on the proposal to synchronize elections every four years,

Meanwhile, the President announced during his press conference that the Philippines may shortly take steps to sound out other countries in the South on a plan to enlist their cooperation in the Administration’s drive to curb smuggling of goods in and out of the country.

He made the announcement after he was informed that some countries in the South had legalized the smuggling of goods to and from the Philippines.

The President pointed out that he had sounded out Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano on the feasibility of exchanging diplomatic notes with these countries in order to insure their cooperation in the government’s drive to stop smuggling.

At the same time, the President said that he had directed Col. Flaviano Olivarez, chief of the President’s law enforcement unit for the southern islands, to “identify the members of the syndicate” engaged in the smuggling of low-quality copra out of the Philippines.

Olivarez, in his progress report to the President yesterday, said that a ring of smugglers allegedly exported illegally ₱4 million worth of low-quality copra annually in exchange for banned articles.

The President also disclosed that he expected Huk Supremo Jesus Lava to “turn up and give himself up to the government.”

May 31.—THE PRESIDENT received at his Quezon City residence this morning, former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., who called to pay his respects. The Grand Old Man of Cebu arrived in Manila to attend the meeting of the Council of State on Tuesday.

After receiving Mr. Osmeña, the President conferred with Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong.

In the evening, the President resumed working on his speeches which he will deliver during his state visit to the United States.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Lt. Cdr. Marcelino Calinawan, presidential graft-buster in the Customs, to go deeper in the investigation of the paring oil barter export and the importation of textiles, particularly yarn and remnants.

The President gave this directive during a conference this afternoon in his residence in Quezon City when Calinawan made his periodic progress report on his Customs investigation work.

Calinawan informed the President in the course of his report that several more Customs officials and employees would soon be recommended by him for suspension. He added that where warranted, criminal charges would be filed against several of the 26 Customs officials and employees already suspended and against whom administrative charges had been filed. He said the first criminal charge was set to be filed on Wednesday.

The Customs graft-buster informed President Garcia that his men had recently discovered the anomalous exportation of coconut oil through a barter license for paring oil.

He explained that a certain company had acquired a barter license of \$1,080,000 to export 6,000 long tons of paring oil. Actually, the company had already shipped 5,000 long tons of oil. In the last shipment of 270 long tons intercepted by Calinawan's men, it was found out after an examination made by the Institute of Science and Technology of a sample taken from the shipment, that it was coconut oil, not paring oil.

President Garcia was told that coconut oil cost \$50 more per ton than paring oil in export value. Besides, coconut oil is prohibited from being bartered. Calinawan said that such anomalous transaction was a source of loss in millions of dollars in the country's dollar reserves. It was indicated that other offices might be involved in the further investigation of this case.

With regard to the importation of yarn, Calinawan explained that the country's yearly yarn requirement was nine million pounds, but that local production was 14 million pounds. He added that importers got allocations amounting to some \$12 million a year. He further said that although yarn cost \$1.10 a pound in the United States, it was being purchased at \$0.66 a pound in Japan. This, the investigator said, was another source of drain on the country's dollars.

Calinawan said that in some importation of remnants, clothing materials in bolts were received. He stated that remnants were taxed 15 per cent *ad valorem*, while clothing materials coming in bolts were taxed from 80 per cent to 240 per cent *ad valorem*. This fraudulent importation would result in millions of pesos loss in government revenue, Calinawan said.

President Garcia lauded Calinawan and his men for their untiring efforts in unearthing anomalies in the Bureau of Customs. He expressed the hope that there would be no let-down in their efforts.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: June 1-15, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

June 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia today continued his preparations for his state visit to the United States this month.

He closeted himself almost the whole day at his Bohol Avenue residence to work on the speeches he will deliver during his visit.

It was learned that President Garcia will deliver no less than 32 speeches during the 15 days that he will be in the United States,

The Chief Executive will speak at Washington, D.C., Chicago, New York, Phoenix (Arizona), Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Honolulu.

As usual, the President started his Sunday by hearing mass at his residence. Mrs. Garcia and members of the household heard mass with the President.

The couple then had breakfast together, after which the President read the Sunday papers.

President Garcia worked on his speeches until lunch time.

After lunch with the First Lady, the President had a brief siesta. Later in the afternoon, he resumed work on his speeches.

June 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia received a very limited number of callers today in order to devote his time to clearing the deck of various pending matters preparatory to his departure for the United States next week.

Spending the day at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, the President also resumed work on speeches he will deliver during his 15-day state visit to the U. S.

The President this morning had a conference with Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez on the latest developments on the current special session of Congress. The President also received Don Andres Soriano, who called to pay his respects prior to the latter's departure for abroad.

About 11 a.m., the President conferred with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who brought over a pile of pending papers from Malacañang for presidential action.

After a brief rest in the afternoon, the President repaired to his study where he went over drafts of his speeches. He had requested Dr. Jose Locsin, chairman, of the National Economic Council, to represent him in the ceremony launching this year's Community Chest fund drive to be held at the Malacañang Social hall at 5 p.m. today.

At 8:30 in the evening, the President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the residence of Sen. Quintin Paredes in New Manila, Quezon City, where a *despedida* dinner was given in their honor.

PRESIDENT Garcia stated today in a message that there could be no better demonstration of citizen awareness to community needs, and of the strength and cohesiveness of community spirit, than a community chest.

The President's message was read by NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin, who represented the Chief Executive at the ceremonies marking the formal launching of the tenth annual fund campaign of the Community Chest of Greater Manila at the Malacañang social hall this afternoon.

Commending the officials of the fund drive, the President said that their efforts to pool together “your resources of experience, intelligence, and interest of the human welfare is indeed reassuring in these troubled times.”

The President recalled that last year the Community Chest had raised over ₱400,000 which were distributed to 18 welfare agencies, providing various types of social assistance and services to over a million persons.

This, the President said, almost equaled the number of persons assisted by public welfare agency. “It can therefore be truly said that the people have shared equally with their government, in difficult but satisfying task of furthering the common welfare,” he added.

In concluding his message, the President said he was confident that the leadership of this year’s campaign would be successful and that he had faith that the people would share “their blessings and give generously to this noble cause.”

Present during the ceremony was Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, who presented a ₱1,000 check as the President’s contribution to the drive.

Other speakers at the program were Gregorio Licaros, associate general chairman of the 1958 Community Chest fund campaign, and Judge Natividad Almeda Lopez, who received reports from various committee heads regarding the progress of the drive.

Carlos Palanca, presiding general chairman of last year’s fund drive, was the master of ceremonies.

June 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia today closed the door to a devaluation of the Philippine peso despite an economic situation compelling him to seek a nine-figure development loan in dollars from the United States.

The President made known his stand virtually on the eve of his state visit to Washington, in answer to a question during breakfast at his Quezon City residence with members of the Business Writers Association of the Philippines.

The President begins his state visit June 17, two weeks away.

The Chief Executive said his trip is intended to serve two purposes: to improve further Philippine-American relations and to strengthen the Philippine economy.

With respect to the first objective, President Garcia pointed out that a reiteration of Philippine adherence to the principles for which both the Philippines and the U S. stand should improve further their relations in view of the world situation.

He did not go into details, but he apparently was referring to recent American reverses in Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia in the diplomatic and economic contest between the Western and communist camps.

On the second objective, the President said he has ready all projects he plans to finance with the development loan he will seek in Washington, complete with a payment plan.

He did not give any figure, but Washington dispatches have placed the loan amount at \$400 million.

The President admitted that the amount he would seek would not be enough to carry out the projects he envisions, but it would help get these projects under way.

In taking a position against devaluation of the Philippine peso, the President noted that the present pegging of the peso at ₱2 to \$1 has both its advantages and disadvantages.

On the other hand, he warned, devaluation would likely hit hardest the fixed-income group of the nation, those whose earnings come from nothing more but salaries and wages, in the form of “skyrocketing prices” of their needs.

The Chief Executive made these other points in answer to questions from the BWAP members:

1. There is need to update the five-year economic plan submitted by RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, former presiding officer of the National Economic Council, to provide for two of his administration’s principal objectives: self-sufficiency in food and maximum availability of local building materials. Sen. Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez had earlier urged the President and the Cabinet to approve the five-year plan so that the President could “achieve more easily” the US loan he will seek.

2. Congress will pass a foreign investments bill, which should help him in his loan mission in Washington.

3. His administration aims to develop the mining industry, which he said should be the premier industry of the country considering its mineral wealth.

4. Vicente Sinco had been expected to resign his membership on the Central Bank monetary board with his appointment as president of the University of the Philippines. He did not, but anyway his term with the board is “about to expire.”

President Garcia today invited business editors to a breakfast conference at his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City. He invited the business editors to sound them out on the reaction of the business community to his state visit to the United States this month. However, he found out that the business editors could not give him a full assessment of the attitude of the business community toward his trip.

Instead, the President’s guests pumped him with questions on varied subjects which touched more on political issues than on the current problems of the local economy.

After his breakfast with the business writers, the President resumed his speech writing.

At noon, he motored to Malacañang where he presided over the monthly meeting of the Council of State.

As he entered the room, the President found out that the Liberal members, Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal and Rep. Cornelio T. Villa-real, were not present.

However, Sen. Claro M. Recto, president of the Nationalist-Citizens Party, attended the meeting.

Sen. Recto had called for a monthly meeting of the Council of State to be held on the first Tuesday of every month.

However, in view of the trip of the President to the United States, the council decided to hold its next meeting as soon as President Garcia returns,

The Council of State this noon approved the financing of vital projects through bond issues amounting to ₱68,307,000.00.

The projects included the construction of highways, irrigation systems, river control, reconstruction of Pier No. 5, and dredging of Manila harbor, including shore reclamation and the purchase of necessary materials and equipment.

Approval of these projects had been recommended by the National Economic Council in a resolution it had adopted at its 104th meeting last May 29. This same resolution also included the sum of ₱12,420,000 for projects of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority but consideration of this item had been deferred by the Council of State pending clarification by the NAWASA chairman that these particular projects were self-liquidating. It was

pointed out that the law authorizing the issuance and sale of bond issues allows only 30 per cent of the proceeds of such sales for non-self-liquidating projects.

The Council of State also approved the financing from bond issues projects worth ₱104,225,000 previously submitted for consideration by the Department of Public Works and Communications and which had been referred to a screening committee at the first Council meeting last May 20.

The department had submitted for consideration a total financing proposal amounting to ₱190,735,113 but the screening committee had deferred action on building and air navigation projects, with the exception of the Bureau of Prisons building which it considered urgent.

Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano Primicias, ranking member of the screening committee, explained to the Council that his committee was recommending only projects requiring priority consideration; such as, feeder roads, waterworks, pre-fabricated school buildings, artesian wells, portworks, and the construction of the Cabanatuan line and the southern line of the Manila Railroad Company. He said that the committee would submit the other items for consideration in succeeding meetings of the Council.

Sen. Primicias was reporting on behalf of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, committee chairman, who had left for the United States.

The original recommendation of the committee was only for ₱99,225,000 worth of projects. However, the President during the meeting decided to include ₱5 million for communal irrigation projects, saying that due emphasis should be given to undertakings that would boost the nation's program of increased food production. He also said that this amount would be allocated to provinces which are not benefited by the national irrigation building program.

These projects totalling ₱104,225,000 will be referred to the National Economic Council, the Monetary Board of the Central Bank, and the Department of Finance, as required by law. Then they would be returned to the Council of State for further consideration before they are finally submitted to the President for action.

Toward the close of the meeting, the Council of State unanimously passed a resolution wishing the President "bon voyage and all the success in your forthcoming mission to the United States."

The Council also agreed that their meeting next would be held on the call of the President after his arrival from abroad.

Present at the meeting which was held at Malacañang from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castaneda, Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano Primicias, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista, Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbokon, Education Undersecretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenko, Jr., Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin, Gov. Isidro Rodriguez, chairman of the Governors and City Mayors League, Sen. Claro M. Recto, former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., former Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Sr.

June 4.—THIS morning, the President received Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and six Manila newspapermen who left tonight for the United States to await his arrival in Washington.

The newsmen will "cover" the President's trip to the different key cities of the United States.

The newsmen were Primitivo Mijares of the *Chronicle*, Silvino Caparas of the *Mirror*, Gelacio Tecechian of the *Herald*, Vicente Martinez of the *Evening News*, Amante Bigornia of the *Bulletin*, and Mabini R. Centeno of the *Liwayway*.

Celestino M. Vega of the *Bagong Buhay* is also scheduled to leave next week to catch up with the newsmen in Washington. However, Vega was not present at the breakfast which the President gave the US-bound newsmen at his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

After his breakfast with the newsmen, the President went to Malacañang where he signed House Bill No. 777 into law. The bill seeks to authorize the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office to hold one lottery for the benefit of the Blood Bank.

Present at the ceremony were Rep. Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, author of the measure; Teodoro Evangelista, acting chairman of the Philippine National Red Cross; and Mrs. Pilar H. Lim.

Later, the President received the provincial and city jail wardens who had just concluded their in-service training at the Bureau of Prisons.

The wardens were called to further training in view of the numerous cases of jailbreaks in Manila and in the provinces.

The wardens, who had organized into the Wardens Association of the Philippines (WAP) were headed by their president, Capt. Severino David of the Manila Police, and accompanied to the President by acting Director of Prisons Eriberto Misa, Jr.

The President also conferred for three hours with Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano, who briefed President Garcia on the international situation.

It was learned that Serrano reported on the Indonesian situation and the Philippine position on the West Irian question to prepare President Garcia for a press conference at the National Press Club in Washington.

Serrano saw the President at the latter's residence.

THE President today designated Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable to take charge of the Office of the Press Secretary during the absence abroad of Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison.

Secretary Nable's designation is in addition to his present duties as Legislative Secretary to the President.

As Legislative Secretary under the late President Magsaysay, Nable had for three years been Magsaysay's chief liaison officer in the Senate and the House, entrusted with the task of lobbying for major administration bills.

Retained in the same position by President Garcia last year, Nable had been chief information officer of the Nacionalista Party during the last hectic election campaign, the President's spokesman and coordinator of press and radio.

Before his entrance to the government service in 1954, Nable had been political writer of the *Chronicle*, onetime president of the Congressional Press Club, and an active member of the National Press Club.

Nable is married to the former Dolores II. Tinio of Nueva Ecija and has four children. He is an alumnus of the Ateneo de Manila and the De La Salle College.

PRESIDENT Garcia stated today that the widespread support and encouragement being extended to him from almost all sectors of the population on his forthcoming trip to the United States had made him all the more confident and more optimistic as to the outcome of his mission.

In a brief extemporaneous speech before some 900 members of the Inter-Chamber and Trade Organizations which honored him with a testimonial luncheon at Manila Hotel's fiesta pavilion this noon, the President gave two main objectives of his state visit to the U. S. which starts next week.

The objectives are (1) to further improve the friendly relations between the Philippines and the United States and (2) to ask the American people to help this country attain economic stability and make it a real, substantial, and effective democracy in this part of the world.

The President reiterated his confidence that these twin objectives would be received with sympathetic understanding by the American people. He gave a brief resume of PI-US relations which had existed for many years and added that he was certain that the Americans would appreciate the efforts of this country to establish economic security and provide its people with "a fair share of the good things of life."

In introducing the President, Fernando E. V. Sison, president of the Philippine Chamber of Industries and acting chairman of the Inter-Chamber and Trade Organizations, assured the President on behalf of the 14 principal trade chambers constituting the organization, that the people, especially those in the business and industrial communities, were backing him up 100 per cent.

Sison said: "We realize that Your Excellency's forthcoming state visit to the United States as guest of the American people carries with it great significance as well as responsibilities. We realize, too, that your visit is not only social and political in nature and that you have a more serious and important mission relative to the solution of our present economic problems.

"For this very delicate and monumental job, we wish to assure you, Mr. President, that your people, especially those in the business communities, are backing you 100 per cent. We all realize that with the success of your mission, the whole nation will not only reap the benefits that would be derived but perhaps we will witness a more speedy recovery from the economic stagnation in which we find ourselves at present.

"We have full faith and confidence in your ability to present our problems forcefully and convincingly to the government and people of the United States."

The President, in turn, thanked the large gathering of business executives for their manifestations of faith and confidence. He said that it had made him feel all the more strengthened and confident of the successful outcome of his mission.

Present at the affair which lasted from 12 noon to 2:30 p.m. were members of the Cabinet, diplomatic corps, presidents of various trade chambers of various nationalities in this country, and other prominent business executives.

June 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia signed an executive order today establishing the Voluntary Payroll and Savings Plan for officials and employees of the government. The President designated the Central Bank as the government agency to take charge of the plan, which shall be operated and maintained without expense or financial obligations on the part of the members.

At the same time, President Garcia signed another, executive order promulgating the regulations governing the discharge or separation by administrative action of officers in the regular force of the Armed Forces and of reserve officers on an extended tour of active duty.

This executive order, which repeals Executive Order No. 169, dated October 15, 1938, authorizes the creation of efficiency boards for AFP General Headquarters Philippine Army, Philippine Constabulary, Philippine Air Force, and Philippine Navy.

The Voluntary Payroll and Savings Plan, which will be established in all government offices, agencies, and instrumentalities, including government-owned or controlled corporations, has for its objectives the following: (1) to enable government officials and employees to save regularly and (2) to assist in the effective prosecution of the national investment program.

Upon recommendation of Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, President Garcia also signed an executive order which reclassifies the City of Basilan as first class.

Earlier, President Garcia directed Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to release the amount of ₱11,000 for the relief of fire victims in Marabajao, Misamis Oriental. The order was given on representations made by Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez and Rep. Fausto Dugenio.

He also directed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor to dispatch relief goods to Mambajao. The fire broke out yesterday in the slum district of Mambajao.

THIS afternoon the President sounded a general appeal for all rice growers to exert extra efforts to increase their yearly produce so that this country could attain self-sufficiency in this staple commodity as soon as possible.

In an inspired extemporaneous speech delivered before agriculturists and rice farmers gathered at the Malacañang Park this afternoon to witness the awarding of prizes to winners in the First Nation-Wide-100-Cavan-Per-Hectare Rice Contest, the President pointed out that a farmer has to produce only one more cavan per hectare per year to make this country self-sufficient in this staple food.

The President explained that the Philippines produces 174 million cavans of rice a year and that the annual requirement of the population is 176 million cavans. Inasmuch as there are approximately two million hectares planted to rice in this country, all that the average farmer has to do is to produce one cavan more per hectare per year and this country would be self-sufficient, he said,

The Chief Executive congratulated the winners of the contest saving that if the average rice farmer in this country were as careful and as industrious as they were, the Philippines would be exporting rice instead of importing from other countries.

He also pointed out that according to foreign experts who had visited all the countries in the Far East, the Philippines has the climate and soil more favorable to rice growing than those of many neighboring countries. However, these countries, such as Japan, Vietnam, and Cambodia, produce five to six times more per hectare than the Philippines, he said.

The President expressed the hope that with the campaign for increased production launched 037 the government, the Philippines would be self-sufficient next year and would be exporting the commodity to other countries after 1959.

Prizes awarded at this afternoon's ceremonies consisted of farm implements ranging from midget rice mills, portable irrigation pumps, plows, and insecticide sprayers, to cash and certificates.

Among the winners were Enrique Bautista of Binangonan, Rizal, and Cornelio Telan of Abian, Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya, who were respectively able to produce an average of more than 179 cavans and 164 cavans per hectare this year in their farms. Bautista was awarded a "Gem" Diesel Rotavator valued at ₱4,700, while Telan received a "JB Midget" Cone Type irrigation pump valued at ₱3,400.

The President was introduced by Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez at the ceremonies. Among others present were U. S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, Agriculture Undersecretary Jose P. Trinidad, Ricardo T. Marfori, president of the Soil Science Society under whose auspices the yearly contests are being held, and ranking officials of the agriculture department.

The ceremonies lasted from 4 to 5 p.m.

Other prize winners were: Pastor Perez, Naga City; Francisco Olabario, Ragay, Camarines Sur; Joaquin Mostrales, Midsayap, Cotabato; Jose Villaruz, Santa, Ilocos Sur; Higinio Cuezat, Ragay, Camarines Sur; Cirilo Es-pinosa, Marbel, Cotabato; Albertine Mostrales, Midsayap, Cotabato; Basilio Labio, Midsayap, Cotabato; Roberto Manialac, Magalang, Pampanga; Pedro Miranda, Magalang, Pampanga; Gonzalo Guzman, Magalang, Pampanga; Jose Rafiola, Ragay, Camarines Sur; Jesus Reabulit, Naga City; Lorenzo Valenzuela, Iriga, Camarines Sur; Wenceslao Villanueva, Dupax, Nueva Vizcaya; Jaime Crisostomo, Solano, Nueva Vizcaya; Jose Jimenez, Angeles, Pampanga; Eduardo Prieto, Lebak, Cotabato; Francisco Bibay, San Nicolas, Pangasinan; Gavino Perez, Naga City; Ponciano Dote, Ragay, Camarines Sur; and David Dolor, Naga City.

June 6.—THIS morning the President had breakfast in his Quezon City “workshop” with PNB officials who gave him a detailed report of the transactions and activities of the financial institution for possible use in his forthcoming state visit to the United States.

At the conference were Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, chairman of the PNB board of directors; Arsenio Jison, PNB president; Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez; Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona; Fortunate de Leon; and Conrado Sevilla.

Later this morning the President expressed the hope that the Regional Conference on Public Administration will provide the groundwork for the organization of a regional body of public administrators whose leadership may well secure for the peoples of Asia and the Far East the most efficient and competent public administration.

The President was the principal speaker at the opening session of the conference held this morning at the Hall of Flags of the Department of Foreign Affairs. Present at the occasion were members of the diplomatic corps, high government officials led by Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Juan Alcazaren, UP President Vicente Sinco, NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, and Sen. Alejo Mabanag.

The President stated that all are agreed that the welfare of the people was the sole purpose of all governments and that in fulfilling this mission the success of a government depended upon the quality of its public administration.

He enjoined the delegates to exert every effort to “increase the performance output of government workers, to insure the positive contribution of each individual and group task to the achievement of major objectives, and to instill in every employee and official a professional spirit of service to the public.”

PRESIDENT Garcia said this afternoon he will carry out his proposed reorganization of the Bureaus of Customs and Internal Revenue; even if Congress failed to pass his pet measure calling for express authority to do so.

At the same time, the President flayed Congress for “unnecessary legislating out” six employees by suppressing their salary items in the 1959 budget.

“It should not have been done,” the President told newsmen at his press conference today.

He pointed out that Congress action has prompted him to seek other remedies to “put back these employees into the service.”

He said he will proceed with the current investigation of venalities in the two bureaus to improve collections and efficiency of employees in the different Philippine ports and provinces.

The President, at his regular press conference today:

1. Indicted the Liberals for allegedly turning back on an opportunity to serve the country by rejecting his invitation to let Rep. Cornelio Villa-real, LP president, join in his state visit to the United States;
2. Endorsed the plan to adopt the multiple currency system in an effort to expand foreign trade without necessarily straining the dollar reserves of the country;
3. Announced he will govern the country through the radiophone during the course of his state visit to the United States;
4. Denied a charged levelled by Vice-President Macapagal that the use of proceeds from bond issue would generate inflation; and
5. Squelched reports he had taken any side in the Lacson-Aguilar affair on the zoo controversy.

Commenting on the Liberal Party rejection of his invitation to the LP president to join him in his trip, President Garcia stressed that he had given the opposition an opportunity to serve the interest of the country.

“However,” he said “the Liberals refuse to serve the people.”

The President then pledged to take the issue to the people. “Let the people decide,” he said challengingly.

He also took issue with Vice-President Macapagal, titular LP head, who had charged that the use of the proceeds of bonds issues may generate an inflation of the country.

He explained that he was taking extra precaution in the use of proceeds of the bond issues which he said was “within bounds.”

At the same time, the President said he has no plans of harnessing the services of the Vice-President while he is on a state visit to Washington.

He told the newsmen he will govern the country through the use of a radiophone.

He said that he had designated Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez to preside the Cabinet meetings during his absence. He chose Hernandez as the later is the “most senior” member of the Cabinet.

The President also endorsed the plan of adopting the multiple currency system. The system, which has been recommended favorably by the National Economic Council, would pave the way for the expansion of the country’s foreign trade, he said.

President Garcia pointed out that he had proposed the adoption of the “soft currency” as an alternative measure in the event the Cabinet decision outlawing barter trade is implemented by Congress.

However, the President said Congress has “sat down” on his plan to scrap barter trade.

The President refused to comment on the “achievement” of Congress during the regular and the special sessions.

He said “it was still premature for him. to assess the accomplishment of the legislature.” He held the press conference while Congress was still winding up its special session.

“Many things can happen within the next six hours,” the President pointed out.

President Garcia said that he was not taking sides in the current conflict between Mayor Lacson and Fr. Osmundo Aguilar over the transfer of the latter's zoo.

He denied reports that he had expressed his sympathy for Fr. Aguilar, who had been ordered by the city mayor to move his zoo from Manila.

The President also told the press conference the Philippines will be able to tide over its present rice shortage with the series of importation of the cereals which had been authorized by the Cabinet.

He said he is confident that the country will not face any "serious rice shortage this year."

PRESIDENT Garcia after the press conference unveiled a historical marker in the Malacañang room where United States President Dwight D. Eisenhower, then a major in the U. S. Army, drafted the National Defense Act of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and held offices as chief of the Military Affairs Division of the Office of the President of the Philippines.

The President, in unveiling the plaque, said: "Here, in this very room, the man who was destined for the Presidency of the greatest country in the world patterned the defense of our country."

United States Ambassador to the Philippines Charles E. Bohlen, who delivered a short response, expressed the most sincere appreciation of the U.S. Government and people for the historical marker, and assured that President Eisenhower would be most grateful for the honor extended to him by the Philippine Government.

President Eisenhower was in the Philippines from October 26, 1935, to December 13, 1939, as a member of the U.S. Military Mission to the Commonwealth of the Philippines headed by Major General Douglas Mac-Arthur. In 1938, Major Eisenhower was designated by President Manuel L. Quezon as chief of the Military Affairs Division of the Office of the President of the Philippines. It was during Major Eisenhower's tour of duty in the Philippines that he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel.

The inscription on the historical marker follows: "Lt. Col. Dwight D. Eisenhower, member of the United States Military Mission to the Commonwealth of the Philippines headed by Maj. Gen. Douglas Mac-Arthur (26 October 1935-13 December 1939), drafted in this room the National Defense Act of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. Here also he held office as Chief of the Military Affairs Division of the office of the President to which position he was designated by President Manuel L. Quezon in 1938. Colonel Eisenhower is regarded as one of the architects of the national defense of the Republic of the Philippines which follows the fundamental policies he helped formulate. Because of his concern for the Filipino soldier and for the well-being of the Philippines, he is admired and loved by all."

In his brief speech the President also said: "We should be proud of the fact that we have in this great man (President Eisenhower) a friend and a benefactor and at one time participated in the building up of our young and struggling Republic."

Present at the unveiling ceremony were ranking officials of the Philippines and representatives of the United States Government headed by Ambassador Bohlen. Cabinet members and ranking officers of the AFP headed by Maj. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP vice-chief of staff, were present. Also present were Maj. Gen. William Nutter, JUSMAG chief; Rear Admiral Edgar Cruise; Paul D. Summers, local ICA chief; and high officials of the U.S. Embassy.

President Garcia this evening attended another farewell party given by the Union Zambalena at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel.

Before proceeding to the Manila Hotel, President, and Mrs. Garcia viewed the photographic exhibits, UA Family of Man," at the Raymond Spruance Hall of the American School.

June 7.—THIS morning, the President addressed the Regional Conference on Public Administration at the Department of Foreign Affairs.

In his speech the President expressed the hope that the conference will provide the groundwork for the organization of a regional body of public administrators whose leadership may well secure for the peoples of Asia and the Far East the most efficient and competent public administration.

Present were members of the diplomatic corps and government officials headed by Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Juan Alcazaren.

The President stated that all are agreed that the welfare of the people was the sole purpose of all governments and in fulfilling this mission, the success of a government depended upon the quality of its public administration.

THIS afternoon President Garcia conferred with Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez, who reported on details of preparations being made in Washington, D. C, for the President's state visit to the United States.

Secretary Jimenez has just arrived from the U.S. where he had assisted the Philippine embassy and the U.S. state department in drawing up the presidential schedule during the two-week visit. Copies of the schedule will be released next week.

The President held separate conferences this afternoon with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who brought him some pending papers for action, and Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, concurrently officer-in-charge of the Press Office, who briefed the President on various matters.

In the evening, the President motored to the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel, where he attended a testimonial dinner given in his honor by the Escolta Walking Corporation.

June 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning said that former Spanish

Governor-General Simon de Anda deserved the undying gratitude of the Filipinos for having "fought for justice to the Filipinos and for doing so paid a high price which only great souls are willing to do."

In a speech delivered at the turn-over ceremony of the newly reconstructed Anda Monument at the traffic circle on Bonifacio Drive in Port Area, the President said Governor-General Anda had fought against abuses, oppression, and corruption whether perpetrated by white, brown, or black man.

The President added: "He lost the love of his fellow countrymen because he did not want to lose the love of his God, who is the source of eternal justice, of truth, and of the right. But let Simon de Anda know that if he had lost the love of his own countrymen, the Filipino people for whom he had fought and died, will forever treasure his name as one of the greatest benefactors of their country."

The turn-over ceremony climaxed an eight-year campaign by the Manila Lions Club, which sponsored the ₱45,000 Anda Monument reconstruction project.

Present at the ceremony were Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Felixberto Serrano, Spanish Ambassador and Mrs. Francisco Javier Conde, Defense Secretary and Mrs. Jesus Vargas, Reparations Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog, and NAWASA General Manager Susano R. Negado.

The President was introduced by Manila Lions President Eduardo Escobar.

Before the President's arrival at 9:30 a.m., Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia officiated at a ribbon-cutting ceremony which was one of the main features of the turn-over ceremony. She was assisted by Mesdames Felixberto Serrano, Francisco Javier Conde, wife of the Spanish ambassador, Jesus Vargas, and Eduardo Escobar.

EARLIER in the morning, the President heard mass before an improvised altar in his Quezon City residence.

After breakfast, the President boarded his car and motored to the Port Area for the turn-over ceremony. He was accompanied by Major Jose Estrella, aide.

Following the turn-over ceremony, the President motored back to his residence in Quezon City, where he spent the rest of the day clearing his desk of pending state papers and going over the final drafts of his speeches during his trip to the United States this month.

June 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning had an hour long conference at his Quezon City “workshop” with Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas and Lieutenant Commander Marcelino Calinawan, presidential customs graft buster, during which he inquired into the progress of the investigation regarding the exportation of coconut paring oil.

Calinawan had started the probe when he found out that two shipments of the Aguilar Enterprises were not paring oil but coconut oil, which commands a higher price in the world market.

Effective remedial measures to check further exportation of coconut oil in the guise of paring oil were also discussed at the conference.

President Garcia also inquired from Commissioner Capapas about certain readjustments of customs personnel, in view of the suspension of 27 employees.

Reassignment of qualified customs personnel with a view to effecting a better and efficient administration was also agreed upon by the conferees.

The President also received Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo with whom he conferred on routine matters, Andrew D. Gruber, and Commissioner Antonio Noblejas of the Land Registration Office.

Earlier in the morning, the President gave a “despedida” breakfast for U.S. Ambassador Charles F. Bohlen, who is leaving for Washington D. C, to assist in the preparation for the coming state visit to the President of the United States this month.

Ambassador Bohlen handed President Garcia a message from U.S. President Eisenhower, which said, “your placing of a plaque marking my old office in Malacañang is a source of deep pride’ and of pleasure to me.”

Present at the affair which lasted from 8 to. 10 a.m. were Ambassador Bohlen, Foreign Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, and Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez.

THIS afternoon President Garcia assured the nation’s athletes that their appeal for more training facilities in preparation for future international athletic meets would receive enthusiastic response from the people.

In his brief remarks before members of the Philippine delegation to the last Asian Games recently held in Tokyo, the President said that the splendid performance of the delegation showed that the Filipino athlete, if given adequate training, is equal to any in the world.

The President congratulated the members of the 170-man delegation who called on him at Malacañang this afternoon to pay their respects following their triumphant return from. Tokyo. He said that through the victories and honors they had copped in the Third Asiad, the Philippines had grown in stature in the eyes of the world.

The delegation composed of men and women who represented the Philippines in about 12 events, was accompanied to Malacañang by Antonio de las Alas, president of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation, who thanked the

President for his support and encouragement which, he said, had spurred the athletes to do their best at the Tokyo meet.

De las Alas also presented the President with a commemorative Asiad medal as a token of the latter's share of the honors garnered by the delegation at the meet. The First Lady and her daughter Linda, who assisted the President in receiving the athletes, were also presented with commemorative pins.

De las Alas took occasion to call the attention of the President to the inadequate training Filipino athletes were receiving owing to limited facilities. The President replied that he would drum up public support so that local athletes would be properly trained before they are dispatched to future international meets.

Earlier this afternoon the President received a delegation composed of about 300 students who sought his assistance in their desire to seek admission to the U.S.T. College of Medicine after graduating from the pre-med courses at the U.S.T. and the Letran College. The students said that the U.S.T. had refused to accept them in view of an order from the Bureau of Private Schools to limit the U.S.T.'s enrollment in its medical college to only 1,000 students this year.

The President explained that the government had imposed such limitation because the laboratory facilities at the U.S.T. at present could accommodate only 1,000 students. He said that medicine requires plenty of laboratory work as an important part of the curriculum and hence a medical institution could only take in such number of students as its facilities could accommodate.

The Chief Executive, however, promised to take the matter up with U.S.T. officials to find out how he could help out the students.

The President this afternoon administered the oath of office to officers of the Philippine Council of Industrial Editors (PCIE) in ceremonies held at Malacañang.

Inducted were Jose Dorado, president; Romeo Alinea, vice-president; Jesus Garcia, executive secretary; Emelina Ragaza, treasurer; Benjamin Alcantara, PRO; and the following executive board members—Dionisio Salazar, Leandro Verceles, Casto Rivera, and Antonio Sta. Elena.

June 10.—THIS morning, President and Mrs. Garcia attended the wedding of Lt. Francisco Vargas and Teresita Magsaysay at the Sto. Domingo church in Quezon City.

They also attended the newlywed's breakfast reception at the Officer's Club at Camp Murphy.

The bridegroom is the son of Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, while the bride is the daughter of the late President Magsaysay.

Upon his return to his residence in Quezon City, the President conferred with Judge Salvador Esquerra, his legal adviser, on a number of bills which Congress approved at its regular and special sessions.

Malacañang said the President wanted to act on a number of bills before leaving for the United States.

After his conference with Judge Esquerra, the President called for Daniel Salcedo and Education Undersecretary Martin Aguilar on the issue raised by some 300 medical students who were turned down by private schools.

President Garcia directed Director Daniel Salcedo of private schools to look into the facilities of the University of Santo Tomas with the view to finding out whether the institution could possibly accommodate some 300 students more who had been denied admission in its college of medicine this year.

In issuing the directive, the President reiterated that the encouragement of the youth to attain higher education had always been the policy of his administration. He indicated his willingness to extend all possible government assistance so that educational institutions could obtain the necessary equipment to accommodate the maximum number of students.

The President issued the directive to Director Salcedo in the course of a conference with U.S.T. officials at his "workshop" on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City this morning. He had called the conference after he received yesterday afternoon about 300 pre-medic graduates from U.S.T. and Letran College who complained that the U.S.T. had refused to admit them in view of an order from the Bureau of Private Schools limiting the enrolment of the U.S.T. College of Medicine to only 1,000 students this year.

Education authorities said that the limitation was imposed because the laboratory facilities of the University could only accommodate at present 1,000 students.

The conferees agreed in principle that the U.S.T. College of Medicine will admit this school year the same number of students as last year, which was 1,200.

Present at the conference which lasted from 11 to 11:30 a.m. were Education Undersecretary Martki Aguilar; Daniel Salcedo, director of the Bureau of Private Schools; Fr. Jesus Castahon, U.S.T. rector; and Drs. Virgilio Ramos and Antonio Gisberty dean and assistant dean, respectively, of the U.S.T. College of Medicine.

Other callers included Vicente Albano Pacis and Francisco Delgado, president of the Manila Rotary Club.

President Garcia and the First Lady this evening were honored with another *despedida* dinner in connection with their forthcoming trip to the United States.

The dinner was given by the members of the Council of State and the Cabinet in the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel.

June 11.—THIS morning the President received the first enrolled copy of the budget for the coming fiscal year, approved by Congress during the special session. Rep. Tobias Fornier, chairman of the House appropriations committee, handed the copy to the Chief Executive in the presence of Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

Then the President conferred with RFC Chairman Eduardo Romualdez, who consulted him on the projected expansion and modernization of facilities of the Philippine Air Lines.

Romualdez said that negotiations with the Import-Export Bank were now underway with a view to obtaining a loan of \$8 million for the development and expansion of the PAL

The program, Romualdez said, included the reopening of the line with Tokyo. The modernization project, Romualdez said, calls for the replacement of obsolete aircrafts with the latest models, of commercial planes.

Others who called on the President at his residence in Quezon City were Sen. Pedro Sabido, OEC Administrator Juan Concon, Cebu Gov. Jose Briones, and Reps. Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, Francisco Ortega of La Union, Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, and Maximo Garcia and Natalio Castillo of Bohol.

In the afternoon, the President motored to Malacañang to preside over his regular weekly Cabinet meeting.

President Garcia today issued an executive order providing instructions to be followed in the conduct of public affairs during the time that he is outside the Philippines.

The Chief Executive signed the order this morning in preparation for his state visit to the United States next week.

At the regular Cabinet weekly meeting this afternoon President Garcia directed his department secretaries to adopt retrenchment measures in their respective departments to avoid possible deficits as a result of the failure of Congress to pass the Administration's tax measures.

The President instructed his secretaries to assign representatives of different agencies and offices under their departments to assist the Budget Commission in determining which items in their budgets should be cut so as to avoid the possible disruption of essential operations in these agencies.

The Chief Executive explained that retrenchment measures were necessary, as the budget recommended for enactment for the coming fiscal year had been predicated on the passage of the recommended tax bills; so a drastic reduction in actual expenditures under the new budget is necessary to avoid deficits.

The President also disclosed at the Cabinet meeting that steps were being taken to intensify tax collections under existing laws as a means of boosting revenues. He said that if this new campaign succeeds, it is possible to relax budgetary cuts or even completely restore them later on.

The Chief Executive, however, pointed out that the results of the new campaign for intensified tax collection would not be known until after three or four months.

It was decided at the Cabinet meeting that the Budget Commission would hold a series of conferences with representatives of the various departments in order to determine which items in their departments could be dropped temporarily without disrupting essential operations.

The Cabinet meeting which was devoted mainly to routine matters lasted from 5 to 7 p.m. It was the last meeting of the President with his Cabinet secretaries prior to his departure for the United States on Sunday.

The President today issued a proclamation declaring Thursday, June 19 of this year, as special public holiday in observance of the 97th birthday of Dr. Jose Rizal.

The President today also proclaimed June 14 of every year as Bessang Pass Day, and June 12 as a special public holiday in Cavite.

Moreover, the Chief Executive signed this morning the appointments of the following justices of the peace: (1) Luis Ruiz, Jr., for Ipil, Zamboanga del Sur; (2) Angeles Arabiran, for Cotabato, Cotabato; (3) Samuel Fernal, for Pagalungan, Cotabato; and (4) Francisco Mendoza Abad, for Hinagduan, Mt. Province.

The President proclaimed Rizal's birthday a special public holiday to afford the people "full opportunity to celebrate the day with appropriate ceremonies in keeping with his ideals and teachings."

The Chief Executive proclaimed Bessang Pass Day to commemorate the anniversary of the fall of Bessang Pass which "has become a shining symbol of the courage and heroism of the Filipino soldiery and the loyalty and patriotism of our civilian population during World War II."

He called upon public officials and citizens of the Philippines to celebrate the day by holding appropriate programs "in honor of our fighting men who fought in the Battle of Bessang Pass."

The President also was informed today by the committee in charge that the turn-over ceremonies of the remains of Jose Panganiban which was scheduled for tomorrow had been postponed until the President's return from the United States. The Chief Executive had been scheduled to officiate in the rites.

U. S. Congressman Bernard Kearney of New York said this evening that President Garcia would be received enthusiastically in the United States.

The U. S. solon made this statement during a courtesy call on the President at Malacañang following his arrival in the country recently for a three-day observation in the veterans' hospital in Quezon City. Kearney is a member of the committee on veterans' affairs. He is traveling with his wife.

Congressman Kearney added that he was glad to know of the Chief Executive's projected state visit, as "it would afford a chance for the Americans to meet the leader of a people whose fight for democracy is known throughout the world."

The President was informed by Kearney that the management of the veterans' hospital was satisfactory.

The Kearneys were accompanied to Malacañang by Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Counsellor George Abbot of the U. S. Embassy.

June 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia said today that the proclamation of the first Philippine Republic exactly 60 years ago marked the consecration of Philippine-American friendship,

Addressing a huge crowd from the balcony of General Emilio Aguinaldo's residence in Kawit, Cavite, where the first Philippine independence had been proclaimed 60 years ago, -the President said that PI-US friendship had since been tested by two world wars and that it would continue as long as that friendship was dedicated to the cause of freedom and world peace.

The President called Gen. Aguinaldo and the revolutionary veterans under him an effective link in PI-US "relations and added that, with this group behind his administration, he felt confident that his forthcoming mission to the United States to ask assistance for the development of the nation's economy would succeed.

The Chief Executive was guest speaker at the ceremonies held in Kawit this morning in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the first Philippine Republic. He spoke extemporaneously before hundreds of revolution veterans and ranking Filipino and American officials who had motored to Cavite to witness the rites.

The President was introduced by former Sen, Francisco Delgado, adviser of the Association of Veterans of the Revolution, under whose auspices the ceremonies were held. Other features of the affair were the public display of the first Filipino flag, the reading of the original document proclaiming Philippine Independence in 1898, invocation by Bishop Isabel de los Reyes of the Philippine Independent Church, and a one-minute silent prayer for the speedy recovery of Gen. Aguinaldo from his present ailment.

President Garcia arrived in Kawit for the ceremonies about 9:40 a.m. after a half-hour motor ride from his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He was welcomed by a large delegation of revolutionary veterans bearing revolutionary flags and by provincial and municipal officials headed by Gov. Delfin Montane.

Because of a heavy rain which developed on his arrival the President went direct to the Aguinaldo residence, where he was presented with a picture of the *U.S.S. Olympia*, the flagship of Admiral George Dewey. The framed picture was presented by Rear Admiral Edgar A. Cruise, commander of U. S. naval forces in the Philippines.

Gen. Aguinaldo attended the rites on a wheelchair. He had been conveyed to Kawit by car early this morning from the De Ocampo clinic in Manila, where he had been confined for several weeks following an attack.

The President started his 10-minute speech by saying that the present generation of Filipinos would be committing a crime of ingratitude if they were to forget Independence Day of 1898.

"It was on that day when the Philippine Republic proclaimed a flag of its own and a nationality of its own under the leadership of a man imbued with a high sense of responsibility, General Emilio Aguinaldo," the President said.

FROM Kawit, the President motored to the S.S. *President Wilson* docked at Pier 7 in Manila, where he was honored with a send-off luncheon by the Manila Rotary Club and the American President Lines.

The President delivered an extemporaneous after luncheon speech on board the S.S. *President Wilson*.

President Garcia said in his speech that he was going to the United-States to seek strength for the country's economy in order to be able "to establish here a real, effective, and substantial democracy" where every Filipino could have an ample share of the good things in life.

The President also said that the growth of the economy of the Philippines was something that could stand very well in comparison with other countries in Asia. He said that compared to other Asian countries which gained their independence after World War II, the Philippines is well advanced in the road to progress.

The Chief Executive was introduced by Manila Rotary Club President Francisco Delgado, who said that "his (the President's) success in his mission to the United States will be our success—the success of the nation."

The President reiterated that one of the primary aims of his administration was economic stability. He expressed the hope that he would be received with understanding in the United States.

Tracing the development of the friendly relations between the Philippines and the United States, the President recalled that the coming of Admiral Dewey in 1898 marked the beginning of Philippine-American friendship. "In spite of our situation in 1946, the American people, true to their promise as embodied in the Tydings-McDuffie Law, granted us our independence," the President said.

After his speech, the President was presented by the Rotarians with a fountain pen "which you could use in your trip to the United States." The gift was handed to the President by Rotary President Delgado. The Rotarians and their guests sang "For He Is a Jolly Good Fellow" in honor of the President.

The President arrived on board the S.S. *President Wilson* about 12:30 p.m. He was met by the Rotarians headed by Delgado and officials of the American President Lines led by Stanley P. Healey, director of the local APL branch, and Capt. Joseph Cox of the S.S. *President Wilson*. The President then shook hands and exchanged greetings with the Rotarians and their guests before proceeding to the dining room where the luncheon was held.

Before the luncheon, Delgado read a message from the San Francisco, (California) Rotary Club, inviting the President to be the guest of the club during his state visit to the United States.

At the presidential table with the President were Secretary of Finance Jaime Hernandez, Healey, Delgado, Capt. Cox, Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, Legislative Secretary and concurrently officer-in-charge of the Malacañang Press Office Jose C. Nable, local ICA Chief Paul Summers, and Ambassador to Japan Felino Neri.

After the luncheon, the President and the guests attended the showing of the documentary film, *Challenge in Asia*, on board the S.S. *President Wilson*. The film was produced by Alfred Wagg, who was also present at the occasion.

THE President today informed Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco that the purchase of the Hacienda Gutierrez in Davao by the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation has been under two separate investigations conducted independently by the General Auditing Office and the PCAC for the past four weeks.

In a telegram to Sen. Cuenco the President also said that the payment for the hacienda had been previously ordered suspended pending the result of the two investigations. The President's wire to Sen. Cuenco was sent early this morning.

Sen. Cuenco had sent a wire to the President on June 11 requesting the latter to suspend the payment of the hacienda, saying that the PHHC acquired the estate at a price far above the market value. The PHHC acquired the hacienda at a total cost of ₱913,000 and, according to Sen. Cuenco, the government would lose more than ₱500,000 in the transaction.

THIS evening President Garcia said that the selection of the Philippines as the site of the 10th World Jamboree was a signal honor and challenge to both our country and to the local scouting movement.

The President made this statement in a speech delivered at the induction ceremony of the members of the board of the 10th World Jamboree at Malacañang social hall. The occasion marked the formal launching of preparations for the holding, for the first time in Asia, of a World Jamboree at the Makiling National Park in Laguna from July 17 to 23, next year.

Officially endorsing the jamboree, the President called upon the newly inducted scouting officials to exert efforts to make the event a success, "so that every participant will have a memorable experience and every scout and scouter from overseas, a pleasant memory of our country."

"Its significance can hardly be minimized anywhere in the world where peace and the democratic way of life are cherished," he pointed out.

Among those inducted were Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, who was represented by his son, Arturo, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Secretary Felixberto Serrano, British Ambassador George Glutton, Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Secretary Jesus Barrera, Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Secretary Florencio Moreno, represented by Undersecretary Marciano Bautista, Secretary Manuel Lim, Secretary Angel Castano, represented by his daughter Gene Castano, Secretary Paulino Garcia, represented by Undersecretary Rafael Tumbokon, Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Rep. Ramon P. Mitra, Rep. Jacobo Z. Gonzales;

Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay, Auditor General Pedro Jimenez, Commissioner Dominador Aytona, represented by Deputy Commissioner Faus-tino Sy-Changco, Gov. Dominador Chipeco, Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, Gov. Miguel Cuaderno, represented by Acting Gov. Andres Castillo, U. P. President Vicente G. Sinco, Gen. William Henry Nutter, Henry L. E. Priestman, Commissioner Modesto Farolan, Mayor Genaro Catalan, Alfonso Calalang, G. H. W. Churchill, Alfonso R. Dampierre, Gabriel Daza, Pierre Delaplanque, Antonio C. Delgado, Francisco D. Delgado, Francisco Dipasupil, Prudencio Langcaun, Mrs. Minerva G. Laudico, Mrs. Pilar Hidalgo Lim, J. L. Manning, Alfredo Montelibano, Hernando R. Ocampo, Gonzalo Puyat, Dr. Mariano V. de los Santos, Fernando E. V. Sison, Yu Khe Thai, Francisco Trinidad, Dr. L. Albert Wilson, Alfonso Yuchengco, and Jose A. Panlilio.

Ambassador Romulo and Chief Scout Jorge B. Vargas were also represented.

June 13.—EARLY this morning the President and his family heard mass at the Sacred Heart Church in Kamuning, Quezon City. The mass was offered by the Kamuning parish to wish the presidential family Godspeed and a safe return in his forthcoming state visit to the United States. Quezon City officials headed by Mayor Norberto Amoranto attended the mass.

After breakfast at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, the President motored to the yacht *Sta. Maria* to work on bills passed during the last regular session of congress. He was assisted by Executive Juan C. Pajo and Assistant Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta.

The President signed 25 bills approved by Congress during its regular and special sessions, and vetoed two bills at a conference held with Executive Secretary Pajo aboard the presidential yacht.

The vetoed bills were House Bill No. 1412, entitled "An Act Transferring to the Bureau of Fisheries all the functions heretofore exercised by the Bureau of Customs over fishing vessels and their crew operating in the territorial waters

of the Philippines,” and House Bill No. 1353, entitled “An Act to provide for the construction of a concrete building to house the Land Registration Commission out of the contributions of the Assurance Fund.”

In the afternoon the President returned to Malacañang for his regular weekly press conference.

President Garcia administered the oath of office to Judge Edmundo Piccio as Associate Justice of the Court of Appeals in ceremonies held, at Malacañang this afternoon.

Present at the induction were Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera; Mrs. Consuelo Delgado Piccio, wife of the new appointee; and their children, Mamerto and Edmundo, Jr.

Justice Piccio has been in the government service for about 31 years. He was assistant provincial fiscal, provincial fiscal, district attorney, and later judge-at-large for 12 years up to his appointment to the appellate court. He replaces Justice Florentine Saguin, retired.

President Garcia announced today he will start his retrenchment program by cutting down on expenses on supplies and materials.

At his weekly press conference, the Chief Executive stressed that he will lay off government personnel only as a last recourse to “balance the budget.”

The President launched his retrenchment program following the failure of Congress to approve the tax measures which he recommended to support an expanded budget for the year 1958-59.

He said he will not fill vacant positions and new items in the proposed budget.

He pointed out that his program may slow down the economic development of the country, but said he has to “balance the budget.”

However, the President said, despite the retrenchment program, he will proceed with the construction of schools in order to accommodate the students who were turned out when the schools opened last Monday.

“The building of schoolhouses should be given priority,” he said. He added that the education of the youth is a “constitutional mandate.”

During the press conference, the President denied having received a “White Paper” from Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

Although President Garcia admitted having conferred with the Senate President, he denied having received the so-called “White Paper” amidst agitation from Congress to have the document bared to the public.

The “White Paper” allegedly contained cases of venalities in various offices in the government.

THE official list of the members to constitute the President’s party was released by Malacañang tonight. The members of the party are President and Mrs. Garcia, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona, Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, and Col. Emilio Borromeo, senior aide.

The presidential party will depart from Balabag International Airport at 11 a.m. Sunday, June 15. The party is taking a chartered Pan American World Airways plane to Honolulu. From Honolulu the party will be taken to Washington aboard *Columbine III*, the presidential plane of President Eisenhower.

June 14.— PRESIDENT Garcia stayed aboard the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* in the Manila Bay the whole day today as he prepared to clear his desk of pending state matters before leaving today for the United States.

He was reported to have refused callers aboard the ship.

He went over pending measures, including the budget which he had to sign despite the fact that Congress had failed to approve the corresponding tax measures he recommended to support it.

Aboard the boat, the President also conferred with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo. It was learned that he gave the secretary final instructions in his new chore as “caretaker” of the government while President. Garcia is aboard.

He had designated Secretary Pajo as his “trustee” who will implement his decisions.

At noontime, the President debarked from the yacht and motored to the Manila Hotel, where he attended the last send-off party for him in the Fiesta Pavillion.

The popular banquet was tendered by officials and representatives of civic organizations to climax the round of “despidida” parties for the Chief Executive.

In an extemporaneous address the President said he was confident he would not come home empty-handed.

He anchored his optimism to the long-standing ties of friendship between the Philippines and the United States.”

From the Manila Hotel, the President returned to the yacht where he again went over pending bills.

He returned late last night to his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

The President, on the eve of his departure for his state visit to the U. S., expressed deep appreciation for the numerous messages he had been receiving in Malacañang for the past few weeks from various elements all over the country wishing him godspeed and success in his mission.

The President said that the widespread endorsement, given him by his people had encouraged and strengthened him in carrying out the twin purposes of his trip, that is, to further enhance the friendly relations existing between the Philippines and the United States, and to seek assistance for the promotion of the economic stability of this country.

Messages of encouragement had been pouring in Malacañang in the form of resolutions from provincial boards, mayors’ leagues, municipal councils, barrio councils, and business and civic organizations, as well as telegrams and letters from individual officials and private citizens from all over the country.

THE President this day directed the Philippine Air Force to airlift four persons who were in serious conditions in the provinces for medical treatment in Manila.

Three of the patients were rushed to the North General Hospital while Gloria Cabusa of Tuguegarao, Cagayan, who was suffering from paralysis, was taken to the National Orthopedic Hospital.

Ignacio Halog was evacuated from the Dona Gregoria Hospital at Agoo, La Union, and brought to Manila. He is suffering from severe brain concussion.

Mayor Ayuste, of Burdeos, Quezon, was evacuated by helicopter from his hometown and brought to Manila after he began emitting blood through the nose and mouth.

Ely Ruba, of Cajidiocan, Romblon, was taken unconscious to the North General Hospital after he was evacuated by a PAF *Albatross*. He is suffering from H-fever.

President Garcia, today also signed into law three more bills passed during the last regular session of Congress and vetoed two more.

The vetoed bills were H. P. No. 2008, providing for the creation of a Water Pollution Control Committee which the President believed could be created by executive order; and H. B. 241 (S. B. 112), providing for the retirement of judges.

The President also signed today into law all the bills passed during the special session of Congress, except the Public Works bill which he intends to act upon on his return from the United States, The President has until July 7 to act on bills passed during the special session of Congress.

No exact figure as to the amount of the budget approved by the President is available at press time, as the President had vetoed some portions of the appropriations measure.

June 15.—THE PRESIDENT held last-minute conferences with his top aides this morning before he left for the Manila International Airport to board the plane which would take him to Hawaii.

He conferred the longest with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, whom he had designated to look after the affairs of the government in his absence.

As a matter of fact, his conference with Pajo did not break up until about 11 a.m. when the Pan American stratoclipper, which had been chartered for the flight to Hawaii, was about to taxi out to the runway.

He carried a running conversation with Pajo on the way to the MIA, at the MIA, and while his plane was reviving up.

Earlier, the President and his family heard mass at the Malacañang chapel said by Col. Nicolas Ortega, chief of the AFP chaplain corps. The presidential family also received Holy Communion.

After the conference with his aides, the President in a gray suit, boarded the No. 1 car with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Chief Justice Ricardo Paras, and Secretary Pajo. The car led a motorcade of about 150 vehicles to the MIA.

At the MIA, the President was given a 21-gun salute and ruffles and flourishes by a composite battalion of the Armed Forces. He inspected the honor guard from a command car.

In brief parting remarks before thousands of well-wishers who turned up at the airport shortly before noon today, the President said: "I seek in the United States the means to establish on firmer foundations the well-being and economic security of our people. And God willing, we shall return with glad tidings. *Adios! Hasta la vuelta!*"

Thousands of people from all walks of life stood patiently under the blistering heat of the noonday sun to see the President off. Vehicular traffic was jammed and people had to leave their vehicles several, hundred meters from the airport and walk the rest of the way. The airfield and its environs were filled with pushing and jostling humanity.

After security officers had succeeded in extricating him from the huge, jostling throng which surged toward him to shake his hand and wish him godspeed and safe return, the President ascended the plane's ramp at 10:45 a.m. In response to the clamour of the noisy, placard-bearing crowd, the President and the First Lady had to re-emerge: from the plane's door to wave a second time to the cheering throng.

One of the placards read: "We're Liberals, Mr. President, but we are behind you."

The plane, named *Clipper Mandarin*, taxied out to the MIA runway at 11 a.m. and was airborne a few minutes later. A squadron of Philippine Air Force jet planes escorted the President's plane as it headed west.

At the MIA, the 5,000-odd people who had come to bid the President off rushed for the exits.

PRESIDENT Garcia termed this year's observance of Public Administration Week as a significant event because it "enables us not only to take stock of what we have already accomplished in the government service but also to look ahead and plan for further improvement."

In a message before he left for the United States this noon the President said that the justification of any government is its unswerving pursuance of the people's welfare, and that public administration is the instrument to achieve this.

"In our case," he added, "our primary objective is the acceleration of the social and economic development of the Philippines."

The President said his administration was pledged to achieve the people's welfare through well-defined programs, effective modern methods of realizing carefully-wrought plans, and maximum employment of the most efficient and highly trained human resources of the nation.

The President expressed hope that the active, observance of Public Administration Week by all government, employees, along with the meetings being held by the first Asian Regional Conference in Public Administration, would result in the adoption of concrete practical programs serving as patterns of dynamic government action for all the countries in our region.

"Surely," the President added, "we can and should make use of the best in public administration to advance the welfare of our respective peoples."

The President's message is in connection with the observance of Public Administration Week from June 15 to 21 this year. The observance coincides with the holding of the current First Asian Regional Conference in the Philippines.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Official Month in Review: June 16 – June 30, 1958

June 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia, who left by chartered plane yesterday morning, landed at the Hickman Air Force base in Honolulu at 10:25 o'clock this morning, Manila time (4:25 p.m. Sunday in Honolulu).

The President was met by newsmen who questioned him on his economic mission to the United States.

President Garcia pointed out that he was "ever optimistic."

"I am on a mission to the United States which I consider vital for my country," he added.

At the Hickman Air Force Base, the President was accorded a 21-gun salute.

A big crowd of civilian and military officials and some 500 Filipinos met the President as his chartered plane landed at the airbase.

Those who met the President were headed by Admiral Felix B. Stump, commander in chief of U.S. Pacific forces.

Consul General Juan C. Dionisio also met President Garcia.

Upon alighting from the chartered plane, the President and the members of his family were garlanded with Hawaiian leis.

President Garcia inspected a military guard of honor which was lined up at the airstrip.

Also with the crowd which met the President was Wiley T. Buchanan, Jr., chief protocol officer of the U.S. Department of State who flew to Honolulu to escort the President to Washington.

After the ceremonies at the military airstrip, the President and members of his party spent the night at the quarters of Admiral Stump.

The President and his party were scheduled to take off Monday morning, Honolulu time, from the Hickman Air Force Base aboard President Eisenhower's personal plane *Columbine III*, to Washington.

The *Columbine III* was already in Honolulu when the President landed there.

Meanwhile, in Manila, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo took over the reins of the government in accordance with the executive order signed by President Garcia before leaving the Philippines.

Secretary Pajo immediately called the chiefs of divisions in Malacañang and discussed with them the smooth operation of the Executive Office in the absence of President Garcia.

Pajo also inducted newly-appointed officials whose appointments were signed by President Garcia before he left yesterday morning.

Pajo inducted former Secretary of Labor Jose Figueras and Martiniano Abad as directors of the National Marketing Corporation, and Concepcion Feleo as member of the board of pharmaceutical examiners.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo released the appointments of 12 justices of the peace, 11 assistant city fiscals of Manila, one assistant attorney of Quezon City, and one clerk of court, Court of First Instance, Branch IV, Catarman, Samar.

These appointments were signed by the President before his departure for the United States yesterday.

Justices of the peace appointed were: (1) Cristeto M. Cirujales, Tiwi, Albay; (2) Carlito Eisma, Parang, Sulu; (3) Jainal Rasul, Lu-uk and Tongkil, Sulu; (4) Francisco Nisperos, Sudipen, La Union; (5) Pedro Vilar, Rizal, Nueva Ecija; (6) Teodulo Awiten, Salay, Misamis Oriental; (7) Abdul-Rasid Bello, Tapul, Sulu; (8) Lupo Garcia, Pangutaran, Sulu; (9) Jose Razo, Donsol, Sorsogon; (10) Fernando Campilan, Jr., Hinunangan, Leyte; (11) Pacifico Ibañez, Hilongos, Leyte; and (12) Teodoro Nazareno, Clarin, Bohol.

The newly appointed assistant city fiscals of Manila are (1) Serafin Cuevas, (2) Alfredo Cruz, (3) Carlos Perfecto, (4) Rodolfo Nocom, (5) Eliodoro Marasigan, (6) Primitivo M. Peñaranda, (7) Manuel Pamaran, (8) Luis Peña, (9) Esteban Lising, (10) Mariano Chavez, and (11) Nazario Macaraeg.

Justiniano Estrella was appointed fourth assistant fiscal of Quezon City, vice Santiago Tañada, while Florentino Calayag was appointed clerk of court of the court of first instance (Branch IV) of Catarman, Samar.

Earlier this morning Secretary Pajo summoned division chiefs and other ranking personnel in the Executive Office to a conference at the Council of State room in Malacañang with the view to insuring smooth operation of the office during the President's absence.

Secretary Pajo instructed the personnel to carry on as usual as if the President were here.

June 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia, on the third day of his 18-day state visit to the United States, took off from the Hickman Air Force Base in Honolulu at 5 o'clock this morning (11 a.m. Monday, Honolulu time).

The President and the members of his party, including the First Lady, their daughter, Linda, and son-in-law, Fernando Campos, boarded President Eisenhower's personal plane *Columbine III*.

The *Columbine III*, said to be President Eisenhower's newest plane, was sent to Honolulu to fetch President Garcia's party.

The President spent the night at the Makapala home of Admiral and Mrs. Felix B. Stump in Honolulu. Admiral Stump is the commander-in-chief of US forces in the Pacific.

Stump gave a dinner Monday night in honor of President Garcia and members of his party at his residence. During the toast, Admiral Stump disclosed he has personal knowledge of President Garcia's work in the resistance movement during the last war.

The US admiral said President Garcia is one of America's outstanding friends in Asia.

After what was called an "uneventful" flight to the US mainland, the President landed at the Travis Air Force Base in San Francisco, California, for a routinary engine check and refueling.

The *Columbine* landed at the base 2:07 p.m. today (11:07 p.m. Monday night, California time).

The President was met at the base by Consul General Nicanor Roxas and US military officials, headed by Brig. Gen. Charles M. Eisenhart, commander of the 14th Air Wing of the Strategic Air Command, and Brig. Gen. George McGuire, who is scheduled to take over as base commander on July 1.

Tight security measures were taken at the air base which was reported bristling with sentries and air force policemen.

President Garcia rested at the base for an hour. He wore a dark brown suite matched with a brown fedora hat.

Mrs. Garcia was presented with a huge orchid.

After an hour, the President and his party boarded the *Columbine* again and took a direct flight to Washington.

They were scheduled to land at Washington at midnight tonight, which is Tuesday noon at the US capital.

PRESIDENT Garcia today certified to the Court of Industrial Relations the labor dispute between the management of the Luzon Stevedoring Company on one hand, and the Lusteveco Employees Association and the Lusteveco Bulk Oil Union on the other, requesting the court to take immediate steps to solve the dispute.

In a letter sent to the court, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo said that the Luzon Stevedoring Company was engaged in an industry indispensable to the national interest, adding that if the dispute is unduly prolonged, the national interest and welfare would be adversely affected.

The Executive Secretary administered the oath of office to Justiniano C. Estrella as fourth assistant attorney of Quezon City and to Genaro R. Sarmiento as acting member of the Board of Directors of the National Development Company.

Estrella took his oath of office in the presence of Quezon City Mayor Norberto S. Amoranto and Dr. Amado L. Garcia, medico legal officer of the Quezon City Police Department.

From Honolulu, President Garcia wired Secretary Pajo approving the extension of the ban on the slaughter of carabaos up to December 31, 1958.

Callers of Secretary Pajo this morning included Maj. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP vice-chief of staff; Sens. Decoroso Rosales and Pacita Madrigal-Gonzales; Reps. Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Eladio Balite of Samar, Ramon Durano of Cebu, Manuel Enverga of Quezon, and Natalio Castillo of Bohol; Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke; Gov. Serafin Teves of Negros Oriental; and the Rev. T. Rees Thomas of Brisbane, Australia.

Secretary Pajo also received Mayors Amando Laurel and Olimpio Sayo of Talisay and Calatagan, Batangas, respectively.

Secretary Pajo also announced today the appointments of 15 directors of government corporations, one provincial fiscal, and 11 assistant provincial fiscals.

The appointments of these officials had been signed by the President before he left for the United States last Sunday.

The board directors appointed were Benjamin F. Estrella, NARIC; Ramon T. Jimenez, NASSCO; Ramon Gaviola, Jr., Social Security Commission; Enrique Ruiz and Manuel Leelim, People's Homesite and Housing Corporation; Valeriano Plantilla, NARRA; Joaquin Buenviaje, Abaca Corporation of the Philippines; and members of the board of supervisors of the Philippine Tourist and Travel Association: Sec. Pedro Hernaez, Jesus Marcos Rocas, Hilarion Henares, Eduardo Crisostomo, Geminiano Yabut, Aurelio Palileo, Salvador Peña, and Jesus Azurin.

Named provincial fiscal of Camarines Sur was Alfredo C. Reyes. The following were appointed assistant provincial fiscals: Tomas Leonidas, Iloilo; Severino Villafranca, (1st) Quezon; Godofredo Alvero (2nd) Quezon; Jose Velos, Quezon; Modesto Bascos, (2nd) Pangasinan; Graciano Gayapa, Pangasinan; Domingo Frianesa, Pangasinan; Fernando Manangan, Pangasinan; Ramon Liceralde, Pangasinan; Mario Bulaños, Camarines Sur; and Edmundo Ruado, Romblon.

June 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia debarked from the *Columbine III* at the Military Air Transport Service Terminal in Washington at 11:57 p.m. Tuesday night (11:57 a.m. Tuesday, Washington time) for a three-day crucial loan-haggling mission at the US capital.

President Eisenhower headed dignitaries who met the visiting Philippine Chief Executive at the Washington airport.

A 21-gun salute was fired for President Garcia as the *Columbine III*, President Eisenhower's personal plane, taxied to the receiving platform.

Mrs. John Foster Dulles presented Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia with a bouquet of roses.

After the airport reception, the President and the members of his party were billeted at the Blair House.

President Garcia told newsmen he was deeply touched by the enthusiastic receptions accorded him from Honolulu to the US capital.

After a brief respite of the Blair House, the President paid homage to the American war dead by laying wreaths at the tombs of the unknown American soldiers at the Arlington National Cemetery.

The President and the First Lady were accompanied by General John Van Houten, commanding general of the military district of Washington.

The presidential party arrived at the memorial gate at 3 p.m. (Washington time). They were met by a liaison officer, who escorted the motorcade to the east entrance to the tombs of the unknown soldiers on Roosevelt Drive. A 21-gun salute was fired while the party was enroute.

President Garcia also visited the Mount Vernon home of George Washington. He placed a wreath at the tomb of the first US President.

He went into the different rooms of the Washington residence and posed for news photographers in the music room.

President Garcia also went to the Philippine embassy. He greeted all the members of the embassy staff numbering about 40, and other Filipino officials and guests who jam-packed the chancery halls.

He first stopped at the press and media chart room where he saw, indicated on a giant map of the US, the newspapers which had published stories on his state visit to America.

He read "editorials," welcoming him published in today's issues of the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Washington Daily News*, and *Washington Evening Star* and commented: "These are encouraging editorials which show the warmth and friendship of the American people."

He chuckled at one news feature released by the "NEA" which carried the headline "Protocol and Poetry."

President Garcia was greatly impressed by the radio and television coverage of his visit by over 560 affiliated stations and was amazed at the report of the Motion Pictures Association of America that some 300 theaters had exhibited a re-edited version of *Challenge in Asia*, a documentary on the Philippines and his work.

In the evening, the President was dinner guest of President Eisenhower at the Blair House.

THE Cabinet today took steps to boost the national economy and help relieve unemployment as it adopted a resolution enjoining all government offices and agencies to encourage in every way possible the use of locally-produced materials and to avail of the services of the NAMARCO in the procurement and supply of these materials.

At its regular weekly meeting at Malacañang this noon, the first held after President Garcia's departure for the United States, the Cabinet approved the draft of a memorandum-circular addressed to heads of departments,

bureaus, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the government, including government-owned and controlled corporations, to utilize as much as possible locally-produced supplies and equipment.

The Cabinet also:

- (1) Authorized the Bureau of Internal Revenue to accept the compromise settlement offer of the Manila Railroad Company to pay 10 per cent of its franchise tax liability aggregating P2,231,238.31 as of June 30, 1955;
- (2) Accepted the invitation of the Chinese Government to send to Taiwan a delegation of Philippine leaders in agriculture, commerce, and industry to promote cooperation and trade between this country and China;
- (3) Recommended to the NAMARCO the allocation of P100,000 from its P1 million revolving fund previously authorized by the Cabinet, to reliable private entities or persons who can produce articles needed by the NAMARCO, as a means of encouraging and promoting the growth of cottage industries;
- (4) Deferred action on a request of A. V. Rocha for renewal of his contract with the National Development Company as booking agent for the “Doña” vessels for another period of two years, until the return of the President from the United States;
- (5) Designated Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez to study the petition of shell fishermen for the lifting of the ban on the exportation of sea shells; and
- (6) Assigned Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez to look into the proposed purchase by the PHILCOA of a tract of land in Ligao, Albay, to be utilized as research center on the *kadang-kadang* disease of coconuts, and for coconut seedling banks.

In condoning 90 per cent of the back taxes of the MRR, the Cabinet took into account that the railroad was rendering valuable service in providing cheap means of transportation to the masses, particularly the small farmers who had to transport their produce to distant markets. It also wanted to give the company a chance to rehabilitate itself and expand and improve its facilities for the comfort of its patrons made up mainly of the common people. The final amount to be paid by the MRR as back taxes was left for the auditor general to determine.

The Philippine delegation to Taiwan, as approved by the Cabinet, will be composed of 12 officials from government and private organizations, as follows: Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez as chairman; Marcelo S. Balatbat, acting president of the chamber of commerce, as vice-chairman; and Director Eugenio Cruz and Pedro Rodrigo of the Bureau of Plant industry, Conrado Ramirez and Rafael Ledesma of the Chamber of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Ben Medrano and Dalmacio Suaco of the Chamber of Industries, Antonio Locsin of the Bureau of Public Works, Alejandro Dawa of the Commission of National Integration, Severino Yap of the NARRA, and Col. Romeo Espino of the EDCOR, as members.

The delegation which is scheduled to leave this month will stay in Taiwan for two weeks with expenses defrayed by the inviting government. They will visit various sections of the islands and observe agricultural and natural conditions there.

The P100,000 proposed allocation to encourage and promote home industries was left for final action by the NAMARCO board in view of the limitation imposed by law that the revolving fund may be used only for public enterprises. Secretary Hernaez, chairman of the NAMARCO board, was asked to look into this limitation and find out whether some means could be devised to channel the fund direct to reliable private entities as a means of facilitating the development of home industries.

Renewal of the NDC contract with A. V. Rocha as booking agent for the government-owned “Doña” vessels had been recommended favorably by the NDC board of directors. The board pointed out it was not good business policy to change agencies very often as it would confuse regular shippers and customers, especially in foreign ports. The

Cabinet, however, deferred decision on the matter until the President's return from his state visit to the United States.

Regarding the petition of shell fishermen to lift the ban on the exportation of sea shells, it was pointed out that the price of the article had gone down since the imposition of the ban as local factories were not as yet ready to absorb all the local supply. As a result, the petitioners alleged, thousands of families all over the country had been deprived of a decent means of livelihood.

The Cabinet decided to have Secretary Hernaez study the question further in view of a counter-petition of local manufacturers which utilize the shells as raw materials. The commerce secretary was asked particularly to look into the number of people that would benefit or would suffer by the lifting of the ban, and to submit his report and recommendations at the Cabinet meeting next week.

Another matter taken up at the meeting this noon was the proposal of the PHILCOA to purchase a property in Ligao, Albay, which shall be used as experimental center on *kadang-kadang* disease. Agriculture Secretary Rodriguez was directed to inquire into the suitability of the property for the purpose, the reasonableness of the proposed price which is P546.29 per hectare and whether or not the area of the property, which is 128.1397 hectares, was sufficient or insufficient to serve as an experimental station.

The Cabinet meeting today was presided by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, the senior member of that body, in accordance with the executive order issued by the President before he left for the United States. The meeting lasted from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

June 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning, (Wednesday afternoon, June 18, in Washington, D. C.) received at the Blair House a token presentation of hand tools and farm implements from the Kiwanis Club of the United States.

The presentation was made by William J. Wescott, president of the Strathomoor Club of Detroit, Michigan, who was accompanied by Jose Skagerberg, past president of the same club.

The letter of presentation said: "As a small gesture of friendship of the people of the United States to your people, the Strathomoor Kiwanis Club of Detroit would like to present you with a token gift. This gift which consists of hand tools to be used by small farmers of the Philippines, will be shipped to you at a later date. With this token of friendship comes our congratulations for the fine spirit which your people have shown in their desire to maintain independence which they have so notably achieved."

Replying to the Kiwanis president during the simple presentation affair, President Garcia said: "It is so kind of you to make this token donation. I am sure that the small farmers of my country will receive these gifts with appreciation. Please extend to the Kiwanis Club members the gratitude of the Filipino people and my own. I am sure these tools and implements will help our small farmers in their work.

"One of our deepest concern is for the amelioration of the masses. We need more schools, better education, and higher income, and all these can start from the small farms if properly developed. We are especially grateful for this donation because it comes from a private group."

Westcott then said that the donation came from only one club but added that "I can assure you that all 4,500 of these clubs will soon make similar donations and this amount to thousands of dollars worth of farm tools and equipment."

The President today took time off from his hectic schedule to write a letter of condolence to a high ICA official in Manila whose son died recently.

When President Garcia learned that the son of Ernest Neal, ICA official connected with rural development died recently, he broke off a much-needed rest and personally wrote a telegram to Neal who is now in Washington.

Members of an organization called the Rising Boholanos, Inc., of Washington, D.C., called on President Garcia Wednesday evening (Manila time), and presented him with a fancy leather portfolio and a liquor case.

The delegation was composed of Eugene Lapara, Patricio Guibao, Pelagio Rana, Constancio Bucia, Pedro Baquial, Pedro Jamila, Simeon Marapao, Galicano Jamila, and Jacinto Perez.

At the National Press Club at midnight tonight (Manila time), the President said he had been advised against "roughest ordeals which an official visitor to Washington is called upon to face" which is to address the NPC members.

"For all its vaunted terrors, it is in fact that one engagement which the official visitor can least afford to miss," he said.

The President said he is not a stranger to the ways of American press. He explained:

"We have in the Philippines a press that has faithfully patterned its principles and its practice upon your own, a press that is fully as free and untrammelled as yours, in certain ways even more so, as every Filipino politician has reason to know and sometimes to rue. In Manila, there is a National Press Club with an organization and facilities that favorably compare with yours and counts with the membership of many newspapermen whose ability, energy, and dedication would entitle them to stand proudly with their peers anywhere in the world,"

In his NPC address, the President likewise recalled that today is Rizal Day.

"It is fitting that I should invoke his name today," he said, "because Rizal was a sworn foe of oppression and tyranny, vice, and corruption in his time, just as Thomas Paine was the implacable enemy of these evils in America more than a century earlier."

PRESIDENT Garcia conferred with President Eisenhower at the White House for almost an hour this morning.

It was their first formal conference since President Garcia arrived at Washington Tuesday.

Also present at the conference were Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Eduardo Z. Romualdez, chairman of the Rehabilitation Finance Corporation, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Secretary of Defense Jesus Vargas, and Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo.

After the conference, the President beamed with confidence he would get the necessary loans from US banks.

Reports reaching Manila said that President Eisenhower showed keen interest in Philippine economic conditions. He was reported to have asked many detailed questions. However, President Garcia, prepared for such an eventuality, took along his financial advisers.

The Garcia-Eisenhower conference was described as exploratory and the details of the loan plan were taken up in subsequent meeting President Garcia had with Secretary Dulles in the afternoon.

At noon today the President addressed the joint session of the US Congress. President Garcia was reported to have been given a "warm and noisy reception."

President Garcia was also reported to have made a "big hit with his oratory."

President Garcia paid tribute to U. S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, saying that if the free world survived and overcame the present massive threat of communism, a substantial share of the credit go to that great, much-traveled, American statesman.

The occasion was the state dinner given at the Pan American Union in Washington, D.C., Wednesday evening, June 18 (Thursday morning, June 19, Manila time), by Secretary and Mrs. Dulles for President and Mrs. Garcia. The Philippine Chief Executive was responding to a toast offered by his host in his honor.

June 20.—THE PRESIDENT this morning, (Thursday evening in Washington), gave a dinner in honor of President and Mrs. Eisenhower at the embassy of the Philippines. It was a black-tie affair. Mrs. Garcia assisted the President at the dinner party.

Earlier during the day (Thursday, Washington time), Mrs. Garcia attended a luncheon given in her honor by Mrs. Floyd D. Akers.

Floyd Akers recently was a Manila visitor as President Eisenhower's representative during President Garcia's induction at the Luneta late last year.

The President conferred anew with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

It was not known what the President took up with Dulles but President Garcia was reported to have been beaming with the success of his talks with the U.S. Department of State secretary.

IN the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Garcia received the chiefs of the diplomatic missions in Washington and their ladies at the Pan American Union.

General and Mrs. Carlos P. Romulo gave a reception in honor of the President and the First Lady at the Pan American Union.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening closed his three-day state visit to Washington with an assurance of a minimum \$125-million loan from both the Export-Import Bank and the Development Loan fund.

Visibly happy for the success of his mission, the President prepared to leave the US capital for a two-day visit to Chicago.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, "caretaker" of the government, told newsmen upon receiving a copy of the Garcia-Eisenhower communique from Washington that President Garcia's mission was "highly successful."

President Garcia before giving a dinner for President and Mrs. Eisenhower, conferred the Medal for Valor and the Distinguished Conduct Star to Col. Jesus A. Villamor. Col. Villamor, who is a reservist of the U.S. Air Force, was awarded a medal for intercepting a numerically superior Japanese war planes at the early phase of World War II over Manila.

The President and members of his party were scheduled to take off at 11:30 a.m. Washington time (11:30 p.m. Manila time) for Chicago.

At the airport, the President will receive in behalf of the Philippine Government an airplane which is the gift of the people of Seattle, Washington, which will be presented to him by Mayor Gordon S. Clinton.

Mrs. Garcia will christen the aircraft.

June 21.—AFTER a successful three-day mission in Washington, President Garcia hopped late last night to Chicago where he immediately was made an honorary citizen.

He landed at Chicago aboard a US Air Force plane at 1:30, Friday afternoon (3:30 a.m., Saturday, Manila time).

Mayor Richard J. Daley of Chicago headed an impressive crowd which met the President at the airport.

The President and members of his party were accompanied to Chicago by Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo.

Reports reaching Malacañang said the President was presented a medallion symbolic of the honor conferred upon him as an honorary citizen of the city.

The ceremony was held on La Salle Street at the entrance to the City Hall.

In accepting the honor, President Garcia said he hoped he would be able to conduct himself in such manner as always to be worthy of the honor.

The ceremony was held amid ruffles and flourishes from a composite military guard of honor which represented the various units of US armed services and the National Guard unit.

As a highlight of the welcoming ceremony several Filipino girls in native costumes presented orchids and roses to Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia and ladies of the other members of the official party, which included Mrs. Florencio Moreno and Mrs. Virginia LI. Romulo.

From the airport, the President's party proceeded in a motorcade in the heart of Chicago where the main official ceremonies were held and the medallion presented to the President.

Mayor Daley said, "I present you with a medallion of honorary citizenship signifying the love and affection we of Chicago have for your people."

Replying President Garcia said, "As President, I consider this a high privilege and a token of the sincere friendship between the Philippines and the United States whose common task it is to defend the freedoms of the world."

The President and members of his party were billeted at the Drake Hotel.

Upon their arrival at Chicago, the President followed a heavy schedule of activities.

He was guest of honor at a civic reception given by the mayor at Hotel Morrison.

IN the evening, President Garcia was honored with a dinner given by F. W. Jenks, president of the International Harvester Company, at the Chicago Club.

While the President was attending the dinner given by IH president, Mrs. Garcia was presiding over another party given by Mrs. Jenks at the Drake Hotel.

Mrs. Garcia and Mrs. Jenks attended a performance of "My Fair Lady," a leading musical play on Broadway, at the Schubert Theater in the evening.

June 22.—AT 9:30 Saturday morning (11:30 p.m. Manila time), the President held a press conference at the Drake Hotel in Chicago. Then he left for a sightseeing tour of the city.

At noon (2 o'clock Sunday morning, Manila time) President and the First Lady were honored at a luncheon by Mrs. Charles Potter, president of the Union Stockyards and Transit Company at the Saddle & Gridiron Club at the Stockyards Inn., Union Stockyards.

President Garcia arrived in New York City at 10:28 p.m. Saturday (10:28 a.m. Manila, Sunday) from Chicago for a three-day visit.

New York is the third American city President Garcia has visited in his current tour.

“I am happy to be here in the city of wonders,” President Garcia said upon arrival at the city’s La Guardia airport.

Some 300 people, most of them members of the Philippine community in New York, braved a pouring rain to meet President Garcia and his party.

This prompted President Garcia to remark to commissioner Richard C. Patterson, Jr., of the city’s Department of Commerce and Public Events, who represented Mayor Robert F. Wagner: “(The welcome) is so warm I feel it in spite of the weather.”

Patterson replied: Mr. President, the city is yours.”

Patterson also extended to President Garcia the best wishes of West Germany President Theodor Heuss who is also visiting New York.

President Garcia drove off in a black limousine bearing the Philippine and American flags on his way to the Waldorf-Astoria, where he would stay during his three-day New York visit.

Sunday morning (afternoon, Manila time), the President heard high mass celebrated by Francis Cardinal Spellman, archbishop of New York, at the St. Patrick’s cathedral.

This was followed by a luncheon given by Cardinal Spellman for President Garcia and his party.

During the luncheon, President Garcia pointed to the need of “solidarity of inward spirit” among peoples of the free world and said Christianity was among the firmest bonds of unity holding the free world together.

He marvelled at the “vigor and vitality” of Catholics in America and praised his host as a “friend of the Philippines.”

On Sunday morning, which was actually Sunday night in Manila, the President was conferred an honorary degree at the Fordham University. It was his first honorary degree since he visited the United States.

He also appeared on the television program “Meet the Press” on the NPC network where he answered a wide range of questions touching on almost any issue in the world.

At the “Meet the Press” television program, moderator Ned Brooks introduced the President as “one of America’s staunchest friends in Asia.”

The President touched on Algeria and said that the country would eventually gain her independence as “eventually all countries will have to be free and independent.”

June 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia, seemingly tireless despite a heavy schedule through a week-long state visit to the United States, started talks in New York City this evening (Monday morning, New York time) to attract American investors help boost Philippine economy.

He conferred with Harold E. Helm, chairman of the board of Chemical Corn Exchange Bank, at a breakfast conference at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, where the Philippine President is billeted in New York City.

The breakfast was held Monday morning in New York (8:30 p.m. Monday, Manila time).

Sunday night in New York, (Monday morning, Manila time), the President and Mrs. Garcia were honored with a dinner dance at the Grand Ballroom of the Astor Hotel given by the Philippine Communities Executive Council.

President Garcia, attired in a white barong Tagalog, and Mrs. Garcia started the dance with a waltz.

At the dance, the President was awarded a plaque by the Philippine-American organization's chairman, Nick Yang. The plaque was presented in recognition of President Garcia's long and constant leadership and dedication to the Philippine cause."

In turn, the President presented a presidential citation to the Philippine Communities Executive Council for its work in promoting Philippine-American understanding.

Before attending the dinner dance, the President paid a brief visit to Waldorf Tower's suite of former President Herbert Hoover.

President Garcia also met visiting President Theodore Heuss of West Germany at Hoover's apartment.

The President this evening, which was Monday morning in New York, went through the world's biggest city at the traditional "ticker tape" parade along Broadway.

The mile-long parade drove through "the canyons of the lower Broadway financial district from the battery to the City Hall."

Mayor Robert F. Wagner welcomed President Garcia at the City Hall.

Mayor Wagner gave a luncheon for the visiting Philippine executive at the Wadorf-Astoria.

June 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia today went through the last day of a hectic three-day schedule in New York and was booked to take off sometime tomorrow night, which is Wednesday morning in New York, for a visit to Phoenix, Arizona.

American newsmen who covered the gruelling pace of the President's schedule, observed that he "seems tireless" and was bouncy and spright at his numerous public appearances.

In a policy speech before the Council of Foreign Relations, the President spurned neutralism and said the Philippines is "committed" to the side of freedom.

Press dispatches from New York said that President Garcia's visit to that city was well played up by the Manhattan papers.

The *New York World Telegram* had a three-column story on President Garcia's colorful "ticker-tape" parade under the head, "Thousands Cheer Garcia in Parade up Broadway."

New York papers also carried editorials greeting President Garcia on his visit to that city.

Press dispatches from New York also carried reams and reams of reports on President Garcia's stay in Manhattan, including an interesting sidelight wherein Filipino newsmen covering the Chief Executive were said to have been "lost" while following President Garcia in the "ticker-tape" parade along Broadway.

The newsmen, following a ceremonial car, found out that they were trailing West Germany President Theodore Heuss, who was leaving the city.

The President is scheduled to follow another hectic schedule on his last day in Manhattan.

This morning, he is scheduled to attend a breakfast in his honor in the Hansen Suite of the Waldorf-Astoria, where he is staying, to be tendered by Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo.

The affair, it was learned, will be attended by newspaper editors.

The President is also scheduled to visit the United Nations headquarters where he will be received by the secretary general. The President will make a tour of the different offices and conference rooms of the UN.

From the UN, the President will be a luncheon guest in the publisher's office of the *New York Times*.

He will then confer with Richard W. Reuter, executive director of the Committee for American Remittances Everywhere.

Reuter gave the President 1,000 transistor radio sets which will be given to the remotest barrios in the Philippines.

The President will climax his stay in New York with a dinner in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria to be given by the Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce in New York, the Far East-American Council of Commerce and Industry, and the Asia Society.

MALACANANG announced today that the Executive Office would recommend to Congress the amendment or repeal of the law requiring all mail matters to bear additional five-centavo anti-tuberculosis fund campaign stamps for the period from August 19 to September 30 of every year.

The announcement was made in view of widespread agitations over Republic Act No. 1635 passed by Congress last year to boost the Anti-TB fund drive. The main basis of opposition was that it would impede the transmission of mails during that period, especially in localities where the law is not known.

In view of the undesirable effects of its operation which possibly had not been foreseen by its authors, the executive department would recommend re-study of the law at the next regular session of Congress or at the next special session if there be any.

The law takes effect on August 19, 1958.

June 25.—THIS DAY President Garcia visited the United Nations headquarters and recalled that he was at the place four years ago.

He was received at the UN headquarters by Dr. Ralph Bunche, undersecretary in charge of special political affairs.

Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold, who was scheduled to receive the visiting Chief Executive, was still in the Middle East.

President Garcia was met at the entrance of the UN headquarters by Jehan de Noue, UN protocol chief. Dr. Bunche was assisted by Sir Humphrey Trevelyan.

During his tour of the different conference rooms and assemblies of the UN, the President pledged the support of 23 million Filipinos to the United Nations.

He recalled that he visited the UN four years ago when he was Vice-President and concurrently secretary of foreign affairs.

With President Garcia were Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, Philippine delegate to the UN; Minister Octavio Maloles, acting chief of the mission to the UN; and Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas.

Dr. Bunche told the President that the Philippines, as a charter member of the organization, has contributed greatly to the UN.

The President also conferred with Gov. Averell Harriman of New York in the presidential suite of the Waldorf-Astoria.

President Garcia and Gov. Harriman sipped glasses of milk provided by Ambassador Romulo.

“You probably don’t know that we are the second largest milk-producing state the US,” Harriman told the President. “You honor us by drinking our product.”

However, Romulo quipped that it was milk which put down Pierre Mendes-France as premier of France.

President Garcia this evening closed a four-day gruelling tour of New York City, where he was lavishly banqueted and where he spoke on the foreign and economic policies of the country.

He took off from the La Guardia airport, before a huge throng of American and Filipino well-wishers, for a 10-hour flight to Phoenix, Arizona.

Phoenix will be the fourth key US city which President Garcia will visit in the course of an 11-day tour of America.

Before enplaning for Phoenix, the President addressed a \$20-a-plate dinner given by the Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce in New York, the Far East-American Council of Commerce and Industry, and the Asia Society at the swanky Waldorf-Astoria Grand Ballroom.

President Garcia appealed to the large group of American businessmen to invest in the Philippines and help strengthen the economy of this country.

He previously held a series of conferences with US businessmen as he switched from his loan-haggling mission to inviting foreign capital to the Philippines.

The President who emplaned from New York at 9:30 this evening (9:30 a.m. Wednesday, New York time), is scheduled to arrive at 3:15 a.m. tomorrow in Phoenix.

He will stay at Phoenix for two days. He said he was interested in seeing the irrigation systems in Phoenix, a place which has the same climate as the Philippines.

ARIZONA GOVERNOR Ernest W. McFarland declared June 26 as Philippine Day in his state as a fitting tribute to the Filipino people on the occasion of President Garcia’s visit.

The Arizona Philippine Day proclamation was contained in a scroll which will be presented to President Garcia by Gov. McFarland upon the former’s arrival at the Phoenix airport tomorrow.

In line with Gov. McFarland’s proclamation, citizens of Arizona, particularly those in the business section of Phoenix, will display Philippine flags in their homes and buildings.

THE Cabinet at its regular meeting today approved the acquisition from the United States of 60,000 metric tons of milled non-glutinous California pearl rice through barter with refractory chrome ore.

In a cable received last week, Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo reported that arrangements had been concluded for Masinloc Mining Company to supply the United States Department of Agriculture with 135,745 long tons of refractory chrome at \$28.50 per long ton, delivering F.O.B. to Baltimore or Philadelphia, in exchange for 30,000 metric tons of California rice which will be sold to the NARIC at \$150 per metric ton, C. & F. Manila.

Ambassador Romulo further reported that an additional 30,000 tons of California rice was available under the same terms and conditions.

The Cabinet confirmed the arrangements concluded by Ambassador Romulo for 30,000 tons of rice and approved the acquisition of the additional 30,000 tons which the Ambassador said was available.

President Garcia had previously directed Romulo in Washington to make arrangements for the barter under U. S. Public Law No. 480 in his desire to help out local mining companies threatened with closure in view of their inability to barter their produce of chrome. The President had expressed grave concern over the hundreds of laborers who might be laid off as a result of the closure.

By the barter arrangements, the President had hoped to help the laborers and at the same time obtain rice for the country to fill up an expected shortage of the staple commodity this year.

HEALTH UNDERSECRETARY Tranquilino Elicaño reported to the Cabinet that no outbreak of cholera and dysentery had been reported in any part of the country although diarrhea is in its seasonal prevalence.

Undersecretary Elicaño said that his department had intensified the campaign against cholera and gastro-intestinal diseases as a precautionary measure, with vaccine production accelerated. The Department of Health in the meantime had requested assistance from the ICA and UNICEF for additional vaccine to meet a widespread demand. Elicaño emphasized that there was no cause for alarm.

The Cabinet unanimously passed a resolution felicitating the President for the success of his mission.

The meeting which lasted from 4 to 6 p.m. was presided over by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez. It was the second meeting of the body since the President's departure for the United States about 10 days ago.

The meeting opened with Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, concurrently officer-in-charge of the Press Office, briefing the members of the Cabinet on cables received from the President and members of his party from the United States.

The Cabinet in the course of the meeting denied the request of the municipal council of Antipolo, Rizal, for the Manila Railroad to donate about 10 kilometers of roads owned by the company either to the municipality of Antipolo or to the province of Rizal. In denying the request, the Cabinet found that the Manila Railroad was not well off financially and could not afford to donate any of its properties.

The Cabinet likewise denied a proposal to expropriate an 18,755-square meter lot in San Pedro, Laguna for distribution to tenants after the government had paid a reasonable price for the property.

The denial of the proposal was on the recommendation of Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera, who considered it of doubtful constitutionality.

Shortly after 6 p.m. the Cabinet members were joined by governors and city mayors of nearby provinces and cities, representatives of various civic and veterans organizations as well as of newspapers and radio and discussed preparations for the reception of the President and members of his party when they return here on July 3.

The meeting was presided by Executive Secretary Pajo, chairman of the July Fourth Sub-Committee on Presidential Reception.

Among those present were Governors Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, Delfin Montano of Cavite, Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, Dominador Chipeco of Laguna, and Tomas Martin of Bulacan.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Juan C. Pajo this morning administered the oath of office to Ladislao Yap as director of the Wage and Position Classification Office in a simple ceremony held at Malacañang.

Secretary Pajo also inducted Aurelio M. de Leon, who was designated acting assistant chief of the Motor Vehicles Office.

Earlier, Secretary Pajo received Lt. Comdr. Frits Suak, skipper of the three-masted Indonesian Navy training ship *R. I. Dewarutji*.

The Indonesian training vessel arrived this morning for a five-day goodwill mission and training cruise.

In the course of an inspection of Malacañang offices, Secretary Pajo announced that he was studying the possibility of moving the Budget Commission out of the Malacañang compound.

The Executive Secretary found Malacañang offices too crowded and dark. He also announced his plan to transfer his office to the ground floor of the Executive Building for easier accessibility to the public.

Among the offices inspected by Secretary Pajo were that of the Vice-President and that where the then Lt. Col. Dwight D. Eisenhower, who as member of the United States Military Mission to the Commonwealth of the Philippines, had drafted the National Defense Act.

June 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived by plane at 4:15 a.m. today at Phoenix, Arizona, and was reported to have received the “warmest” reception throughout his tour of the United States.

Reports reaching Manila said Phoenix was sweltering under a 110-degree Fahrenheit temperature when the President and his party deplaned at the Sky Harbor airport.

It was a sudden change of temperature for President Garcia and his entourage after they had enjoyed the late spring weather in New York.

From the airport the President proceeded directly to the Arizona State College in Tempe, where he received his second doctorate degree of his American tour.

He received his first honorary degree at Fordham University where he was conferred a doctorate of laws.

At the Arizona college, the President listened to a 450-word eulogy read by Dr. Brady Gammage, president of the institution, who described President Garcia’s rise in the political scene in the Philippines.

He said that President Garcia’s biography sounded like a typical American success story.

Visibly heartened by Dr. Gammage’s remarks, President Garcia flashed a wide grin and shook Gammage’s hand in acknowledgement of the apparently flattering remarks of the college president.

President Garcia was reported to have received a standing ovation from the college faculty and 300 spectators when he was awarded the degree.

After receiving the honorary degree, the President explained in his address that his tour of the United States has a three-fold purpose. He said he wanted to foster friendship for his country, seek financial support for the Philippine economy, and discuss American interests in the country.

“The Pacific Ocean,” the President said, “no longer affords the protection it did even as recently as 10 years ago . . . Asia is now your next door neighbor.”

From the Arizona college, the President sped to Hotel Westward Ho, where he attended a civic dinner sponsored by the Phoenix Press Club and the Executive Club.

In his after-dinner speech the President told some 500 persons who attended the occasion that his country was pledged to “shoulder our just share in the defense of freedom and the defense of peace.”

He said he visited Arizona, because he wanted to learn things which “will be most useful to me in administering the affairs of my country.”

He had previously said he would inspect the irrigation system of the state, as Arizona compares with the Philippines in climate and soil conditions.

On hand to greet the President in Phoenix were Gov. McFarland, Mayor Jack Williams, and Major General Frank E. Frazier, adjutant general of the state.

President Garcia likewise met Mateo Mangosing, a Phoenix businessman from the Philippines, who presented a bouquet to the President on behalf of the Filipinos living in the state.

There were about 50 Filipinos who attended the civic dinner at Hotel Westward Ho.

The President, after a night in Phoenix, viewed a film on the agricultural development of the state prepared by the Salt River Project. He was scheduled to tour the different phases of the project.

PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed deep appreciation over the numerous messages of congratulations he had been receiving from Manila and other places, adding that whatever successes he might have achieved in his state visit to the United States belonged to his country and people.

In a cable addressed to Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo at Malacañang today, the President said that the many messages of good wishes he had received throughout his tour of American cities had given him an added source of strength and encouragement.

The President’s cable was in reply to a resolution unanimously passed during the regular meeting of the Cabinet last night felicitating him for a “highly successful mission.” The resolution had been transmitted by wire by Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable through the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D. C.

EXECUTIVE Secretary Juan C. Pajo administered the oath of office to Gerardo Rodriguez as member of the board of directors of the Philippine Tobacco Institute in a ceremony held at Malacañang this morning.

Secretary Pajo also received D. C. Mandeville, member of the United Kingdom’s Scientific and Technical Adviser Group on Colombo Plan, who called at Malacañang this afternoon to pay his respects following his recent arrival in Manila. Mr. Mandeville was accompanied by British Ambassador George Clutton.

June 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia landed this morning (Thursday afternoon, West Coast time) in Los Angeles and received one of the most impressive receptions during the whole course of his tour of the United States.

The President, the First Lady, and the members of his official entourage alighted from a four-engine US Air Force plane as a 30-piece band struck the notes of military marches. They were met by more than 200 Filipinos.

A striking feature of the President's reception involved a 19-year-old Filipino beauty, Frances Manibog, who, after placing a lei over President Garcia's head, kissed the visiting Chief Executive.

Manibog, reports said, comes from Laoag, Ilocos Norte.

Heading the official welcomers was Mayor Norris Poulson of Los Angeles, but the first to greet the Chief Executive was Vincent Bello, president of the Filipino community in Los Angeles.

As he landed, the President faced a battery of newsreel and television cameras.

In a brief talk the President said his tour of the US cities had "brought closer my country and the United States."

After the reception rites, the President greeted the Filipinos.

Commander Paul Garcia, formerly of Cavite, headed the Tabragalba Post of Veterans welcomers.

Commander Paul Vidal led the delegation from Manila Post 464 of the American Legion.

As he went through the Filipino line, the President kissed a Filipino infant held by Mrs. Camy Santos, who said she was a niece of Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo.

From the airport, the President motored to the Perino's where he attended a private luncheon given by Jesse W. Tapp, chairman of the board of the Bank of America.

In the afternoon, the President received officials of the West Coast Division of the United States Industries, Inc., who presented the Chief Executive with a \$30,000-engine lathe as gift to the Philippines.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Garcia attended a dinner given at the Pacific ballroom of the Statler-Hilton Hotel by Mayor Poulson.

At the dinner, the President asked the United States to reassess "your responsibilities in Asia."

He warned that communist political, cultural, and economic infiltration has been intensified in Asia at a time when many countries in the East are experiencing a deep sense of frustration and a growing estrangement from the West.

PRESIDENT Garcia invaded Hollywood this afternoon (Early Friday morning in Los Angeles) and had brushes with the known stars in the movie colony.

PRESIDENT Garcia, the First Lady, and their daughter, Linda, were excited during their tour of Hollywood studios where they witnessed shooting of a scene for the 20th Century-Fox comedy, "The Remarkable Mr. Pennypacker."

They met Dorothy McGuire and Clifton Webb who star in the movie.

"We are very honored by your presence," Miss McGuire told President Garcia. The movie actress informed the President that the story of the film revolves around a man who has 17 children and two wives.

"He must be quite a man," the President remarked.

The President and his family were honored by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, with a luncheon at Beverly Hilton Hotel.

At the luncheon, several American movie stars, including Zsa Zsa Gabor, delighted the members of the presidential entourage.

Among other stars who attended the luncheon were Irene Dunne, Ann Blyth, Jeff Chandler, Joan Fontaine, Jeanette McDonald, Shirley Maclaine, Dorothy Malone, Virginia Mayo, Walter Pidgeon, Ginger Rogers, Ronald Reagan, Esther Williams, Cornell Wilde, and Fess Parker.

After a tour of Hollywood, the President enplaned for San Francisco, the last city on his schedule before flying out of the US mainland on his way home.

A MAJOR American industrial corporation, U. S. Industries, Inc., gave the program of industrialization and agricultural mechanization of the Philippines a substantial boost today with the gift of a \$30,000 engine lathe to President Garcia for use in the Republic.

The President is currently in Los Angeles as part of a ten-day state visit to this country.

Three Los Angeles Area Division and Clearing Machine Corporation Division of U. S. Industries, Inc., presented the heavy duty lathe to the President, bringing the parent corporation's total of gifts to the Philippines to more than \$80,000. Earlier this week John I. Snyder, president and chairman of the board of USI, presented President Garcia with 8,500 agricultural hand tools valued at \$50,000.

The complex lathe was given by Axelson Manufacturing Company, Los Angeles, Southern Pipe and Casing Company, Azusa, Western Design and Manufacturing Company, Montebello and Santa Barbara, and Clearing Machine Corporation, Chicago and Hamilton, Ohio, on behalf of USI Philippine subsidiary, Koppel (Philippines), Inc. The engine lathe made by Clearing Machine Corp. was presented by John Billera, senior vice-president of USI.

The Axelson heavy duty engine lathe, model 16-B, features an 18-1/2" swing-over bed, direct drive motor, two speed tailstock spindle traverse, automatic hydraulic brake and rigid four-bearing spindle mounting.

The lathe will be put to work in the machine shops of the Philippines National Shipyards and Steel Corporation. It will be shipped from the west coast to the Philippines sometime within the next week.

In making the presentation before 300 business executives, civic and consular officials, and members of the press, Billera declared that the equipment was being given through President Garcia as an expression of friendship to the people of the Philippine Republic.

U. S. Industries, he added, through its Philippine subsidiary, has been actively involved since 1904 in the agricultural and mechanization programs of the Philippines and expressed belief that both of these programs would go forward under President Garcia's able administration at an even greater pace in the future.

These gifts, significant in the fact that private enterprise is supplementing the government's extensive foreign aid program, were designed specifically for the needs of the Philippines.

List of tools donated follows:

4,000 spades—standard pattern, 7" X 12" blade, square end, with 27" D-handle.

1,500 plows—waling type based on H. R. Jahn Co., "Southern Plow" animal-drawn, No. 6, 7" size with wood handles, weighing approximately 46 lbs.

1,000 corn-grinders, hand-operated—based on John Blue Co. "Red Chief" clamp-on type, about 9-1/4" high, having 1 to 2 bushel per hour capacity.

1,000 wheelbarrows—garden type, 3 cubic feet capacity, based on “Jax Delz” Model; all-steel, pressed steel try, tabular handled with plastic grip, ball-bearing wheel with puncture-proof tire.

1,000 handsaws—24”, 10 point; based on Disston D-8, medium weight, skew-back with hardwood handle.

1 Axelton heavy duty engine lathe, Model 16-B.

June 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia and the members of his party landed at the San Francisco airport at 5:14 p.m. Friday (8:14 a.m., Manila Time, Saturday).

A large and happy delegation of Filipinos trooped to the airport to welcome the President.

Touched by the number of Filipinos who came to greet him, President Garcia said, “My countrymen, I love you all,” in Tagalog.

“Mabuhay” placards were hoisted by some 600 Filipinos who met the President at the airport.

A 21-gun salute also boomed officially to welcome the President.

“I bring the blessings and good wishes of the folks at home. I am overwhelmed by this reception given me and the members of my party,” he said.

Mayor George Christopher of San Francisco introduced the President to the crowd as “one of the great heroes of all time.” He said President Garcia represents a great land which has “staunch and unswerving principles that America stands for.”

Although President Garcia wanted to greet all the Filipinos by shaking their hands, he failed to do so as he was requested to leave the line so that he could keep abreast with his schedule.

Boholanos were also among those in the Filipino crowd. They claimed they had campaigned for President Garcia in Bohol.

In San Francisco, the President and members of his party were billeted at the Hotel Mark Hopkins.

In the evening, he was honored with a dinner at the Peacock Court of the Hotel.

The President followed another hectic schedule in San Francisco this day.

He attended a luncheon in his honor given by R. G. Follis, chairman of the board of the Standard Oil Company of California. Mrs. Garcia, on the other hand, was feted by Mrs. R. Stanley Dollar at the latter’s residence.

June 29.—INDEFATIGABLE President Garcia spent his last evening (Sunday morning here) on the American mainland greeting Filipinos and Americans in two parties given him in San Francisco.

Some 500 dignitaries and members of the Philippine community in San Francisco queued to shake the President’s hand during a late afternoon party tendered for him by Consul General and Mrs. Nicanor Roxas in the mural room of the St. Francis Hotel.

The President had a smile and word of greeting for each of the guests, many of whom wore the native Filipino dress.

The only formal ceremony at the reception was the presentation by the President to three Californians of legion of honor certificates for their part in furnishing the Philippines farm implements in 1953.

Those honored were Jack Block and Maurice Perstein of the San Francisco Lions Club, and Manuel Insigne, publisher of the *Bataan News* in Sacramento.

The other affair the President attended Saturday evening (Sunday morning here) was a dinner given in his honor by the Press and Union League Club at the club's building on Post Street.

It was during this affair that he delivered his final speech before returning home.

In effect the President said that the Philippines with its unique half-century of partnership with the United States can help win Asia for the West.

"We showed," President Garcia told his audience, "that American traditions can grow and flourish on Asian soil."

He drew an ovation when he ended his speech with: "I will carry (home) with me the picture of an America anxious to be understood, always willing to hear, wanting nothing for herself, generous to a fault; sometimes mistaken but never wavering in its fight for freedom.

Well-wishers continually trudged to the presidential table holding up the President's departure for his hotel.

June 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia landed in Honolulu at 12:47 o'clock this afternoon (Manila time) after an 11-day triumphant mission to the United States.

Yesterday, at 8 a.m. (San Francisco time) the President heard mass at the St. Mary's Cathedral and had breakfast with R. Stanley Dollar in the Argonaut Room of the Mark Hopkins Hotel.

He left the hotel for the San Francisco International Airport a few hours later at 11:54 a.m. Sunday (2:54 a.m. Monday, Manila time) and boarded the plane which took him to Honolulu and another rousing welcome.

President Garcia's military transport plane landed at the Hicham Air Force base outside of Honolulu city where the President was given a warm Hawaiian welcome by several hundred of his countrymen, some of whom had flown from neighboring islands to greet their Chief Executive.

The airport reception was featured by the presence of grass-skirted hula dancers who delighted the President and members of his entourage, including the First Lady and their daughter, Linda, with the hula-hula dance.

President Garcia, upon his arrival in Honolulu, motored to the Royal Hawaiian Hotel on famous Waikiki Beach.

Among those who greeted the President at the Hicham Air Force base were 100 members of the Moncado Foundation of America.

The Filipino crowd was headed by Consul General Juan C. Dionisio.

Hawaii's Governor William F. Quinn headed a group of ranking civilian and military dignitaries who met the President at the U. S. Air Force base.

The military leaders who met the President were led by Admiral Felix B. Stump, commander-in-chief of the American Forces in the Pacific.

The President met the members of the press of Honolulu to whom he recounted what he considered an "accomplished mission" to the United States.

The President will stay in Honolulu for three days. He was scheduled to take off for Manila on Tuesday (Wednesday, Manila time).

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Juan C. Pajo today announced the appointment of one municipal mayor, three vice mayors, and 21 councilors in various towns all over the country.

Appointed were Nestorio Comabig and Jesus Arnado as mayor and vice-mayor, respectively, and the following councilors of the newly created municipality of Sulap, Davao: Pedro Barsalote, Sergio Antioque, Roman Montecillo, and Esteban Comabig.

Also named vice-mayors were Librada Pace for Barili, Cebu, and Magno Salazar for Tumawini, Isabela.

Names of new councilors follow:

Alfredo Elizalde, Puerto Princesa, Palawan; Fernando Santos, Rizal, Cagayan; Avelino Casibang, Solano, Cagayan; Pedro Arenas, Gen. Mamerto Natividad, Nueva Ecija; Leoncio Actub, Opol, Misamis Oriental; Faustino Serina, Opol, Misamis Oriental; Daniel Ortua, Tagkawayan, Quezon, Jose Abcede, Pagbilao, Quezon; Pacifico Navel, Catarman, Misamis Oriental; Apolinaria Vda. de Obenza, Babak, Davao; Juan Pechon, Jr., Caraga, Davao; Ireneo Donguila, Lupon, Davao; Artemio Pasta, Manay, Davao; Rufino Tubal, Nabunturan, Davao; Carmelino Roque, Guagua, Pampanga; Mariano Joyas, Tiaong, Quezon; and Constancio Cañgan, Dolores, Quezon.

Secretary Pajo also announced today that all barter transactions pending before the no-dollar import office had been suspended pending the arrival of President Garcia on July 3. This is in accordance with a Cabinet resolution seeking consultation with the President on the barter rules recently promulgated by the Department of Commerce and Industry.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1958). Official Month in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 54(12), ccxliii-cclx.

President's Month in Review: July 1-15, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

July 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia's last day in Leyte was a hectic one. Debarking in Tacloban City from the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* at 8 a.m. today, the President had breakfast at the residence of Leyte Gov. Bernardo Torres, laid a cornerstone at the proposed Redemptorist church in Tacloban, inaugurated the 100-bed capacity Leyte Provincial Hospital, inaugurated the puericulture center of the city, inaugurated in Tigbao-Cebuanos in Leyte, inspected the Leyte Trade School, and laid the cornerstone of the Tacloban TB pavilion.

It was already dusk when the President re-boarded the *Sta. Maria* for the home trip to Manila. He had been in Leyte for the past three days, appealing for "a full term" in Malacañang and inaugurating various public works projects.

At the Tacloban wharf the President was given a warm send-off by the people. Among those who saw him off were Gov. Torres and Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez.

In his speeches in this city the President emphasized the fact that the Administration was carrying out successfully every program of the late President Magsaysay, especially the rural development program. He cited the irrigation systems, barrio schoolhouses, feeder roads, and artesian wells already constructed or being constructed by the Nacionalista administration.

In Tigbao barrio the President awarded the Presidential Golden Heart medal to Mrs. Enriquita C. Jocson, who donated more than one hectare of her land for the site of the community schoolhouse.

The President also gave presidential medals of merit to Donato Ripilda and his heirs, who donated the barrio Tagburo school site, Pedro Buclatan, who donated barrio Anibong school site, and Segundo Indik, who donated another barrio school site.

The President motored from one place to another in Tacloban the whole day, as he was kept busy by his tight schedule. The people applauded him in his speeches. From the Redemptorist church, where he laid the cornerstone of the future home of the Mother of Perpetual Help in Tacloban, the President went to inaugurate the Leyte Provincial Hospital which cost, ₱300,000.

Earlier in the morning President Garcia received delegations on board the *Sta. Maria*. Delegations included Liberal leaders from barrio Guindapunan and Carigara who pledged to support his election as President. LP leaders were accompanied by Councilor Reginaldo Pascual of Tacloban.

July 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed personal indignation over the manner the triplets were evicted from the Maternity Hospital in Cebu. He directed Acting Health Secretary Rafael Tumbokon to take immediate steps to reinstate the triplets in the hospital and to send a Department of Health investigator to check and report on circumstances surrounding the eviction of the triplets.

The President also instructed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor to send immediately material aid to the family of the triplets.

The presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* was tossed, swayed, and rocked by big waves the whole morning. Instead of arriving in Manila at 10 p.m. today, the yacht will arrive about 1 a.m. because its course was altered to avoid huge waves and strong winds. Every passenger, including newsmen, stayed in bed the whole morning to avoid dizziness. The President stayed in his bedroom after hearing mass and eating breakfast with the First Lady.

The President and the First Lady ate lunch at 2 p.m. after the big waves had calmed down a little. After lunch the President rested in his bedroom and went over state papers. Weather along the way of the *Sta. Maria* has been cloudy with slight rains, strong winds, and big waves.

July 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Malacañang at 2 o'clock this morning with a large entourage who were badly shaken by huge waves which lashed the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* at the China Sea before it entered Manila Bay.

It was an eventful trip, and President Garcia who had appeared unperturbed after taking two tablets to fight seasickness said, "It is part of the game."

After a few hours of sleep, the President motored to Camp Murphy where he had breakfast given in his honor by Army officers and their ladies at the officers' club.

Addressing officers and men of the Armed Forces on the occasion of the annual testimonial parade and review given in honor of their commander-in-chief at Camp Murphy this morning, the President said, "Our proud history has entitled us to the claim of guardianship over democratic institutions. That claim and duty of guardianship must be fulfilled even at the price of personal sacrifice so as to insure the integrity and purity of the ballot.

"If those who are in power must face defeat, let it be; but nothing must be done to tarnish the sanctity of the free man's vote," the President said.

Speaking in a voice that rang loud and clear to the men who stood in formation before him on the parade ground, the President stressed:

"Friends and countrymen, on the eve of the national commemoration of the attainment of our independence, and at this historic hour, let me make this solemn pledge that as long as I am Chief Executive of our Republic and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, I will not tolerate nor countenance any pollution of the ballot, any frustration or perversion of the popular will as expressed through the vote, or any illicit, or unconstitutional interference of the military in the conduct of elections."

The ceremonies started promptly at 9 a.m. with the presentation of the award of the Philippine Legion of Honor (Chief Commander) to Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo "as the foremost military leader during the darkest hour of the Philippines' fight for freedom against the then existing Spanish regime, culminating in the establishment of the erstwhile Philippine Republic."

The award was pinned on the 87-year old revolutionary general by the President. He was assisted by Secretary Balao and General Arellano.

Then, boarding one of the staff cars, the President inspected two regiments which stood stiffly at attention at one end of the parade ground. The regiments were made up of battalions from the Philippine Military Academy, the Constabulary, ground forces, Navy, Air Force, artillery, the school for reserve commission, and the Presidential Guards Battalion under the command of Lt. Col. Romeo Honasan.

The parade started about 9:30 a.m. Enthusiastic applauses were received by each unit representing the different major services as they marched smartly past the reviewing stand. A squadron of PAF Mustang planes flew in formation over the parade ground.

With the President on the reviewing stand were Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, the First Lady, members of the Cabinet, chiefs of foreign missions and members of their staffs, senators and congressmen, and top military officials of the Philippines and foreign countries.

The Chief Executive and the First Lady were back at Malacañang about 10:15 a.m.

THE President this afternoon stressed the great importance of schools and colleges to the future of the country, emphasizing that "our schools and colleges be brought up to the highest degree of efficiency of which our wisdom and our means are capable."

The President said the efficiency of our educational institutions would shape and determine the progress that could be attained by the Filipino people. He said: "If our schools are fifth-rate, they can only produce fifth-rate citizens; and if we have fifth-rate citizens, we can build only a fifth-rate nation."

The Chief Executive said: "If our people give me the necessary time to lead in the accomplishment of this vast and important task, I shall embrace the opportunity with energy, determination, and decision."

The President made these remarks at the formal inauguration and blessing of the University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center and the Science Building on Aurora Boulevard with President Garcia and Mrs. Luz Banzon-Magsaysay as co-sponsors. Mrs. Garcia, U.E. President and Mrs. Francisco Dalupan, and the U. E. Board of Trustees present were in attendance.

The U.E. Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center (College of Medicine) is a non-stock and non-profit institution named after the late President.

In his speech, President Garcia praised the U. E. founders of the college for their boldness and vision in their search for educational improvement. He said that by its inauguration, the institution announced its intention to pioneer in at least two important phases of education: the abolition of the profit motive and the limitation of enrollment.

With regard to the solution of the many shortcomings of the country's educational effort in general, the President said he was seriously thinking of the feasibility of creating a body of scholars and educators to conduct a thorough and comprehensive study of Philippine education as a whole and to "recommend to the Government such improvements and the means to those improvements as it may find wise and necessary."

The President expressed the hope that if the U. E. Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center succeed, it would "open to the schools and colleges of this country a new vista of service to the youth and to the Republic as the late President Magsaysay, whose honored name this medical college bears, envisioned it in his lifetime."

President Garcia congratulated President Dalupan and the U. E. Board of Trustees and the faculty for boldly embarking on this great pioneering adventure in Philippine medical education. The President felicitated Mrs. Magsaysay, who, because of her consent to the use by the college of the late President's name, "there has been added one more fitting memorial to our late President, my great predecessor, and the moral force of his name has been aligned with the cause of educational progress."

President and Mrs. Garcia were fetched from Malacañang by U. E. President and Mrs. Dalupan about 4:00 p.m. They rode together in the presidential car to the UERMMC. The President was given a 21-gun salute and full military honors. The program was held in one of the auditoriums of the medical college.

President and Mrs. Garcia returned to Malacañang about 5:30 a.m.

July 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning ordered all government relief agencies to extend immediate succor to the fire victims in Cabadbaran, Agusan.

The President, through Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, directed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, the Philippine National Red Cross, the Department of Health, and the relief units of the Armed Forces to mobilize their units in giving immediate relief to the sufferers of the Cabadbaran fire.

The President took this action immediately upon receipt of a telegram from Gov. Felixberto Dagani of Agusan, who informed the Chief Executive of the fire and requested relief.

According to Dagani, Cabadbaran was hit by the biggest fire in its history, with the whole commercial district razed to the ground. At the time of the sending of the telegram (8:26 a.m.), the fire was still raging.

PRESIDENT Garcia and President Eisenhower exchanged messages of felicitations on the occasion of the anniversary celebrations of the independence of their respective countries today, July 4.

In a message addressed to President Garcia received at Malacañang early this morning, President Eisenhower said: "It gives me pleasure to extend to Your Excellency and to the people of the Philippines the congratulations and sincere good wishes of the people of the United States on the national anniversary of the Republic of the Philippines."

President Garcia also received similar congratulatory messages from heads of state all over the world. Among such messages were those from Emperor Hirohito of Japan, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, King Baudouin of Belgium, King Bhumibol of Thailand, King Adolf Gustaf of Sweden; Presidents Izhak Benzvi of Israel, Rajendra Prasad of India, Adolfo Ruiz Cortines of Mexico, Hans Streuli of Switzerland, Theodor Heuss of Germany, Iskander Mirza of Pakistan, and Pedro Eugenio Aramburu of Argentina; Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek of Nationalist China; and Giovanni Gronchi of Italy.

Meanwhile, Ambassador Felixberto Serrano wired from New York informing the President that the Philippine mission and the Filipino community in that city were cooperating to celebrate Independence Day with appropriate ceremonies.

UPON the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, President Garcia this day granted 50 conditional pardons, two absolute pardons and two commutations of sentence.

THE President presented the posthumous award of the Quezon Service Cross on the late President Ramon Magsaysay in ceremonies held at the Malacañang social hall this evening in connection with the observance of the 11th anniversary of the Republic of the Philippines.

The award was presented to Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay, widow of the late President, in the presence of officers and members of the 11th civic assembly of women, Cabinet members, members of the diplomatic corps and their ladies, and representatives of various civic organizations gathered at Malacañang to witness this year's awarding of presidential medals of merit under the sponsorship of the CAWP.

Attired in black terno, Mrs. Magsaysay stood misty-eyed, apparently trying hard to fight back her tears, as the citation reviewing the achievements of Ramon Magsaysay, "soldier, statesman, patriot, protector of the poor, implacable foe of Communism, and leader of his people," was read before the assemblage. However, after the medal had been placed around her neck, the former First Lady broke down and wept silently.

Recipients of the presidential medals of merit were Mrs. Luisa Fernandez de Lichauco for home arts, Mrs. Flora Amoranto Ylagan and Dr. Ricardo C. Lacson for education, Richard T. Ely and Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason for public service, and the family of Dr. Jose de Jesus for exemplary family. The medals were pinned on the awardees by the President.

The presentation ceremonies started about 6 p.m. with Miss Helen Z. Benitez, CAWP president, presenting the awardees, on behalf of Mrs. Minerva Inocencio Piguing, chairman of the CAWP awards committee. Also present was Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, the First Lady.

In a brief extemporaneous speech delivered during the ceremonies, the President congratulated the officers and members of CAWP, whom he called the "quintessence of Filipina womanhood" for their valuable participation in the nation's affairs. He said that their contribution had been instrumental in making of this country what it is today.

After the ceremonies, about 7 p.m., the First Lady invited her guests to refreshments at the reception hall.

PRESIDENT Garcia and Mrs. Garcia gave an Independence Day state dinner at 8 o'clock this evening at Malacañang.

The affair was attended by leaders of Congress and the judiciary, heads of diplomatic missions, members of the Cabinet and the Council of State and their ladies, top brass of the Philippine and the American Armed Forces, and prominent citizens and other high government dignitaries.

MALACAÑANG announced today the appointment of Dean Feliciano Jover Ledesma as a member of the National Board of Education to take the place of the late Jess Paredes, who died in an airplane crash with the late President Magsaysay.

July 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up late this morning after his midnight caucus with some 35 solons who wanted to do away with provincial conventions and make the present congressmen automatically the official candidates of the Nacionalista Party in their respective districts.

The President engaged the solons in some political debates on the matter and finally told the solons bluntly he could not subscribe to their views which scuttle the rules and regulations of the party.

It was a tough night for the President, as he was forced to commit himself on his choice of a running mate. The solons had asked the President to pick Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., as his running mate. After vacillating for some time, the President finally said “you can have the green light” to campaign for the Garcia-Laurel team.

PRESIDENT Garcia at the Cabinet meeting this day signed an executive order implementing Reorganization Plan No. 77, creating the Forest Products Research Institute.

This plan provides for an objective organization to study and recommend the effective utilization of all forest products and their by-products and to give encouragement for the development of wood and lumber industries.

The Government Survey and Reorganization Commission said that the creation of this institute was one milestone toward the implementation of the Administration’s economic development program.

As organized, the Forest Products Research Institute will have one director and one assistant director. It will also have five divisions; namely, administrative services, chemical investigations, industrial investigations, wood technology, and wood preservation.

The implementation of this reorganization plan abolishes the forest products laboratory and the forest products research section of the Bureau of Forestry and transfers their functions together with the appropriate personnel, appropriations, property, equipment, and records to the FPRI. There will be no lay-off of personnel as a result of this reorganization.

Upon strong representations of Philippine Charity Sweepstakes General Manager Eugenio E. Santos, the President and the Cabinet approved the petition of PCSO employees for higher salaries, provided that these salary increases conform with the rates set down by the Wage and Position Classification Office.

The President and the Cabinet observed that the PCSO was an agency of the government exercising the regular functions of a government office and therefore it should follow the WAPCO standard of salaries.

Manager Santos explained to the President and the Cabinet that his employees deserved the increases given to them because of the good work they were performing, resulting in greatly increased sales of sweepstakes tickets. Santos said that although his employees now numbered 347 as against 370 in 1953, they produced better results.

Santos pointed out that whereas the sales in 1953 amounted to only ₱9,662,757, the sales in 1957 jumped to ₱28 million, and that while the aids given in 1953 were only ₱3,043,768, the aids given in 1957 amounted to ₱8,829,000.

He also said that in 1953 the sweepstakes office had a deficit of ₱250,936, but in 1957, it had a surplus of ₱706,188f.

President Garcia directed that a cable be sent to President Eisenhower expressing the Filipino people's "deepest appreciation for signing the legislation handing back valuable historical documents and records seized during the Philippine Insurrection in 1898."

In his message the President said that President Eisenhower's signing of the bill on the eve of the anniversary of Philippine independence "will be cherished by the Filipino people, especially by our historians and scholars who are now provided with a veritable source of historical materials."

President Garcia added, "This is indeed another manifestation of the cordial and close relations existing between our two countries."

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 11 a.m. to about 2 p.m.

LATE in the afternoon the President received callers after working on state papers.

The callers who were received individually by the President were Sens. Edmundo Cea, Francisco Delgado, and Quintin Paredes, and Govs. Juan Frivaldo and Valeriano Gatuslao of Sorsogon and Negros Occidental, respectively.

Then the President received a group of labor leaders who presented a resolution pledging their support to his election bid. They also requested the Chief Executive to order the insular treasurer to resume payment of backpay claims of the labor battalion of the pre-war Civilian Emergency Administration.

Headed by Pablo Manlapit of the National Employees Workers Union and chairman of the United Labor Political Action Committee, the labor leaders informed the President that backpay payments to the CEA battalion had been suspended last year owing to an investigation which was conducted because of an alleged anomaly.

The labor leaders were composed of Alejandro Salazar, general president, International Labor and Marine Union; Hugo Retaga, president of the National Workers Brotherhood; Ildefonso K. Romey, president of the Union de Tabacos, Inc.; Filomeno Prudon, president of the Binangonan Labor Union; Arcadio Roxas, president of the PLAW; Pedro Advincula, president of the Gen. Log Workers Union; Eduardo Donato, president of the Union de Tabaqueros de Filipinas; Teodoro Pineda, Mechanical Technical Stev. Union; Juan D. Flores, Philippine Labor and Sailor Federation; Aniceto de Castro, Union de Tabaqueros de Filipinas; Aurelio Galvizo, president of the United Seamen's Union; Alfredo de Antonio, of the Construction Workers Association, Eusebio Queros, Furniture Workers Union; and Avelino Catolico and Isabelo V. Gandionco, lawyers.

The President expressed his gratitude to the labor leaders for their support to his election bid.

Regarding the request of the labor leaders to resume the payment of backpay claims of the CEA labor battalion, the President told them that he would study the matter seriously.

A group of Aklan municipal mayors also presented a resolution pledging their support to the President's election bid. The town mayors were Batan Mayor Mariano Pador, Lizo Mayor Catalino Prado, Malinaw Mayor Sancho Jncierto, Tangdan Mayor Augusto Gaboy, Balete Mayor Apolinar Cleofe, and Makato Mayor Jose Legazpi.

Mayor Cristino Jimenez of Dasol, Pangasinan, accompanied prominent political leaders of his municipality who pledged their support to the President's election bid.

Other individual callers were Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez and ex-Governor Gulamu Rasul of Sulu.

The President received callers up to late at night.

July 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia, before enplaning for Baguio this morning, received Health Secretary Paulino Garcia, who submitted a report on the fruitful results of the work of the Philippine delegation to the Tenth World Health Assembly in Geneva and, afterwards, in the United States.

In his report to the President, Secretary Garcia said that the Philippine delegation got from the World Health Assembly approval of the program of assistance for the Philippines for the fiscal year 1958, estimated at \$249,441, to be financed from the WHO, regular budget, the U. S. technical assistance funds, and the UNICEF.

This assistance program consists of aids for tuberculosis control, leprosy control, influenza center, bilharziasis pilot project, midwifery training, maternal and child health, mental health, environmental sanitation, and the institute of Hygiene, U. P.

Secretary Garcia told the President that, as directed by the Chief Executive, he proceeded to the United States where he and Dr. Regala looked into the exchange visitors program and the ICA health-assisted programs, and made technical observations and consultations.

Secretary Garcia said that he had talked with Filipino doctors in Mount Vernon Hospital and Lawrence Hospital in Westchester County, New York, whom he found happy in their work and satisfied with their placements. The directors of the two hospitals spoke well of the Filipino doctors and held them in high regard, according to the health secretary.

In Chicago the health secretary said he had met with Consul Abrera and with the executive directors of the American Hospitals Association and the American Medical Association. He had been given assurance that remuneration of Filipino nurses under the exchange visitors program would be increased.

Secretary Garcia said that he had extended an official invitation to Dr. Leroy Burney, the surgeon-general of the U. S. Public Health Service, and to Dr. Eugene Campbell, ICA health director in Washington, D. C., to come to the Philippines to observe on the spot the implementation of the mutual programs.

Garcia also observed the work and research being done in cancer control and in mental health at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, and conferred with directors of the respective institutes on the over-all phases of activities in these fields.

The President congratulated Secretary Garcia for the good work he had done in his mission abroad.

IN the afternoon the President inducted Col. Marcos G. Soliman, superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy, as *ad interim* brigadier general in the Armed Forces at ceremonies at the Guest House.

Soliman's appointment was one of the three *ad interim* appointments signed by the President in Manila this morning before enplaning for Baguio City. The other two were those, of Col. Climaco Piniyoy, commander of the IV Military Area, and Col. Pedro Q. Molina, chief of the Philippine Air Force, as brigadier generals.

Present at the ceremonies were Rep. Ramon Mitra of Mountain Province; Baguio City officials, headed by Mayor Alfonso Tabora; Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, chief of JUSMAG; Maj. Gen. John Ackerman, commander of the U. S. 13th Air Force; Col. Jose Maristela, PC provincial commander of Mountain Province; Col. Harold Beck, commander of Camp John Hay; and ranking officials of Baguio City.

General Soliman has been in the Army for 27 years. He graduated from the P. C. Academy in 1933. He later graduated from the U. S. Infantry School in Fort Benning, Georgia, and from the U. S. Command and General Staff School in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

The President arrived at the Loakan airport in Baguio aboard the *Pagasa* at 12:10 p.m. He was met by city officials headed by Mayor Tabora and a delegation from the Baguio police department headed by Col. Francisco Paraan,

chief of police. The delegation submitted to the President a resolution signifying their willingness to forego the benefits of the new law prescribing a five-day a week office schedule, for the good of service. The President thanked the Baguio policemen for their dedication to public service.

From the airport the President motored to the Guest House.

In the evening, the President motored to the Baguio Country Club, where he spoke at the installation of the Baguio Rotary Club officers.

PRESIDENT Garcia last night paraded the economic achievements of the Magsaysay administration and marshalled facts and figures to refute the charge of “rank mismanagement in the fiscal, financial, and trade fields” which former Speaker Jose Yulo had levelled at the ruling Nacionalista Party.

In what political observers considered his “fightingest” speech yet, the President took Yulo, Liberal Party presidential aspirant, to task for “misrepresenting the economic situation by erring either on the side of exaggeration or understatement.”

President Garcia delivered the speech shortly after he had installed officers of the Baguio Rotary Club at the Baguio Country Club in Baguio City this evening.

It was the first major speech on economics he had delivered since succeeding the late President Magsaysay last March 17.

It was also a rejoinder to a scathing attack on NP economic policies Yulo launched before the Manila Rotary Club on June 27.

Among others, Yulo had charged the NP with exhausting the country’s dollar reserves, with foisting on the people “fantastically unbalanced budgets,” and with rank mismanagement in the fiscal, financial, and trade fields.

President Garcia said: “The Liberal charge is not only unfounded and unproved; it is also gratuitous and ridiculous. It is, as I have said, a desperate attempt to convert defense into offense, a last ditch try to make the red herring ‘trick work.’”

The President told the Rotarians that Yulo, in hurling those charges at the NP, recited “half-truths and inaccurate figures or no figures at all to support premeditated and self-serving fuminations.”

He said the presidential aspirant twisted and tortured economic data “for political effect” and in so doing, “sacrifice the national welfare to personal ambition.”

The President cited facts and figures which he said were “of public record” to throw back Yulo’s charges to the LPs themselves. (See *Historical Papers and Documents*, pp. 4059-4066, for the full text of the President’s speech.)

July 7.—THE President had breakfast at 7:30 a.m. with Miguel Velasco, Malacañang financial assistant, who consulted him on the implementation of the new budget, particularly in the office of the President.

Sen. Edmundo Cea gave the President a favorable report on the latest political developments in the Bicol region. He said he was working for the complete solidification of Bicol political leaders to rally behind the President.

Other callers this morning included a delegation of the Citizens Committee for Garcia headed by Florendo Aquino and Rep. Ramon Mitra of Mt. Province.

Shortly after 10 a.m., the Chief Executive motored to the Baguio Cathedral, where he heard mass. After the mass he motored around the city.

Returning to the Guest House shortly before noon, the President received Gov. Marcos Malupa of Batanes, who reassured him that except for four or five congressmen, there was really no “revolt” in Congress. Malupa reported that Reps. Angel Castaño and Augusto Francisco of Manila and himself had canvassed 40 alleged rebels. Malupa also reported that governors and city mayors from the First Military Area and the Bicol bloc were scheduled to meet at the Manila Hotel tomorrow. Also invited to the meeting were Govs. Leon Guinto, Sr., of Quezon, Mariano Tajonera of Mindoro Oriental, and Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Occidental. “Among the last callers was Gov. Bernardo Gapuz of La Union, who appraised the Chief Executive on the latest political developments in his province. After having his lunch at 2 p.m., the President stayed in his bedroom the whole afternoon and evening.

PRESIDENT Garcia woke up this afternoon after a short nap feeling slightly indisposed; so he postponed his scheduled return to Manila for tomorrow noon.

The President was scheduled to go down by car at 4 p.m. today to board the plane at San Fernando, La Union, as the Loakan airfield in Baguio is closed in the afternoon owing to the weather. He expects to take off at Loakan before noon tomorrow and fly direct from Baguio to Manila.

The President received several delegations which called on him at the Guest House this morning. The first of these delegations was composed of some 50 Igorot farmers from nearby Trinidad and Tublay towns who requested the early adjudication of titles to the public lands they were cultivating.

Two delegations called to pledge their support. They were the Benguet Balatoc Workers Union delagation headed by Vicente Osemña and the Romblon provincial and municipal officials delagation who told the President they would support him whoever would be his running mate in the coming election.

Accompanied by Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, the Romblon group included Gov. Manuel Solidum, Board Members Francisco Benedicto and Vicente Tanciangco, and Mayors Isidro Mallorca of Romblon, Pablo Bargete of Badajos, Francisco Fernando of Odiongan, Li Umali of Cajidiocan, Elias Baranda of San Fernando, Teofisto Nepomuceno of Magdiwang, Dionisio Fetalvero of Jones, Gaudencio Molina of Sta. Fe, and Vidal Tolieria of Corcuera.

July 8.—THIS morning President Garcia did not receive any caller at the Guest House in Baguio. He spent the whole morning in conference with Miguel D. Velasco, Malacañang financial assistant, on the implementation of the new budget. He also conferred with Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, who consulted him on pending matters.

Shortly before 12 noon, after an early lunch, the President motored to the Loakan airfield where he boarded the plane *Pag-asa* for the return trip to Manila. He took off at the Baguio airport under a heavy rain, and landed at Nichols Field one hour later.

ALIGHTING from the presidential plane *Pag-asa* at 12:20 p.m. from his two-day stay in Baguio, the President saw Col. Molina, who headed a large group of top ranking airforce officers who welcomed him at the air base. He decided to swear in the air force chief right at the base canteen where he sought shelter from a slight drizzle.

Col. Molina was one of three *ad interim* brigadier-generals whose appointments were signed by the President last Saturday morning shortly before he enplaned for the Pines City. The other two were Cols. Climaco Pintoy, commander of the IV MA, and Marcos Soliman, superintendent of the PMA. The latter was sworn in at the Guest House in Baguio Saturday afternoon.

July 9.—THIS morning the President inducted six mayors of Tarlac who formally affiliated with the Nacionalista Party and pledged to support his candidacy. The six mayors were among 15 mayors of Tarlac who called on the President and collectively pledged their loyalty to the Administration.

The six mayors, who were DP's before their affiliation, were Felipe Obillo of Moncada, Pedro Pascasin of Pura, Silvestre Sabado of Anao, Florencio Molioc of Sta. Ignacia, Esteban Mangabat of Ramos, and Amado Roldan of San Clemente.

Taken up by the Tarlac mayors with the President were their respective local problems, including the boundary dispute between Tarlac and Pangasinan which involved six barrios between San Clemente, Tarlac, and Mangatarem, Pangasinan. The President instructed Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon to look into the dispute and work out a solution as soon as possible.

Aside from the six newly affiliated mayors, others who saw the President were Mayors Hipolito Castaneda of Tarlac, chairman of the Mayors' League, Enrique Sison of Bamban, Francisco V. Nogoy of Capas, Eufonio Subara of Gerona, Patrocinio Garrido of Victoria, Eliodoro Castro of Paniqui, Dioscoro Felix of San Manuel, Rosendo Tomas of Mayantoc, Benigno Aquino, Jr., of Concepcion, and Vice-Mayor Jaime Vigilin of Camiling.

Other callers in the morning included Gov. Romulo Garrovillo of Zamboanga del Norte and Ambassador Francisco Javier Conde of Spain. In the evening, callers of the President were delegations headed by Rep. Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon and Rep. Constancio Castaneda and Governor Arsenio Luyag of Tarlac.

Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon this morning inducted the officers of the Department of Public Services Union in Manila. The officers were headed by Bernabe Juguilon, president; Hipolito Santos, 1st vice-president; Nicasio Masangkay, 2nd vice-president; Bernabe Aguado, secretary; Anastacio Soriano, assistant secretary; Hermogenes Vigos, treasurer; Benjamin Padilla, assistant treasurer; and Genaro Galvez, auditor. The union officers were accompanied by former Bataan Rep. Medina Lacson de Leon and Mariano de Joya, Jr.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon paid tribute to the youth of the land whose determination to do their best for the government will redound to the betterment, of the Filipino people.

The President made the remarks before officers and members of the League of Young Professionals who pledged to support his re-election. The young professionals also informed the President that they realized "the necessity of active participation in all phases of national endeavor—economic, political, and social."

The league was formed by young professionals all over the country, with the purpose of actively being "instrumental in the betterment of our people and in the moulding of our nation's destiny."

Thanking the young professionals for their pledge of support, the President paid tribute to their active spirit and recalled that the history of the country was replete with the heroism and patriotism of young people.

In a resolution submitted to the President, the young professionals said that "we are convinced that the man who can truly live up to the role demanded by the imperatives of our time is President Carlos P. Garcia, whose integrity as a man, devotion as a public servant, and greatness as a leader, have already been tested."

They pledged "to exert all efforts to the end that President Carlos P. Garcia be elected by the Filipino people as the fourth President of the Philippine Republic and to support his administration and policies in the interim."

The officers of the league included Santiago F. Dumlao, Jr., Juanito R. Remullo, Augusto E. Villarin, Pablito J. Enano, Teodoro G. Bonifacio, Mariano C. Ereso, Jr., Ernesto T. Duran, and Teodelo Fra, Arriola.

THIS afternoon the President ordered Vicente G. Bunuan, chief of the Sugar Quota Office, to release immediately out of the "A" sugar, which is for export, the amounts necessary to meet requirements of local sugar consumption.

The President took this step in order to flood the market with enough sugar stocks and bring the price of this commodity to normal levels.

He issued the order during a 30-minute conference which he had with Bunuan in the President's anteroom this afternoon.

PRESIDENT Garcia, in a conference with Gregorio S. Licaros, chief of the Import Control Division of the Central Bank, directed the Monetary Board to study immediately the lifting of the suspension by the Monetary Board of the granting of dollar allocations to Filipino exclusive distributors.

The President's directive followed the complaint last night of Benjamin R. Medrano, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, that the Monetary Board had not implemented the President's directive of May 8, giving dollar allocations to exclusive distributors.

The President said he wanted a report on the Monetary Board's study of this matter at the earliest possible time.

MALACAÑANG announced today that, a satisfactory understanding for the solution of the problem of the American film, industry in the Philippines has been arrived at.

The announcement was made after an early morning conference among the President, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, and Leo Hochstetter, representative of the Motion Picture Export Association of America.

It was agreed at the conference that: (1) the sum of \$1,800,000 representing part of the profits of U.S. films here will be allowed to be remitted to the United States; and (2) the matter of levying back taxes on American movie films will be submitted to the proper court for final determination as to the legality of the action.

RECENT news reports stated that the President, in his speech before the Rotary Club of Baguio on July 6, claimed that the international reserve in 1950 was \$130 million. Evidently, this is a misinterpretation of the following statement:

"In 1950, the fiscal authorities of the Liberal Administration did not consider \$130,600,000 as 'dangerously low.' For the \$260,000,000" which they fixed as a safe level, \$130,000,000 would consist of funds borrowed from abroad. Our position today is certainly sounder and better than this, for our international reserves are nearly \$200,000,000 of which only \$15,200,000 consists of borrowed foreign fund."

For purposes of clarification, this statement does not mean- that the international reserve as of 1950 was \$130 million. The above paragraph was intended to point to the fact that the Liberal administration recognized that to carry on the development program of the country, balance of payments deficits would have to be incurred so that after 1953, the international reserve would have to be depleted to \$130 million unless foreign assistance were availed of. This recognition was expressly stated by the 1950 Report of the Philippine Economic Survey Mission of which Mr. Yulo was the Chairman. This report stated:

"... Within the framework of assumptions made, the international reserve after 1953 would be reduced from the present level to about \$130.6 million. The Commission believes that the international reserve should be maintained at the present level of \$260 million in order not to impair confidence in the value of the peso. The country, therefore, would need a foreign assistance to carry out this program to the extent of \$130.million."

Despite heavy outlays for industrialization, the international reserve as of July 2, 1957, amounted to \$198.11 million, which is definitely better than the \$130 million anticipated by the Liberal Administration if the development program were to be pursued vigorously. Of this, only \$15 million represents repurchase obligations with the International Monetary Fund which is much lower than the \$130 million proposed to be availed of from foreign sources as loans, grants, and assistance in the Yulo Report. Hence, if we were to incur a total foreign obligation of \$130 million, the international reserve level will be about \$300 million which exceeds the \$260 million considered as a safe level in the Yulo Report by \$40 million.

July 10.—THIS morning the President received NP ward leaders from Pasay City who informed him they would rally solidly behind him to insure his victory in the November elections.

Headed by Francisco Victor, president of the NP directorate in that city, the ward leaders recalled that the defeat of the NP mayoralty candidate in Pasay last election was due to the lack of unity of the NP's who had put up no less than three strong candidates for the post.

The 14 ward leaders who were at Malacañang this morning included former Acting Mayor Adolfo Santos, Nena Herrera, and Francisco Jalbuna.

The President also received Msgr. Egidio Vagnozzi, papal nuncio, who delivered a message from His Holiness Pope Pius XII extending the Holy Father's "cordial good wishes for your personal health and well-being and for the peace and prosperity of the people of the Philippines."

The President was deeply touched by the papal message and said he would keep it among his most treasured, collections. It was in reply to a previous message sent to the Vatican recently by the President through Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma.

Mons. Vagnozzi also presented the President with a book entitled: "First Asian Meeting of the Apostolate of the Laity," a report of the apostolate congress held in Manila in December 1955. The Chief Executive thanked the Nuncio for the gift and promised he would read the book.

About 10 a.m., the President received Mayor Teopisto Cordova of Bacolod City, who reiterated his pledge of loyalty and at the same time denied reports he had committed himself to support an LP presidential aspirant. The Bacolod mayor explained he had met the LP presidential bet at the airport during the latter's recent visit to Bacolod simply because he was a member of the Lions Club which had invited the aspirant to that city.

Aurelio Montinola and Gerald Wilkinson, president and vice-president of the Republic Cement Corporation, respectively, also called to invite the Chief Executive to inaugurate their new cement plant in the latter part of this month.

The President convoked the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet at 10:45 a.m.

FOLLOWING up his order last evening to flood the market with "A" sugar in order to keep sugar prices at normal levels, President Garcia at the Cabinet meeting today took steps to insure that this sugar would not fall into the hands of combines and hoarders and that it be placed within the reach of all the people.

To achieve this end, the President created a committee composed of Justice Secretary Pedro! Tuason as chairman, with Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, and National Economic Council Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez, as members.

The President charged the committee with studying ways and means of insuring that the "A" sugar which was to be dumped into the local markets, found its way direct to the consuming public and not hoarded by speculators.

The President said that it was necessary to take precautions in safeguarding this sugar from falling into the hands of combines or hoarders, because otherwise it would not accomplish the purpose for which it was intended.

He discussed at length with the Cabinet the sugar situation. He reviewed the steps already taken by the government in seeing to it that there were enough, sugar stocks in the market.

The Chief Executive recalled that the 220,000 tons of sugar for domestic consumption had been augmented three times recently, first by 10,000 tons, then by 25,000 tons, and still later by 25,000 tons. He said that with his order

last night, an additional 30,000 tons of sugar would be dumped into the market to make an all-time high of 310,000 tons of sugar for local consumption during the present year.

It was believed that the increase in local sugar prices was artificially generated. It was also held possible that other causes could be the hoarding of the commodity or the smuggling of sugar out of the country.

With the President's order to increase the local supply of sugar by an additional 30,000 tons and with the precautionary measures to be taken by the government, the price of sugar can be expected to return to normal levels.

The President and the Cabinet took another step in implementing the Administration's land reform program and in removing one of the causes of social unrest in Central Luzon when they approved the purchase of the 2,255-hectare Hacienda De Leon in Talayera, Nueva Ecija, at ₱2,746,000. The hacienda has 450 tenants with 1,929 dependents cultivating it.

After, the purchase of the hacienda by the Land Tenure Administration, and after adding interests at 6 per cent per annum, including cost of survey, subdivision, and registration, the hacienda will be sold to the tenants at an estimated cost of ₱3,077 per hectare, payable in 25 equal annual installments of ₱123 annually.

The President and the Cabinet finally approved the purchase of the hacienda after a lengthy discussion of the merits of the purchase and after hearing Land Tenure Administration Administrator Manuel Castaneda and Commissioner Julian C. de Vera clear up some doubts regarding the vital information surrounding the purchase.

The President called Castañeda and De Vera in view of a complaint filed regarding alleged unreasonable price of the hacienda. After hearing the explanation regarding the cost price of the hacienda, its productivity, and the manner of its sale to the tenants, the President and the Cabinet gave their approval to its purchase.

The President and the Cabinet were informed that out of the 2,255 hectares, 1,805 hectares were irrigated ricelands, 101 hectares were unirrigated ricelands, 301 hectares were cornland, 29 hectares were wasteland, and 19 hectares were eroded by a river.

Upon learning that some portions of the hacienda were unirrigated and that some were not riceland, the President made it clear to Chairman Castañeda that in the distribution of the land to the tenants, the selling price should be proportionately adjusted in accordance with the nature and productivity of the land being sold to each tenant.

NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco, who is from Nueva Ecija himself and who was consulted on the purchase of the land, said that the expropriation of the hacienda was a forward step in eliminating one of the causes of social unrest in Central Luzon, because this hacienda was formerly a Huk territory. He said that its purchase was a wise move of the government and that it would contribute to the maintenance of peace in Central Luzon.

The President and the Cabinet approved a recommendation submitted by a Cabinet committee concurring with a previous recommendation of the National Economic Council and the Cabinet regarding the approval of the establishment of an incandescent lamps factory proposed by the Philips Electrical Lamps, Inc.

The establishment of the proposed factory was protested by the Philippine Electrical Manufacturing Company.

Among the reasons given by the Cabinet committee in stamping its approval were that the establishment of the company would result in benefits that would accrue to the consumers in particular and to the country in general, in terms of better quality lamps at lower prices to be brought about by competitive forces.

The committee was composed of NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez as chairman, with Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, and Acting OEC Administrator Juan Concon, as members.

The Cabinet meeting presided over by President Garcia was held at the Council of State room. It lasted from 10:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

MALACAÑANG explained today that President Garcia had vetoed the National Development Authority bill because it required congressional approval of corporate budgets which tend to reduce the effectiveness of government corporations as instruments for economic and social betterment.

In his veto message to Congress the President pointed out that the provision in the measure that the budgets of the proposed NDA and of the corporations under it shall be effective only after their approval by Congress, would give rise to serious adverse repercussions and implications. Operations of government corporations under the NDA would be paralyzed beginning July 1, 1957, he said.

“This requirement is not necessary for Congress to exercise broad powers of control over government corporations to make for efficient administration of the corporations,” the Chief Executive said. “Congress has the power to investigate the operations of government agencies, including the corporation. Moreover, the financial statements of the corporations are appended to the budget submitted by the Chief Executive to the Congress.”

The President also expressed objection to the bill (S. B. 560—H. B. 6459) because it did not adequately meet the twin objectives set forth by the late President Magsaysay; namely, (1) to serve as a central implementing arm for economic development and (2) to supervise government corporations.

He said that the proposed NDA was “confined primarily and mostly to the supervision and coordination of government corporations, and, even at that, only of those corporations that may be placed under the Authority.” According to the President, the bill contained no other provision on how the NDA shall serve as an effective central implementing agency for economic plans, policies, and projects.

PRESIDENT Garcia designated Gregorio Rasalan as acting deputy commissioner of civil service, Malacañang announced this day.

Rasalan, who holds the degrees of Bachelor of Arts (1918) and Bachelor of Laws (1923) from the University of the Philippines, was the chief of the Investigation and Law Division of the Bureau of Civil Service until his designation.

His designation was recommended by Civil Service Commissioner Amado del Rosario. He replaces Ruben Ledesma, who was transferred to the Central Bank.

July 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed confidence that the NP arbitration committee would be able to solve all party local conflicts.

At a breakfast conference this morning with Nacionalista councilors and Vice-Mayor. Jesus Marcos Roces of Manila, the President said that the arbitration committee headed by Senator Jose P. Laurel, Sr., “has a very good batting average, and I am sure it will be able to solve all the local conflicts.”

The President also said that he was referring to the NP executive and arbitration committees all the protests and conflicts brought before him. He made it clear that he never intervened nor did he take a hand in any local conflict in Manila or anywhere else. He said that all local conventions must be held in accordance with the rules and regulations of the party.

The President made the announcement when he was told by some of the councilors of their problems in their respective districts. Three of the councilors informed the President about their intention of running for Congress under the NP banner. The three councilors were Fausto Alberto of the first district, Hermenegildo Gonzaga of the second district, and Gonzalo Santos Rivera of the fourth district.

The Manila councilors assured the President that they were going to work for the victory of whoever is nominated by the coming NP national Convention. Most of them expressed the belief that the President would win the nomination.

During the conference, which lasted from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., the councilors also:

- (1) Unanimously expressed their stand against the appointment of the additional eight councilors of Manila, calling it “a waste of public funds.”
- (2) Suggested the establishment of a cooperative in the City Hall to handle the distribution and sale of NAMARCO goods to the employees and laborers of the City Hall;
- (3) Requested national aid for the establishment of more playgrounds in the city; and
- (4) Requested the early release of the RFC loan for the construction of the City Hall annex.

The President said that he would refer the establishment of the cooperative to the NAMARCO officials for study and action. He also said that he would talk to RFC officials about the loan for the City Hall annex.

Present at the breakfast conference were Vice-Mayor Roces, Councilors; Gonzaga, Eriberto Remigio, Alberto, Antonio Barredo, Leonardo Garcia, Angel Linao, Rivera, Pablo Dio Cruz, and Apolonio Gener, and Municipal Board Secretary Paredes Tinoco.

After the breakfast conference, the President received callers. Among the callers were Gov. Salvador Lluch of Lanao and his delegation, Rep. Alberto Ubay and former Gov. Felipe Azcuna of Zamboanga del Norte, and the Ilocos Norte delegation of NP leaders composed of former Gov. Damaso Samonte, former Rep. Ramon Campos, former Rep. Vicente Lazo, NP Provincial Chapter President Abraham Leaño, Dr. Rizalino de Peralta, official NP candidate for Congress in the second district of Ilocos Norte, and Carlitos V. David, national vice-coordinator of the Garcia for President Movement.

At 12:30 p.m. the President motored to the Manila Hotel, where he addressed the members of the Manila Rotary Club. The President was guest of honor at the inaugural luncheon-meeting of the Rotary Club of Manila at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel. His speech lasted about 15 minutes.

Fetohed from Malacañang by Juan J. Carlos, Rotary outgoing president, and Joaquin B. Preysler, incoming vice-president, and accompanied by Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, the Chief Executive arrived at the Manila Hotel promptly at 12:30 p.m. The President and the First Lady were greeted with a prolonged standing ovation as they entered the Rotary meeting hall.

The inaugural program started about 1 p.m. with the National Anthem played by the Philippine Army band under Col. Laureano Cariño.

President Garcia was introduced by Francisco (Paco) Delgado, Rotary president. The Chief Executive finished speaking about 2 p.m.

In his speech before the Rotary Club of Manila at the Manila Hotel, the President cited facts and figures to defend the actions of the Nacionalista Administration in contrast to that of the Liberals.

President Garcia scored the previous Liberal administration for failing to solve substantially the country's economic and budgetary problems during its eight years of administering the nation's affairs.

Replying to the charges made by former speaker Jose Yulo, Liberal Party presidential aspirant, in another Rotary Club speech, President Garcia denounced the Liberals for “all the fallacies foisted upon the people concerning the budget, public indebtedness, and American aid.”

The Chief Executive pointed out that the previous Liberal government, “from 1946 to 1953, foisted annual budgets upon the people with fantastic deficits”.

In contrast to these, he explained, the Nationalista budgets from 1954 to 1956 have always shown surpluses.

Regarding loans, the President said the “past Liberal administration record borders on recklessness” with a total of ₱208.2 million borrowed to spend on ordinary operations of the government and some ₱152 million “illegally” taken from the fiduciary trust, special, and sinking funds of the government.

On the other hand, the President stressed, the Nacionalista administration has been able to pay off ₱157,915,000 of the Liberal government’s budgetary loans “and return all the pilfered funds” from the government coffers.

PRESIDENT Garcia received a 500-man delegation from the Philippine Veterans Legion which marched to Malacañang this afternoon to express their gratitude for his “deep and abiding concern for the welfare of the country’s veterans.”

In a resolution written on laminated wood and unanimously approved by the national directorate, the PVL thanked the President for the sympathetic attitude he had shown in their behalf, particularly his approval of four bills passed during the last session of Congress in which veterans were interested.

The four bills which were signed into laws were (1) that providing for the establishment of a Veterans Claims Commission, (2) that increasing the monthly pensions of permanently disabled vets from ₱50 to ₱100, (3) that creating a Reparations Commission and setting up policies to be followed in the disposition of war indemnities from Japan, and (4) that outlawing the Communist Party in the Philippines.

The President said that having fought the Japanese invaders himself during the dark days of the Occupation, he knew the sacrifices the veterans had undergone in defense of their homeland. They could, therefore, always count on him to advance their interest and welfare, he said.

The PVL delegation which staged a gratitude rally at Malacañang this afternoon included Francisco Ofemaria, national commander; Jose Arañas, national vice-commander for Luzon; Conrado J. Norada, national vice-commander for the Visayas; Peregrino Andres, national vice-commander for Mindanao; Tomas Nufable, national adjutant; Filomeno Padilla, national treasurer; Dominador Realon, national inspector; and Dante Nagtalon, national judge advocate.

Among the callers at Malacañang in the evening were 11 regional supervisors of the Social Welfare Administration who called to pay their respects, Ambassador Chen Chih-mai of Nationalist China, Rep. Celestino Juan and Gov. Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, and other political leaders from nearby provinces.

July 12.—THE President this morning had a breakfast conference with Manila officials headed by Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson with whom he discussed public improvements in the city.

Discussed extensively by the President with the city officials was the exchange of lands between the National Government and the City Government. The exchange involves the City’s land near the Manila Hotel and a government land in Intramuros. It was agreed at the meeting to expedite the exchange of the lands.

The land near the Manila Hotel will be used by the National Government for the building of a Manila Hotel annex, while the land in Intramuros will be utilized by the City Government for the construction of a PI million city high school.

Also taken up during the conference which lasted from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., was the establishment of additional playgrounds and recreational centers in Manila. The President agreed with the city officials that there was a necessity for additional playgrounds and recreational centers, and assured them of national aid.

Political matters were not taken up during the conference. With Mayor Lacson at the meeting were Rep. Joaquin Roces, Vice-Mayor Jesus Marcos Roes, and Jose W. Diokno, the city mayor's legal counsel.

AFTER the conference the President ordered Commissioner of Customs Eleuterio Capapas to release immediately the rice imported by the NARIC from Thailand in order to peg down the price of rice in the areas where this prime commodity is short. The Chief Executive ordered the immediate release of the rice during his conference with NARIC General Manager Vicente Concepcion at Malacañang. Concepcion said that the rice which arrived last July 8 was being held by the Bureau of Customs because of Republic Act No. 2017, which requires the NARIC to pay duty and tax for all rice imported by the government corporation. Concepcion informed the President that the rice imported by the NARIC from Thailand was 2,710 metric tons or 27,000 sacks.

The President ordered Capapas to release the rice and settle later with the NARIC about the payment of duties. The Chief Executive called Concepcion to Malacañang and inquired into the status of the imported rice.

After his conference with Concepcion, the President received Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Sen. Edmundo Cea, Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol, and Gov. Jose Dinglasan of Capiz.

Gov. Nicanor Maronilla Seva of Albay was also an early caller of the President. He called on the Chief Executive before the breakfast conference.

IN the afternoon the President received some 50 governors and city mayors who presented him with a scroll endorsing his candidacy. Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., who has been reported as supporting the Liberal Party presidential candidate, Jose Yulo, reiterated that he was with the governors and mayors for President Garcia.

After meeting the governors and mayors, the President presided over his weekly press conference. He inducted the new officers of the Malacañang Press Association; namely, Silvino Caparas, *Daily Mirror*, president; Celestino M. Vega, *Bagong Buhay*, vice-president; Mabini Rey Centeno, *Liwayway*, secretary; Richard Po, *Great China Press*, treasurer; and Jesus Ortiz, *Vox de Manila*, sergeant-at-arms.

In the press conference the President discounted the possibility of a "dark horse" being nominated for the presidency in the NP convention.

He said he was optimistic he would get 60 per cent of the delegates' votes.

The President likewise dismissed as speculations that Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez would also seek the presidential nomination.

He blamed the report on intriguers. However, President Garcia refused to name those intriguers within the NP.

Answering Sen. Pelaez' blast that the NP would break up if he won the nomination, the President said that the Misamis solon could not speak for the party. "If that is his view," the President said, "he is entitled to his own opinion."

Asked about the charges Lacson aired in his weekly radio broadcast against Yulo, LP presidential bet, the President said he was familiar with the ₱2 million loan the former speaker allegedly secured without sufficient collaterals.

He said he believed the loan was anomalous and recalled he picked it up in the campaign in 1953 as an issue against Yulo, then the LP vice-presidential candidate. However, he refused to say whether he would do anything about the loan.

The President told newsmen he was not familiar with Lacson's charges on the tax liabilities of the LP presidential standard bearer.

On the matter of his vice-presidential running mate, the President reiterated he was leaving the choice of the vice-presidential candidate to the convention.

After the press conference, the President received delegations from Ilocos Sur, headed by former Gov. Perfecto Faypon, and from Batangas, accompanied by Rep. Apolinario Apacible.

The Ilocos Sur delegation included Board Member Faustino Tobia and Mayors Godofredo S. Reyes of Sta. Maria, Nicolas Bello of Santa, and Juan Ines of Sinait. The Batangas group included Mayors Leon. Sangalang of Lemery, Pedro Diokno of San Luis, Gregorio Brotonii of Aguinaldo, Olimpio Sayo of Calatagan, Quirino Lejano of Lian, and Conrado Maeatangay of Calaca.

The President also received a delegation of 50 NP provincial governors and city mayors who presented him with a resolution, unanimously approved at their convention, pledging to work for his nomination in the convention.

Mayor Osmeña of Cebu City, president of the governors and mayors league, presented to the President a scroll signed by the governors and mayors.

Elated by the pledge, the President expressed optimism he would win the convention with their support.

A Malacañang spokesman pointed out that the governors have many delegates who could swing the convention in favor of the President.

Osmeña, in presenting the scroll, told the President that not all the governors signed the resolution because of their inability to attend the convention.

The provincial executives also explained that governors who were not at the convention had previously pledged their support to the President.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao to investigate immediately the alleged hazing of Cadet Juanito Rimando, who is now confined at V. Luna General Hospital.

The alleged hazing of Plebe Rimando was brought before the attention of the President by the cadet's mother, Mrs. Maria R. Rimando, who said "I was promised by the officers of the PMA that they would take action against the guilty cadet, but I don't know if they have already investigated and taken action against the cadets mentioned by my son to have participated in the hazing."

Mrs. Rimando told the President that her son was hazed by upper classmen on June 15, 1957, and as a result he was operated on last June 17 at the PMA hospital. Cadet Rimando, was later transferred to the V. Luna General Hospital, where he is still confined. Mrs. Rimando said she "finds no progress" in her son's recovery. The President talked to Mrs. Rimando for about 15 minutes.

July 13.—NACIONALISTA political leaders from all six provinces of the Bicol region converged upon Naga City today to give President Garcia a rousing welcome and to reassure him of their solid support in the forthcoming NP convention as well as in the November polls.

Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, who accompanied the President to Naga this morning, said he had been authorized to inform the Chief Executive that all 128 delegates of the Bicol bloc to the NP convention would support his nomination and work for his election.

Secretary Hernandez explained that his fellow Bicolanos were subordinating whatever local differences and divergence of views they might have on other political questions in order to put up a solid front behind the candidacy of President Garcia.

“The provinces of Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Albay, Sorsogon, Catanduanes, and Masbate have a total of 128 delegates to the NP convention, and we are giving it all to President Garcia,” Hernandez said. “If we had more delegates, we would give more to the President.”

In an informal interview with newspapermen who were with the presidential party in Camarines Sur, Sen. Pedro Sabido this noon also said he was quite certain that neither Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., nor Senator Jose P. Laurel, Sr., would submit their names for nomination against the President.

“Why should we put up a candidate other than President Garcia and place our opponents on equal footing with us? Sen. Sabido asked. He explained that it would be more advantageous for the NP’s to have an incumbent president as their standard bearer.

Practically all NP senators, congressmen, governors, mayors, and other political leaders in all six Bicol provinces were on hand to receive the President on his visit to Naga today. Accompanied by Sens. Sabido and Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez; Reps. Felix Fuentebella of Camarines Sur, Justino Nuyda of Catanduanes, and Angel M. Castaño of Manila; and Gov. Bernardo Torres of Leyte, the President landed at the Pili airport near Naga at 8:15 a.m. aboard the presidential plane *Dagohoy*, formerly the *Laong-Laan*, used by the late President Quirino.

Among his welcomers at the airport were mayors’ delegations from Camarines Norte headed by Rep. Fernando Pajarillo, from Camarines Sur headed by Gov. Juan Trivino and Ambassador Jose Fuentebella, from Albay led by Gov. Nicanor Maronilla-Seva, and from Sorsogon headed by Gov. Juan Frivaldo and Rep. Salvador Encinas.

After acknowledging the cheers of his welcomers, the President was whisked in an open car to Naga City, some 12 kilometers away, at the head of a three-kilometer long motorcade of cars, jeeps, and buses. In Naga city he heard a *Te Deum* at the Nueva Caceres cathedral. Then he had breakfast at the residence of Ambassador Fuentebella, where he conferred with Bicol political leaders.

In a mammoth rally held later at the city plaza, the President thanked the people of Bicolandia for their pledge of support as well as for the lavish reception accorded him and members of his party. “I fervently hope I shall continue to deserve this Bicol hospitality showered upon me today,” he said.

The President expressed regret for his inability to prolong his visit in the locality because of pressing engagements in Manila. He, however, promised to return and visit other towns in the Bicol region which, he said, had always stood by the NP administration in the past.

It rained hard during most of the President’s brief stay in Naga, but at 10 a.m., the time the public rally was scheduled, the rains stopped. It resumed pouring again after the President had spoken.

There were fireworks display during the rally. A huge plastic baloon with the inscription, “Long Live President Garcia,” was released amidst cheers of *Mabuhay* from the mammoth crowd gathered at the plaza despite inclement weather.

After luncheon at the University of Nueva Caceres, the President took off at the Pili airport for the return trip to Manila under a driving rain. The presidential plane had to leave as early as possible in order to head off a fast-approaching typhoon.

The President was back in Malacañang about 3:30 p.m.

He conferred this afternoon with provincial governors and city mayors headed by Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., at Malacañang.

PRESIDENT Garcia extended a 30-day reprieve to three prisoners who are scheduled to burn Monday (July 15), Malacañang announced this day.

The three prisoners are Bautista Ragandan, Hilario Mendova, and Alfredo Mendova, on whom the death penalty had been imposed for the crime of robbery with double murder.

The President in his order said that the report and recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole on the petition for commutation to life imprisonment of the death penalty imposed upon said prisoners had just been received in Malacañang and some time was needed for a thorough and careful consideration of the merits of the petition.

The 30-day reprieve expires on August 13, 1957.

July 14.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia today stayed aboard the yacht *Santa Maria* with a rowdy group of guests—newspapermen and their ladies.

The Garcias, together with their son-in-law, Fernando Campos, dined, wine, and even played and danced with their guests.

“We shall have another affair like this,” President Garcia said in brief remarks to the reporters. “And it will be after the elections.”

The *Santa Maria* was converted into a floating casino as the hosts and their guests played dice and mahjong. The President played chess with several newsmen and beat all of them.

The President and the First Lady, who were in high spirits, danced to the tune of Calypso music furnished by an Army band while the boat rocked and rolled as it was lashed by huge waves outside the breakwater.

A number of newspapermen and most of the ladies got seasick, forcing Commodore Jose Francisco, Navy chief, to order the yacht to return to Pier 5.

Mrs. Garcia left the boat at 3 o’clock in the afternoon in order to catch up with an engagement, while the President stayed aboard the boat with the newsmen until sundown.

July 15.—THE President this morning took steps to encourage the cotton industry by approving the lease of a government land in Mindanao to the Cotton Plantation, Inc., a corporation 80 per cent Filipino, through the National Development Company.

NDC General Manager Jose Panganiban, who recommended approval of the lease, said that the terms of the lease would be similar to that which had been granted to the Philippine Packing Corporation.

Panganiban pointed out that one of the provisions of the contract of lease provides for profit sharing between the corporation and the government.

The President approved the lease at a breakfast this morning with Jose Fernandez, Cielito Zamora, Romeo Villongco, and Harry Stonehill, board members of the Cotton Plantation Corporation. After the breakfast, the President proceeded to his study to receive his callers.

Gov. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga accompanied Candaba Mayor Godofredo Gatus, who requested aid for public works improvements in his town.

Also present were Mrs. Constancia Maglalang and Jose Tecson, head teacher and teacher of the Sta. Ana Primary School and the Candaba Elementary School, respectively, who requested prefab schoolhouses in their respective localities.

Then the President received Sultan Batu Ali, a political leader from Dansalan City. Accompanied by former Mayor Cesar Bendigo of Sta. Cruz, Davao, the sultan denied reports that he had pledged his support to a Liberal Party presidential candidate. Batu Ali reiterated his pledge to support President Garcia's election bid.

Then the President proceeded to his private chamber, where he conferred with defense and AFP officials.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the AFP judge advocate general to review the report of Philippine Military Academy authorities which had investigated the alleged brutal hazing of the 4th Class Cadet Juanito Rimando.

Giving his directive through the AFP general staff, the President directed the JAGO to submit its recommendations within 48 hours.

The President issued his directive after receiving the report of the PMA board of officers which was submitted by PMA Superintendent Brig. Gen. Marcos Soliman. General Soliman was accompanied to Malacañang by Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol, and AFP Chief of Staff Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano.

At the conference with defense and AFP officials this morning, the President recalled that certain improvements in the PMA administration had been undertaken by the late President Magsaysay during whose time a hazing case reached the late Chief Executive. President Garcia ordered that farther efforts be exerted to correct whatever defects may yet be found in that military institution.

The PMA authorities investigating the hazing case recommended the dismissal of nine cadets, the suspension for one year of seven, and disciplinary action for three.

Recommended for dismissal were Second Class Cadets Jesus N. Alcordo, Rudy B. Enojas, Primitivo V. Lara, Diosdado Cunanan, Bernabe Orena, Jose S. Capa; and Third Class Cadets Eduardo Enriquez, Oscar Florendo, and Ursc D. Bello.

Recommended for one-year suspension were Second Class Cadets Manuel Oxales, Gumersindo Yap, Jose Filio, Virgilio Bias, Elias Sta. Clara; and Third Class Cadets Mateo Buwagas and Rolando Guzman.

Recommended for disciplinary action were Second Class Cadets Jose Commendador and Hermogenes Peralta, and Third Class Cadet Armando Garcia.

THIS evening President Garcia received a delegation representing local producers and importers who protested against a resolution of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank reducing their regular foreign exchange allocations for the current semester.

The delegation informed the President that the reduction of their dollar quotas had caught them by surprise, as Resolution No. 950 of the MB was passed last June 28 without warning nor prior hearing. They expressed fear that it might result in the paralyzation of industries affected and the laying off of thousands of workers.

Jesus Cabarrus, president of the Base Metals Association, who acted as spokesman, said that 44 private producer and importer firms were affected by the MB ruling. He said that the withdrawal of exchange allocations would keep producer firms from importing much-needed machinery, spare parts, and supplies for their factories.

The President said he would confer with members of the MB sometime tomorrow and find out their reasons for adopting the resolution. He said he would decide on the protest as soon as he had heard the side of the board.

The disputed MB resolution provided that “regular foreign exchange allocations for the second semester of 1957, of quota holding firms which have been granted barter permits by the No-Dollar Import Office, Department of Commerce and Industry, shall be reduced to the extent of the amount of such barter permits granted during the first semester of 1957.” The resolution was published in a circular issued by the Central Bank last July 3.

Cabarrus said that the new ruling would automatically reduce the importation of much-needed machinery replacements from the United States. Since barter could only be made with Japan, which does not have the required machinery, the curtailment of the importation would impair the “operation of the firms, he said. Among those affected are mining, lumber, abaca, copra, and importer firms,

Other members of the delegation which called at Malacañang this evening were Jose Cuyugan, general manager of the Philippine Iron Mines; P. B. Dionisio, Ramon Bagatsing, and Dominador Ramos, vice-president, treasurer, and director, respectively, of the Producers and Exporters Association; and Sebastian Ugarte, secretary-treasurer of the Base Metals Association.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Official Week in Review: July 13 – July 19, 1958

July 13.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia today heard a thanksgiving mass for the success of the Chief Executive's mission to the United States.

Members of the presidential party to the United States were present at the mass which was said by Col. Nicolas Ortega, chief of Army chaplains, at the President's residence in Quezon City.

After the mass, the President and the First Lady gave a breakfast for the members of the presidential party. Among those present were National Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison, Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando C. Campos, Mrs. Pat I. Nievera, Mrs. Florencio Moreno, Major Porfirio Garcia, Capt. Roso Sabalones, Silvino Caparas of the *Daily Mirror*, Gelacio Tecechian of the *Philippines Herald*, Mabini R. Centeno of the *Liwayway* publications, and Bernie Silverio. The three newspapermen covered the President's trip for their respective newspapers.

Also present were some of those who helped in the preparation of the President's trip, including Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, Lt. Col. Romeo Honasan, Mariano Logarta, and Maj. Jose Angeles.

THE President this morning directed Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano to wire the Philippine Consulate in San Francisco and inquire further about the killing of the late Lydia Cruz de Vera.

The President also directed that help be extended so that the custody and guardianship of the murdered woman's child, Francisco de Vera Jr., about two years old, now under the care and custody of the Government Youth Center Institution at San Francisco, can be obtained.

The President gave this directive to Secretary Serrano upon receipt this morning of the letter of Mr. and Mrs. Luciano T. Cruz, parents of the murdered lady. According to the letter, the late Lydia had been allegedly murdered by her husband, Francisco de Vera, in the midnight of June 4, 1958, by stabbing her with a kitchen knife and afterwards hitting her head several times with a hammer at 1410 Ingalls Street, in San Francisco.

The letter said that the parents had wired the consulate in San Francisco requesting the consul general "to intercede in our behalf with the U. S. authorities concerned regarding the heinous killing of our daughter, as we cannot afford to go to the U. S."

THE President today said that the trip of Vice-Mayor Jesus Marcos Roces of Manila and some newspapermen to Red China was tolerated but not under government auspices.

The President made this remark when asked to comment on the trip of Vice-Mayor Roces and some newspapermen.

The President said that Vice-Mayor Roces' party was composed of well-seasoned newspapermen who are competent observers. He added that the members of the party carried ordinary passports and that they were going on the trip as private citizens.

July 14.—THE President today conferred with Undersecretary of Agriculture Jose M. Trinidad (not the Trinidad charged by a Malacañang prober) to turn over all records of a controversial cattle importation case last year allegedly linking a director in the Department of Agriculture.

The President told Trinidad to bring all the records and papers on the actuation of Director Laureano Marquez of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

PRESIDENT Garcia and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez today agreed on a moratorium on the controversial "White paper."

In a four-hour conference this morning at the President's residence in Quezon City, the President and Rodriguez decided to submit the issue to the NP executive committee, ruling body of the majority party.

IN the evening, the President gave a testimonial dinner at Malacañang for U.S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen for his "valuable assistance" in connection with President Garcia's recent state visit to Washington.

July 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia received callers this morning which consisted mostly of congressmen who requested assistance for public works improvements and for repairs of public buildings which had been damaged by the recent typhoon in their respective districts.

Rep. Vicente Gustilo accompanied Occidental Negros Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, who discussed with the Chief Executive a proposed hydro-electric project in their province.

The Negros officials informed the President that the multi-million peso Hilabangan-Kabangkalan River project would greatly enhance the economic development of Negros Occidental as sugar centrals in that area would be able to use electricity for the manufacture of unlimited by-products of sugar.

Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay requested assistance for a proposed irrigation project in Laguna.

Rep. Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur accompanied Basilan City Mayor Leroy Brown, who consulted the President on matters affecting peace and order in Basilan City.

Rep. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan requested assistance for the repair of a school building which was destroyed by the recent typhoon.

Individual callers were Sen. Arturo Tolentino, Reps. Tobias Fornier of Antique, Nicanor Yñiguez and Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Valeriano Yancha of Samar, Isidro Kintanar, Antonio de Pio, and Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Jose Legaspi of Aklan, Jose Laurel IV of Batangas, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Jose R. Nuguid of Bataan, and Jose Roy of Tarlac.

The President received callers at Malacañang until 12:30 p.m.

THE President this day created the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance and Efficiency "in order to achieve higher efficiency and competence in the administration of government."

The PCAPE was created through Executive Order No. 306, which also abolished the Presidential Complaints and Action Committee created in 1954. The records, property, and equipment of the PCAC were ordered transferred to the new PCAPE.

In creating the PCAPE, the President said that it was necessary for the Office of the President to keep itself constantly informed as to the actual status, progress, and/or problems of governmental activity for the early realization of national development plans and prompt solution of administration problems.

The President pointed out the necessity for direct communication and organized liaison with government offices, agencies, and instrumentalities to enable the Office of the President to effectively supervise and coordinate their performance of the duties and tasks duly assigned them.

The PCAPE would serve as a clearing house or a central agency for all investigations to be undertaken by the different departments. The President will sign soon another executive order formalizing his directive that all department secretaries initiate investigations in their respective departments whenever necessary.

President Garcia is expected to name shortly retired Court of Appeals Justice Buenaventura Ocampo as PCAPE chairman, Capt. Francisco Calinawan as performance officer, and Maximo Maceren as chief of research and analysis.

The PCAPE will be the executive instrumentality in the Office of the President to render the necessary services so that the administration can keep itself informed of actual conditions of the country and prove itself efficaciously responsive to the needs of the people.

The PCAPE will be headed by a technical assistant who will be known as chairman. He will be designated by the President. The new committee will be composed of personnel who may be assigned or detailed from departments, bureaus, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the government upon recommendation of the chairman. Technical advisers of the President may be called upon by the chairman to assist in the study of and/or give their advice on matters within the scope of their respective fields.

The PCAPE will be directly under, and responsible to, the President. The chairman of the new committee is empowered to request the proper law-enforcement or service agencies to detail such personnel as may be necessary to expedite the investigation, fact-finding, or action on the complaints or requests filed with the Office of the President.

The President directed all departments, bureaus, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the government, including the government-owned or controlled corporations, to cooperate with and assist the PCAPE in effecting prompt and successful accomplishment of its assigned duties.

THIS evening the President called the Council of Leaders to an emergency conference at Malacañang.

A palace spokesman said the President took up with the Council of Leaders the composition of the National Science Board, an important body which will take charge of providing incentives for scientific researches.

It was indicated that the President also took up with Congress leaders the controversial "White Paper".

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez. Other members of the council were either abroad or indisposed.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo was also present at the conference.

Malacañang said the President decided to call the Council of Leaders in view of the forthcoming world trip of Senate President Rodriguez on July 28.

BEFORE meeting the Council of Leaders, the President conferred with the directors of the Manila Railroad Company and discussed the improvements and the progress of the railroad firm.

The MRR officials were Juan J. Carlos, board chairman; Feliciano Santiago, general manager; Francisco Medrano, general manager of the Manila Port Service, and J.P. Castro, MRR engineer.

The President told the railroad board he would discuss with the officials of the Budget Commission the early release of P4 million appropriated in this year's budget for the initial phase of the MRR's extension of its service to the Cagayan Valley.

July 16.—THIS morning, the President received Rep. Jose J. Roy of Tarlac at breakfast. Roy's visit raised speculations that the Tarlac solon may eventually be named as governor of the Central Bank. He was the author of the Central Bank charter.

The President also received Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson and went over with him the names of prisoners recommended for pardon.

The President also conferred with Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, and decided to suspend Undersecretary of Finance Jose P. Trinidad on the basis of charges preferred by Calinawan.

President Garcia suspended today from office Jose P. Trinidad, as undersecretary of finance, pending investigation of the administrative complaint of grave misconduct in office and conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the public service.

At the same time, President Garcia created a committee composed of Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera as chairman, Solicitor General Edilberto Barot and Jose W. Diokno as members, to investigate the charges against Trinidad. The administrative complaint against Trinidad had been filed by Commander Marcelino E. Calinawan, Jr., chairman of the President's Fact-Finding Committee investigating anomalies in the Bureau of Customs.

The suspension of Trinidad as undersecretary of finance also automatically relieved him as Acting Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

The investigating committee was granted by the President all the powers under the provisions of sections 71 and 580 of the Revised Administrative Code, including the power to summon witnesses, administer oath, and take testimony or evidence relevant to the investigation.

After the termination of the investigation, the committee will submit its report and recommendations to the President.

At the Cabinet meeting this evening, President Garcia ordered all offices concerned which have anything to do with barter not to act on any application for barter until a final decision has been made by the Cabinet on the new ruling promulgated by Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez.

The President wanted to discuss the Hernaez order at the Cabinet meeting, but owing to the absence of Secretary Hernaez, action was postponed until the next Cabinet meeting.

Civil Service Commissioner Amado del Rosario, upon request of the Cabinet, appeared before the Cabinet and was questioned as to whether or not his office would be prepared to handle all expected cases which would be referred to it as a result of the all-out campaign against graft and corruption.

The President told Del Rosario that he had directed all Cabinet members to initiate investigations of anomalies in their respective departments and it was expected that as a result of these investigations there would be plenty of cases to be submitted to the Bureau of Civil Service for decision.

Del Rosario said that as of July 15, 1958, there were 319 administrative cases and eight legal opinions and queries pending decision in his bureau. Del Rosario said that it might be necessary to increase the legal staff of the Bureau of Civil Service to enable it to meet the situation.

The President emphasized to Del Rosario the need for expediting action and decision on cases submitted to the Bureau.

Labor Secretary Angel Castaño and Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas cleared up with the President the labor employment in public works projects. It was made clear that in all public works projects only civilian labor would be employed. However, in projects of the Armed Forces which are designed to contribute to the socio-economic development program of the administration, trainees would be employed as part of their military training.

Malacañang said by way of clarification that the designation of Horacio Ilagan as a BIR investigator did not mean that Ilagan had the same category as Commander Marcelino E. Calinawan, chief of the Malacañang Customs Fact-Finding Committee.

Ilagan is a member of the CIS team and his designation was made in order to validate his court appearance in connection with the investigation work that he is doing.

The President when informed about a news report that the new credits pledged by the United States to the Philippines were in exchange for the establishment of nuclear and bomber facilities, said, "That story is absolutely false and has no foundation in fact."

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening cut short his regular meeting to join his wife, Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, in receiving a big crowd of well-wishers on the eve of her 52nd birthday anniversary.

After adjourning the Cabinet meeting shortly after 7 o'clock, the President went down to the Malacañang social hall where he and his wife received Cabinet members, members of Congress, Boholanos, and Cebuanos who gave an "asalto" for the First Lady. The Cabinet members and solons brought their ladies.

Visibly in a festive mood, the President performed a traditional role in Mrs. Garcia's birthday celebration. He danced the *kuaratsa*, a native dance, with Mrs. Ida Pendatun.

The President and the First Lady entertained their guests until late at night.

July 17.—THIS MORNING President Garcia heard mass with Mrs. Garcia, who was celebrating her birthday, daughter Linda, and son-in-law Fernando Campos at the Malacañang chapel.

After mass the President joined his family, relatives, and close friends at breakfast. Then he started receiving callers, among them Andres Soriano, Jr., Daniel Me. Gomez, T. F. Beckwith, Australian manager of the Overseas Department of the English, Scottish, and Australian Bank, Ltd., and R. M. Denas, New South Wales manager of the same bank.

Other callers were Govs. Felixberto Dagani of Agusan, Serafin Teves of Negros Oriental, Dominador Chipeco of Laguna, Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, Bienvenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur, Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, and acting governor Mrs. Nancy Q. Sison of Pangasinan.

At about 12:30 p.m., the President excused himself from other callers and devoted ten minutes to writing an endearing note wishing Mrs. Garcia "Many Happy Returns of the Day." After writing the note, President Garcia proceeded to the Malacañang family dining hall, where he gave Mrs. Garcia the note together with a bracelet as a gift.

He had his lunch with Mrs. Garcia, daughter Linda, and a number of well-wishers, including Mrs. Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Mrs. Ester Aldeguer, and other members of the Congressional Ladies Club.

THE League of Governors of the First Military Area extended today its congratulation to President Garcia for the success of his mission to the United States.

At the same time, the "IMA Bloc" reiterated its pledge of unconditional loyalty and support to his administration.

The resolution containing the pledge was signed by Pampanga Gov. Rafael Lazatin, chairman of the bloc, and read by Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora. Members of the bloc present were Pangasinan acting Gov. Nancy Q. Sison, Nueva Ecija Gov. Amado Aleta, Zambales Gov. Manuel Barreto, Tarlac Gov. Arsenio Lugay, Bulacan Gov. Tomas Martin, La Union Gov. Bernardo Gapus, and Board Member Faustino Vigo representing Bataan Gov. Emilio Naval.

The resolution underscored the fact that in his mission to the United States, at the invitation of President Eisenhower, President Garcia was able not only to secure economic loans but also to win for his country the admiration and friendship of the American people.

PRESIDENT Garcia today pursued his campaign of general “house cleaning” as he directed all government offices and agencies, including government-owned and controlled corporations, to intensify the drive against venalities in any form in the public service.

“All cases against officials and employees involving any form of graft and corruption should be promptly investigated and disposed of in accordance with existing laws and regulations,” the President said in a memorandum-circular sent out today to all departments of the government.

In the circular which was signed by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, by authority of the President, the various offices were directed to form investigating committees whenever necessary and practicable. He instructed them to advise the Office of the President from time to time on the progress of the investigations.

July 18.—THIS morning the President received a plaque of appreciation from the Manila Lions Club “for his able, outstanding, and distinguished representation of the Filipino people during his state visit to the United States and for which he won for himself and his country immeasurable prestige and goodwill.”

The plaque was handed by Manila Lions President Leon P. Lopez at the Malacañang study room in the presence of Lions officials Alfredo Lozano, Vicente Orosa, Eduardo Escobar, Eulogio Samio, Eduardo Villanueva, Juan P. Juan, and Dan Zamora.

During the call President Garcia accepted the invitation of Lopez to speak before the Manila Lions Club on September 24 to launch the program of the club on good government.

The Chief Executive received the Manila Lions after the call of the members of the Board of Regents of the University of the Philippines headed by UP President Vicente Sinco.

The UP regents brought to the attention of the President the pressing problems facing the state university, especially the cut in the UP budget amounting to P1 million as proposed by the Budget Commission in line with the retrenchment policy of the government.

Sinco and Education Secretary Manuel Lim opposed the cut, alleging that it would affect the standard of teaching in the university. Sinco stated that in view of the proposed budgetary slash, the state university would be forced to lay off some teachers and professors.

In the light of this allegation, President Garcia said that he would re-examine the UP case upon the arrival of Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona.

The state university, according to Sinco, was also facing the loss of a Rockefeller Foundation grant owing to the budgetary slash. Sinco added that the problem of giving the proper salary to the head of the Institute of Economic Development is giving the UP authorities a big problem in view of the lack of funds.

Other UP regents present at the conference were Arturo Garcia, Aurelio Periquet, F. Tamesis, Gumersindo Garcia, Ernesto Sibala, Modesto Farolan, Vitaliano Bernardo, and Rep. Manuel Enverga.

PRESIDENT Garcia today suspended from office Laureano S. Marquez as director of the Bureau of Animal Industry pending the investigation of the charges against him “for dereliction of duty and conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the public service in connection with the irregular importation of cattle.”

The suspension of Director Marquez was signed by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, by authority of the President. In separate communications, Secretary Pajo also informed Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera, Solicitor General Edilberto Barot, and Jose M. Diokno that their committee, created under Administrative Order No. 273, had been authorized to investigate the administrative charges against Director Marquez. Secretary Barrera is the chairman of the investigating committee.

Director Marquez was suspended and would be investigated on the strength of charges recommended by Agriculture Undersecretary Jose M. Trinidad based on the findings by the secretary of national defense, who submitted a report on the importation of cattle as gathered from the findings of Capt. Carlos J. Albert of the Navy.

In his memorandum to the President, Judge Salvador V. Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, said that "as the presence of these animals (imported cattle) may cause havoc on our livestock industry affecting the national economy and peace and order, and there are signs of irregularities in said importations committed by the personnel involved, not only indicating incompetence and violation of regulations but also giving rise to suspicion of collusion and financial gain on their part, to the detriment of the government, the defense secretary recommends that the matter be investigated."

Judge Esguerra also reported to the President that there were at least three large-scale importations of animals from abroad within the last three years which are highly controversial with possible dire consequences to the country.

THIS afternoon the President inducted Col. Nicanor Jimenez as acting chief of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency in a simple ceremony at Malacañang.

Colonel Jimenez, who was assistant executive secretary until his designation as acting Chief of the NICA, replaced Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, who had been appointed Philippine Constabulary chief.

Present at the induction were Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas; Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenko, Jr.; Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff; Maj. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP vice-chief of staff; Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson; top ranking officers of the Armed Forces; Mrs. Nicanor Jimenez; and relatives.

After inducting Col. Jimenez, the President presided over his weekly press conference.

AT his regular press conference this afternoon, the President said he had summarily dismissed for "lack of merit" charges of negligence preferred against a top customs official by Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino Calinawan, presidential racket-buster.

In dismissing the charges, the President virtually handed Calinawan his first rebuff in his investigation of customs venalities.

The President also announced he had ordered Marquez' suspension pending his investigation on the administrative charges filed by Calinawan.

Marquez was linked to an anomalous importation of infected Indonesian cattle last year.

At his press conference, the President also:

1. Announced he had ordered an inquiry into reports that another shipment of cattle was on its way from Australia to the Philippines;
2. Disagreed with Dr. Vicente G. Sinco, president of the University of the Philippines, on the latter's view that Congress does not need presidential summons to meet on constitutional matters;

3. Indicated he will order the investigation of the Central Bank if charges are filed with Malacañang;
4. Favored the retention of Judge Salvador Esguerra at Malacañang as presidential legal adviser;
5. Said he was retaining Internal Revenue Commissioner Jose Aranas at Malacañang to study plans of revising the taxation system;
6. Favored gradual decontrol;
7. Supported Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez's view that the Department of Commerce has exclusive authority to promulgate rules and regulations on barter, adding, however, that such powers are subject to presidential supervision.

July 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia today conferred with political and military advisers on the international situation. During the conference which was held at the President's Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, the Chief Executive discussed with his advisers the political and military aspects of the international situation, particularly in the critical area in the Middle East. They analyzed reports of developments up to this day received by the Department of Foreign Affairs from its diplomatic listening posts in Washington, London, and Paris.

Present at the conference which was held from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Maj. Gen. Manuel Cabal, Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, and Col. Nicanor Jimenez.

After the conference, the President did not receive any caller the rest of the day. He devoted most of his time conferring with Executive Secretary Pajo, who brought along pending papers from Malacañang which needed presidential action. The Chief Executive also conferred with Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison who briefed him on various matters.

Meanwhile, Secretary Pajo received a request from Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson of Manila for the NAMARCO to distribute the latest shipment of Burma rice. Lacson expressed fear that if the rice were distributed through the NARIC, it might confuse the buyers with the Thailand rice which is of inferior quality and which the NARIC had procured for local distribution.

Secretary Pajo promised the mayor, who had helped in the negotiations for the acquisition of the Burma rice, to take up his proposal with the President.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1958). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 54(15), cclxxxi-cclxxxvii.

Official Week in Review: July 20 – July 26, 1958

July 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent most of his time today working on pending state papers at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

Earlier in the morning, he heard mass with Mrs. Garcia. Also at the mass was Lt. Melchor Fronda, naval aide.

In the afternoon, the President took a brief rest after which he resumed working on pending state papers.

The President did not receive any caller the whole day.

July 21.—THIS morning the President administered the oath of office to Dr. Paulino J. Garcia as chairman of the National Science Development Board at a ceremony held in Malacañang.

As chairman of the NSDB, Dr. Garcia retains his Cabinet portfolio.

The former health secretary took his oath before high Philippine and American officials, immediate members of his family, and friends.

Present at the ceremonies were Dr. Elpidio Valencia, who was recently appointed health secretary, ex-Senator Jose P. Laurel, Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbokon, Paul Summers, ICA local head, FEU President Teodoro Evangelista, Dr. Tranquilino Elicaño, Dr. Joaquin Maraño, and Dr. Jose Reyes, director of the North General Hospital.

The President then received members of the CAFEIA-ICC confab and accepted formally the invitation to speak before the delegates on July 23 at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel.

Those who called on the President were Roberto Villanueva, co-chairman of the regional businessmen's conference; Modesto Farolan; Teofilo D. Reyes, CAFEIA-ICC chairman; Cornelio Balmaceda; Sy En; Alfonso Dampierre, Pierre Honneret, who is representing ICC President Peter Lim; and Laureano Ma. Rivera.

Other presidential callers were Juan Concon, administrator of the Office of Economic Coordination; Gen. Wm. R. Stromberg, national dental consultant of the United States Air Force, who was accompanied by Lt. Col. Dominador Santos, president of the Philippine Dental Association; Teofilo Castillo; and Jose Teruel.

Meanwhile, Malacañang announced the *ad interim* appointment of Tiburcio Serevo as assistant forestry director and the reappointment of Isidro Retizos as member of the board of directors of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation.

PRESIDENT Garcia today took positive steps in implementing the Administration's program of filling the basic and immediate needs of the people by scientific and technological methods when he named six career men to the newly-created National Science Development Board.

Created under the Science Act of 1958, the National Science Development Board is charged with integrating, coordinating, and intensifying scientific and technological research with a view to hastening the country's economic development program.

NSDB members who took their oaths of office before Chairman Paulino Garcia this afternoon at the National Health Institute building on Padre Faura, included Casimiro del Rosario, NSDB vice-chairman; Joaquin Maraño, commissioner of the Institute of Science and Technology; Canuto Manuel, NIST deputy commissioner; Col. Florencio Medina, commissioner, Philippine Atomic Energy Commission; and Pedro Afable and PAEC deputy commissioner, members.

Among the aims of the newly created NSDB is to survey the scientific, engineering, and technological resources of the country and formulate a comprehensive program for the development and maximum utilization of such resources in the solution of the country's problems.

It also aims to encourage and facilitate the active participation of domestic and foreign sectors in furnishing financial, technical, and other forms of assistance for scientific and technological activities.

In the evening the President received retired Justice Buenaventura Ocampo and Capt. Francisco Calinawan, chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, of the Presidential Commission on Administration, Performance, and Efficiency (PCAPE), who called on the President to consult him on the organization of the new body.

Mrs. Amparo P. Villamor, social welfare administrator, also called and reported to President Garcia that material and financial assistance were extended to victims of the three destructive typhoons that swept the country during the last two weeks.

Food supplies and housing materials were given to victims of the freak tornado that wrought havoc on the towns of Antipolo, Angono, Tanay, and Teresa in nearby Rizal province, she told the President. She added that a complete report of their work in the disaster areas had already been prepared and that it will be submitted to him soon.

Senator Lorenzo Sumulong and his brother Rep. Francisco Sumulong, called on the President to request that additional assistance be given to victims of the freak tornado that swept through four towns of Rizal and destroyed a number of houses there.

Cal Crawford, president of the Philippine Packing Corporation, paid a courtesy call on President Garcia this evening. He returned from the United States this morning and is proceeding to Del Monte, Bukidnon, tomorrow.

Other callers included Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, chief of the Constabulary, and Col. Nicanor Jimenez, NICA chief.

PRESIDENT Garcia broke his silence over the Middle East crisis this evening and defined the Philippine position towards the situation.

The President said the Philippines will "take such appropriate steps and support such measures in the United Nations as are suitable and adequate to the exigencies of the situation, to the end that peace may be restored in the area and the peaceful processes of a regime of law and order upheld."

President Garcia said instructions had been sent the Philippine mission in the UN to work for and support measures "calculated to promote this end."

THE President this evening called upon the nation to undertake a "moral rejuvenation" and help the Administration solve its problems of "setting our house in order."

In an address before the members of the Harvard and Yale Alumni Associations at the Club Filipino, the President said that "7,000 years of history in all times and climes have already demonstrated that the indestructible foundations of any nation, whether it is a republic, an empire, or a monarchy, are the laws of morality based on the eternal ten commandments."

The President said that the two most important problems confronting his administration are economic instability and corruption in the government.

"We are actually engaged in the thankless task of general house-cleaning in the government," he said.

He said that while “education on one hand confers privileges and opportunities for the holder thereof, on the other, it imposes certain duties and obligations which must be discharged to the satisfaction of the state and nation “After all,” he added, “the life of a nation is what the people make of it.”

The President was the guest speaker of the alumni of both Harvard and Yale universities held at the Club Filipino.

The President was introduced by Gonzalo W. Gonzalez, president of the Yale Alumni Association.

The dinner was also attended by Chief Justice Ricardo Paras, Sen. Lorenzo Tañada, former Sen. Francisco Delgado, and Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

July 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today stated that he has accepted the resignation of Horacio Ilagan as head of a presidential probe committee investigating anomalies in the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

The presidential action was divulged when he was asked by newspapermen to comment on the Ilagan statement published in a morning daily.

“I am going to accept the resignation of Ilagan,” President Garcia replied.

Meanwhile, President Garcia announced that he was going to attend the meeting of the executive committee of the Nacionalista Party scheduled for tomorrow at the Manila Hotel.

One of the callers of the President was Ambassador Francisco Delgado who was given last minute instructions before leaving for his post as chief of the Philippine delegation to the United Nations.

Another caller, Rep. Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, presented charges against Naga City Engineer Arturo Gumabon and asked for his suspension pending the investigation of the charges.

Earlier, President Garcia conferred over local problems with members of the Mindanao Bloc led by General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras and with a big delegation of Quezon mayors led by Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr.

Other callers were Reps. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Manuel Enverga of Quezon, Jose Leido of Mindoro Oriental, Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Marcelino R. Veloso and Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte, Godofredo Reyes and Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Apolinario R. Apacible of Batangas, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, and Emilio Cortez of Pampanga.

THE President today further pursued his drive against graft and corruption when he named Malacañang technical assistants to serve in several executive departments to assist in expediting pending cases of irregularities in the government.

In implementing the President’s order, Col. Mamerto Montemayor immediately assigned six men to the Department of Education, five to the Department of Justice, and one with the Calinawan customs probe committee.

Those detailed with the Department of Justice include Teodosio Diño, Cesar de la Calzada, Primo Cabrera, Rosendo Bondal, and Juan Carbonell.

The following were assigned to the Department of Education: Felix Magdales, Sinfronio Barranco, Felipe Azcuña, Jose Gaffud, Pedro Ravelo, and Wilfredo Panotes. Jose Beltran was detailed with the Calinawan probe committee.

Col. Montemayor said that more Malacañang technical assistants would be named to various departments where investigations of irregularities are being conducted.

THE Chief Executive received today ranking members of the Mindanao-Sulu-Palawan Association who sought the ouster of PHHC Chairman Socorro Ladrera.

Headed by Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez, the MSPA members formally handed a letter to the President requesting him to relieve Ladrera on “the basis of the decision of the Supreme Court, dated September 7, 1955, finding Ladrera guilty of immorality and disqualifying him from taking his oath as a lawyer.”

Together with the letter were an MSPA board resolution asking the ouster of Ladrera and photostat documents containing the Supreme Court decision on the Ladrera case.

Among MSPA members present, were General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, Reps. Canuto Enerio of Zainboanga del Sur and Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, and NARRA Manager Remedios Fortich.

Upon receiving the letter, the President assured the MSPA members that he would act on the case immediately after studying it.

July 23.—THIS morning the President signed the appointments of members of the Music Promotion Foundation. Named were Antonio J. Molina, Felipe P. de Leon, Corazon S. Maceda, and Manuel Barredo.

The President also inducted Dr. Elpidio Valencia as secretary of health at the Malacañang reception hall.

Valencia, son-in-law of former President Sergio Osmeña, succeeded Dr. Paulino J. Garcia, who was appointed chairman of the newly-created National Science Development Board.

The President later motored to the Manila Hotel to address the opening plenary session of the Commission on Asian and Far Eastern Affairs of the International Chamber of Commerce and Regional Businessmen’s Conference at the Fiesta Pavilion.

President Garcia in his speech exhorted policy-makers of highly-industrialized countries to reconsider some of their restrictive and protective trade policies so that developing Asian nations could achieve their economic objectives at a much faster pace.

He said the vulnerability of Asian economies to inflationary dangers and their heavy dependence on foreign supplies for primary needs has been compounded by these restrictions which retard Asian progress and slow down world trade.

PRESIDENT Garcia, stirred anew by the revival of the controversy on the “white paper,” today attended the Nationalista Party caucus at the Sunburst Room of the Manila Hotel.

Like a visiting fireman, the President aired his views on various intramural conflicts which had plagued the administration party, and successfully patched up the petty controversies.

Talking to newsmen after a four-hour political huddle with his colleagues in the administration party, the President said he had endorsed the “white paper” to the Department of Justice.

The Chief Executive did not consider the “memorandum” submitted to him as the “white paper.” The Senate leader always referred to the document as the controversial sheets which contained names of alleged influence peddlers close to Malacañang.

President Garcia arrived at the Manila Hotel shortly after noon time, accompanied by his aide, Major Jose Estrella, and Nemesio Ibañez, a Palace utility man.

President Garcia was met at the lobby by Sen. Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez, who escorted him to the Sunburst Room.

From the NP caucus at the Manila Hotel, the President motored to Nagtahan to visit the shrine of Apolinario Mabini in connection with the Mabini Day celebration this day.

IN the afternoon, the President also inducted retired Justice Buenaventura Ocampo of the Court of Appeals as chairman of the Presidential Commission on Administration Performance Efficiency.

After Ocampo's induction, the President presided over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

THE CABINET this evening virtually junked Secretary of Commerce Pedro Hernaez's controversial set of rules which in effect would relax restrictions on barter trade.

Meeting at a two-hour session, the President and the Cabinet repudiated Hernaez's stand on the situation of Republic Act No. 1410, otherwise known as the "No-Dollar Import Law." Barter trade has been authorized by this law.

President Garcia said the intention of Congress in enacting the "No-Dollar Import Law" was to benefit producers. His view was shared by all the other Cabinet members except Hernaez.

Hernaez expressed the belief that the law intended to benefit not only the producers but also the financiers who have a hand in the industry.

The President espoused the view which was openly supported by Secretary of Labor Angel Castaño, Secretary of Justice Jesus G. Barrera, and Secretary of Education Manuel Lim.

Castaño, in backing up the President's opinion, recalled that he was a member of Congress when Act No. 1410 was passed.

He pointed out that the intention of Congress at that time was to help producers reap from their yield by way of barter trade arrangements.

Before presiding at his regular Cabinet meeting, the President introduced the new members of his advisory body; namely, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Dr. Paulino J. Garcia, chairman of the newly-created National Science Development Board, and retired Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Commission on Administration Performance Efficiency.

At the Cabinet meeting, the President received from Secretary Lim a de luxe copy of a pamphlet, *The Masagana Rice Farmer*, a manual by farmers for farmers.

Lim said that the pamphlet will be used by his department in connection with the national self-sufficiency and food production campaign.

The President likewise signed a proclamation calling a national conference of representatives of employers and of labor organizations from October 16 to 18.

Malacañang said that the conference will be held for the consideration and adoption of voluntary codes of principles in regard to labor-management relations for the promotion of industrial peace. The conference was recommended by Secretary Castaño.

July 24.—THIS morning President Garcia had a breakfast conference with Nacionalista Party leaders with whom he discussed party matters.

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Senator Lorenzo Sumulong, Rep. Jose Aldeguer, and Rep. Francisco Sumulong. The conference was held behind close doors at the President's residence in Quezon City.

The President also conferred with Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera on matters affecting the investigations of alleged anomalies being evaluated and probed by the Barrera committee.

After the two conferences shortly before noon, the President motored to Malacañang where he received callers.

THIS noon the President was informed by Quezon Gov. Leon Guinto, Sr., of the prevalence of *cadang-cadang* in the plantations of three municipalities in his province. He informed the President that the coconut infestation came from Bicolandia.

President Garcia told Gov. Guinto that the National Science Development Board will be charged with the scientific study of *cadang-cadang* as well as the abaca mosaic.

Vice-Mayor Osmundo R. Waga of Cagayan de Oro City called on the President to ask for financial aid for the improvement and repair of different public buildings in the city. He was accompanied by Fernando Pacana, Jr.

Gov. Diego Ty-Deling of Misamis Occidental also conferred with President Garcia to take up the construction of a dam to protect the communal irrigation system of Oroquieta.

Ty-Deling said that the system is destroyed yearly by floods, preventing the small farmers from planting twice.

President Garcia directed acting Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista to estimate the cost of the dam.

Gov. Jose L. Dinglasan of Capiz also called on the President to discuss local matters. He was able to secure the appointment of Alejandro del Castillo as *ad interim* assistant provincial fiscal of Capiz.

Other callers were Mayor Lorenzo Formoso of Vigan, Ilocos Sur, former Gov. Perfecto Faypon, and Reps. Faustino Tobia and Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon underscored the need of tapping science and "technical manpower" to stabilize the country's shaky economy.

Addressing the Chemical Society of the Philippines at the Malacañang social hall, the President said:

"Science controls the factors of civilization, sustains industries, generates wealth, health, peace, and security. Paradoxically," he added, "it can also bring havoc and desolation."

The President addressed the Chemistry Society of the Philippines after he was awarded the Grand Cross of the organization "in recognition of the distinguished service he has rendered to the nation in the promotion of science and technology."

The President stressed that the country cannot "afford to lag behind" in the forward trend of modern science "when significant events of global import are happening abroad, many of which are within the realms of scientific discoveries resulting from the work of scientist in their laboratories."

He said the Administration is determined to tap scientific and technical know-how to exploit efficiently the country's bountiful natural resources.

The President said that science will play a decisive factor in the administration's campaign for self-sufficiency.

He recalled that he had organized the National Science Development Board in an effort to stress the need of scientific research and technical know-how to solve the country's mounting problems.

The Chief Executive was introduced by Hermenegildo R. Rosales, president of the chemistry society.

The Grand Cross of the CSP was placed on the President by the First Lady assisted by Rosales.

The citation for the award as read by Dr. Jose J. Mirasol, stated that the President was given the Grand Cross for "implementing effectively the constitutional mandate on the promotion of scientific research and inventions in the Philippines."

From the Malacañang social hall where the President addressed the Chemical Society of the Philippines, President Garcia and the First Lady repaired to the state dining room where they previewed a documentary film taken during their recent state visit to the United States.

July 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia today conferred with members of the Rice and Corn Production Council on the all-out efforts being exerted by government agencies to increase the rice and corn production in the country.

The President inquired about the short range program of the council whose objective is to increase the yield of 300,000 hectares of selected irrigated rice fields by 20 more cavans per hectare.

The President was informed by council members that an increase in rice yield is expected through the use of certified seeds, pest control measures, and use of fertilizer.

In this connection, ACCFA Administrator Ernesto Jimenez, who is a council member, underscored the need for the additional release of the total amount of P20 million provided for under Republic Act No. 1609 for subsidized fertilizer in order to boost the food production campaign.

With regard to the corn production campaign, council members reported that 50,000 hectares have been selected for the purpose.

The President was also informed that 50,000 cavans of certified rice seeds had already been sent to 49 provinces for distribution to 44,001 selected farmers who will participate in the experiment, using the Margate system of planting in order to insure a bigger yield.

Council members present at the conference were Eugenio Cruz, chairman, Ernesto Jimenez, Leopoldo Uichangco, Domingo Paguirigan, and Marcos Alicante.

The President also received the members of the Jose Rizal Centennial Commission who requested the release of P2.5 million for the early construction of a national theatre.

The Commission members who called on President Garcia were Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Teodoro Evangelista, Mrs. Nini Quezon-Avanceña, Arsenio Luz, A. B. Isip, Elias Ablaza, Gabriel Daza, Angel Tesoro, and Mrs. Rosita Peña.

The President also received Commodore Jose Francisco, Jesus Cabarrus, and Sebastian Ugarte.

This afternoon the President entered the Malacañang press conference room at 5 o'clock sharp, but found it empty of newsmen.

The President opened his press conference by reading a prepared statement announcing Sison's appointment as career minister to London. He did not announce Sison's successor.

After the press conference, the President was cornered by businessmen and kibitzers who had “crashed” the press conference in an effort to seek an audience with the Chief Executive.

July 26.—THE PRESIDENT this morning underscored the responsibility of Filipino women in the changing world and traced the rise of juvenile delinquency to the neglect of mothers in the care of children during the first seven years.

The Chief Executive was the keynote speaker at the fourth biennial convention of the League of Women Voters of the Philippines held on the occasion of its 21st anniversary at the Rizal Hall of the UP Institute of Public Administration.

The need for mothers to dedicate all their time during the first seven years of their children to their care and upbringing, instead of devoting it to work outside their homes was also stressed by the President.

The President, however, recognized the fact that modern women had become breadwinners of the family. But they should take care of the education of children before entering the school, by the employment of tutors, he stated.

He counselled the delegates to spend at least as much of their waking hours for their families and homes as they spend for civic and social work.

In outlining the responsibilities of women, the President cited their contributions to the establishment of a democracy in the Philippines, especially in the election of men to guide the destiny of the nation.

He urged women voters to make the fullest use of the democratic processes to elect men who can guide the nation to its chosen goal, as the elective officials are the reflection of the quality of the electors.

President Garcia today directed Commander Marcelino Calinawan, head of the presidential customs probe committee, to verify reports that only about 300 of the 890 new and necessary industries were actually using the tax-free raw and construction materials imported by them.

The President made this directive upon being informed that not all the materials being imported tax-free for the new and necessary industries were actually being used for the purpose.

Calinawan said that according to reports the government was losing many millions of pesos yearly from the uncollected taxes on these materials which had been imported without tax payment because they had been declared intended for new industries but were in fact channeled to some other purpose.

The Chief Executive told Calinawan to make a thorough study of this matter and report his findings at the earliest possible time.

President Garcia had no comment to make on Dr. Jose P. Laurel’s resignation from the 33-man Executive Committee of the Nacionalista Party.

EXECUTIVE Secretary Juan C. Pajo rocked Malacañang this afternoon with his resignation from all of his government positions—as a Cabinet member and as chairman of the board of directors of the Philippine National Bank.

Pajo’s decision to resign from the government was an offshoot of the “white paper” controversy which he said has generated a whispering campaign of “character assassination.”

Secretary Pajo, who was scheduled to read a prepared speech before a Manila Red Cross convention this morning, set it aside and spoke extemporaneously on his decision to quit the government.

This evening, President Garcia summoned his executive secretary to his private residence in Quezon City. He conferred with Pajo and asked him to continue in office.

“I have full and absolute confidence in his integrity,” the President said in a statement released by Malacañang announcing his decision to retain his executive secretary.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1958). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 54(16), ccxci-ccxcviii.

President's Week in Review: July 27 – August 2, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent most of his time today resting at his Quezon City residence at the end of a week made hectic by speaking engagements and state functions.

The President began the day by hearing mass with Mrs. Garcia. In the afternoon he went over the Sunday papers and then worked on some state papers.

He whiled away the rest of the day resting with his family.

July 28.—THIS noon the President received a citation as Veteran of the Year 1957-1958 from the Confederation of Filipino Veterans at a ceremony held at Malacañang.

The President was voted unanimously as Veteran of the Year for “his determination to straighten out guerrilla records and claims by implementing Republic Act 1889; for his brilliant presentation of Philippine problems before the United States Congress; for his untiring efforts in the solution of the socioeconomic problems of the country; and for his masterful handling of foreign relations of the Philippines.”

The citation was read by Maj. Federico Salcedo, Convet national adjutant, in the presence of Lorenzo B. Cabrera, national commander, and about 100 members of the organization.

At the same time, President Garcia was made a life member of the veteran group.

Another group of veterans belonging to the Philippine Veterans Legion also saw the President to request the use of an unused portion of the lot at the back of the Veterans Memorial Building as site of a building to house all veterans' organizations in the Philippines.

The PVL delegation was composed of Dominador Realon, Ernesto Villanis, Mrs. Josefa Capistrano, Jimmy Piopongco, and Vicente K. Cal.

The President also received members of the WILOCI who offered their services in connection with his anti-graft and corruption campaign, and requested him to induct the newly elected officials of the organization.

WILOCI members led by Judge Corazon Juliano-Agrava included Amor Herrera, Lourdes Cruz, Nelly Herrera, and Tessie Sison.

Philip Stewart Crovat, commodore of the Manila Yacht Club, who was accompanied by former Rear-Commodore Francisco Dalupan of the club and Commodore Jose Francisco, chief of the Philippine Navy, also called on President Garcia to present a commodore's cap and a MYC honorary membership card.

Other callers were members of the UP Alumni Association led by Vice-President Jesus Perlas in the absence of Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez, who is abroad. The group reiterated the request of the UP Board of Regents not to slash the UP budget and to fill any vacancy in the Board of Regents with an alumnus with extensive training and experience in technological education, mentioning the name of Hermenegildo R. Reyes for the position.

Other UP alumni present were Dean Patrocinio Valenzuela, Alberto Benipayo, Estelito Mendoza, Felipe P. de Leon, and Alfonso Castro, who were accompanied by Dr. Enrique Virata, Dr. Antonio Isidro, and Federico Mangahas.

Captain Marion "Pat" Boling called on President Garcia and recounted his experience on his trans-Pacific flight on a Beechcraft Bonanza plane. Boling will enplane for the United States on Wednesday morning.

The ex-Navy flyer and currently commercial pilot of the United Air-Lines was accompanied to Malacañang by Col. Urbano Caldoza, CAA head, and Mike Campos, well-known local private pilot.

PRESIDENT Garcia discussed today with Princess Tarhata Kiram, Jolo Mayor Armad Sali, and prominent residents of Jolo ways of improving the peace and order situation in Sulu.

Perfecto Balili, chairman of the sub-committee on local governments of the presidential committee on Sulu affairs, presented to the President a master plan for the local governments of Sulu during the conference, which calls for a new approach to the Sulu problem based on sympathy and understanding.

Balili pointed out that an iron fist policy would not restore peace and order in the province, citing the ineffective Spanish and American campaigns and the campaign of the government to pacify the Sulu muslims.

The master plan submitted by Balili was supported by muslim leaders at the conference, and Balili stated it would constitute the basis for the success of the socio-economic program of the government in Sulu.

It was agreed at the conference to utilize the services of Princess Tarhata Kiram and of sultans, datus, and imams in order to improve the peace and order situation in Sulu and to reinvigorate the collection of unlicensed firearms.

Balili lauded before President Garcia the cooperation and support that his sub-committee got from Princess Tarhata Kiram in surveying the conditions obtaining in the province and in formulating the solution to the peace and order problem.

July 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia discussed today with Commissioner Manuel Castañeda of the Land Tenure Administration and Rep. Augusto Francisco of Manila ways and means of implementing the land-for-the landless policy of the Administration.

The Manila solon recommended to President Garcia the purchase by the Land Tenure Administration of two big tracts of land in Sta. Ana for distribution and resale to *bona fide* residents or for construction of low-cost tenement houses.

The President directed Castañeda to study further the matter and submit his recommendations as soon as possible.

Rep. Francisco specifically wanted the LTA to purchase a big lot in barrio Kapampangan, Sta. Ana, owned by Ventura Marcos, who is willing to sell it to the government on condition that the payment of his real estate loan with the Philippine National Bank be assumed by the government. Worth about ₱400,000, the lot has about 250 residents who will stand to benefit in case it is purchased by the government and resold to its occupants.

Rep. Francisco also recommended to the President the resale and distribution of another big lot now owned by the government on Suter and Tejeron Streets, Sta. Ana.

This lot, according to the Manila solon, was owned by Mrs. Maria B. Castro, better known as Madame X, and forfeited to the government by virtue of the declaration of forfeiture made by the treasurer of the City of Manila.

Other callers of President Garcia were Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, Reps. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Valeriano Yancha of Samar, Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, Isidro Kintanar of Cebu, Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, Inocencio Ferrer of Negros Occidental, Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon, Faustino Tobia and Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Jose Legaspi of Aklan, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, and Luciano Millan of Pangasinan.

The first caller on the President was Rep. Francisco Nepomuceno (L, Pampanga), who requested 90,000 for the reconstruction of the Pampanga School of Arts and Trades, which was completely burned to the ground in a fire of undetermined origin last July 7.

THE President pursued his campaign to rid the government of erring officials as he ordered the dismissal of a justice of the peace who had been found guilty of immorality in an administrative investigation.

Ordered dismissed was Basilio Roque, justice of the peace of Talugtug, Nueva Ecija, who had been found guilty of having illicit relations with a married woman. His dismissal had been recommended by Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera and the district judge of Nueva Ecija who investigated the charge.

The President, in his Administrative Order No. 275, ordering Roque's separation from the service and released by Malacañang today, said: "As a public official charged with the dispensation of justice, the respondent (Roque) should be morally upright to command the respect of the community. By his immoral conduct he ceased to be worthy of his exalted position which he thereby forfeited."

IN the evening the President effected the reassignment of two top Philippine diplomats in a move believed to be the prelude to a major reshuffle in the foreign service.

The President took this act shortly after a 45-minute conference with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, a point which indicated his willingness to go along with Serrano's plan to "assign the right man in the place where he will be most effective."

The President today named:

1. Ambassador to Bangkok Manuel Adeva as envoy to Japan, vice Felino Neri, who had resigned;
2. Ambassador to New Delhi Melquiades Gamboa as deputy delegate to the United Nations, vice Minister Octavio Maloles.
3. Former Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison as career minister to be assigned to the embassy in London.

The President also designated Serrano as chairman of the Philippine delegation to the 13th UN General Assembly which will open on September 13.

In designating Serrano as such, the President pointed out that it is customary for UN member-countries to send their foreign ministers to the opening session of the General Assembly

Serrano will head the Philippine UN delegation in the opening session and stay in New York for another two weeks in view of the "critical matters" the Assembly was expected to take up.

The President approved the composition of the delegation to UN as recommended by Serrano and the Congress. The delegation is composed of: Serrano as chairman, Ambassador Delgado as vice-chairman; Senators Lorenzo Sumulong, Arturo Tolentino, and Pacita Madrigal Gonzales; and Reps. Jose Aldeguez and Cornelio Villareal as delegates.

Reps. Ramon P. Mitra and Nicanor Yñiguez, Ambassadors Salvador P. Lopez and Melquiades Gamboa, and Minister Carpio as alternate delegates; and

Jose Espino, Librado Cayco, Hortencio Brillantes, Ernesto Calingasan, Felix Rosal, Expedito Leviste, and Etta C. Enriquez as advisers. Cecilio Espejo will act as delegation secretary.

The President also designated Minister to Berne Tomas de Castro as head of the Philippine delegation to the International Atomic Conference to be held in Geneva on September 1 to 13 with the following as members: Crisostomo Ortigas of the University of the Philippines, Col. Florencio Medina of the Armed Forces, Dr. Casimiro del Rosario of the Weather Bureau, Julian Banzon of the UP, and Dr. S. Ador Dionisio of the Philippine General Hospital.

MALACAÑANG released today the appointments of Alejandro del Castillo as assistant provincial fiscal of Capiz and Jesus Crisostomo as clerk of court in the Dagupan City branch of the Pangasinan court of first instance.

Malacañang also announced 11 new justices of the peace whose appointments had been signed by President Garcia recently.

The new JP's are Reynerio Anaya of Gregorio del Pilar, Ilocos Sur; Pedro Arce of Sta. Catalina, Ilocos Sur; Francisco Camarillo of Banayoyo, Ilocos Sur; Alejandro Laya of Pilar, Abra; Conrado Perona of Villaviciosa, Abra; Otillo Damasen of the Municipal Districts of Ba-ay, Licuan, and Lacub, Abra; Ceferino Bintocan of Avanay, Maglibacan, Lanec, and Tineg, Abra; Mariano C. Rosales of Cortez, Surigao; Ricardo Ylarde of Anini-y, Antique; Francisco Valila of Bobon, Samar; and Gualberto Baclig of Isulan, Cotabato.

July 30.—THE CABINET today suspended the U. S. rice-chrome ore barter until plans have been evolved to eliminate the use of dollars in the transaction.

Action was spurred by reports that the deal will need the use of \$2,113 million for freight and handling charges.

It was explained that the Cabinet, in authorizing the Masinloc Mines to barter 135,000 metric tons of refractory chrome ore with 30,000 long tons of California rice, made it a condition that local dollar reserves would not be touched.

After suspending the barter deal, the Cabinet designated Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez to find ways and means of pushing through the transaction without sacrificing the Central Bank's dollar reserves.

Malacañang pointed out that the Cabinet decided to approve the barter plan in an effort to help the Masinloc Mines, Inc., to trade its refractory ore.

The mining firm claimed that it was facing closure unless it could trade its ore through the barter system.

The Cabinet also approved the sending of a Philippine delegation to the "Federacion Internacional de Abogados" conference in Los Angeles, California, in September.

To represent the Philippines are two members from the Women Lawyers Circle (Wiloci) and two from the Women Lawyers Association of the Philippines (WLAP).

The Government will not defray the expenses of the Philippine delegates, although the Administration will give each member \$200 for miscellaneous expenses abroad.

In approving the sending of a delegation to the conference, the Cabinet was informed that the presiding officer of the meeting this year will be chosen from the local representatives.

This evening President Garcia signed a special proclamation appealing to all officials, employees, and laborers of government offices and private establishments to donate one day's pay to the fund drive for the construction of a national cultural shrine.

Immediately after signing the proclamation, President Garcia handed to FEU President Teodoro Evangelista, national fund campaign chairman, a check in the amount of ₱80.65, representing his one day's pay.

The occasion was made special by the attendance of Dr. Leoncio Lopez-Rizal, a nephew of the “pride of the Malay race,” and member of the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission, who also gave the equivalent of his one day’s salary.

The fund drive immediately got off to a-rolling start with a total of ₱1,128.93 in collections, as the President, members of the Cabinet, members of the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission, the National Fund Campaign Committee of the Commission, and the officials of the “Kabataang Maka-Rizal” gave their contributions.

The fund campaign committee has set ₱10 million as their goal and the money will be used to construct a national cultural shrine housing a national theater, a national museum, a national library, and an improved Rizal monument.

Education Secretary Manuel Lim, chairman of the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission, opened the ceremonies with a short speech.

FEU President Evangelista accepted the contributions on behalf of the Commission and said the slogan of the committee is “Rizal gave a lifetime for the country; let us give one day’s pay for Rizal.”

Evangelista also expressed to President Garcia the appreciation of the committee for his wholehearted support and assured the President that, with his continued backing, they would succeed in covering their goal of ₱10 million by the end of 1961.

Among those present and who contributed to the national cultural shrine fund drive were Education Secretary Manuel Lira, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, National Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin, OEC Administrator Juan Concon, National Integration Commissioner Madki Alonto, Deputy Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Rep. Jacobo Gonzales, Col. Crisanto Alba, Dr. Eufonio Alip, Wenceslao Pascual, Emilio Abello. former Sen. Geronima T. Pecson, Ernesto Rufino, and Sergio Bayan.

The kick-off ceremony was held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

July 31.—THIS morning President Garcia signed the appointment of Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable as press secretary to succeed Guillermo V. Sison, who had been named minister to London.

Secretary Nable served as President Magsaysay’s chief liaison officer with Congress. President Garcia retained Nable as his liaison officer with Congress upon the death of President Magsaysay. During the last presidential election, President Garcia appointed Secretary Nable as his spokesman and coordinator for press and radio.

The new press secretary is scheduled to take his oath of office before the President’s press conference tomorrow afternoon.

THIS morning the President received a report from Sen. Domocao Alonto on the Middle East situation. The report was handed to the President by Commissioner Madki Alonto of National Integration.

The President did not divulge the contents of the report of the Muslim senator but it was understood it contained his personal observation as gleaned from, his personal interview with high officials in Middle East countries.

Alonto was at Beirut, Lebanon, when the Middle East crisis arose. He was not able to deliver a letter of President Garcia to King Feisal, who was killed in a *coup d’etat*.

Gov. Felicisimo P. Aquino of Ilocos Norte, with a delegation of municipal mayors, saw President Garcia to discuss local problems, specifically the release of funds for pressing projects in their province.

The delegation included Mayor Antonio Guillermo of Bacarra, president of the Mayor's League of Ilocos Norte; Mayors Aldrico Ignacio of Burgos, Patrocinio Albano of Dingras, Felicisimo Asuncion of Batac, Antonio Ganal of Solsona, Pedro Alviar of Vintar, Esmeralflo Agabin of Badoc, Constante Benemerito Pagudpud, and Apolinario Magdirila of Pinili; Municipal Treasurer Pastor Cardona of Bacarra; and Councilor Modesto Brillantes of Barra. Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental turned over to President Garcia a check for ₱8,005.30 representing the contribution of his province to the peace and amelioration fund campaign.

Present at the presentation ceremony were Reps. Agustin Gatuslao and Vicente Gustilo and Mayor Julian Montilla of Pulpandan.

At the ceremony the President signed the *ad interim* appointments of Segundino Chua and Benjamin Paculan as assistant provincial fiscals of Negros Occidental.

Other callers included Gov. Feliciano Leviste and Rep. Numeriano Babao of Batangas, Gov. Josue Cadiao of Antique, and Rep. Natalio Castillo of Bohol.

Mayor Monico Imperial of Naga City presented charges against a ranking official in his city. His complaint was endorsed by President Garcia to Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, for study and the corresponding recommendation.

IN the afternoon the President formally opened the 10th World Jamboree fund drive by presenting to Ramon V. del Rosario, chairman of the general fund campaign, his check for ₱1,000 in kick-off ceremonies held at Malacañang.

Carlos Palanca, Jr., chairman of the business group, acted as master of ceremonies, while Jorge B. Vargas, president and chief of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, delivered the closing remarks.

During the ceremonies, 1st class scout Ricardo C. Reyes presented to Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia a token of appreciation for accepting the position of honorary chairman of the fund campaign committee.

After the Jamboree fund drive program, President Garcia received members of the Philippine Eye Bank and gave to Henry Tan, chairman of the Bank, his contribution to the bank. The Sight Saving Week will be held from August 7 to 13.

Among those present were Roy C Higgins, founder of the Bank; and movie actress Paraluman, Dr. Jesus Tamesis, Dr. Severino Lopez, Mrs. Robert Monical, Mrs. Benjie Kosloff, Dr. B. Zialcita-Taningco, J. P. Roxas, and Prisons Director Eriberto Misa, Jr., members of the board of directors.

At 7:30 p.m., President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the residence of Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo in Quezon City to attend the "asalto" given by the Bohol Association in honor of Secretary Pajo on the eve of the latter's birthday tomorrow.

President and Mrs. Garcia today ordered a wreath to be sent to the tomb of the late President Manuel L. Quezon at the North Cemetery on the occasion of the death anniversary of the late President tomorrow.

President Garcia also ordered Malacañang guards to be mounted at the Quezon Tomb from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. tomorrow.

August 1.—THIS morning the President and the First Lady received Holy Communion at a special mass at the Malacañang chapel, said in commemoration of the death anniversary of the late President Quezon. Also at the mass were Mrs. Linda Campos, the President's daughter, and Major Ciriaco Jocson, presidential aide.

President Garcia after consultation with his Cabinet decided to remove the objectionable features of the controversial new rules and regulations recently promulgated by the Department of Commerce in the implementation of Republic Act No. 1410, otherwise known as the No-Dollar Import Law.

The President at a special Cabinet meeting today constituted a committee to consolidate the general policies and principles agreed upon during the meeting and to submit its report at the next regular meeting on Wednesday for inclusion, into the barter rules. The committee is composed of Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, and Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera.

Among the conclusions reached at the meeting were: (1) only *bona-fide* producers may export under the barter law; (2) products saleable for dollars may not be bartered; and (3) barter may be transacted only on the straight exchange basis not on the triangular basis which is not permitted under Republic Act No. 1410.

The President explained he had called the special meeting for the sole purpose of settling the controversy generated by the issuance of the new barter regulations. He underscored the importance of properly implementing the barter law saying it might favorably or adversely affect the economy of the country.

During the meeting which lasted about four hours, the discussions and exchange of views centered mainly on ways and means of faithfully implementing the law. While the department secretaries admitted that barter was not good for the economy, they were agreed that it, was the duty of the executive branch of the government to implement the law.

The Cabinet decided to limit barter transactions to producers following the interpretation offered by Justice Secretary Barrera that the barter law intended to benefit the producers only. It was also believed that the extension of barter privileges to traders or financiers might give rise to anomalous transactions.

Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, who was the first asked by the President to give his views on the question, emphasized that the proposed barter rules would mean more loss in dollar reserves. He said that while the enforcement of the old regulations meant a loss of \$16.9 million per semester, the proposed new rules would mean a loss of \$35.4 million per semester.

Secretary Hernandez explained that the new rules had included products that could be sold in dollars. This would mean much loss in our dollar reserves, he said. Secretary Hernandez was assisted in his explanations by Acting Governor Andres Castillo of the Central Bank, who had been asked to appear before the meeting.

Justice Secretary Barrera contended that the old barter rules were more in keeping with the provisions of the barter law than the new one. He expressed the belief that the new rules were "very much beyond" the provisions of the law.

Other Cabinet members who actively participated in the discussions were Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Foreign Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, and NEC Chairman Jose Locsin.

Labor Secretary Angel Castaño suggested that importation through barter should consist mainly of raw materials for new and necessary industries in order to generate employment and at the same time help the new industries which are encountering difficulties in importing much-needed raw materials owing to lack of dollars. The suggestion was, however, ruled out as not in keeping with the law.

Lt. Comdr. Marcelino Calinawan, who was also invited to appear before the meeting, agreed that the new rules would give more opportunities for irregular transactions.

The Cabinet meeting lasted from 9:35 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The President adjourned the meeting when he found that his secretaries were looking tired and hungry. "Although I can stand hunger longer than you do, I have no right to impose it on you," he said.

During the Cabinet meeting, the President signed an executive order transferring the seat of government of the municipality of Taguig, Rizal, from its present site at barrio Santa Ana to barrio Tuktukan of the same municipality.

PRESIDENT Garcia today cautioned against rash agitation to lift trade controls which he said had pushed other countries to currency devaluation and eventual bankruptcy.

He issued the warning at his regular press conference as he frowned upon mounting agitations to lift controls which had been blamed as the cause of venalities and the present economic ills.

At the time, the President allayed fears of devaluation and branded reports of possible demonetization of the peso as “speculative.”

He said the question of devaluation will be resolved after the country had finally lifted gradually present controls.

President Garcia, while against immediate lifting of trade restrictions, is in favor of gradual decontrol.

At the press conference, the President:

1. Denied knowledge of any agreement to recall Ambassador Jose Fuentebella from Jakarta after one month of stay in that embassy;
2. Said that former Senator Jose P. Laurel quit the executive committee of the Nacionalista Party in keeping with his promise to retire from public life;
3. Believed that the Philippines will receive the effects of U.S. dollar aids before the year's end;
4. Left to the Catholics the decision to build the statue of Christ on Corregidor Island; and
5. Indicated he may ask ex-Governor Juan O. Chioco of the National Rice and Com Corporation on his offer to buy rice at less than \$10 per ton than the price the government paid for the Burmese cereal.

Before opening his press conference, the President introduced his new press secretary, Jose C. Nable, whom he had inducted earlier in the afternoon. I hope Nable would be able to maintain as good if not better relations,” the President said, “between Malacañang and the press.”

Nable was inducted before a large crowd at a simple ceremony at the Malacañang reception hall.

President Garcia discussed extensively the problem of controls and reiterated he was in favor of gradual lifting of trade restrictions.

He cautioned against “jumping immediately” on plans to lift controls. He recalled that Britain devalued its currency in order to lift its controls but later on found the necessity of restoring the restrictions when it was on the brink of bankruptcy.

The Chief Executive favored gradual decontrols, saying that the presidential incentives committee which he had created recently had advocated this course of action after what he said “months of dispassionate and painstaking study of the matter.”

When informed that legislators headed by House Majority Floor Leader Jose D. Aldeguer had started the move to lift controls, President Garcia said “it's up to Congress to rescind the laws on these restrictions.”

“I could not just eliminate the controls by signing an executive order,” the President said.

At the same time, the President branded as “speculative” ‘reports of a possible devaluation of the peso.

“There will be no devaluation,” the President stressed. However, he said the question of devaluation will “be settled definitely after we have gradually decontrolled.”

The President also indicated that dollar aids may be received by the country before the end of the year.

He said that Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno returned recently and submitted a report on the “spade-work” undertaken by fiscal officials of the government in Washington to implement the Garcia-Eisenhower agreement.

He expressed optimism that dollar aids will be released before the end of the current year to finance the “initial requirements of the country.”

President Garcia said he plans to convene the Council of State after the other members of his party who were left in the United States have returned.

August 2.— PRESIDENT Garcia today stayed at his residence on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City and went over a pile of pending state papers he had brought over from Malacañang. He received a very limited number of callers.

This morning the President received a delegation of Leyte officials who called to consult him on pressing problems in their province. The delegation was accompanied by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez and Gov. Ildefonso Cinco.

In the afternoon, the President received another delegation composed of cartoonists from different newspapers in Manila who requested him to pose for a caricature. Gatbonton of the *Manila Chronicle* informed the President that the late President Magsaysay had posed for the group in Malacañang and that they would like to add President Garcia’s caricature in their collection of prominent men.

After posing for some 15 minutes, the President autographed each of the caricatures. Said he of one of them, “That’s how I will look when I am 65.”

During their call the cartonists presented the President with a caricature of him with members of his family done by Elmer Abustan of the Carmelo & Bauermann.

Others in the group were Demetrio Diego of the *Manila Times*; Issac Tolentino, Pedro Coniconde, Jr., and Mike Gallardo of the *Philippines Herald*; Malang of the *Manila Chronicle*; Gene Cabrera of the *Philippines Free Press*; Larry Alcala of *Kislap-Graphic*, and Rafael Asuncion of the Walter Thompson Advertising Agency. Also with the delegation was Luis Lasa, a Filipino cartoonist in Spain.

Shortly after 5 p.m., the President boarded his car to attend a merienda engagement in Parañaque, Rizal.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Month in Review: August 1-15, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

August 1.— THIS morning the President had his eyes examined by EENT experts of the Veterans Memorial Hospital on the occasion of the opening of the Sight Saving Week.

The EENT experts, Dr. Noe Legasto, chief of the EENT department of the VMH, and Dr. Terencio Gener, EENT specialist of the VMH, said that the eyeglasses being used by the President were still all right for his eyes.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia's eyes were also examined by Dr. Legasto and Dr. Gener. The EENT specialists told the First Lady that she should get a new pair of eyeglasses with a higher grade.

Present during the examination of the President's and the First Lady's eyes in the music room of Malacañang were Acting Labor Secretary Agapito Braganza, Sight Saving Week Committee Chairman Ernesto Runno, Philippine Eye Bank Chairman Leopoldo Rovira, Jr., VMH Director Joaquin Sanchez, Dr. Guillermo Ilano, Dr. Marcelino Angangco, VMH assistant director, P.E.B. co-Chairman Henry Tang, Director Jose S. Alfonso, Ramon Zosa, Mrs. Benjie Kosloff, Mrs. Amparo L. de Guzman, Mrs. Dominador Aytona, and others.

After the examination of his eyes, the President received the Earl of Bandon, commander-in-chief of the British Royal Air Force in the Far East. The Earl of Bandon, who paid a courtesy call, was accompanied by Christopher Ewart-Piggs, charge d'affaires of the British Embassy.

Other callers of the President were mostly provincial delegations headed by political leaders. The callers renewed their pledges of support to the President's election bid. Among those who saw the President were Gov. Bierivenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur and his delegation; Mayor H. de Pedro of Koronadal, Cotabato, and his followers; Gov. Diego Ty-Deling of Misamis Occidental and Mayor Angel Medina of Ozamis City; Rep. Jose Nuguid of Bataan; Rep. Godofredo Ramos and Gov. Jose Raz Mehes of Aklan and their delegation; Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental; Rep. Tobias Former of Antique, and Gov. Juan Alberto of Catanduanes. Another courtesy caller of the President was retired U.S. Navy Capt. Richard Gaines.

The President also received Enrique Soriano of Iloilo, who was a delegate to the recent Nacionalista Party national convention. Soriano reported to the President that because of the lack of irrigation system in Iloilo there was a draught in the towns of Balasan, Estancia, Carles, and Batad. The President assured Soriano that he did instruct, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno to look into the possibility of constructing an irrigation system to serve the, four towns.

PRESIDENT Garcia conferred with a number of city and provincial executives who called on him at Malacañang this afternoon to air their views and suggestions, regarding the political situations in their respective localities and requested him to transmit those suggestions to the executive committee of the Nacionalista Party.

At an impromptu press conference following his meeting with the city and provincial officials, the President did not reveal the views and suggestions aired.

Those who met with the President at the Council of, State room in Malacañang from 6 to 7 p.m. were Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., of Cebu City and Govs. Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, Alejandro Almendras of Davao, Bernardo Torres of Leyte, Felixberto Dagani of Agusan, Marcos Malupa of Batanes, and Romulo Garrovillo of Zamboanga del Norte.

August 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia, who has been kept busy by crowds of delegates and other callers who visited him the whole week after his first ballot victory, slipped out of Malacañang early this morning.

He boarded the Navy ship *Alert*, together with his aide, Maj. Jose Estrella, and cruised around Manila Bay for a three-day rest.

The President is planning to stay aboard the ship until Sunday. He may extend his cruise until Monday, as he plans to shy away from the Nacionalista Party executive committee meeting to give that body “a free hand” in choosing his running mate. President Garcia has refrained from throwing his support behind any of the vice-presidential aspirants.

President Garcia said he wanted to stay alone. He has previously told his aides to cut down on callers but many visitors trooped to Malacañang just the same. Most of them claimed they were delegates to the NP convention which had endorsed his nomination on the first ballot.

The President decided to board the *Alert*, as his hideout in Fort Wm. McKinley has been too well-known for him to seek refuge from callers.

Before motoring to the wharf, the President directed Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon to accept the resignation of Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol and sign it.

He likewise directed Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, and Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson to proceed to Pangasinan to check up on the progress of the reconstruction and relief work in the flooded areas.

Before leaving Malacañang to board the *Alert*, the President received Rep. Maximino Noel of Cebu.

On board the *Alert*, the President conferred with Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno on matters affecting the Central Bank. After Cuaderno left, President Garcia held a breakfast conference with a group headed by former Sen. Felixberto Verano which included Aproniano Borres and Guillermo Anton.

At 11 a.m. the President received Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and discussed with the latter routine matters involving the budget.

He then received Rep. Manuel Zosa of Cebu and Gov. Juan Trivifio of Camarines Sur, after which he worked on pending state papers.

Up to late at night, the President was still on board the *Alert*. Malacañang could not say whether or not he was spending the night on board the Navy ship.

August 3.—THE PRESIDENT stayed aboard the Navy ship *Alert* for the second consecutive day today, cruising around Manila Bay.

The President was reported to have relaxed the whole day, napping and playing chess aboard the *Alert*.

President Garcia used the *Alert*, as the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* is under repairs after it had been used by newsmen and their ladies a few days before the convention.

A brief report reaching Malacañang said that the President received the report of a presidential team which had enplaned for Mabini, Pangasinan, this day to survey the progress of relief and reconstruction operations in the flooded areas.

The report was submitted to the President by Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, and Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson.

The President had ordered the trio to fly to Mabini early this morning to check on the relief brought to the flooded areas.

Malacañang also said the President had lunch aboard the *RPS Ifugao*, one of the Navy cruisers. It was not known why the President transferred to the light cruiser for lunch.

However, after his lunch, the President was reported to have returned to the *Alert*, where he took a short nap and then played chess with an ill .Identified playmate.

President Garcia may return to Malacañang tomorrow evening, although there were reports that he may stay aboard the *Alert* till Monday afternoon and let the N.P executive committee choose his running mate.

While aboard the *Alert* this day, the President was reported to have listened to the progress of the Liberal Party convention proceedings through a radio set.

The President was accompanied by Maj. Jose Estrella, his aide.

August 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning heard mass aboard the *RPS Ifugao*, anchored a short distance from the Navy headquarters, where he had been staying since Saturday to study state papers.

After breakfast he read the Sunday papers and received a few callers. Among the callers were Gov. Amado Aleta of Nueva Ecija, who discussed problems affecting his province, and GSIS General Manager Rodolfo Andal, who took up GSIS matters.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia and a few members of the President's family went aboard the *RPS Ifugao*, where they ate lunch with the President. About 2 p.m., Mrs. Garcia and her companions returned to Malacañang.

Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, Gov. Juan Pajo of Bohol, and Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison also boarded the ship and conferred with the President. The President gave his order summoning heads of several government agencies to attend the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

Among the office chiefs summoned to the Cabinet meeting were Ernesto Jimenez, acting ACCFA administrator; Juan O. Chioco, NARIC chairman; Benjamin F. Estrella, NAMARCO general manager; Manuel Castaneda, land tenure administrator; and Fernando Santiago, Agricultural Tenancy Commission chairman.

The President said that he would like to know from these officials their progress in implementing the government's objective of attending to the primary needs of the people. He added that if these officials had problems in carrying out their work, the President and the Cabinet members would discuss the problems and seek their solution.

The Chief Executive said that he wanted to know personally from Jimenez and Chioco the present rice and corn situation, and the working agreement between these two agencies regarding their previous difficulties.

President Garcia would like to be informed how the ACCFA head was implementing a recent presidential order on the improvement of the mechanics of fertilizer distribution and increased allocations of fertilizers to meet the requirements of farmers.

With regard to the NAMARCO, the President would like to have a report on the present sugar situation and to know if this agency was supplying the local retailers with enough prime commodities needed by the consuming public.

President Garcia said that he was interested in receiving a progress report of the Land Tenure Administration as to the number of landed estates already bought and subdivided and the number of tenants who have been benefited.

He would like also to be informed by the Agricultural Tenancy Commission on the progress it was making in the promotion of better relationships between the landowners and the tenants.

Mrs. Amparo Villamor, social welfare administrator, and a member of the Cabinet will also report on the work of her office in helping ameliorate the living conditions of the people.

The Chief Executive said that he wanted the heads of various government agencies to apprise him and the Cabinet of what they were doing and to present their problems so that these could be solved. He added that he wanted to know these reports so that he could vigorously implement the government policy of attending to the people's needs more effectively.

ON learning about former Speaker Eugenio Perez's death, the President sent the following message of condolence:

"I join the Filipino people in mourning the death of former Speaker Eugenio Perez. Fondly called 'The Manong', he was an outstanding leader of his party. In my long years of association with him, I found him both a worthy opponent in politics and a sincere friend. Mrs. Garcia and I extend our heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Perez and her family and pray to the Almighty for his eternal repose."

IN the afternoon, the President worked on state papers. He is expected to be back to Malacañang tomorrow morning.

August 5.— AT a luncheon this noon tendered by Speaker Jose B. Laurel Jr., at the Filipinas Hotel after his proclamation as the Nacionalista official vice-presidential candidate, President Garcia reiterated his appeal for NP unity in order to insure the party's victory in the coming elections.

At the same time, the Chief Executive expressed his appreciation over the results of the NP national convention and the deliberations of the NP executive committee in reposing their confidence in him and in Speaker Laurel.

"I am sure of one thing—the masses of our people have faith and confidence in the Nacionalista Party, and we shall not fail the people who have already pronounced a favorable judgment on the Nacionalista Party, as shown in public manifestations, especially in the 18 provinces I have visited recently," the President said.

Among those present at the luncheon were Sens. Jose P. Laurel, Sr., Pacita M. Gonzalez, Manuel C. Briones, Pedro Sabido, Cipriano Primicias, Jose C. Locsin, Roseller T. Lim, Alejo Mabanag, and Domocao Alonto; Secretaries Jaime Hernandez, Florencio Moreno, Fortunato de Leon, and Eulogio Balao; Reps. Jose Aldeguer, Arturo M. Tolentino, Bartolome Cabangbang, Angel Castaño, Tobias Fbrnier, Francisco Ortega, and Ramon Mitra; Govs. Nicanor Maronilla Seva, Arsenio Lugay, Bernardo Torres, Alejandro Almendras, and Dominador Chipeco; Ambassadors Felixberto Serrano and Jose Fuentebella; and Cebu City Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr.

After lunch the President, together with Speaker Laurel and other NP stalwarts, motored to the residence of former Speaker Eugenio Perez to condole with the widow, Mrs. Consuelo Salazar-Perez, and immediate members of the family.

UPON arriving at Malacañang early this morning from *RPS Ifugao*, the President started receiving callers, among them Secretaries Oscar Ledesma, Eulogio Balao, and Florencio Moreno; Ambassador Serrano, CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sen. Roseller T. Lim, and Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao.

Then he proceeded to the Malacañang lawn where he reassured about 1,000 recognized and unrecognized guerrillas belonging to the Talbac Regiment that the Veterans Commission as provided for in R. A. 1889 would be created soon. Screening of guerrilla applications for veterans benefits would also start soon, he said.

At the study room, the President received members of the Batangas Lawyers Association, led by Mario Gutierrez, who requested him to be their guest speaker at the induction of their officers.

Soon after this, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., arrived with Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez, to inform officially the President of Speaker Laurel's selection as official vice-presidential candidate of the Nacionalista Party.

Speaker Laurel also invited the President for luncheon at the Filipinas Hotel to celebrate his selection.

THE President today accepted "with the utmost regret" Press Secretary J. V. Cruz's resignation, "effective upon the appointment of your successor."

In submitting his resignation, Secretary Cruz said that as he had been nominated and confirmed as the official candidate of the Nacionalista Party for the lone congressional seat of Bataan, "I will have to begin campaigning for your victory and mine, and that of our party's entire ticket in the coming November elections."

Cruz said that it had been a pleasure and a privilege for him to have served with President Garcia, "not only as your press secretary since your succession to the Presidency but long before that, at the various SEATO conferences which I had attended as a member of the Philippine delegation under your wise guidance and leadership."

He expressed confidence that the people would renew their faith and confidence in President Garcia's stewardship of their affairs at the November elections. He expressed the hope that he would have the "opportunity to continue serving you as a member of congress."

President Garcia praised J. V. for having discharged the responsibilities and functions of his office with high distinction. The President said that this fact had been recognized early "during your tenure by the most appropriate and severest possible judge of your work, the National Press Club, when it unanimously recommended to the late President Magsaysay that your position be raised to Cabinet rank, and the late President readily acceded."

The President gave assurance that he would contribute in every way he could to J. V.'s election to Congress, "not only because of your obvious qualifications to serve in that august body but because I will need, assuming my own re-election, your continued service and support."

The President thanked J. V. for his pledge of assistance, and he expressed high hopes that "our cause will meet with the enthusiastic endorsement and approval of an overwhelming majority of our people."

August 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia received numerous callers the whole morning today.

After a breakfast conference with Sens. Jose Locsin and Cipriano Primicias, the President received former Sen. Salipada Pendatun and Rep. Luminog Mangelen. He also received Sens. Quintin Paredes and Francisco Delgado and PNB President Arsenio Jison.

Two separate delegations from Iloilo, one headed by Gov. Mariano Peñaflorida and the other, by Sen. Jose C. Zulueta, saw the President.

The delegation led by Peñaflorida included Reps., Pedro Trono and Ricardo Y. Ladrido; Domitilo Abordo; Mayors Toribio Barredo of Barotac Nuevo, Rafael Lacuesta of Lambunao, Severino Fernandez of Calinoc, and Florentino Perez of Pototan; Dr. Ricardo Provindo; and Esteban Debuque.

Zulueta's delegation included Provincial Board Member Guadalino Mosqueda; Ceferino de los Santos and Nicolas Centeno; and Mayors Juanito Pondon of Dumangas, Nicolas Tarrosa of Banate, Potenciano Imperial of Lucena, and Simplicio Carreon of Oton.

Eligio J. Tavanlar, past president of the Manila Lions Club, led a delegation of fellow Lions to ask the President to be the guest speaker at a banquet to be given at the Manila Hotel on August 19, birthday of the Late President Manuel L. Quezon. Other Lions present were Eduardo Escobar, president; Dr. Climpio Villacorta, immediate past president; Leon Lopez, first vice-president; Domingo Arcega, secretary; and Mike Campos, director.

Rufino G. Gache led a delegation of officials and members of the Bicol Youth for Garcia Campaign Committee. Other members present included Juan E. Verdad, Carmelisa Reyes, Jose Montanez, Napoleon Fulay, Guadalupe Basco, Wilfrido Panotes, Jr., Jose Tayato Ester Cater, Lourdes Balce, and Dr. Restituto Valentin.

In response to the wire for aid of the 360 workers of the Philippine Rubber Project Company in Kabasalan, Zamboanga del Sur, who are on strike, President Garcia contributed P500 from his personal funds as aid for the purchase of 20 sacks of rice. Alfredo R. Gomez, president of the Labor and Tenant Movement for Garcia, together with Ricardo Z. Buyco, president of the Inter-island Labor Organization, and Dominador S. Sustento, ILO legal counsel, told the President that they would enplane tomorrow for Kabasalan to deliver the presidential aid.

Gomez said that President Garcia proved he was a true friend of labor.

PRESIDENT Garcia today granted another 30-day reprieve to death convict Crispin Verzo, who was scheduled to burn on the electric chair tomorrow.

Verzo, who had been sentenced to death for planting a time bomb in a Philippine Air Lines plane, had been previously given a 30-day stay of execution by the President. The first reprieve expires today.

The President, in granting another reprieve, said that "some time was considered still necessary for a thorough and careful study of the merits of the petitions for executive clemency filed in behalf of prisoner Crispin Verzo."

IN the afternoon, the President conferred for several minutes with Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., the Nacionalista Party's vice-presidential candidate, and later presided over a press conference.

Speaker Laurel was grilled by Palace newsmen on the Batangas electoral reaction in the coming polls. He declared that "no Batangueño can say Sen. Claro M. Recto will lose in Batangas."

However, he added that his election as President Garcia's running mate has greatly improved the chances of candidates in that province.

"Senator Recto is not the only Batangueño. I am a Batangueño and so is my father," Speaker Laurel said.

It was one of the most well-attended press conferences, with a number of "rah-rah" boys from several Garcia-for-President clubs present to furnish the line for the President to follow.

President Garcia also announced he was naming Assistant Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison as acting press secretary to replace Secretary J. V. Cruz, who resigned the other day.

THE following is the text of the joint statement of President Garcia and Speaker Laurel as presidential and vice-presidential candidates, respectively, of the Nacionalista Party:

"In this our first joint press conference as official candidates of the Nacionalista Party, we would like to offer our greetings to the people of the Philippines through the press and radio.

"We are deeply grateful to the Nacionalista Party for its overwhelming manifestation of confidence in choosing us to be its standard bearers in the coming national elections.

"Drawing strength from this mandate of our Party, we are determined to push onward to victory our campaign for the entire Nacionalista Party ticket. We will go to the people whose will is sovereign in a democracy—in the barrios, on the farms, in the factories, and everywhere else—and remind them of this truth: That the Nacionalista Party Administration has been faithfully implementing the program of government as initiated by our beloved late President Ramon Magsaysay.

“We will ask them to reaffirm their faith in the Nacionalista Party because it has proved itself the genuine guardian of Magsaysay’s ideals for good government. For it is through the Nacionalista Party that the people can realize the fulfillment of the late leader’s dream of improving their lot.

“We are confident that with the aid of Divine Providence and the solid support of our Party and the people, all Nacionalista candidates will be given an impressive verdict of victory at the November polls.

“We also would like to take this opportunity to convey our gratitude to the press, radio, and television for their splendid cooperation in the holding of a democratic convention as well as an honest and orderly nomination.”

IN the evening the President received a delegation of five provincial governors who suggested the inclusion of provincial governors in the NP senatorial ticket and in the Cabinet.

The governors who called on the President were Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, Alejandro Almendras of Davao, Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Oriental, Juan Triviho of Camarines Sur, and Diego Ty-Deling of Misamis Occidental.

The President assured the governors that he would transmit their request to the Nacionalista Party executive committee.

The President also received the San Juan, Rizal, councilors headed by Vice-Mayor Sofronio Veloso. The councilors and Vice-Mayor Veloso pledged their support to the President’s election bid. They also invited the Chief Executive to inaugurate the San Juan GPM (Garcia-for-President-Movement) headquarters where Vice-Mayor Veloso is the coordinator.

Other callers of the President included Rep. Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao and his delegation, Rep. Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental and his delegation, and Gov. Manuel Solidum of Romblon and Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno.

August 7.—THIS morning the President had breakfast with political leaders from Lanao with whom he discussed local problems like public improvements and the province’s political situation.

Present at the breakfast were Sen. Domocao Alonto, Lanao Gov. Salvador Lluch, Mardki Alonto and Laurentino Badolles, a congressional aspirant. Also present at the breakfast was Olimpio Villacorta, former Liberal Party stalwart of Lanao, who pledged his support to the entire Nacionalista Party ticket in the coming elections.

The Lanao leaders reiterated their pledge of support for all the Nacionalista official candidates in the coming elections. They assured the President that the Nacionalista Party will win in Lanao.

After the breakfast, the President proceeded to the Council of State room, where he presided over the regular Cabinet meeting.

PRESIDENT Garcia and his Cabinet in a 4-hour meeting this day attended by six heads of government agencies:

- (1) Discussed ways to pull down the prices of essential commodities and provide incentives for better production; and
- (2) Received a progress report on what the government has already accomplished in providing lands and homes for the landless and the homeless, and in promoting better relations between tenants and landowners,

The need for lowering the price of rice and maintaining it at the authorized ₱.85 level and the necessity of providing incentives to producers in order to increase rice production and thereby assure its steady local supply, were resolved by adopting the following measures:

(1) Aside from the expected arrival of some 40,000 tons of rice at about the end of August, the President and the Cabinet approved an additional importation of 20,635 tons. This will cover up the expected shortage of rice caused by pests and typhoons which hit the Bicol region, Visayas, Mindanao, and Central Luzon, including the poor second rice crop in Central Luzon.

NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco explained to the Cabinet that the first NARIC importation of 39,365 tons of rice this year had already been exhausted and the expected 40,000 tons was due to arrive at the end of this month. He, however, stressed that in view of the anticipated rice shortage, there was still necessity to import the additional 20,635 tons in order to cover the 100,000 tons of rice importation originally intended for this year as approved by the late President Magsaysay.

The President and the Cabinet agreed that with these steps, together with the harvest of upland and other early palay varieties in September, the price of rice would gradually drop to a normal ₱.85 per ganta of Macan *ordinario* and remain steady until the year's end. It was believed by the Cabinet that these measures could solve the immediate rice problem.

However, the President and the Cabinet adopted a measure designed to solve the rice problem on a long-range basis by means of increasing the production of this staple commodity.

Upon the suggestion of Acting ACCFA Administrator Ernesto Jimenez, the President and the Cabinet approved that the NARIC buy all palay, Macan No. 2, at prices ranging from ₱10 to ₱10.50 a cavan. This was calculated to give an incentive to rice producers to increase their volume of production. The President at the same time said that he would soon create a committee to study ways of giving further incentives to producers. It was believed that the ultimate solution to the shortage in the production of staple crops, was production and that this could only be realized when the proper incentives were given to producers.

The President, through Jimenez, thanked all FACOMA members for their cooperation with the government in selling to the NARIC through the CCE all their palay which amounted to some 500,000 cavans.

Regarding the corn situation, Chioco said that the price of corn in consuming areas was now ₱.50 to ₱.55 a ganta of grits. This price is considered normal.

The lowering of the price of corn grits from ₱70 per ganta during the months of May, June, and July to the present level was, according to Chioco, brought about by the NARIC sale of corn grits direct to the consumer at not more than ₱40 a ganta, as originally ordered by the late President Magsaysay. Chioco added that the harvest of corn in Davao, Cotabato, and Pagadian (Zamboanga del Sur) had already started.

However, Chioco called the attention of the Cabinet that as a result of its selling of corn at ₱40 a ganta, the NARIC had, as of June 31, suffered a total loss of ₱1,182,000.

(2) Regarding sugar, NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin F. Estrella reported that the NAMARCO, upon a previous order of President Garcia, had procured sugar for distribution to the public. He said that the NAMARCO had enough golden brown sugar stocks that would last until the end of September, to be sold at from ₱.30 to ₱.35 a kilo.

Estrella explained that the price of sugar could not go down immediately because sugar distributors had first to dispose of their old sugar stocks which had been procured at a higher price. He said the new and lower prices would be felt in a week or so.

In order to control more effectively the price of sugar, Estrella recommended that the government take an active participation in the procurement and distribution of sugar. He said that as the milling season would be around October and November, action should begin immediately with regard to the procurement of this commodity.

(3) Regarding the lowering of the cost of other essential commodities, the President and the Cabinet approved that NAMARCO officials hold a conference with Monetary Board officials in order to thresh out differences as to the interpretation of the NAMARCO law allotting \$20 million to the NAMARCO for the importation of controlled goods, in addition to the \$14 million for decontrolled items.

It was explained by Estrella that his office was facing difficulty in getting additional dollar allocations from the Central Bank because amounts already drawn by the NAMARCO against its \$14 million allotment for decontrolled items were being charged against the \$20 million as allowed by the NAMARCO law. Estrella said that in view of this difficulty in get the full dollar allocations for the NAMARCO, his office could not import enough prime commodities to flood the market and bring down prices to reasonable levels.

Estrella, however, pointed out that if the NAMARCO could also utilize its \$34 million total allocation for the importation of goods it would have sufficient stocks to stabilize prices.

President Garcia and his Cabinet heard PHHC General Manager Vicente Orosa report on the progress of the government's low-cost housing projects; Land Tenure Administration Chairman Manuel E. Castañeda, on the number of landed estates already acquired and distributed to landless tenants; and Agricultural Tenancy Commissioner Fernando Santiago, on the progress his office was making in promoting more harmonious relations between tenants and landowners.

Secretary Orosa informed the President and the Cabinet that the government's low-cost housing projects have been progressing at appreciable speed with eight projects in Manila and Quezon City fully completed; Project 7, Area B, in Quezon City, 60 per cent completed; Tagaytay City project, 30 per cent completed; Tacloban City project, 30 per cent completed; the Iloilo, Bacolod, and Roxas cities projects, five per cent completed; and Project 8 in Quezon City, about to be started.

Orosa said that in the Government's desire to provide the lowest possible rentals to its low income employees, reductions in rentals have been effected in some projects. He added that an additional area was being acquired in Novaliches in order to accommodate more squatters from Manila who are due for resettlement.

Orosa said that in the eight low-cost housing projects already finished, some 9,335 families had already been settled.

Land Tenure Administration Chairman Castañeda reported that out of 536 petitions for acquisition of landed estates, 42 estates involving more or less 26,095 hectares of agricultural land and 1,514,741 square meters of residential properties have been programmed. The total number of tenants to be benefited is 11,782 with about 59,420 dependents. Of these 42 estates programmed, 12 have already been acquired and/or fully negotiated. There are 15 estates under expropriation in court and 15 are pending final negotiations.

Castañeda said that his office had already subdivided and/or still subdividing the following estates: Fabie estate, Tibaguin estate, Buenavista estate (partial), Juanito estate, Valdez estate, Lichauco estate, Dimson area (Dinalupihan estate), and Tucop area (also Dinalupihan estate).

He added that distribution of the lands subdivided had been accelerated by enhancing investigations of conflicts of claims among tenants.

Castañeda pointed out that a total of ₱2,126,478.92 had been collected by his office, representing an increase of ₱546,050.68 over the amount collected by its predecessor for a like period representing the fiscal year 1954-55, and half of fiscal year 1955-56.

He also said that the LTA had already screened about 8,000 house owners or occupants of lands in Tondo Foreshore and about 2,000 occupants are to be screened. He added that the LTA had executed deeds of sale or agreements to sell in favor of 2,369. tenants, virtually making them owners of the land they actually till or occupy.

Commissioner Santiago, reporting on the tenant-landowner relations, informed the Cabinet that for the six months of the fiscal year 1957 alone, 1,844 cases involving 6,001 tenants had been handled. Some 1,647 or 89 per cent of these involving 5,518 tenants had been settled.

Regarding the enforcement of the security of tenure and crop sharing provisions of Republic Act 1199, Santiago said that a great majority of tenancy conflicts handled by the Commission involved these two issues. He said that the tenants who were victims of illegal sharing arrangements and whose cases were mediated by the ATC last fiscal year, 13 per cent were able to secure as additional shares from 25 per cent to 55 per cent of the net yield, 68 per cent received as additional shares from 10 per cent to 24 per cent of the net yield, and 19 per cent received below 10 per cent of the net yield.

These tenants who secured these additional shares will enjoy these benefits every harvest time henceforth, he added.

Santiago also reported that the ATC was able to secure the reinstatement or compensation of 78 per cent of 281 out of 381 tenants who complained during the past six months that they had been illegally ejected.

The President was pleased with the reports of Orosa, Castañeda, and Santiago. He urged them to exert more efforts in completing the program of their respective offices for the benefit of the majority of the masses of the people.

During the Cabinet meeting President Garcia signed a proclamation reserving for a branch office site of the Social Welfare Administration parcels of land situated in Malate.

The President presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 10:30 a.m. to past 3 p.m.

THE President today endorsed to the Commissioner of Civil Service for immediate appropriate action the findings and recommendations of the special committee designated "to look into alleged inefficiency, incompetence, and negligence at the Philippine General Hospital."

In a report to the President, the committee recommended the following with the full concurrence of Health Secretary Paulino Garcia:

- (1) That Dr. Polleno Cespon, adjunct resident on duty in pediatrics, be required to resign immediately;
- (2) That Miss Clarita Rubica, staff nurse in Ward 9, be required to resign immediately;
- (3) That Miss Juanita Sereho, staff nurse in Ward 9, be fined an amount equivalent to one-month salary or suspension for two months without pay with the warning that repetition by her of the same or similar offense shall be cause for dismissal;
- (4) That Dr. Juanita Esguerra-Arcilla, physician on duty, be suspended for one month without pay and warned that repetition by her of the same or similar offense shall be dealt with more drastically;
- (5) That Manuel Silao, interne on duty in pediatrics, be suspended for one month and warned that repetition by him of the same or similar offense shall be dealt with more severely; and
- (6) That Dr. Salud Buquir, ambulance surgeon on duty in the admitting section, be reprimanded for her failure to demonstrate such solicitous and humanitarian interest for the relief of the patient's suffering.

The finding and recommendations of the committee were made following an investigation of the case of 13-year child Rosalinda Angeles for which the committee had been instructed to submit a report, within five days. Child Rosalinda was admitted at the PGH on July 23, 1957, and died owing to alleged negligence on the part of the hospital staff.

The committee reported to the President that Dr. Salud Buquir did what was expected of her as ambulance surgeon but should have shown more interest and concern by administering a medication that might have relieved Rosalinda's symptom.

The committee said that Manuel Silao, who was only a fifth-year medical student, arrogated to himself almost full responsibility for the patient while he was not matured or experienced enough to do so.

Miss Rubica was found by the committee grossly negligent in the performance of her duty to the patient, inefficient in her work as a nurse, and showed acts of indifference and discourtesy unbecoming of her position as staff nurse.

The committee said that Dr. Cespon was grossly negligent in the discharge of his duties in regard to child Rosalinda and in the supervision he was to exercise on Silao. The committee also said that Dr. Cespon did not have adequate experience to have assumed the responsibility he did in the case of Rosalinda.

The committee was of the opinion that Miss Sereño violated established procedures in the PGH pertaining to her duties and responsibilities and that she was wanting in the concern and solicitude which one in her position was expected to give to the child patient.

Dr. Esguerra-Arcilla did not display proper diligence and care of her responsibility according to the committee.

The report was submitted to the President during the Cabinet meeting by Health Secretary Garcia, who said that the committee was already at work on the second phase of the probe: Fundamental causes of public dissatisfaction regarding conditions and services in the PGH. Secretary Garcia said that a report on the second phase of the investigation would be submitted within two weeks.

The committee is composed of Dr. Arsenio Regala, special assistant in the Office of the Secretary of Health, chairman, and Dr. Gumersindo Garcia, Dr. Ricardo Alfonso, Dr. Antonio Rodriguez, Dr. Manuel Arambulo, Dr. Trinidad Gomez, and Isabelo Zapanta, members.

PRESIDENT Garcia accepted today the resignation of Solicitor General and concurrently Government Corporate Counsel Ambrosio Padiila from all the government positions he was holding.

Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon signed the President's acceptance of Padilla's resignation. Padiila was considered resigned effective at the close of office hours yesterday.

August 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received more pledges of support for the Nacionalista Party and his election bid. He signed the affiliation papers of three former Liberals.

Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, official NP congressional candidate in Bataan, accompanied Mayor Romulo Albelda of Samal, Bataan, who formally signed his affiliation papers before the Chief Executive. Former Gov. Adelmo Camacho and other Bataan political leaders were present at the ceremony.

The President also signed the affiliation papers of Datu Punjungan Indal of Suru and Jose Ponce de Leon of Bacolod City in the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Amonio Lozada, Col. and Mrs. Jose B. Teruel, and Mesdames Luz Medel, Nena Locsin, Nemio Poe, and Maria Vicente.

A delegation of the Iloilo Lawyers Association, led by Tomas Concepcion, called on the President to submit its report on the political situation in Iloilo. Other members of the delegation were Rafael D. Lavente, Agustin Misola, Engracio Areño, Edgardo Villalobos, Roberto Dineros, and Emilio Eligio, all lawyers.

Other callers included Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Gov. Alejo Santos of Bulacan, and former Labor Secretary Jose Figueras.

THE President this morning signed Proclamation No. 430, authorizing the Philippine Tuberculosis Society to conduct a national fund and educational drive from August 19, 1957, to September 30, 1957.

The proclamation was signed in the presence of Manolo Elizalde, general chairman of the campaign, and ranking officials of the society, among them Drs. Jose Capistrano, Fernando Duran, and Miguel Cañizares, and Antonio Bengzon, Mrs. Norberto Amoranto, and Pedro Lopez.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed acting ACCFA Administrator Ernesto T. Jimenez to implement fully and immediately the provisions of the Fertilizer Law and speed up the distribution of fertilizers to all farmers in order to step up production of staple crops and find a more permanent solution to the lowering of their prices.

President Garcia issued this directive as a follow-up to the measures already discussed and approved at the Cabinet meeting yesterday in seeking a solution to the lowering of prices of prime commodities and increasing production. He gave the order after a conference today with Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma; Jose Ma, Gomez, president of the Federation of Sugar Cane Planters Association; and Carlos Ledesma, president of the San Carlos Planters Association.

Upon learning of the immediate requirements for fertilizers estimated to exceed the ₱7 ½ million previously released on his authority, the President asked Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona to seek ways and means for the release of an additional outlay of P8 million before September this year, to cover the deficiency. Under R. A. 1609, the ACCFA is charged with the distribution of subsidized fertilizers to farmers applying for them.

The President recently ordered the release of ₱7 ½ million for the purchase of fertilizers to be sold at half the procurement cost. The President told the ACCFA executive to do everything within his means to hasten the shipment to the Philippines of some 10,000 metric tons of fertilizers ordered from abroad so that they could be distributed soon to the farmers.

He also directed the National Power Corporation to increase the rate of shipment of fertilizers earmarked for the ACCFA from the Maria Cristina plant of the corporation.

Numerous representatives of farming groups, including the rice and sugar growers, have asked the President and ACCFA officials for earlier distribution of the subsidized fertilizers to catch up with the weather conditions now existing, which are favorable for planting. It was learned from ACCFA Administrator Jimenez that agreements had already been made with representatives of sugar planters with regard to the allocation of fertilizers to sugar people and the manner of distribution.

It was further learned that practically all sugar planters are members of associations affiliated with the ACCFA.

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia in the afternoon witnessed the field demonstrations and the "Philippine Constabulary in Review" at Camp Crame presented by the PC on the occasion of its 56th organization day.

The President and the First Lady, accompanied by AFP Chief of Staff Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, arrived at Camp Crame about 3:30 p.m. A 21-gun salute boomed as the President entered the gate of the camp. After saluting the colors, the President proceeded to the platform from where he witnessed the demonstrations.

Top ranking officers of the AFP and PC, retired generals, foreign military top brass, and the ladies of the officers met the President and the First Lady as they ascended the stairs of the platform in front of PC headquarters building.

The Chief Executive enjoyed the field demonstrations which included a silent drill exhibition, cavalry exhibition, commando exhibition, dog exhibition, and an exhibition of a daylight commando raid with cavalry and dogs in support. "The Philippine Constabulary in Review," where the PC was shown in different uniforms from 1901 up to the present, drew an applause from the President and the audience.

The President was invited by the PC as guest at their celebration. Speakers during the program were PC Chief Brig. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal and Maj. Gen. Mariano N. Castañeda (ret.), former PC chief and AFP chief of staff.

The Chief Executive was flanked on the platform by Lieut. Gen. Arellano, Brig. Gen. Cabal, and Gen. Castañeda, General Emilio Aguinaldo, Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas (ret.), JUSMAG Chief Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, Maj. Gen. Basilio Valdes (ret.), AFP Deputy Chief of Staff Brig. Gen. Diosdado Rodriguez, and other top brass of the AFP and the PC were among those present at the demonstrations and programs.

The President returned to Malacañang about 7 p.m.

AN accident victim, who was seriously injured when the jeep he was riding fell off a cliff near the NARRA Maramag settlement project in Bukidnon, is now in the care of expert hands at the National Orthopedic Hospital after being airlifted to Manila by the order of President Garcia.

The victim, Victorino Mangalindan, NARRA field auditor, was with three others who were not seriously injured. Mangalindan was airlifted by an Air Force plane which took off for Bukidnon at 4:30 this morning. The plane came back about seven hours later and the patient was whisked by a PAF ambulance to the NOH.

The President ordered the airlifting of Mangalindan and the three others yesterday upon being informed of the matter by Acting NARRA General Manager Jorge Alba and NARRA Board Chairman Remedios Fortich. The plane was not able to get to Bukidnon on the same day because of bad weather. The plane passed by Virac, Catanduanes, for another emergency patient also by order of the President.

August 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning paid homage to the late former Speaker Eugenio Perez. He and Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia motored to the Legislative Building, where joint Senate-House necrological services were held in honor of the departed former Speaker. The President was greeted by Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez upon arrival at the Capitol at exactly 9:05. He immediately proceeded to the session hall of the House of Representatives, where the remains of the former Speaker was lying in state.

The necrological services commenced after the President took his seat at the rostrum with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez and Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr.

After the necrological program, the President and the First Lady condoled with the family of the late Speaker Perez. Then they returned to Malacañang.

On the way to Congress this morning to attend the necrological services in honor of the late Speaker Eugenio Perez, the President received a resolution approved by the Faculty Club of the University of Santo Tomas to suspend the application of the Social Security Act to the UST faculty members.

ON his return from Congress, the President received all the PC provincial commanders and members of the Constabulary general staff, headed by Col. Ricardo G. Papa, PC deputy chief.

The President also received Rep. Manuel Enverga of Quezon, Dr. Generoso Nadres, and Mayor Ricardo Macasaet of Infanta, who accompanied two Liberal leaders, Mayor Felix Oria of Candelaria and former Mayor Eligio Manalo, who took their oath as Nacionalistas.

PRESIDENT Garcia this day directed Benjamin Estrella, NAMARCO general manager, to stop the importation of printed textiles, upon the representations of P. L. Lim, spokesman of the Philippine Textile Mills Association.

A delegation of the PTMA called on the President to complain against the NAMARCO importation, alleging that there was no increase in the price of cotton printed textile.

In his directive to Estrella, the President said that NAMARCO should spend its dollars to import other essential goods and not to prejudice local textile production.

The President announced his determination to give his all-out support to the local raw cotton industry as a step to save dollars and ease unemployment.

Other members of the PTMA group were Jesus Yujuico, Martin Tinio, Felix Lirag, Antonio Assad, and C. B. Lim.

The President said that he would announce shortly the members of the committee he would create to study ways and means of giving incentives to producers, including agriculturists and manufacturers, in order to increase the country's production of prime commodities and eventually reduce prices. The Chief Executive said that he had several persons in mind for this committee but was weighing very carefully the qualifications of each prospective member, adding that he wanted to be sure the committee would not in any way reflect political color and detract from the high objectives of the committee.

The President said that the committee would be composed of representatives of the different segments of the country's economy, including consumers. He added that once the committee was formed, it would be authorized to call on technical men to assist it in its deliberations.

The creation of the committee was first announced by the President last June 22 when he vetoed Senate Bill No. 167. In that veto, the President said that he was desirous of seeing to it that the country's producers and manufacturers be provided positive and practical incentives in order to increase the production of the major crops. He believed that the permanent solution to the stabilization of prices of prime needs lay in the production of enough of these commodities.

THE President this morning told 53 PC provincial commanders and members of the PC general staff to be "good referees" during the coming elections so as not to give the impression that they favored any political party. The Chief Executive made this remark in the course of a courtesy call made by the Constabulary officers led by Col. Ricardo Papa, PC deputy chief; Col. Santiago Concepcion, C-1 chief; Lt. Col. Manuel Yan, C-2 chief; Col. Lucas Cauton, C-3 chief; Col. Fortunato Racelis, C-4 chief; and Col. Angel Magallanes, deputy area commander for PC affairs, 2nd MA. Brig. Gen. Manuel C. Cabal, PC chief, could not accompany the PC officers because he was kept in bed owing to an indisposition.

President Garcia expressed confidence that Constabulary officers would be able to resist any political pressure which might be exerted by those who might want "to gain advantage over opponents."

However, the President counselled the officers to handle the situation with tact and to avoid incidents that might destroy the prestige of the Constabulary.

"The role of the Constabulary in the coming elections is to uphold the law, keep peace and order, maintain free, orderly, and clean elections, and maintain its impartiality," the President said.

THIS noon the President ordered the Social Welfare Administration to extend immediate assistance to some 20 families rendered homeless by a fire which broke in the commercial center of Cagayan de Oro City about 10 a.m. today.

The President gave the order following receipt of a message from City Mayor Justiniano Borja of Cagayan de Oro, who estimated the damage caused by the conflagration at ₱200,000. Two messages were received in Malacañang from the city mayor; the first at 11:30 a.m. when he reported that the fire was still raging and the second at 2:30 p.m. when he said that the conflagration had been put under control.

The President also ordered the Philippine Airforce to have a plane ready to ferry relief supplies from the SWA and the PNR. Social Welfare Administrator Amparo S. Villamor said she was releasing ₱1,000 for the local purchase of

relief goods in the disaster area for immediate distribution to sufferers. This was to augment the assistance already extended the fire victims by government social workers in the area.

AT noon President Garcia had a luncheon conference with members of Congress, headed by Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., NP vice-presidential candidate.

The President and the congressmen discussed plans for the carrying out of an effective campaign in the provinces once the entire Nacionalista senatorial line-up is decided.

Others present at the conference were Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez; Majority Floorleader Arturo M. Tolentino; and Reps. Tobias Fornier of Antique, Francisco Ortega of La Union, Ismael Veloso of Davao, Jose Aldeguer of Iloilo, and Justino Nuyda of Albay. Also present were Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona and Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno.

LATE in the afternoon the President conferred with finance officials of the American motion picture industry during which a satisfactory solution was found for the problem of payment of taxes by American movies.

It was agreed during the conference that American movies would pay the taxes for the year 1956. It was also agreed that the question of paying back taxes by the American movies be submitted to the tax court for final decision.

The President conferred with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Internal Revenue Collector Jose Arañas, Leo Hochstetter of the American Movie Exporters Association, and R. Ogermann, lawyer for the association.

MALACANANG announced today that the initial shipment of 150,000 Magsaysay mourning stamps was finally released by the commissioner of customs after President Garcia had intervened in the matter.

President Garcia this morning upon reading newspaper reports that customs officials allegedly refused to release the stamps unless customs duties were paid, directed Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison to tell Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas that the President was paying from his personal funds the customs duties due on these stamps amounting to ₱237.

Malacañang Financial Assistant Miguel D. Velasco sent an employee of his office to the Manila International Airport with the money to pay for the customs duties.

It was however found out that the Bureau of Posts had been able to get an exemption from the payment of such duties from the office of the Auditor General. However, President Garcia was asked to pay only ₱2.05 for customs stamps instead of ₱237 for customs duties. The Magsaysay stamps were then released.

August 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today fired his first broadside against his political counterpart, without mentioning his name, when he told, the people of Tarlac:

“Do not trust so called economists who have used their knowledge in economics to enrich themselves and not their country and their countrymen.

“Do not elect such men who are perpetuating the tenancy system in the Philippines.

“Let us trust and elect those who are doing everything in their power to bring about the economic development of our country, those who are giving lands to the landless and homes to the homeless and who are eradicating the tenancy system in our country.”

Although the President did not mention names, his audience knew to whom his tirade was directed, and the people applauded.

The President made these remarks in the course of his speaking trips to nine towns of Tarlac jointly with Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., when the two of them, as the Nacionalista official presidential and vice-presidential tandem, opened their first salvo and brought the case of the Nacionalista candidates direct to the common people and barrio folks of Tarlac.

In his speech at the inauguration of the ₱4,700,000-Magsaysay Irrigation Dam at Mayantoc, Tarlac, the President emphasized that the completion of this project which would irrigate 10,500 hectares, would contribute to the overall production of the country's staple crops in connection with the government's long range program of pulling down the prices of these commodities.

In speaking at the towns of Bamban, Santa Ignacia, Mayantoc, Camiling, Moncada, Paniqui, Pura, Gesona, and Tarlac, President Garcia and Speaker Laurel took turns in explaining to the people that it was the Nacionalista Party and the present administration which has faithfully implemented the late President Magsaysay's program of uplifting the lot of the masses of the people.

President Garcia and Speaker Laurel said the Administration has constructed irrigation systems, highways and feeder roads, pre-fabricated school-houses, bridges, and artesian wells; has quadrupled the rural health facilities for the common people; has given lands to the landless and homes to the homeless; has given peace and order to the country; has given social justice to those who need it; and has restored the people's faith in their government.

They stressed to the people that this gigantic task was only one-fourth completed at the death of the late President Magsaysay and that only the Nacionalista candidates should be entrusted in completing the work. They pledged that, if elected president and vice-president, they would bring to a successful conclusion the Magsaysay program of good government to the people.

The Garcia-Laurel tandem was royally welcomed in all the towns visited by them. "People rushed to the streets to meet them and shake their hands, while girls tossed flowers on their way. In Mayantoc, President Garcia and Speaker Laurel were borne on the shoulders of the townspeople from the entrance of the town to the town kiosk, where the tandem addressed the cheering crowd.

In his speech in Mayantoc, President Garcia said that the act of the townspeople was symbolic of the people's support of the Nacionalista administration which would be surely shown in the coming November polls. The people shouted their approval.

After delivering his speech at the Magsaysay Irrigation Dam, President Garcia, accompanied by Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Gov. Arsenio Lugay, Reps. Jose J. Roy and Constancio Castañeda, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, and other officials, walked to one of the water gates of the dam and pulled a lever which let the water flow into the different canals of the system.

The President arrived, at Bamban, Tarlac, about 9:25 a.m. He was on the go the whole day, as he and Speaker Laurel visited the eight other towns and made their speeches. The other officials who accompanied them were Govs. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Juan Alberto of Catanduanes, Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, Alejo Santos of Bulacan, and Manuel Barretto of Zambales.

The President also laid the cornerstone of the one million-peso provincial hospital in Tarlac town.

In their speeches. President Garcia and Speaker Laurel praised the work of Reps. Castañeda, and Roy in the Congress, calling them truly dedicated servants of the people.

August 11.—THE President retired to the residence of Public Service Commissioner Alejandro Galang in Tarlac, Tarlac, at 3: 30 this morning for a much-needed rest.

The President woke up 8:30 a.m. and had breakfast 30 minutes later.

After thanking his host for a good night's rest, President Garcia and his party proceeded to the Tarlac parish church, where they heard mass. From the church, the presidential party motored out of Tarlac for Manila. A big crowd saw them off.

The President arrived at Malacañang shortly before noon. He had barely arrived when he left the Palace again.

Palace aides said the President repaired to his "hideout" to work on state papers.

He is expected to return to Malacañang late tonight.

ON orders of President Garcia five emergency patients were airlifted to Manila from different parts of the country. One of the patients is a survivor of a fatal vehicular accident which claimed seven lives in Nueva Ecija recently.

The patients were flown to Manila for treatment following representations of the respective provincial authorities who either wired or called by Long distance to Malacañang about the patients' condition.

The list of the emergency patients follows:

- (1) Miss Florentina Santillan, Nueva Ecija high school teacher, who is suffering from a brain contusion as a result of an accident in San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija.
- (2) Romulo Okaba, from Davao City, who is suffering from infantile paralysis;
- (3) Miss Felicidad Tugot, also from Davao City, who has brain tumor;
- (4) Gregorio Moralita, from Tacloban City, who suffered fractures after an accident; and ;
- (5) Florentino Amoy, a three-year old child from Dapitan, Zamboanga del Norte, who swallowed a coin.

All patients were rushed to different Manila hospitals upon arrival at the airport.

Yesterday President Garcia, while in Bamban, Tarlac, directed that Ernesto Manalo, an eight-year old boy be sent to the V. Luna General Hospital for possible surgery. The boy, son of Abelardo Manalo, is suffering from systolithiasis.

August 12.—THE President this morning said he was confident that the NP five-man nominating committee would recommend to the executive committee the men that would compose the winning senatorial ticket in the coming elections.

He reiterated that he would support to the limit all official candidates of the Nacionalista Party.

The President made this statement before a delegation composed of former Gov. Juan Chioco's sympathizers who marched to Malacañang and urged the Chief Executive to take a hand in the selection of the NP senatorial candidates so that the former governor could be included in the line-up.

The President explained that the NP executive committee, which created the five-man nominating committee, had the blanket authority to name the eight official senatorial candidates who would be selected from the 73 aspirants.

The President told the delegation that he had known Chioco to be a good man and that he as Vice-President had campaigned for Chioco extensively in Mindanao in the last elections when the former governor was an NP official senatorial candidate.

After receiving Chioco's sympathizers, the President proceeded to the music room where he received Ambassador Manuel Alzate, who paid a courtesy call following his arrival from his post at Karachi, Pakistan.

Then the President repaired to his study where he received a few callers, including Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbokon, Rep. Celestino Juan of Nueva Ecija, Manila Councilor Antonio Barredo, Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Sabarre, Sixto and Salvador Esquibas, and Mateo Encarnacion.

IN the afternoon the President received Mr. and Mrs. Constantin Brown, who called at Malacañang to pay their respects following their arrival in Manila in the course of a world tour "to find out how many good friends America still have."

Brown who is foreign editor and foreign news analyst of Washington's *Western Evening Star* and whose columns are syndicated by 60 American newspapers, said of the President after a 20-minute chat at the Palace music room. He impressed me as a very capable man."

Arriving in Manila last Saturday from Bangkok, Thailand, the Browns leave for Taipeh, Formosa, on Friday and, thence, to Hongkong, Seoul, (Korea), and Tokyo (Japan) before returning to Washington. Brown said he had been a newspaperman for the last 44 years.

Other callers this evening included Rep. Serafin Salvador of Rizal and Deputy Internal Revenue Collector Melecio Domingo. Domingo has just returned from a two-month stay in Switzerland. .

The President today issued Proclamation No. 431, declaring Monday, August 19, 1957, as a special public holiday throughout the Philippines to celebrate the 79th birthday of the late President Manuel L. Quezon.

In declaring August 19 as a special public holiday, the President said it is desirable that "our people be given full opportunity to render homage to the memory of our illustrious leader."

As this day coincides with Citizenship Day under Proclamation No. 331, President Garcia enjoined the observance of the day with appropriate ceremonies designed to inculcate upon the people, especially the youth, the rights and duties of good citizenship to the end that they would consecrate themselves to the ideals and traditions of the Republic.

The President also signed Proclamation No. 432, declaring the third week of January of every year as National Mental Health Week.

The President said that sound mental health is necessary to the attainment of individual happiness and efficiency, to the establishment of peace and order, and to the promotion of economic and cultural progress. The Philippine Mental Health Association was designated to take charge of the celebration.

The Chief Executive called upon all government and non-government entities and all residents in the Philippines to lend their cooperation and support to the observance of the week.

The President, moreover, signed Proclamation No. 433, declaring the last week of August of every year as Barrio Lieutenants' Week.

In the proclamation the President said that the barrios are the foundation of the country's economic and democratic way of life and that the progress and welfare of every barrio depends to a large measure upon the leadership and devotion to duty of the barrio lieutenant.

The President added that the role of a barrio lieutenant is "a continuous process of self-sacrifice."

He said that in recognition of the constant sacrifices of barrio lieutenants for the welfare, progress, and prosperity of the barrio people, he declared the last week of August of every year as Barrio Lieutenants' Week. He enjoined every mayor to hold programs during the week honoring the barrio lieutenants, and to create a citizens' committee to select during the week the most outstanding barrio lieutenant of his city or town.

PRESIDENT Garcia this day granted another reprieve for prisoners Bautista Ragandan, Hilario Mendova, and Alfredo Mendova, who had been convicted of robbery with double murder and sentenced to death.

The previous reprieve granted to these prisoners on July 12, 1957, expires on August 13, 1957.

The President in his order said that some time was considered still necessary for a thorough and careful study of the merits of the petition for executive clemency filed in behalf of the prisoners.

The new reprieve granted to the prisoners expires on September 12, 1957.

August 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning administered the oath of office to Leopoldo Rovira, Jr., of Dumaguete City as acting member of the social security commission. Among those present at the ceremony was Rep. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, who accompanied Rovira to Malacañang.

The induction ceremony was held at the Malacañang study room, where the Chief Executive received callers who took turns in consulting him on various matters.

The callers consisted mostly of provincial governors who reported to the President on the political situation in their respective localities.

Such callers were Govs. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Felixberto Dagani of Agusan, and Delfin N. Montano of Cavite.

The President also received Sen. Domocao Alonto and Rep. Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan.

Consul Consuelo Arranz of the Philippine Embassy in Rome, Italy, called to pay her respects following her arrival recently.

Then the President received movie actor Jose Padilla, Jr., who took his oath as a member of the Nacionalista Party.

Individual callers included Vicente Neri, Tereso Dumon, and Benigno Angeles.

The President received callers until 2 p.m.

THE President today received Matias Taniaga, a 27-year-old former guerrilla courier from Naic, Cavite, who sought the President's assistance for the restoration of his sight.

Taniaga informed the President that he had become blind as a result of the tortures he had received from Japanese soldiers during the Occupation.

Upon learning of Taniaga's plight, the President wrote a directive to the commanding officer of the V. Luna General Hospital, ordering that an eye specialist examine Taniaga's eyes and if possible restore the guerrilla's eyesight by operation.

The blind guerrilla courier was accompanied to Malacañang by Joy Francisco, a radio commentator, through whose radio program Taniaga learned about the President's concern for the poor and the afflicted.

August 14.—THIS morning the President gave a *despedida* breakfast in honor of the Philippine Ambassador to the Vatican, Jose Ma. Delgado, who is scheduled to leave for his post on Friday, August 16.

The affair was purely social although the President, in the course of the breakfast, gave his final instructions to the departing, ambassador to do his utmost in promoting, “better understanding” between the Philippines and the Vatican.

Present at the breakfast were members of the Catholic hierarchy, including Papal Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, Manila Archbishop Rufino J. Santos, Auxiliary Bishops Vicente Reyes, and Hernando Antiporda.

Also present at the breakfast which lasted from 8 to 9 a.m. were Sens. Francisco A. Delgado and Francisco Rodrigo and Executive Secretary Fortunate de Leon.

Ambassador Delgado was accompanied to Malacañang by his son, Francisco.

PRESIDENT Garcia today lashed at “men or parties” who wish to perpetuate the tenancy class in the country, and reiterated his vigorous determination to push through the “land for the landless and home for the homeless” program initiated by the late President Magsaysay.

The Chief Executive made these remarks during the turn-over ceremonies of the De Leon Estate at the Malacañang Social Hall.

“Far from being an accomplishment, the purchase of the De Leon Estate is only a big step forward in the objective of the administration to have every tenant own the farm he is tilling,” the President said.

“Toward this end,” he added, “the Administration is seeking through negotiated sale or through expropriation proceedings to acquire other landed estates.”

The President said that in Nueva Ecija alone there are six other estates already acquired or due for payment as follows: Lichauco, 58 hectares, in Cabanatuan City; Del Rosario, 667 hectares, in Cabanatuan City; Tuala, 838 hectares, in Guimba; Halili, 235 hectares, in Cabanatuan City; Uson, 26 hectares (for homesite purposes), in Jaen; and Juanito, 673 hectares, in Cuyapo.

The President warned against those who were trying to perpetuate the tenancy class in the country. He added that he was happy to have been an instrument in helping eradicate the tenancy system here. “I wish more of our countrymen will become home owners, home builders, and home defenders,” the President said.

Comparing a tenant to a bird in a cage, the President said that no matter how well fed a bird was, it could never be happy and contented in the cage because it wanted to be free,

The President acknowledged that Doha Sisang Vda. de Leon, owner of the estate, acceded to the acquisition of the estate as a sincere gesture of cooperation with the government in its “land for the landless” program.

Alejandro Clemente, spokesman of the De Leon estate tenants, in his brief remarks told his fellow tenants gathered at the Social Hall to vote for the re-election of President Garcia so that he could pursue the “land for the landless” program and give other landless tenants a chance to have their own farms.

Manuel de Leon, son of Dona Sisang, in his brief remarks said that the De Leon family had agreed to the sale of their estate in their wish to cooperate with the government in accomplishing its land reform program. He expressed the wish that the tenants would continue cultivating their new parcels of land industriously.

Mrs. Amado Q. Aleta, in representation of her husband, the governor of Nueva Ecija, expressed her thanks for the acquisition of the estate. She met with applause when she asked the tenants to vote for President Garcia in the coming elections.

The tenants who were present at the Social Hall bore placards one of which said “Ngayon Tayong Maliliit Ay Nagkaroon Din Ng Sariling Lupa.”

Luis V. de Leon, another son of Dona Sisang, signed the sales document in the name of the owners of the estate, while Manuel Castaneda, head of the Land Tenure Administration, signed in the name of the government.

President Garcia handed over to Manuel de Leon, a treasury warrant W the amount of ₱1,374,000 as one-half payment of the total price, the rest to be paid in land certificates cashable after five years. The hacienda has an area of 2,255 hectares.

At the average price of ₱1,213.72 a hectare the government paid for the land, the tenants will have to pay an annual installment of ₱96.57 a hectare for 25 years, which payment can be easily made by the tenants if they set aside 25 per cent of their regular harvests. There are about 500 tenants with some 2,000 dependents who will be benefited by this purchase.

After the subdivision of the land, each tenant is expected to be given four hectares of land which he will own.

Among those present at the ceremony were Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Rep. Emilio Cortez, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Rep. Enrique J. Corpuz, former Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, LTA Commissioners Numeriano Fabie and Juan Vera, and Mrs. Amado Aleta, wife of Nueva Ecija governor.

AT their meeting today President Garcia and his Cabinet adopted measures to insure the early remittance of the 85 per cent of export proceeds to the dollar reserves in order to strengthen the dollar position of the country.

At the same time, the President appointed a committee composed of Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, as chairman, and Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez, as members, to look into ways to hasten the bringing in of commodities being imported under the 15 per cent privilege granted by the No-Dollar Import Law.

This measure was believed necessary in view of the fact that according to reports some \$25 million worth of these import commodities had not arrived yet. It was pointed out that if these commodities were delivered here as they should have been, there would be less drain on the dollar reserves for additional importation of these commodities and that the prices of these goods would considerably go down.

After considering the recommendations of the Philippine Bankers Association, presented to the Cabinet by Alfonso Calalang, association president, and Jose D. Fernandez, also of the association, Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, Finance Secretary Hernandez, and Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, the President and the Cabinet approved supplementary rules governing barter under R. A. 1410. These regulations are designed to insure the prompt remittance of the 85 per cent of export dollar proceeds to the Central Bank.

One of the rules adopted was that proposed by Commissioner Aytona, who recommended that the exporter of any commodity will be granted his barter permit for 15 per cent only upon certification by the Central Bank that the full dollar proceeds from the exportation of the applicant had been remitted to the C. B.

It was believed that this regulation would insure that the dollar proceeds of all exports from the Philippines would be promptly remitted to the Central Bank and thus strengthen the dollar position of the country.

The supplementary rules and regulations governing barter, as approved by the Cabinet follow:

1. Notwithstanding contrary provisions in existing regulations, all barter transactions shall be based on back-to-back letters of credit which shall be in accordance with the following conditions:

a. The export of goods must be covered by an export letter of credit from the foreign importer and such letter of credit must specifically provide for drawings at sight in dollars against shipping documents.

b. The import letter of credit that may be opened by the domestic producer-exporter must have as its beneficiary the same party opening the export letter of credit and negotiations under the import letter of credit shall be restricted to the country of destination of the Philippine products exported and to commodities originating from the country of destination of the corresponding Philippine exports, "originating" to mean that the commodities to be exported are covered by a certificate of origin duly signed by a consular officer as having originated from the country of the port of embarkation.

2. No import letter of credit may be issued by Philippine banks under Barter Permits issued by the NDIO until satisfactory evidence is presented that the full proceeds of the export corresponding to such credit have been actually credited to the negotiating Philippine bank.

3. The No-Dollar Import Office shall issue two types of barter permits: Type A for minor exports, surplus goods in excess of quotas set in the Laurel-Langley Agreement, and low-quality marginal-cost commodities; and Type B for fifteen per cent of major exports.

Type A permits shall be sub-divided into Type A-1 for minor ex-, ports, Type A-2 for surplus goods in excess of quotas set in the Laurel-Langley Agreement, and Type A-3 for low-quality marginal-cost goods. No Type A-2 permit shall be issued for any commodity before the U.S. quota for said commodity has been filled.

The No-Dollar Import Office shall attach to every Type A barter permit it issues specific documents evidencing the prior shipment and the receipt of proceeds by the negotiating bank of the exportation of commodities on the basis- of which the barter permit is issued. Type B permits shall be issued only to the same parties who have made the export shipments, during the six months immediately preceding, on which the barter permit is based.

Shipments made to countries without exchange controls and to free ports shall be counted as part of the base on which Type B permits are given.

4. Barter permits shall be valid only:

a. For exports, 60 days after date of permit.

b. For imports, 90 days after negotiation of the corresponding export. If the corresponding export under the permit is not made within 60 days of issue, the barter permit lapses completely and becomes invalid.

If the collateral import under the permit is not made within 90 days after the negotiation of the corresponding export, the right to import shall lapse and the agent banks holding the foreign exchange corresponding to the export previously made shall within 24 hours sell such exchange to the Central Bank.

5. Agent banks negotiating exports under barter permits shall make a segregation in their accounts of the proceeds of exports under NDIO barter permits and shall, when reporting to the Central Bank, clearly distinguish their free foreign balance from foreign bances acquired under barter exports.

6. Agent banks may open letters of credit under barter permits only upon prior certification by the Central Bank as to price accuracy.

7. The No-Dollar Import Office shall submit to the Central Bank at the end of each week a report of all barter permits issued during the week.

8. The previous Cabinet decision limiting the issuance of barter permits to producers of the commodities sought to be bartered shall be strictly enforced.

9. These supplementary rules and regulations shall govern all barter transactions, including those already approved but not yet consummated.

10. That no extension of existing barter permit which has expired shall be granted.

THE President and the Cabinet approved a proposal of the World War II Veterans Enterprises, Inc., to undertake the sale and distribution of specific items of goods coming from the \$20 million reparations goods earmarked, for the veterans, at a profit of not more than 15 per cent in order to provide more benefits in the form of civic projects and to create job opportunities for war veterans war widows, and orphans.

Under the plan, the corporation will pay in cash for the reparations goods coming from Japan. Then it will sell and distribute these goods to consumers, thus transforming the goods into cash, to be turned over to a bank designated by the Philippine Government, as a trust fund, as envisioned in the new enactment of Congress. The corporation will undertake the sale of these goods at a gross profit about 15 per cent.

The corporation proposes to utilize this expected profit as follows:

(1) Set aside a certain sum to be determined and agreed upon later, for the expenses of a veterans mission to Washington, D.C., to work for more benefits for veterans, war widows, and orphans;

(2) Set aside a sum to be determined and agreed upon later, to be spent in the unification of all veterans organizations in the Philippines and in the establishment of an adequate headquarters complete with the necessary working personnel for the purpose; and

(3) Set aside an amount for investment in deep sea fishing, fish canning, and other allied dollar-producing industries which will employ exclusively veterans, war widows, and orphans.

The corporation will file a performance bond to guarantee the faithful performance of its obligation.

The corporation, with Maj. Gen. Calixto Duque (Ret.) as president and general manager, has the support of the following organizations: the CONVETS, the PVL, the Cold Star Mothers and War Widows, the Marking's Guerrillas, the United Disabled Veterans Association of the Philippines, the USAFIP, the Philippine Association of War Widows, the Parents and Orphans, and the Banal Guerrillas Organization.

The corporation claims that it has the support of veterans organizations comprising at least 95 per cent of all veterans of the country.

UPON recommendation of Carlos P. Ramos, director of the Institute of Public Administration, University of the Philippines, the Cabinet authorized the I. P. A. to conduct in Manila in December, 1957, a Southeast Asian regional conference with special reference to economic and social development.

Eighteen countries in Southeast Asia, including the Philippines, will participate in the conference; namely, Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Federated States of Malaya, Hongkong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Laos, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of China, Republic of Korea, Republic of Vietnam., and Thailand. Some 120 delegates and observers will attend the conference to be conducted over a period of 14 days.

The representatives will be composed of governmental administrators and professionals in the field of public administration.

The objectives of the proposed conference are:

(1) To help advance the cause of our economic and social development, through the interchange of experience and information, with a view to more effective administration of developmental programs among countries in this region.

(2) To establish communications among countries in this region as a basis for mutual cooperation in the advancement of public administration.

(3) To provide us with much needed information on, and insights into, the status and progress of public administration among our sister nations in Southeast Asia, thereby enriching our training and educational programs at the Institute of Public Administration.

(4) To help improve administration of public affairs, through the mutual exchange of information and ideas on education and through professional training for the public service.

(5) To join hands with representatives of countries in this region having common cause. with us in advancing the career service, especially in key administrative, technical, and other staff positions involved in the planning and implementation of economic and social development programs.

(6) To stimulate studies in practical methods and procedures for the improvement of the conduct of governmental business in the light of local conditions.

(7) To lay the groundwork for providing for a permanent and continuing organization on public administration in this region.

FINANCE Secretary Jaime Hernandez informed the President and the Cabinet that the Philippines became the fiftieth member of the International Finance Cefspiration last Monday morning, after Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo had signed the articles of agreement in a special ceremony in Washington, D. C.

The information was sent to the finance secretary by Jorge Mejia Palacio, executive director of the IFC.

It was pointed out that the membership of the Philippines in the IFC would benefit the country as citizens of member countries are entitled to ask financial assistance in the financing of business enterprises.

PRESIDENT Garcia at the Cabinet meeting appointed a committee to take charge of the observance of the late President Magsaysay's birthday on August 31.

Appointed chairman of the committee is Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., with Acting Labor Secretary Agapito Braganza, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, and Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, as members.

The President said that he would like that Magsaysay's birthday be celebrated fittingly in memory of the late President.

THE President and the Cabinet approved the following policy on the question as to whether or not the status of an employee who has reached retirement age of 57 may be changed from temporary to permanent, for purposes of retirement insurance benefit under Republic Act No. 660, as amended:

I. Classified employees—

(a) Those who have already fulfilled the age and service requirements to be entitled to retirement insurance benefits under Republic Act No. 660 should be issued *regular* and *permanent* appointments for purposes of retirement insurance, subject to the provisions of the Civil Service Law and Rules. The physical examination provided for in Section 663(c) of the Revised Administrative Code as a prerequisite for permanent appointment should be waived

with respect to those who are leaving or have already left the service on account of old age, physical incapacity, or death, but whose appointments have remained temporary for failure to undergo the prescribed physical examination.

(b) Temporary teachers are entitled to retirement insurance benefits without the necessity of permanent appointment.

(c) Substitute teachers are not eligible to insurance membership.

(d) In all cases of temporary employees in the classified service, the appointing official should propose the change of status of the employee concerned from temporary to permanent, if qualified under the Civil Service Law and Rules.

II. *Unclassified employees*—

(a) Retiring employees in the unclassified service occupying fixed or permanent items shall be entitled to permanent appointments for retirement purposes. The requirement of physical examination is waived in favor of those who are leaving or have already left the service on account of old age, physical incapacity, or death, but whose appointments have remained temporary for failure to undergo physical examination.

(b) Casual or emergency employees without fixed items are not eligible to retirement insurance.

(c) Retiring employees, whether classified or unclassified, who left the service or were separated therefrom on account of old age prior to June 16, 1956, may be entitled to retirement insurance benefits if the period they were actually out of the service does not exceed one year from the date of their separation to June 16, 1956, the date of approval of Republic Act No. 1573.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room. The meeting lasted from 11 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia formally opened the 1957 Anti-TB National Fund and Educational Campaign by contributing ₱1,000 in a ceremony held at Malacañang's social hall this afternoon.

In opening the drive, the President called upon every citizen and resident of this country "to intensify their united crusade against the White Plague, giving the enemy no quarters until every man, woman, and child need not shudder with dread from the spectre of tuberculosis." (See *Historical Papers and Documents* in the next issue of the *Official Gazette* for the text of the President's speech.)

After the President handed his check to Manuel Elizalde, general chairman of this year's drive, other donors came forward with their contributions in amounts ranging from ₱100 to ₱10,000. Donors consisted of government and business firms as well as civic-spirited private citizens. Total collections at the ceremony amounted to ₱79,500.

The kick-off ceremony attended by members of the Cabinet, senators, representatives, members of the diplomatic corps and their ladies, and representatives of various civic organizations, started at 5:30 p.m. It began with an overture by the PC band with Lt. Col. Antonino Buenaventura, conducting.

The President's speech lasted about five minutes. Among those with him on the speaker's platform were the First Lady; Dona Julia de Ortigas, Gen. Basilio Valdes, and Dr. Miguel Canizares, president, vice-president, and executive vice-president, respectively, of the the Philippine Tuberculosis Society; and Miss Conchita Sunico, vice-chairman of this year's campaign.

Following the ceremony which lasted until 6: 30 p.m., the President repaired to his study where he received several callers, including Reps. Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon and Enrique Corpus of Zambales.

August 15.—THIS morning the President told a large group of housing project residents that negotiations with a view to selling outright the lots in join PHHC-ICA projects to their respective occupants are now in progress.

The President made this statement at the Malacañang study room this morning when the residents of the joint PHHC-ICA housing projects called to request the President to grant them the outright sale of the lots which they are occupying, in these projects. Rep. Serafin Salvador of Rizal acted as spokesman of the group.

The President said that he is not against the outright sale of the lots to occupants because such action would be in consonance with the policy of the Administration. He pointed out that those housing projects which were undertaken solely by the PHHC would amount to an outright sale because titles to these would eventually be issued to occupants.

Referring to the joint PHHC-ICA housing projects, the President said that he knows of no provision in the agreement of these two entities regarding the sale of lots to their respective occupants: He said that PHHC and the ICA authorities were exerting efforts to find means of effecting the outright sale of the lots in the joint projects to occupants.

Earlier, the President received governors and congressmen who requested assistance for public improvements. They discussed with the Chief Executive political developments in their respective localities.

The callers included Govs. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, and Delfin N. Montano of Cavite.

The President also received Sen. Quintin Paredes and Rep. Lucas Paredes of Abra. They discussed the political situation in Abra.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., to take immediate steps in order that the Iloilo Normal School teachers would be paid their salaries for the month of July.

The President gave this directive upon receiving news reports that teachers of the Iloilo Normal School had not received their salaries for July because the treasury warrant covering the amount for the operation and maintenance of the school had been wrongly credited to the city treasurer of Iloilo instead of to the provincial treasurer.

According to Santiago Villaluna, president of the Iloilo Normal School Teachers Association, the treasury warrant had been transmitted to the city treasurer through the Philippine National Bank, but the salaries of the teachers had not been paid because the city treasurer would not transfer the money to the provincial treasurer without an express authorization from his superiors in Manila.

The President told Secretary Aguilar to take the necessary steps and see to it that these salaries of the teachers were paid immediately.

THE President also directed the Department of Foreign Affairs to wire immediately Minister Jose D. Ingles in Hamburg, West Germany, to get in touch with Catalina Zandueta, soprano, who had appealed to the President for financial aid to further her mission of "selling" the Philippines to Europe.

Miss Zandueta made her appeal in Munchen, Germany.

The President told the department to direct Minister Ingles to submit his findings and recommendations on Miss Zandueta's case as soon as possible.

In the evening President Garcia; Administered the oath of office to Ildefonso J. Remolona as member of the board of the Social Security Commission in a ceremony held at Malacañang.

Vice-President of the Mindanao Federation of Labor and assistant general secretary of the Philippine Trade Union Council, Commissioner Remolona will represent labor in the commission. He replaced Ignacio Lacsina whose nomination to the SSC had been bypassed at the last regular session of the Third Congress.

Present at the induction were Acting Labor Secretary Agapito Braganza; SSC Chairman and Administrator Rodolfo P. Andal; Ricardo Manalad, president of the Association of Port Checkers Union; Gaudencio Antonio, president of the Producers and Exporters Association; Mrs. Remolona, wife of the new appointee; and other relatives and friends of the inductee.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: August 10-16, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 10. —PRESIDENT Garcia today instructed the subcommittee created to draw plans for the projected revamp of the Bureau of Customs to devise measures designed to eradicate permanently the commission of venalities in that important revenue-collecting agency of the government.

After going over the third progress report submitted by Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino Calinawan, chairman of the presidential fact-finding committee on customs, under which the revamp Subcommittee will operate, the President expressed his desire to have the Bureau of Customs returned to normal operation as soon as possible.

The Chief Executive instructed the committee to expedite the final phases of its work so that the bureau could proceed effectively in the implementation of the Administration's program of intensified tax-collection. He expects to see the bureau transformed into an efficient, graft-free, and smooth-working entity after its reorganization.

The President yesterday had issued an administrative order creating a sub-committee on performance and procedure under the presidential fact-finding committee on customs, for the purpose of instituting organizational and procedural reforms in the bureau. The subcommittee had been created to start the machinery for permanent beneficial reforms.

Regarding the drawing up of plans for the shifting of personnel in connection with the reorganization, the President told the committee; to see to it that only qualified men were assigned to handle specific jobs. He added, however, that care should be exercised so that no injustice might be perpetrated on officials and employees who had rendered long, efficient, and faithful service to the bureau.

Meanwhile, Malacañang clarified reports that Col. Vicente Novales had been relieved as chief of police of Quezon City. According to an announcement issued tonight by the Press Office, Col. Novales was only on detail in Malacañang and that he was still the chief of police of the Bibiano M. Viña, chief of the traffic division of the Q. C. police department, was only designated to act in the absence of Col. Novales, the announcement said.

Malacañang also announced that President Garcia was still waiting for the report of the Cabinet committee constituted to study and consolidate the conclusions reached by the Cabinet at its meeting two weeks ago on the proposed liberalized rules and regulations on barter recently promulgated by the Department of Commerce and Industry.

The committee composed of Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, and Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera had been instructed to submit its report at a special Cabinet meeting to be called by the President for the purpose.

The President as of this evening cannot as yet tell when he will convoke the projected special meeting of his advisory body, as the committee was not yet ready to render its report.

THE President spent a quiet Sunday today at his workshop on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City going over some important state documents. He did not receive any visitor the whole day except Health Secretary and Mrs. Elpidio Valencia, who paid him a brief social call in the morning.

The President started the day by hearing mass. Also at the mass were Maj. Jose Estrella, military aide, and members of the household.

After breakfast, the President repaired to his private study where he spent some time reading the Sunday papers brought over to him from Malacañang. Then he started going over some state documents he had sent for from his bedroom in the Palace.

After a brief rest in the afternoon, the President resumed studying state papers. Among the documents was the latest progress report of the presidential fact-finding committee on customs which enumerated, among other things, the criminal, civil, and administrative charges currently being handled or caused to be handled by the probe body.

August 11.—THIS morning the President assured a delegation of cattle breeders that the Administration will push through its plan of improving the quality of cattle in the country.

The cattle breeders presented to the Chief Executive a resolution approved by the Santa Gertrudis Cattle Breeders Association of the Philippines expressing the gratitude of the association to the Administration for its cattle dispersal program.

The resolution stated that the Administration has been dedicated to the uplift of the livestock industry in the Philippines through increased production and better breed.

The cattle breeders group was composed of Dr. Pablo Raval, Virgilio A. Teotico, Bayani Faylona, and John Scholfield.

The President also received the members of the Taylor University basketball quintet who are currently playing a series of games in the country. The players were Jack Stowell, Tink Van Patton, Roger Jenkinson, Norman Cook, Don Ulrich, Jack Mount, Ed Beck, Jack King, and Bud Schaeffer. They were accompanied by PAAF Secretary-Treasurer Serafin Aquino and Dr. T. V. Chung.

Members of the Bachelors' Club also saw President Garcia to invite him and his family to their Silver Ball on August 31 at the Sky Room. The president told them that he was himself a member of the club during his first two terms in Congress.

With the Bachelors' Club group were Dr. Herminio Velarde, Manuel Collantes, Pete Vasquez, Robert Hinchman, and Ramon V. Mitra and Bachelorettes Soma Aldeguer and Joji Felix.

Other callers were Judges Primitivo Gonzalez and Jose Manguiat, Felipe Jose and Mariano Angeles, former Governor Conrado Marapao, Pat Senador, Tomas Marquez, T. Landio, and Sesinando Famoso.

PRESIDENT Garcia reiterated today his stand against devaluation of the peso and expressed himself in favor of a policy for gradual decontrol.

The President's latest statement was embodied in a cablegram sent today to Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, RFC Chairman Eduardo Romualdez, and Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, who are now in Washington on official business.

Paying high compliment to members of Congress, President Garcia said that "the present studies conducted by the ways and means committee of the House of Representatives at the instance of Speaker Daniel Romualdez and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer are efforts to determine how much decontrol can be adopted and when."

He added: "I have confidence in the sound opinion of Congressman Roy who is a conservative economist."

President Garcia also instructed Cuaderno, Romualdez, and Aytona to inform officials in Washington to disregard the speculation on devaluation. The Chief Executive said he would: be firm on this point until necessarily compelled to do otherwise.

A Cuaderno-Romualdez-Aytona cablegram to the President had expressed deep concern over reports from Manila speculating on "an impending devaluation." In their cablegram to the President they had underscored the fact that such speculation would undermine the people's faith in the peso and credit and that this would have a serious

consequence. They also expressed their stand against devaluation of the peso stating that “devaluation at this time is not only unnecessary but would be disastrous.”

According to Cuaderno, Romualdez, and Aytona, “no nation wants controls but if we aim to industrialize and as long as our country’s ability to sell our products is hampered by restrictive trade policies of industrialized countries, it would not only be injudicious for us to remove controls at this time but it would also render devaluation inevitable. We cannot remain mere suppliers of raw materials to highly developed countries. The solution lies in a determined effort to combat inflation.”

THE President took steps today to facilitate the investigations currently being conducted by the presidential fact-finding committee on customs as he issued an administrative order enlarging the powers of the probe body.

In the presidential order released by Malacañang this evening, the President granted additional powers to the committee, including the power to summon witnesses, administer oaths, and take testimony or evidence relevant to its investigations.

The President also authorized the body “to call upon any department, bureau, office, agency, or instrumentality of the government, including government-owned or controlled corporations, for such assistance or information as it may require in the performance of its functions, and it shall have access to any books, documents, papers, or records, subject to the limitations provided by law.”

Lt. Comdr. Marcelino Calinawan, chairman of the probe body, had informed the Chief Executive in his third progress report that the fact-finding efforts of his committee were often hampered by various regulations in its search for records and documents, particularly those involving private firms’ importations and exportations.

With the granting of additional powers, the committee may now compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents essential to its investigative work.

The President, previously, had expressed his desire to have the probe body complete its work as soon as possible so that the Bureau of Customs could return to normal operation and proceed effectively with the implementation of the Administration’s program of intensified tax collection.

EXECUTIVE Secretary Juan C. Pajo this afternoon inducted into office former Congressmen Vicente Logarta of Cebu and Agripino Escareal of Samar as legislative secretary and legislative liaison, respectively, in ceremonies held at Malacañang.

Logarta takes the place of Jose C. Nable, who had recently been appointed Press Secretary, while Escareal takes over the position vacated by Logarta.

Among those present at the ceremony were Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Senator Decoroso Rosales, Press Secretary Nable, some congressmen, and newspapermen.

August 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today discussed with two Muslim leaders the economic development of the province of Sulu, which envisions the establishment of home industries, fish canning, and pearl buttons factories.

Following the conference, the President directed the Commission on National Integration and other government agencies, including the Department of Commerce and Industry, to undertake a joint study of a long range planning on the economic development of Sulu.

Present at the conference were National Integration Commissioner Madki Alonto and Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato. President Garcia pointed out the need to launch the program immediately.

The Cotabato solon expressed the fear that banditry will be a major problem of the government agencies unless steps are initiated to give the People of Sulu a chance to improve economically.

He said that the pearl button and fishing industries are mostly in the hands of alien merchants who dictate the prices and added that the establishment of factories will help the people of Sulu materially.

Earlier, President Garcia administered the oath of office to Mrs. Consuelo (Chito) Madrigal-Vasquez as acting member of the Board of Directors of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office in the presence of Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez and Dr. Luis Vasquez.

Sen. Gonzalez submitted a report on the recently concluded United Nations seminar on urbanization in Asia held in Tokyo which proposes to levy heavy taxes on all lands not cultivated either through the neglect or indifference of the owners.

Other presidential callers included Sen. Francisco Rodrigo and Reps Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Caudencio Abordo of Palawan, Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental, Natalio Castillo of Bohol, Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Luis Hora of Mt. Province, Francisco Ortega of La Union, Ramon Durano of Cebu, Felix Garduque of Cayan, Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon, and Jose Leido of Mindoro Oriental.

President Garcia this evening rejected barter trade under Republic Act 1410 as a “drain on the dollar reserves.”

The President was interrogated by a panel of newsmen and economists at the *Kislap Graphic* forum aired over DZFM from the Manila Overseas Press Club this evening.

President Garcia also:

1. Reiterated his stand against devaluation;
2. Said that he welcomes a merger between the Liberal Party and the Progressive Party because it will preserve the two-party system in the Philippines;
3. Declared that the Philippines is assured of at least \$125 million from the United States as a result of his mission; and
4. Stated that he was not going to run for reelection in 1961.

Asked whether he might reconsider his decision not to run for reelection, the President said that every citizen should be ready to be drafted for an elective position, and that if the people need his services, he might change his mind.

Explaining his stand on the projected LP-PPP coalition, President Garcia stated that two responsible parties would be more effective and more beneficial than a multiplicity of parties, as was shown in the last elections.

The Chief Executive said that the question of decontrol was under study by Malacañang. A special committee, he stated, is considering the merits of decontrol and the safeguards to be taken should it be adopted.

He said that the credit line from the United States has not been translated into cash since procedural details are being worked out by the American and Philippine panels.

The Philippine team working out this problem, headed by RFC Chairman Eduardo Romualdez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, is returning within next week to report on the progress of their work.

August 13.—THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE was the keynote speaker at the opening ceremonies of the Sixth National Catholic Educational Convention held at the gymnasium of the University of Santo Tomas this morning.

In his speech the President stressed that the Philippines is definitely committed to the side of freedom in the great struggle between atheistic communism and the freedom-loving peoples of the world.

Over a thousand delegates to the four-day convention heard President Garcia reiterate his stand against communism. "I have been criticized by some quarters here as 'talking big' for saying this," he said. "But gentlemen, of one thing I am certain, and that is that the vast majority of our people are opposed to communism as a matter of principle.

"And the reason is not hard to seek. We are fundamentally a religious people. We can have no share in an ideology that denies the existence of God and the natural rights of man."

President Garcia arrived at the UST campus at 10 a.m. accompanied by Archbishop Juan Sison of Nueva Segovia, president of the Catholic Welfare Organization; Msgr. Osmundo Calip, national director of *The Sentinel*; and Father Mariano Gaviola, CWO assistant secretary general.

Upon arrival he received full honors rendered by an honor guard formed by the UST model ROTC company in their colorful dress regalia.

The President's speech lasted about 20 minutes. He was introduced by Fr. Anselmo Bustos, chairman of the CWO committee on arrangements. From the U.S.T. gymnasium, the President motored back to Malacañang where he stayed the whole morning without receiving any visitor.

IN the afternoon, he cancelled a scheduled conference with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano on the protest lodged by the Chinese community on the raids conducted by the constabulary-revenue-customs-agents.

The Chinese community claimed that the raids were intended to harass Sino establishments in Manila.

A Malacañang source said the President may confer with Secretary Serrano today on the CRC raids.

The President then presided over the Cabinet meeting. The meeting which opened at shortly after four o'clock lasted until 8:30 o'clock in the evening.

IN the Cabinet this evening the President impatiently brushed aside government red tape and adopted three emergency measures to rescue some 2,000 Filipino Muslims stranded in Colombo.

"Lives and not dollars and cents are involved in the case of over 2,000 Filipino Muslim pilgrims now stranded in Colombo."

This was the unanimous opinion of an aroused Cabinet that discussed the fate of the pilgrims who are now threatened with death by disease and starvation. Taking cognizance of their plight, President Garcia ordered that:

(1) The amount of \$190,000 representing charter charges be deposited with Consul General Eduardo Rosal in Hongkong with the pledge that this sum will be turned over to the owners of the *Lorraine* upon the arrival here of the pilgrims;

(2) A mercy mission to Colombo be organized and dispatched immediately to minister to the sick and protect the health of the others; and

(3) Foreign Affairs Secretary Serrano open through the American Embassy in Ceylon negotiations with the Panamanian Government on a government-to-government level and make them compel the ship owners to bring the pilgrims to the Philippines at once.

In last week's meeting the Cabinet offered to deposit the money representing the ship's hire with Consul General Rosal in Hongkong payable upon the arrival here of the pilgrims, but this offer was rejected by the Pan-Pacific Transport Co., owners of the vessel.

In a counter proposal, the ship owners demanded that a letter of credit be opened whereby half of the amount will be collectible immediately and the other half after the discharge of the last pilgrim in the Philippines.

This was turned down by President Garcia, who said this proposal was against the integrity of the Philippines since it implied a lack of faith and confidence in our government on the part of the ship owners.

President Garcia also named the following Cabinet members to organize the mercy mission: Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, National Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, and National Integration Commissioner Madki Alonto.

The mercy mission will be composed of doctors, nurses, and social workers who will take with them medicines and food to be distributed among the pilgrims. They will also take preventive measures to stop the spread of diseases on board the vessel and will care for the passengers during the voyage to the Philippines.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Serrano said negotiations with the Panamanian Government could be conducted through the American Embassy which has charge of Panamanian affairs in the Far East. The *Lorraine* is of Panamanian registry.

Meanwhile, in a cable received today by representatives of the ship's charterers from the Pan-Pacific Transport Co., it was reported that pilgrims on board the *Lorraine* had assaulted the ship's master and chief officer. The latter was hospitalized with fractured ribs.

According to the latest report, the pilgrims are subsisting partly on local charity and that disease has broken on board the ship with eight deaths reported. The situation has been described as "desperate."

The *Lorraine* was contracted by Justino Co, Ibrahim Ali, and Monti Sumbuat through its owners, the Pan-Pacific Transport Co. in Hongkong, to carry 2,000 Muslim pilgrims from the Philippines to Mecca and back.

The contract specified that payment was to be made in U. S. dollars on or before July 30. However, the Central Bank refused to furnish the charterers with the necessary dollars.

When the *Lorraine* docked at Colombo on July 30, the captain was ordered by the ship owners to hold the ship there indefinitely until payment of the amount stipulated in the contract was made.

It will be recalled that a similar incident involving Muslim pilgrims occurred in 1951 and that the Philippine Government was hard put to repatriate them.

To discourage the recurrence of similar incidents in the future, the Cabinet has ordered that a full-scale investigation of the matter be made and that the maximum punishment under our laws be meted out to the person or persons responsible.

August 14.— PRESIDENT Garcia directed today Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson to confer with NARIC officials and find ways and means for the state firm to purchase the corn harvest in Cotabato.

The presidential directive was issued in the wake of a report submitted by Mayor Hilario de Pedro of Koronadal, Cotabato, member of the ACCFA Board of Governors, that there is a bumper crop in his province.

De Pedro reported that alien merchants are buying corn at 0.08 a kilo which is hardly enough to pay the cost of production. He suggested that NARIC buy the corn at 0.10 a kilo in order to give Cotabato farmers enough incentive to continue planting corn.

At the same time, the Koronadal mayor urged the construction of the Palian River irrigation system project in order to boost the food production campaign in Cotabato.

The Department of Public Works, according to Mayor De Pedro had already surveyed the site of the project which will be financed out of bond issues at a cost of 2.64 million and will service about 5,000 hectares.

With the construction of the irrigation project, De Pedro stated, Cotabato can produce twice as much rice as any Central Luzon province.

The President also received Gov. Jose Dinglasan of Capiz and approved the release of funds for the construction of permanent bridges in Lison, Dumalag, Talaba, Sapián, and Anghuon, Pan-ay.

Other presidential callers included Govs. Jose Briones of Roxas, Jose R. Meñez of Aklan, Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, Jesus Almero of Masbate, Dominador Chipeco of Laguna, Serafin Teves of Negros Oriental, and Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, who was accompanied by Mayors Rosendo Tomas of Mayantoc and Florencio Molina of Santa Ignacia, and acting mayor Sofronio Veloso of San Juan, Rizal, and Crispin Veloso.

Earlier, President Garcia discussed Central Bank and Monetary Board matters with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and Auditor General Pedro Gimenez.

The President this day ordered PHHC Chair man Socorro Ladrera to explain within five days his side on the immorality charge hurled against him by the Mindanao-Sulu-Palawan Association.

The President's order came after receiving the charge which was formally handed him during a call sometime last month by Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez who, together with some members of the MSPA, urged Ladrera's ouster.

The President's order to Ladrera was contained in an official communication which was delivered to the PHHC chairman today.

PRESIDENT Garcia today issued a proclamation designating the period from November 15 to December 31, 1958 for the national fund campaign for the Girl Scouts of the Philippines in places "outside Greater Manila."

The proclamation stated that the GSP, since its charter in 1942, had consistently served the nation through its program of character building and citizenship training "thereby meriting the moral encouragement of our people.

In signing the proclamation, the President called upon all citizens and residents of the Philippines outside Greater Manila to support the drives so that the GSP might be assured of adequate funds with which to carry out its work.

Malacañang informed today the provincial commander of Bataan and the municipal treasurer of Mariveles that Vice-Mayor Benito Reyes of that town is the legal mayor pending the preventive suspension of Mayor Jose S. Advincula.

Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson sent a wire to the two Bataan officials by authority of the President following a report in a morning newspaper which said that there were two mayors in Mariveles.

Mayor Advincula had been suspended by Bataan Gov. Emilio Ma. Naval for 30 days since July 22, 1958. Secretary Quimson said that after the preventive suspension is over, Mayor Advincula could take over as mayor of Mariveles from Vice-Mayor Reyes.

THIS evening President Garcia expressed his satisfaction over the decision of the Pan-Pacific Transport Co. of Hongkong, operators of the *Lorraine*, to allow the return to the Philippines of over 2,000 Filipino Muslim pilgrims on board the ship.

This information was relayed to the President by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who had received a wire to, this effect from Philippine Consul General Eduardo Rosal in Hongkong.

The wire said the vessel's operators have agreed to the first proposal of the Cabinet which was that payment of the ship's hire of \$190,000 will be deposited with Rosal and that the money will be turned over to them as soon as the ship arrives in the Philippines.

Meanwhile, the committee formed by President Garcia during last night's Cabinet meeting met this afternoon to coordinate their efforts for the organization of a mercy mission to attend to the pilgrims' needs.

Commissioner Madki Alonto of National Integration, a member of the committee, reported to the President this evening that a team consisting of five doctors, four nurses, four social workers, and two Constabulary officers had been formed and were ready to leave for Colombo on short notice.

He also said that the necessary medicines, food, money, and clothing were already packed and ready for shipment aboard a chartered Convair of the Philippine Air Lines.

To avoid the recurrence of another *Lorraine* incident, Commissioner Alonto recommended to President Garcia that future pilgrimages to Mecca should be conducted under strict government supervision and that their number should be limited to not more than 1,000 each year.

THIS evening the President granted a 30-day reprieve to four condemned prisoners scheduled to die on the electric chair at 3 p.m. today for the killing and wounding of rival gangsters in Tondo four years ago,

The prisoners are Soriano Alcaraz, Carlos Espino, Manuel Soriano, and Jose Halili, members of the Tondo grease gun gang. They meted out the death penalties by the Supreme Court on April 30.

In granting the reprieve, the President said he needed more time to study the petitions for commutation of the death sentence filed in behalf of the prisoners.

August 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia directed today officials of the National Rice and Corn Corporation to resume its corn procurement activities in a move to stop speculation in the cereal. He also directed the Philippine National Bank to extend a credit line of ₱5 million to the NARIC to enable the state firm to continue buying corn.

These presidential directives, issued at a conference this morning with Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio C. Quimson, came in the wake of a report submitted by ACCFA Governor Hilario de Pedro that alien speculators were taking advantage of an unexpected bumper crop in Cotabato to corner the cereal and force down the purchase price to ₱0.08 a kilo.

The directive to the NARIC specifically stated that it should procure corn directly from producers and not from middlemen.

Secretary Quimson informed President Garcia that NARIC officials had to stop procuring corn owing to lack of funds and had requested the release of the unused balance of its capitalization fund or the extension of a new credit line from the Philippine National Bank.

Telecommunications Director Jose Alfonso conferred with President Garcia over the modernization plan of the Government Telephone System through reparations.

Ricardo Ledesma, president of the Davao Fibers Producers Cooperative Marketing Association, also called on President Garcia to present the problems facing the ramie industry.

Napoleon Lechoco took his oath of office before President Garcia as chairman of the consultative council of students and concurrently Malacañang technical assistant, Youth Affairs Office.

Other presidential callers were Rep. Jose Roy of Tarlac, Director Marcos Alicante of the Bureau of Soils, Felicísimo Serrano, and former Bohol Gov. Perfecto Balili.

The President underscored today the need for practising thrift “to the highest degree” as a matter of patriotic duty by issuing a proclamation declaring the period from September 1, 1958, to August 31, 1959, as Savings and Thrift Year.

The President encouraged the use of the savings of the people in the financing of productive enterprises and activities for the effective prosecution of the country’s investment program and in order to speed up our economic and industrial development.

President Garcia also called upon all banks and financial institutions in the country and upon all industrialists, businessmen, farmers, and the people to lend their cooperative assistance in making the campaign successful.

PRESIDENT Garcia at his press conference today defended Juan Con-con, administrator of the Office of Economic Coordination, against charges that a steel factory in which he and his wife are stockholders had been “favored” with dollar allocation of about \$1 million.

In defending Concon, who is a member of his Cabinet, President Garcia called the steel firm a “modest” one and asked, “Is there anything wrong for a Cabinet member to invest in some stocks for his future?”

The President said that Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera’s negative findings on the “white paper” had substantiated the Chief Executive’s claim that the charges in the controversial document were based on rumors and gossips.

However, he told a press conference that he had not been officially notified of Barrera’s findings in his inquiry into the charges contained in the “white paper.”

Commenting on Barrera’s findings, the President told his press conference today that he has “always maintained there is no such thing as a “white paper.”

He recalled that when he received the memorandum from Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, he did not consider the document as a “paper paper” as the charges were “based mainly from “gossips and hearsay talks.”

The Chief Executive said he referred the document to the Department of Justice for further inquiry in an effort to quiet down his detractors who had charged him with “sitting down” on the alleged explosive document.

Barrera said he had assigned agents to follow up the leads and the transactions mentioned in the “white paper” but failed to get evidence to justify the elevation of the cases in court.

He refused to identify the persons who were cleared in his investigation.

August 16.—AFTER breakfast this morning with Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan, his physicians, the President spent some time working on state papers brought over to his residence by Leoncio Piquero, an assistant in the office of the executive secretary.

About 10 a.m., the President boarded his car and motored to Malacañang where he received graduates of the Third Harvard Advanced Management Program who called to pay their respects following their recent commencement exercises.

The graduates were accompanied during the courtesy call by some members of the faculty and relatives. Closing exercises of the program had been held last Friday at the Pines Hotel in Baguio City.

The group included Professors Abe Zaleznik and Charles Bliss, General Diosdado Rodriguez, Col. Mariano Tanwangco, M. V. Iyengar, B. L. Kapur, Ray Crystal, M. K. Zaleznik, M. K. Aiyer, Manuel Benipayo, Speed Rangraj, Eufemio Ramirez, Unos Tayepse, K. L. Liauw, Emilio Mendoza, Hermie Zayco, Rex Reyes, Poch Kanawala, Carlito Rivera, Pepe Syjuco, Ben Lagdameo, Melchor Jayme, Johnny Carecio, Al Alovera, Mike Bliss, Mrs. Anita Ramirez, Mrs. Charles Bliss, and Dorothy Zaleznik.

Shortly after 12 noon, the President returned to his residence where he had lunch. With him was Lt. Melchor Fronda, naval aide. Then after a brief rest, the Chief Executive spent the afternoon poring over state papers.

DURING a conference at the President's workshop on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City this afternoon, the President instructed Secretary Juan C. Pajo to prepare an administrative order directing the NBI to go after all forms of racketeering involving the unauthorized use of the President's name and those of the members of his official and personal family.

The President, during the conference, expressed his desire to have the N.B.I. look into cases of scheming persons who sought to acquire positions and other concessions from government and private offices through the use of his forged signature.

The President had also ordered the recovery of Malacañang stationery that might be in the possession of unauthorized individuals.

Except for Secretary Pajo, the President did not receive any caller at his workshop the whole day.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: August 17-23, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 17.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this morning were the guests of honor at the inauguration and blessing of the mechanic and electromechanic building of the Don Bosco Technical Institute in Mandaluyong.

They were fetched from their Bohol Avenue residence by Rev. Fr. Pier Angelo Quaranta, rector of the Don Bosco Technical Institute, and Antonio C. Delgado, one of the principal patrons of the school.

They were met at the gates of the school by an honor guard formed by a model company of PMT cadets of the DBTI.

The First Lady cut the ribbon of the Don Bosco workshops in the presence of members of the diplomatic corps led by British Ambassador George L. Clutton and their ladies, high education officials headed by Education Secretary Manuel Lim and Director Daniel M. Salcedo of Private Schools,. Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, Mandaluyong Mayor Pedro P. Cruz, and prelates led by Archbishops Rufino J. Santos of Manila and Pignedoli of Milan, Italy.

The President and the First Lady stayed at the school for more than an hour going around the different buildings and watching young boys at work producing various articles; such as, flat irons, lamp shades, ashtrays, and religious articles.

They were particularly impressed by the technological skill and precision displayed by the youngsters who handle the complicated machines in the shop like veterans.

President Garcia left the school about 11 a.m. and proceeded to the Moonlit Terrace, where he addressed the delegates of the Fifth Annual Constitutional Convention of the Philippine Trade Unions Council (PTUC).

In his speech the President cited several labor laws which he said are “among the revolutionary innovations that today are helping build a strong Philippine nation.”

The pieces of labor legislation he enumerated were the Social Security Act, the 40-hour Labor Law, the National Apprenticeship Act, and the Industrial Peace Act of 1953 known as the Magna Charta of Labor.

The last law, the Chief Executive pointed out “has hastened the growth of trade unionism in the Philippines and has to that degree strengthened and given substance to democracy as an ideology and as a way of life.”

President Garcia made these statements before 300 delegates of the Philippine Trade Unions Council held at the Moonlit Terrace on Azcarraga, corner Rizal Avenue, this noon.

In paying tribute to labor's role in reorganizing society, the President looked back on the history of the Philippine labor movement and traced unionism from its establishment here by the late Isabelo de los Reyes in 1902 to the present year.

From the Moonlit Terrace he went home to his Quezon City residence where he spent the rest of the day resting and studying pending state papers.

August 18.—THE PRESIDENT had breakfast this morning with Speaker Daniel Romualdez, who reported on his recent trip in the Cagayan Valley. The speaker briefed the President on his conferences with local party leaders and certain arrangements he had with them with the view to strengthening the Nacionalista Party.

The President also had conferences this morning with House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, Reps. Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, and Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental. The solons consulted the Chief Executive on problems of their respective localities.

This morning President Garcia received the Gold Medal of Honor of the Philippine Veterans' Legion "in recognition of his devotion to duty, both in times of war and peace, and in recognition further of his recent trip to the United States which reaffirmed the strong and friendly relations between the American and the Filipino peoples and likewise placed the Philippines squarely on the side of freedom-loving nations."

The medal was pinned by Mrs. Josefa Capistrano, president of the Legion's Auxiliary, after Legionnaire Dominador Realon had read the citation.

The PVL group also presented the President with a resolution giving him their vote of confidence. The resolution had been approved unanimously at a chapter and post commanders' conference at the National Press Club building on August 9 and 10.

Headed by National Commander Francisco Offemaria, the group included Mrs. Miguela Portugal and Legionnaires Ernesto Villanis, Victor Boldeo, B. Kalaw, Alejandro Balderian, Norberto Baylen, and Severino de la Cruz.

Earlier, the President signed the appointment of Gen. Leoncio Tan (Ret.) as acting member of the Board of Directors of the National Rice and Corn Corporation.

Dr. Cecilio Lopez of the UP Institute of Asian Studies and youth leaders led by Lourdes O. Casas, called on President Garcia to ask his support for the bid of the Asian Youth Institute of the Philippines for the adoption of the A YIP as an international project of the UNESCO.

A delegation of members of the Pena Hispano Filipina also called on the President to request that in international conferences, the Philippines be represented by Spanish speaking delegates in order to get the support of South American delegates.

Former Sen. Enrique B. Magalona, head of the Peña group, told President Garcia that in the recently concluded conference of the International Labor Organization held at Geneva, the Philippines was elected member of the governing board owing to the support of the Spanish bloc

The President later inducted the officials of the Chess Foundation of the Philippines and received a group of Marinduque Nacionalistas led by Rep. Francisco Lecaroz and Santa Cruz Mayor Lorenzo Belarmino.

Among the last morning callers of the President at his residence on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City were NAWASA; General Manager Susano R. Negado, who reported on his three-week trip to Tokyo.

Negado reported he had obtained pipes, trucks, jeeps, and heavy equipment from U. S. Army Navy installations in Tokyo under the ICA aid, for the wells construction project of the Administration in the rural areas.

Negado also informed the President of his observations in various wells construction systems in Japan, some of which could be adopted here.

The Chief Executive was particularly impressed by Negado's description of the so-called Manchurian system, otherwise known as the horizontal wells which could be adopted in certain sections of Central Luzon and Mindanao provinces, and in other localities where there are no surface water sources.

Shortly before 10 a.m., the President motored to Malacañang to receive scheduled callers.

THIS afternoon President Garcia ordered Acting NBI Director Jose Lukban to investigate the ambush-killing of Vigan Mayor I Lorenzo Formoso this noon.

Report of the ambush was brought to the President at Malacañang by Rep. Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur. Tobia showed to President Garcia the wire he had just received informing him about the tragic incident.

According to sketchy reports received by Tobia, the ambush took place along the national highway less than a kilometer from the headquarters of the provincial constabulary detachment.

President Garcia also set the ball rolling for the 1958 Anti-TB Educational and Fund Campaign by presenting his personal contribution of ₱1,000 to Eugenio J. Puyat, general chairman of the campaign.

The goal for this year's educational and fund campaign has been set at ₱600,000 and of this amount a total of ₱79,875.00 was collected this afternoon by volunteer workers of the Philippines Tuberculosis Society.

The kick-off ceremonies for the 1958 Anti-TB Educational and Fund Campaign was held at the Malacañang social hall.

Among the callers of President Garcia this afternoon after the ceremonies was Roy Keaton, director general of Lions International, who paid a courtesy call. He was accompanied by cabinet officers of Lions International District 301; namely, "Gene" Eusebio, "Laling" Legaspi, "George" Barrenengos, "Paking" Floro, "Vic" Sypheng, "Basil" Go, "Ossie" Hamada, "Tony" Abaya, and "Impiong" Villacorta.

George S. Moore, vice-president of the First National City Bank of New York, also paid a courtesy call on President Garcia. With Moore was Richard M. Henry, manager of the bank's branch office here.

After resting for a while, President Garcia motored to the Manila Hotel where he administered the oaths of office to the newly-elected officers of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce headed by Marcelo Balatbat.

August 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia said today that he was backing the raids being conducted by the joint Constabulary-Revenue-Customs teams against economic saboteurs as long as they are made within the law.

The President at the same time served a stern warning to the raiding teams that any "misbehavior" on the part of their members in the course of their work would be dealt with severely.

The statement was made following a conference at Malacañang with Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, and Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, PC chief. The conference lasted from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

In the course of the conference Gen. Cruz informed the President that intelligence reports had been used to insure the success of the raids. Gen. Cruz denied the reported surprise night raids allegedly conducted by the teams, saying that owners of establishments often requested that searches be conducted after business hours to avoid embarrassment to the owners and that such searches often lasted until late into the night.

During the conference the President also took up with the AFP officials his plan to reconstitute the National Security Council this week. He said he had assigned Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, to work on the matter.

Other matters taken up included the ambush-killing of Mayor Lorenzo Formoso of Vigan, Ilocos Sur. The President reiterated his directive to have the guilty parties prosecuted without delay.

PRESIDENT Garcia paid tribute to the late President Manuel L. Quezon during the ceremonies commemorating his 80th birthday anniversary held this afternoon in Quezon City.

Speaking before a large crowd that gathered before the grandstand immediately after the civic and military parade, the President exhorted the people that out of respect to the memory of the late President Quezon and as a response to the challenge of his example, “to make of our Republic for which he died, forever a land of social justice and equal opportunity, of enlightened nationalism, of honest public services, and of responsible freedom.”

President Garcia was greeted upon his arrival at the grandstand with a 21-gun salute and was met by an honor guard platoon representing different units of the AFP.

More than 5,000 persons participated in the two-hour long parade which included elements from the Armed Forces, selected ROTC and PMT units, Manila and suburban police and fire-fighting forces, Boy and Girl scouts, Quezon city government officials and employees, and students and teachers from different public and private schools in the locality.

As the parade wound its way along Highway 54, several jet planes of the Philippine Air Force swooped down and roared overhead in close formation.

Color was added to the parade by the participation of 13 well-decorated floats put by the University of the Philippines and by government and private hospitals and offices located in Quezon City.

President Garcia was introduced by Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto who spoke in Tagalog. The program was cut short after President Garcia’s speech by a strong rain that sent the crowd scampering for shelter.

After the Quezon Day ceremonies, the President returned to Malacañang for a brief rest.

In the evening, President Garcia attended a command performance of the plays, *Sabina* and *The Ladies and the Senator*, two presentations of the Arena Theater held in the social hall of Malacañang.

August 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia today appointed Feliciano de Gala as chairman and general manager of the Philippine Coconut Administration vice Benjamin Salvosa, whose four-year term had expired last August 16.

De Gala took his oath of office before Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo in a ceremony held at Malacañang this morning.

The President also signed the appointments of Jesus Borromeo as provincial fiscal of Bohol and the transfer of Provincial Fiscal Pio Ferandos from Zamboanga del Norte to Cebu.

Earlier in the morning, the President and the First Lady motored to the Balagbag Air Terminal where they saw off their only daughter, Linda, and her husband, Fernando Campos, who flew to the United States at 8 a.m.

Expected to stay in the U. S. for about a year, the couple will take up residence in Boston, Massachusetts. Fernando will take graduate studies at Harvard University, while Linda will enroll at Radcliffe University to take some cultural courses.

Then the President motored to his residence in Quezon City, where he discussed with General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras the details of the Chief Executive’s projected trip to Davao, to inaugurate the expanded airport in Davao City.

At noon, the President was luncheon guest at the Casino Español of Alfonso Calalang, who is leaving soon on an observation trip upon the invitation of the English government.

IN the afternoon, the President convoked his regular weekly Cabinet meeting.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon took up the long-drawn issue on U. S. bases in the Philippines at a conference with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano in Malacañang.

President Garcia and Serrano defined the Philippine position in an effort to find a “suitable basis” for the reopening of the recessed discussions on the U. S. bases in the country.

The conference lasted more than an hour and indicated that the two reviewed the subjects taken up at the stalemated talks and the points which had derailed the negotiations.

The President, it was learned, saw the “need” to start exploratory talks along diplomatic channels in order to find a basis to resume the recessed panel discussions.

AFTER his conference with Secretary Serrano, the President presided over his regular Cabinet meeting which lasted until late in the evening.

It was learned that discussions centered on the controversial barter rules drawn up by a three-man Cabinet committee recently designated to rewrite the regulations promulgated last June by Commerce Secretary Hernaez.

The Cabinet this evening completely banned the entry of non-essential and luxury items which had previously been allowed to land as gifts or “personal effects of returning residents.”

The Cabinet in a four-hour meeting decided to scrap a section in the controversial barter rules and regulations which had allowed the entry of these items.

The Cabinet took up the controversial barter rules after the President had disbanded a three-man committee for its failure to draw up an acceptable draft of regulations in two weeks’ time.

In going over the barter rules, the President and the Cabinet decided to junk section 3-A of the Department of Commerce regulations which reads:

“Commodities classified by the Central Bank of the Philippines as unclassified items and luxury items may be allowed to be imported,” provided they are strictly commodities for personal use or commodities sent as gifts or brought in by returning residents and provided further they are not in commercial quantities.”

The President in junking this section, indicated that this provision had been resorted to by returning residents to circumvent the ban against their importation.

It was also indicated that the provision does not only cover goods brought in by producers in the course of barter trade but provided a loophole to go about the ban against the entry of these commodities,

A Malacañang spokesman indicated that the Cabinet virtually urged against the congressional currents which had agitated for the elimination of controls.

At the same time, the Cabinet decided to limit barter trade through straight transactions and voted definitely against a triangular or three-way barter transactions.

President Garcia had “frozen” all applications for barter until the Cabinet had rewritten the barter rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of Commerce.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet also authorized the government-owned or government-controlled corporations to give contributions to charity organizations.

The Cabinet action was prompted by an opposition raised by the auditor general who questioned the contribution given by government corporations to government authorized fund campaigns.

Auditor General Pedro Gimenez questioned the contributions given to the 10th World Boy Scouts Jamboree fund, as illegal.

However, Gimenez pointed out that, if authorized by the Cabinet, these contributions could be legalized.

The Cabinet, acting on Gimenez's opposition, authorized the government corporations to give certain percentage of their profits to charitable organizations or government-authorized fund drives.

August 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia after more than 10 hours session with his Cabinet which lasted until 4 o'clock this morning approved the draft of a set of rules and regulations on the implementation of the barter provisions of Republic Act No. 1410.

In approving the draft which was the result of continuous discussions among the members of the Cabinet from 6 p.m. yesterday to 3:30 a.m. today, the President said that the implementation of the barter law would have an effect on the general economy of the country. He said he had to hear the views of his department secretaries, particularly those who had something to do with the nation's economy, before formulating a decision on the important issue.

Among the salient points which the President sought to make clear in the approved rules and regulations were that:

1. Only *bona fide* producers or producers' cooperatives, or producers associations may engage in barter;
2. Only straight barter, not triangular barter, can be allowed;
3. The Philippines shall not have barter transactions with free ports and communist countries.

The first two points had been agreed upon in view of the general opinion among the members of the Cabinet that the barter law intended to benefit only *bona fide* producers, not traders or financiers, and that the law permitted only straight barter, not triangular barter.

The decision not to barter with free ports and communist countries was on the insistent recommendation of Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas for reasons of security.

Other features of the new rules and regulations as passed at the marathon meeting of the Cabinet include the following:

1. "Products under quota, as listed under the Laurel-Langley agreement, or those having preferential tariff rate, in the United States may be bartered to the extent that they exceed the quotas or cannot be sold profitably in the United States market at current U. S. prices, except in the case of sugar where the domestic requirements must be met."
2. "Commodities imported under barter be in the name of the producer-exporter and shall be subject to the corresponding taxes and duties. In no case shall commodities banned from import or classified as U. I. (unclassified items) by the Central Bank, or in violation of the Anti-Dumping Law, shall be allowed to be imported under barter. Collateral imports which may be brought in from any country by the same producer-importer shall be composed of at least 70 per cent machinery, equipment, and/or essential commodities, 20 per cent semi-essentials and 10 per cent non-essentials."
3. "All barter agreements shall be covered by non-negotiable back-to-back letters of credit under rules customarily prescribed for such transactions by the Central Bank; except in the case of machinery and heavy equipment, the excess in value of exports over imports, or vice versa, shall not vary by more than 10 per cent during any 60-day period of time."

Amendments to the proposed rules and regulations recently promulgated by Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez were based mainly on a draft prepared by Secretary Barrera which the Justice Secretary believed, embodied a “happy compromise” between the views of Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and Secretary Hernaez.

In drafting the rules, the President and the Cabinet sought to plug possible loopholes in the proper implementation of the barter law. They paid particular attention avoiding situations permitting collusion between the importers and exporters and the waiting away of Philippine dollars abroad.

Among those who participated actively in the discussions were Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Secretary Barrera, Secretary Hernaez, Secretary Hernandez, Secretary Vargas, NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, and Commissioner Sofronio Quimson. All members of the Cabinet voted and explained their stand on all important provisions of the barter rules.

The following provision in the regulations proposed by Secretary Hernaez which is not found in the present barter rules was completely eliminated in the approved draft:

“Commodities classified by the Central Bank of the Philippines as UP or unclassified items and luxury items, may be allowed to be imported (through barter) provided that they are strictly commodities for personal use or commodities sent as gifts or brought in by returning residents, and provided further that they are not in commercial quantity.”

The new set of rules will take effect upon publication in the *Official Gazette*. The draft is now with Secretary Barrera, who had been designated to put it in final form before it is signed by the secretary of commerce.

The President adjourned the meeting shortly before 4 a.m. by thanking the members of his advisory body for their “splendid cooperation.”

Except for a light snack yesterday afternoon, members of the Cabinet went on with the meeting without supper. Although tired and hungry, they filed out of the Council of State room in Malacañang looking cheerful and, perhaps, feeling glad that the controversial barter rules and regulations had been finally settled.

IN VIEW of the marathon Cabinet meeting which broke up at 4 a.m., today, President Garcia cancelled all his appointments this morning.

This afternoon, President and Mrs. Garcia received Italian Ambassador and Mrs. Benedetto d’Acunzo, who came to pay a farewell call. The couple are leaving soon for Quito, Ecuador, the Ambassador’s new assignment.

The President gave Ambassador d’Acunzo a box of Philippine cigars, while the First Lady presented Mrs. d’Acunzo with a hand-embroidered *piña* bag.

After receiving Ambassador and Mrs. d’acunzo, President Garcia signed the letters of credence of Mrs. Trinidad F. Legarda as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Vietnam; Jose Alejandrino as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Pakistan; and Octavio L. Maloles as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Mexico.

Other callers of the President were Ramon Sytanco of Naga City and General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras.

Malacañang released today the names of 16 prisoners granted conditional pardon by President Garcia on the occasion of the 80th birthday of the late President Quezon last August 19.

August 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning directed Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez to start immediately a campaign against locusts in Negros Occidental.

The President issued the directive at a conference with Rep. Vicente Gustilo, who received a wire from Acting Gov. Armando Gustilo of Negros Occidental

The President also received four checks totaling ₱80,000 from Arsenio Jison, president of the Philippine National Bank; Rodolfo Andal, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System; Andres Castillo, acting governor of the Central Bank; and Dr. Wenceslao Pascual and Roberto Benedicto, governors of the Development Bank of the Philippines. The amount represents the contributions of these government entities to the Peace and Amelioration Fund drive.

High officials of the Land Tenure Administration called on President Garcia to request additional funds for LTA activities and discuss policies regarding acquisition of agricultural and urban lands within Manila.

Headed by Chairman Manuel E. Castañeda, the LTA group was composed of Commissioners Numeriano Fabie and Julian de Vera and Finance Officer Amadeo Alinea.

Greater emphasis on nationalism in the orientation of economic policies was urged by officials of the National Economic Protectionism Association in the course of a courtesy call on President Garcia.

Daniel Me. Gomez, NEPA president, presented a memorial to President Garcia urging an indirect government subsidy to the movement and a reduction in the importation of non-essential commodities.

The memorial also urged the approval of a congressional charter for the NEPA and making every government-owned corporation a sustaining NEPA member.

Other NEPA officials who saw President Garcia were Toribio Teodoro, Sergio Bayan, Gabriel A. Daza, Julian La O, Jr., Ramon C. Ordoveza, and Arturo Jacinto.

Consul General Eduardo Rosal called on President Garcia to report that the ship *Lorraine* carrying about 2,400 Muslim pilgrims from Mecca was proceeding to Singapore to pick up medicines sent by Commissioner Madki Alonto of National Integration.

Rosal informed President Garcia that the ship-owners had told him that about 10 Muslims were dying everyday on board the ship owing to malnutrition.

Other presidential callers were House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, Don Gil Garcia, Dr. and Mrs. Fernando Escaño, Russell Moran, Ben Salvosa, Sen. Quintin Paredes, Jesus Yujuico, and Juiji G. Kasai, director of the Philippine Society of Japan.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon justified anew the morality of Economic Coordinator Juan Concon's investments in a steel mill in Bohol which, he said, is a "development enterprise that will put on a competitive basis the price of GI sheets."

President Garcia devoted the greater part of his regular press conference to a vigorous defense of his Cabinet member and branded as "malicious insinuations" that he is Concon's relative.

His first defense of Concon in last week's regular press conference stirred a mild political tempest as Liberal Party leaders headed by Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal questioned the "morality" of the Cabinet member's investment in the steel mill.

The Chief Executive pointed that if any member of the Cabinet is asked to make an investment, he can properly do so, especially if it is for development enterprise like the Southern Industrial Projects, Inc.

"I doubt," President Garcia went on, "if there is anybody in this government who has not been approached in one way or another to invest in this or that industrial venture. I really don't see any immorality for anybody responding to a call for investments if there is."

However, the President said Concon has not assumed direction or part of the management of the corporation, although the Cabinet member's wife is temporarily acting as president of the firm.

Asked if he was aware of Executive Order No. 103 issued in 1913 banning Cabinet members or heads of bureaus from participating "directly or indirectly" in a business venture, the President answered in the negative.

"Be that as it may," he pointed out, "Concon has bought some shares in a new industrial venture that had not yet anything to do with the government because it had yet to be organized. This is a corporation which has just been formed; even the officers are not yet in permanent status and it has no contracts yet with the government."

The President also denied that Concon's participation in the steel corporation constituted "influence peddling."

He said the OEC administrator did not have anything to do in the processing of new necessary industries.

At the same time, the President justified the organization of the steel mill, saying that there is a need for such development enterprise.

"I also believed that the two organized steel corporations were after all processing steel by just adding corrugations. I don't believe," he added, "they can meet the needs of the southern half of the Philippines at this time."

The President further pointed out that even for economic reason, "since Bohol is nearer to Iligan where the government integrated steel industry would be established, it would be logical for the steel factory to be established there."

He expressed the belief that there is no overcrowding in the steel industry and "I want to add that we must put on a competitive basis the price of GI sheets."

He said that the distribution of GI sheets is monopolized by two companies and that the distributors were even aliens and are profiting by ₱1.33 per sheet.

"That is not competition," he said, "if we have enough steel industries, we could bring the price down to competitive level for the general good of the people."

Asked if there were safeguards to prevent Cabinet members with private investments to prevent them from abusing their prerogatives, the President replied, "their conscience."

"It is only the feeling of decency guided by his own conscience," he said, "that really would prevent him from making undue advantage in wielding his power."

The President sent today a message of congratulations to Mrs. Josefina Phodaca-Ambrosio, member of the Philippine delegation to the International Federation of Women Lawyers, for her unanimous election as president of the organization at its current convention in Los Angeles, California.

A similar message was sent today by Col. Mamerto Montemayor on behalf of all technical assistants in Malacañang. Mrs. Ambrosio is at present one of the technical assistants in the Office of the President.

August 23.—THIS MORNING, the President did not receive any visitors. He stayed in his bedroom reading the morning papers. Later, he went over some pending state papers.

THIS afternoon the President further expanded his house-cleaning drive as he directed the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (Pcape) to wage an all-out war against “economic saboteurs” in government corporations.

The President instructed PCAPE officials to look into reported cases of anomalies in the National Marketing Corporation, the National Rice and Corn Corporation, the Land Tenure Administration, the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation, the Bureau of Immigration, the Central Bank, and other government entities which had something to do with the nation’s economy.

Said the President during a two-hour conference with PCAPE officials at Malacañang this afternoon: “Investigate these government agencies. Get all the facts. I do not care whether the offenders are my relatives, friends, or political supporters. You and I are only doing our duty as expected of us by the people.”

The President also reiterated his full support of the raids being conducted by the constabulary-revenue-customs teams as long as they are made properly. He said he was awaiting the progress report on these raids which is being prepared by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas.

Present at the conference at Malacañang this afternoon were Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman; Capt. Francisco Calinawan, vice-chairman; Maj. Federico Salcedo, special assistant on communications; Maximo Mecerén, special assistant on research and analysis; and Maj. Teodulo Natividad.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon formally accepted on behalf of the Philippine Government agricultural tools and farm implements worth ₱200,000 from N. A. Fittinghoff, president of the Koppel (Philippines) Inc., in turnover ceremonies held in Pier 9, South Harbor.

These tools and implements were donated to the farmers of the Philippines by the United States Industries, Inc., mother company of Koppel (Philippines) Inc.

In accepting the farm implements, President Garcia said “the material value of this donation, impressive as it is, pales beside the value count of the spirit with which it has been given, for these tools represent the goodwill and warm-heartedness that the United States feels towards the Filipinos.”

(Watch for the full text of the speech in the next issue.)

Five farmers from Cainta, Rizal, representatives of agricultural workers all over the country, were special guests at the turnover ceremonies. They were Igmidio de Guzman, Ambrosio Cruz, Florencio Legaspi, Pedro Javier, and Victor Leble.

Easily the most expensive among the implements donated was an Axelson heavy-duty engine lathe which is valued at ₱80,000. It will be installed at the machine shop of the NASSCO on Engineer Island, where it will be of greatest use in our industrial projects.

Agricultural implements worth ₱120,000 consisting of 1,500 plows, 1,000 wheelbarrows, 4,000 spades, 1,000 corn-grinders, and 1,000 handsaws were also presented to the Government of the Philippines by the United States Industries, Inc.

The token presentation of these farm tools and implements had been made during the recent state visit of President Garcia to the United States by John I. Snyder, Jr., president and chairman of the board of the United States Industries, Inc.

Among those present at the turnover ceremonies were U. S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, ICA Director Paul D. Summers, Agricultural Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Education Secretary Manuel Lim. SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, and ACCFA Administrator Ernesto T. Jimenez.

Distribution of these tools and implements to Filipino farmers will be made through the ACCFA.

The President motored to Pier 9, South Harbor, at 5 o'clock this afternoon, to accept the turnover of 8,500 agricultural tools and implements.

From Pier 9, President Garcia preceded to a cocktail party at the Candle Room of the Manila Hotel, given by Alfred Wagg Pictures of Washington, D. C. During the affair a giant picture album containing photos of the President and the First Lady during their state visit to the United States was presented to President Garcia by Wagg.

After the cocktail party, President Garcia motored to his Bohol Avenue residence.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Month in Review: August 16-31, 1958

OFFICIAL MONTH IN REVIEW

August 16.—THE President was in bad humor this morning after reading newspaper reports that he was heading for a “showdown” with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

“This is no longer objective reporting,” the President was reported to have told Acting Press-Secretary Guillermo V. Sison whom he summoned to the Palace after reading the newspaper account.

The President told Sison to issue a denial to the story and later called Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable to do something about it.

President Garcia told his early callers today he had never been at loggerheads with the Senate President and described their conference in Malacañang last Thursday as “cordial and devoted to drafting campaign plans.”

It was learned that the President had summoned the Senate Leader, who is concurrently president of the Nacionalista Party, on becoming the general campaign manager in the coming political drive. However, Rodriguez was reported to have said that his designation would depend on the senatorial candidates who have to ratify the President's choice.

President Garcia later conferred with his running mate, Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., for almost two hours. The conference was held behind closed doors.

However, a Malacañang spokesman told newsmen last night the President and the Speaker discussed campaign plans and decided to devote more time in campaigning in Tagalog provinces.

Laurel conceded that the President may lose in these areas unless a concentrated campaign was waged.

Sison disclosed part of the subjects taken up in the conference and said that if these matters were kept under wraps again, newsmen may speculate on another Garcia-Laurel “showdown.”

After the President's conference with Laurel, he received Lirio Tongson, vice-chairman of the board of directors of the UNICEF.

AT noon the President swore in former Director of Labor Agapito Burgos as member of the Nacionalista Party, before ranking political leaders of the Cagayan Valley who witnessed the ceremony at the President's study room.

Burgos, who had launched his candidacy for Congress in the first district of Cagayan, announced his withdrawal from the race in order to dedicate his time in campaigning for the entire Nacionalista ticket.

He also expressed the hope that his withdrawal from the Cagayan congressional race would help solidify the North and boost the leadership of Secretary Eulogio Balao in Cagayan.

Burgos rose from the ranks and served as director of labor under the late Presidents Quirino and Magsaysay. He said he retired from the government service when the Department of Labor was reorganized.

Sponsors of the new Nacionalista were Secretary Balao, Gov. Ramon Caro of Isabela, former Gov. Vicente Formoso of Cagayan, Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela, and ex-Rep. Domingo Siason of Cagayan.

The President also received Rep. Ismael Veloso and Gov. Alejandro Almendras, both of Davao, in separate conferences. Earlier in the morning he received Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Occidental Negros and Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal.

Then the President received a delegation of sanitary inspectors, led by their president, Carlos E. Cabantac, who promised to support the Administration's rural health program. The sanitary inspectors are at present holding their fifth national convention at the San Lazaro Hospital compound.

August 11.—UPON the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, President Garcia before leaving for Baguio this morning granted 22 conditional pardons, four absolute pardons, one special absolute pardon, and two commutation of sentences.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon was guest speaker at the graduation ceremonies of the Harvard Second Advanced Management Program in the Far East, held at the St. Louis College auditorium in Baguio City.

Conducted by faculty members from the Harvard University's Graduate School of Business Administration, the advance course which lasted eight weeks had been attended by businessmen from seven Asian countries; namely, Burma, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, Thailand, and the Philippines.

The President's speech lasted about 40 minutes. He was introduced to the cosmopolitan gathering by Pablo R. Suarez, Jr., one of the graduates from the Philippines.

Other speakers were Mons. William Brasseur, vicar apostolic of Mt. Province, who gave the invocation; Faustino R. Lozada, president of the graduating class; and Dr. Harry L. Hansen, dean of the Advanced Management Program, both of whom delivered welcome addresses; Ramon V. del Rosario, chairman of the program's executive committee; and Amir Chiney, from Pakistan.

The President arrived in Baguio about 2:15 p.m. after more than six hours' motor trip from Manila. The presidential car had to proceed slowly along the highway the whole morning, sometimes, at not more than 20 miles an hour, owing to heavy blinding rains.

Originally intending to take a plane for Baguio, the Chief Executive finally decided to take a car on the insistence of Col. Urbano Caldoza, Civil Aeronautics Administrator, because of the inclement weather.

At Marilao, Bulacan, at 9:10 a.m., the presidential car figured in a near mishap when a jeepney with a Manila license plate, running at a fast clip from the opposite direction, suddenly swerved and smashed into a security car driving a few feet ahead of the presidential car.

The accident was attributed to a mechanical defect of the jeepney, as its front left wheel flew off, hitting the presidential car. The Chief Executive alighted from his car and proceeded only after ascertaining that no one in the jeepney was hurt.

AT exactly 12 noon, while going through a barrio in Moncada, Tarlac, a two-year-old child suddenly emerged from one of the houses and raced across the street. The slow moving traffic jeep from the IMA which had offered to lead the presidential motorcade through Tarlac province, had to ram into a fence on the opposite side of the street to avoid the child.

The President again alighted and in no time found himself surrounded by barrio folks who were pleasantly surprised to find the head of the nation suddenly in their midst. He talked to the people and expressed gratification over the fact that the child, except for light bruises for having stumbled on the street, was otherwise unhurt.

Finally arriving in Baguio early in the afternoon, the President proceeded direct to the St. Louis College auditorium for the graduation ceremonies. Without having his lunch, he stayed at the auditorium until the graduation rites ended

at 4:30 p.m. The President saw the program through. He shook hands with each of the 108 graduates, along with the Harvardian faculty members who conducted the advanced business course.

The President arrived at the Guest House at 5:30 p.m. and, after a brief rest, received several callers.

August 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia had a heavy schedule of callers at the Guest House today. The President started the morning by hearing mass at the Guest House. Following breakfast the President started receiving callers.

A big delegation of La Union mayors and political leaders, accompanied by Rep. Francisco Ortega, called on the President to reiterate their pledge of loyalty “in order to erase any misunderstanding about their stand in the forthcoming national elections.”

Top officers of the Philippine Military Academy also called to pay their respects. They were accompanied by Col. Oscar Rialp, acting PMA superintendent. In the course of their call, the PMA officers discussed with the President new policies being adopted by the Academy to further improve that military institution. The President expressed his belief that the traditional hazing had no longer a place in modern education, particularly because in the Philippine Military Academy the cadets are being subjected to rigid mental and physical examinations prior to their admission. He said that the practice of hazing was already outdated.

A delegation headed by Rep. Luis Hora of Mountain Province called on the President and requested improvements for their respective barrios in the suburbs of Baguio.

Another delegation from the barrios of Hillside and Dagsian, accompanied by Rep. Ramon Mitra and Mayor Alfonso Tabora, saw the Chief Executive. The group thanked the President for giving them their school building and feeder roads.

The President had luncheon with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, who consulted him on problems of his office.

IN the afternoon, the Chief Executive received Mons. William Brassour, vicar apostolate of Mountain Province, who accompanied a delegation from the PACDAL Catholic Council which paid their respects.

The President is expected to return to Manila tomorrow morning to fulfill a speaking engagement with the PTUC at 11 a.m. at the National Press Club Building.

August 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed awake in Baguio all of last night and caught up with his sleep aboard the presidential train that brought him and a group of newsmen to Manila this morning.

Mansion House sources said the President stayed late into the night with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and discussed contingent fund allocations to flood-stricken areas.

Just before dawn, the President switched from state papers to chess. He played with Col. Nicanor Jimenez until four o'clock in the morning.

After drinking a cup of coffee, the President motored to Damortis where a presidential train awaited to take him to Manila.

President Garcia had planned to fly to Manila but was advised against doing so owing to the inclement weather.

The President arrived in Damortis at 6:30 a.m. and immediately the presidential train pulled off for Manila.

President Garcia gave a brief press conference aboard the presidential train and later repaired to his suite where he slept throughout the way to Manila.

The presidential train arrived at the Sta. Mesa station at 10:30 a.m.

After a brief rest in Malacañang, the President motored to the National Press Club where he addressed the Philippine Trade Union Council.

He went down to the third floor of the NPC and joined newsmen at the bar. He offered drinks to newsmen and paid the chits.

From the NPC, the President returned to Malacañang.

After a few minutes' rest, the President motored to Quezon City where he led the nation in observing the 79th birthday of the late President Quezon.

He read a prepared speech which started in the national language and later switched to English.

President Garcia's speech left no doubt in the minds of his listeners that he had a hand in drafting the five-page opus.

Notable portion of his speech was as follows:

"The whole nation offers to his (Quezon's) memory the most beautiful flowers of a thousand fragrance culled from the very heart of the people's Garden of Love and Gratitude.

"It was his cherished dream to send the sunbeams of contentment and happiness into every hut and heart.

"But I would like to add that in our preoccupation for charting the course of our Ship of State amidst the Sargasso Sea of international relations

"He dipped his insight into the mechanics of the human heart and the dynamics of the human soul"

IN the evening the President delivered his third address of the day at the Manila Hotel before the Manila Lions.

The President delivered today three speeches on the occasion of the celebration of the late President Manuel L. Quezon's birthday anniversary.

He delivered his first address before the Philippine Trade Union Council at the National Press Club Building at 11 a.m.

In the afternoon the President was the principal speaker in Quezon City which celebrated President Quezon's birthday anniversary.

In the evening the Chief Executive addressed the Manila Lions Club which held a Quezon birthday anniversary banquet at the Manila Hotel.

August 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received the pledge of the officials and members of the Moslem Pilgrimage Association of the Philippines to support his candidacy.

Sheik Abdul Racman Pacasum, president of the association, transmitted the pledge to the President in the course of his call on the Chief Executive.

Pacasum also informed the President that the association would conduct a pilgrimage to Mecca sometime early next year. For the last three years there had been no pilgrimage to Mecca. Pacasum added.

Officials of the President Magsaysay's Rural Organization accompanied former PPP organizers in Mindoro Oriental who were sworn in as Nacionalista members by the President,

Socorro Veloria, provincial coordinator and organizer-at-large of the Progressive Party of the Philippines (MPM), told the President that she had been convinced that there could be no other candidate better fitted for the presidency than the present incumbent.

The other new Nacionalistas were Roberto Tenorio, Ofelia Acedillo, and Serenidad Acedillo. They were accompanied by Tereso Dumon, Capt. Sofronio Tagaro, and Jose Sarte, a lawyer.

A group of Japanese businessmen, accompanied by Jose A. Laurel, III, paid a courtesy call on the President. The Japanese group was composed of T. Ando, president of the Onoda Cement Company, T. Nakao, O. Hirano, Susumu Kajita, S. Fujimaki, and S. Hanada.

After receiving Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., NP vice-presidential candidate, and Sen. Francisco Delgado in the Malacañang music room, the President went down to the social hall to receive a big delegation of Caviteños led by Mayor Benigno Guinto of Bacoor, president of the Cavite Mayors' League, Mayor Isaac Tolentino of Tagaytay City, and Mayor Fidel Dones of Cavite City.

THE President today signed a proclamation declaring Friday, August 30, 1957, a special public holiday only in the province of Bulacan.

Marcelo H. del Pilar, who used the *nom de plume* Plaridel in his struggles in Spain to obtain reforms for the Philippines during the Spanish regime, was born in Bulacan, Bulacan, on August 30, 1850.

The *Samahang Bulacan* requested the President to sign the proclamation to give the people of Bulacan the opportunity to celebrate Del Pilar's birthday with fitting ceremonies.

PRESIDENT Garcia received the credentials of Ministers Ty Kim Sour of Cambodia and Phouvong Phimmasone of Laos in separate ceremonies held at Malacañang this afternoon.

The ceremonies marked the formal opening of the first diplomatic relations between the Philippines and those states, in line with the Administration's policy of establishing closer economic, cultural, and diplomatic ties between this country and its neighbors in the Far East.

Laos and Cambodia are the last sovereign states in this part of the world with which the Philippines has heretofore not established diplomatic relations. Phouvong who is concurrently ambassador to Vietnam and Ty, who is concurrently minister to Thailand, are accredited here as non-resident ministers of their respective countries. Their Philippine counterpart is Minister Mariano Espeleta, Philippine minister to Vietnam, who had been also accredited as non-resident envoy to Laos and Cambodia.

In presenting their credentials, the new envoys pledged to devote their utmost efforts to the accomplishments of their mission; namely, the furtherance of friendly relations between the Philippines and their countries.

The President in his response welcomed the new diplomats on behalf of the Filipino people and assured them of full cooperation on the part of the Philippine Government in the accomplishment of their missions.

The credential-presentation ceremony for the Cambodian minister started about 4 p.m. Then followed that for the Laoan minister at 5 p.m. Each of the ceremonies which were held at Malacañang's ceremonial hall lasted not more than 15 minutes.

Present at the rites were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Yenke, Jr., Ministers Tonias de Castro and Juan Arreglado, Counsellors Benito Bautista and Jose Ma. Espino, Manuel Zamora and Jose Estrada, protocol officers of Malacañang and the foreign office, respectively, and Pedro Angara, assistant protocol officer.

IN the evening the President received a large delegation of political leaders from Surigao which presented him with a resolution informing him that all the Nacionalista factions in their province were united in support of his candidacy.

In the course of the call, Ex-Gov. Pedro E. Escuyos, a Liberal, was inducted into the NP by the President. The delegation included Gov. Bernardino Almeda, Ex-Govs. Fernando Silvosa and Vicente Pimentel, and former Sen. Felixberto Verano.

Another delegation from Ilocos Norte headed by Dr. Rial Peralta also called in the evening. The group included Ex-Gov. Damaso Samonte and Mayors Vicente Hernando of San Nicolas, Esmeraldo Agabin of Badoe, Conrado Llaguno of Paoay, and Apolinario Madarila of Pinili.

Other delegation this evening were those from Laguna headed by Gov. Dominador Chipeco and Rep. Wenceslao Lagumbay and from Lopez, Quezon, led by Mayor Gregorio Yumul.

August 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning held a three-and-a-half hour conference with government and private financial and business experts to study means for laying the groundwork of implementing legislation passed by the Congress designed to bolster the country's economy.

Among the matters discussed were the exploitation of the nickel and iron deposits in Surigao, the development of NASSCO's steel mill project in Iligan, and the implementation of the Reparations Law.

As the conference was preliminary in nature, no details were revealed. However, the President stressed that he discussed with his conferees means to exploit the country's mineral resources and the expansion of the NASSCO steel mill plant with a view to accelerating the country's economic development through the generation of allied industries and providing jobs to thousands of the unemployed.

With regard to the Surigao mines which are reputed to be one of the most extensive in the world, it was pointed out that the Surigao mainland reserve alone is approximately 56,900 hectares while Nonoc Island has 4,321 hectares with a potential ore reserve for iron alone of about one billion tons or more. The other islands within the entire reserves are still unexplored.

In the exploration of about 336 hectares of the mainland area, the blocked-ore reserve estimates ran to 17 million tons positive and 50 million tons probable. A previous preliminary estimate of minable iron ore in the same area covering 10,000 hectares was 430 million tons, which included 275 million tons within easy hauling distance to the nearest harbor.

The nickel-bearing ore reserves in Nonoc Island have been estimated to date at 29 million metric tons of ferruginous laterite and serpentine containing 1.38 per cent nickel.

The President said that the implementation of the law providing for the establishment of a giant steel mill in Iligan City would start the establishment of other allied factories engaged in the manufacture of steel or which would use steel products.

The five-year expansion program of the NASSCO is divided into three phases with a goal to produce 200,000 tons of pig iron and to be converted to about 186,000 tons of steel.

The President said that the expansion of the steel mill in Iligan would contribute greatly to the development and growth of allied industries.

It was also pointed out at the conference that the development of the Surigao iron and nickel mines, together with the expansion of the NASSCO steel plant, would provide job opportunities to thousands of the unemployed.

The President also discussed ways and means of effectively implementing the Reparations Agreement with Japan.

The President said that he had asked the opinion and advice of government and private experts in economics and finance in his desire to speed up the implementation of the country's economic development program.

Those who were present at the conference were Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr.; RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez; Alfonso Calalang, president of the Philippine Bankers Association; Monetary Board Member Vicente G. Sinco; Andres Soriano, Sr.; Andres Soriano, Jr.; Sebastian Ugarte; and Miguel Noel, a lawyer.

PRESIDENT Garcia at the Cabinet meeting this day signed a proclamation declaring Saturday, August 31, as a special public holiday throughout the Philippines to celebrate the 50th birthday anniversary of the late President Magsaysay.

The President and the Cabinet members also approved a tentative program to celebrate fittingly the occasion.

As submitted by Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., chairman of the committee in charge of the Magsaysay Day celebration, the observance starts at 7:30 a.m., Saturday, August 31, with a field mass to be said by Manila Archbishop Rufino Santos at the tomb of the late President at the North Cemetery.

After the mass, the official portrait of the late President will be unveiled. President Garcia will lead government officials, the family of the late President, admirers, and friends, in attending the ceremony which will also be featured by the laying of a wreath.

Lt. Col Nicolas Ortega, chief of Army chaplains, will be in charge of religious rites while Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao will take charge of the wreath-laying.

At 12 noon, Saturday, a one-minute silence will be observed throughout the country in prayer for the late President. Sirens will be sounded all over the country to mark the start of the one-minute silence observance.

At 4 p.m. a Magsaysay youth rally will be held on the Luneta with President Garcia as the guest speaker. The rally will be featured by the conferring of awards on the medical students and the NARRA Consultative Council of Students volunteers, by Health Secretary Paulino Garcia and Mrs. Remedios Fortich, respectively.

Other numbers of the rally will include an invocation by Mons. Vicente Reyes, welcome address by Ignacio Debuque, Jr. (in charge of the affair), opening remarks by Rafael M. Sales, and introduction of the President by Secretary Aguilar.

During the rally a tape recording of the late President's last speech will be rebroadcast.

In the evening, at six o'clock, a popular band concert will be held on the Luneta with the PC, the AFP, and other bands assisting.

UPON representation of Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma and Carlos Quirino, in charge of the No-Dollar Import Office, the President and the Cabinet approved some revisions in the supplementary rules and regulations governing barter under Republic Act 1410, which had been approved by the Cabinet in its last meeting on August 14.

Features of the revised supplementary rules are that the rules should not be made retroactive in nature, and that the period for the validity of barter permits for exports was increased from 60 days to 90 days after the date of the permit.

Only Rules Nos. 4, 9, and 10 have been revised to read as follows:

“4. Barter permits shall be valid only:

a. For exports, ninety (90) days after date of permit.

b. For imports, ninety (90) days after negotiation of the corresponding export. If the corresponding export under the permit is not made within ninety (90) days of issue, the barter permit lapses completely and becomes invalid.

If the collateral import under the permit is not made within ninety (90) days after the negotiation of the corresponding export, the right to import shall lapse and the agent banks holding the foreign exchange corresponding to the export previously made shall within 24 hours sell such exchange to the Central Bank.

“9. These supplementary rules and regulations shall apply to all barter permits which may hereafter be granted.

“10. That no extension may be granted to barter permits issued under supplementary rules.”

PRESIDENT Garcia and the Cabinet approved in principle the immediate settlement of gratuities to retiring employees of the Manila Railroad Co. as soon as the gratuities were due.

A hitch developed in the payment of the gratuities of these employees because of the fact that the MRR had failed to pay to the GSIS its corresponding share of premiums for the retirement of employees. Upon explanation of Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona that these employees had religiously paid their premiums, the President said that it was unfair for the government to withhold the payment of gratuities to these employees because of the MRR's default.

The President said that the government should meet its obligation to the employees and that arrangements should be made in the settlement of the MRR's deficit payments to the GSIS.

The President appointed a committee, with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez as chairman and Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and OEC Administrator Juan Concon as members, to study the mechanics of the payment of gratuities to the employees and the manner the MRR could make up for its defaulted payments incurred during the last administration.

UPON representation of Health Secretary Paulino Garcia, the President and the Cabinet agreed that the appointments of some 100 physicians already approved for position at the National Mental Hospital be subject to a screening of a committee which had been created for the purpose before these new appointments are made effective.

Secretary Garcia informed the President that before he left for his recent trip abroad, he had created a screening committee which had gone over more than 3,000 applicants for 280 openings' available at the National Mental Hospital.

He said that the prospective appointees to these positions had to be screened for their suitability for their specialized kind of job in order that they could perform their duties effectively.

The Health Secretary, however, said that during his absence some 100 applicants who had not undergone the necessary screening to determine their technical suitability for the job had been appointed.

He added that it was not fair that those who had undergone the screening and had been certified to as suitable should not receive the proper consideration they were entitled to. This, he remarked, was not fair to the patients, either.

The President said that in justice to the 3,000 applicants who had undergone the screening tests and in order that those to be finally appointed to the National Mental Hospital would be really competent for their technical work, the 100 new appointees should be screened by the committee.

Secretary Garcia said that those who would pass the test would be given permanent appointments.

THE Cabinet granted to Antonio V. Arizabal, Jr., metallurgical engineer of the Iligan Steel Mills, an extension of his leave of absence without pay to enable him to pursue advance courses and research in metallurgical engineering in the United States. Young Arizabal graduated with an M.S. in metallurgical engineering last June with one of the highest scholastic records from Carnegie Institute of Technology Graduate School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is at present working for his Ph. D. in metallurgical engineering in Carnegie Institute of Technology.

Iligan Steel with a capital of ₱50 million has recently entered into a series of contracts with European and American firms for the establishment here of the most modern integrated steel plant. The multi-million peso steel mill will process Philippine iron ores to supply billet requirements of the five rolling and blooming mills now operating in the country.

A STEADY increase in profits in the operation of government corporations since 1954 was reported by Juan Concon, acting administrator of the Office of Economic Coordination, at the Cabinet meeting.

Concon reported that the fiscal year ending in June 1957 alone gave a net increase of ₱4,847,824.93 over that of the preceding fiscal year. He attributed the favorable trend in the results of corporate operations to the following factors:

- (1) Improved methods of operations;
- (2) Scientific and efficient management;
- (3) Rigid economy through effective budgetary control;
- (4) Effective implementation and coordination of economic measures; and
- (5) Increase in the volume of business and proportionate decrease in the total cost of production and other operating expenses.

The administrator pointed out, however, that the comparison was only for 12 corporations instead of 17 in the preceding fiscal year, as five corporations had been transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources on January 16, 1957. Corporations transferred were the Abaca Corporation of the Philippines, the Philippine Coconut Administration, the Philippine Sugar Institute, the Philippine Tobacco Administration, and the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration.

A statement of statistical data on the combined results of financial operations of corporations in the OEC group for eight fiscal years under the past and present administration was also presented by Concon.

Concon noted that the fiscal year 1953-54 belonged to both the past and the present administrations, that is, the first half from July 1, 1953, to December 31, 1953, belonged to the former administration, and the second half from January 1 to June 30, 1954, to the present administration.

“So it can be safely stated that the big loss of more than P17 million was incurred during the last year of the past administration on account mainly of mismanagement,” Concon added.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting which was held at the Council of State room from 12 noon to 2:30 p.m. Before the President's arrival, Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason presided over the meeting.

THE President issued Executive Order No. 263, creating the Pinaglabanan Commemorative Commission charged with the erection of an appropriate monument or memorial to commemorate the first battle for the emancipation of the Filipino people which took place in San Juan del Monte, Rizal, in August 1896.

In issuing the executive order, the President entrusted the commission with soliciting voluntary contributions from the public, selecting the site of the monument or memorial, and supervising its construction and erection.

The President pointed out in his executive order that a campaign to enlist public support in the project had already been launched on the initiative of "The Spirit of 1896," a patriotic organization many of whose members had given up their lives for the freedom of the Philippines. He added, however, that the perpetuation of the memory of the Battle of Pinaglabanan was the concern not only of any locality or entity but of the entire nation. [See Executive Order No. 203, p.—for the composition of the Pinaglabanan Commemorative Commission.]

The Provincial Treasurer and the Provincial Auditor of Rizal shall act as treasurer and auditor ex officio, respectively, of the Commission,

THE First Lady today was given a warm reception in Bulacan where she officiated in the inauguration of five government projects.

The projects inaugurated were the following:

- (1) The Longos pre-fabricated schoolhouse in Calumpit and the Calum-pit-Iba-Hagonoy feeder roads;
- (2) The Pihagtulayan and the Paombong elementary schools;
- (3) The NAWASA pumping stations at barrios Concepcion and Sabang-Baliuag;
- (4) The SWA administered Bulacan Boys' Welfare Home at Pinaod, San Ildefonso; and
- (5) The Rural Health Center at Pulong Buhangin, Sta. Maria.

Traveling under a heavy rain, the First Lady's car plowed over muddy barrio roads while school children and barrio folks stood by the roadside cheering the First Lady's party.

At the inauguration of the Iba-Calumpit-Hagonoy barrio road, the First Lady braved a drizzle. She cut the ceremonial ribbon under umbrellas held for her by barrio folks.

In her brief speeches the First Lady expressed gratitude for the warm welcome afforded her. She said she would continue to support the Administration's rural uplift program.

Mrs. Garcia was accompanied to Bulacan by Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, Mrs. Eulogio Balao, and Mrs. Dolores Gaerlan. She was fetched from Malacañang by Mrs. Alejo Santos, wife of the Bulacan governor.

Arriving at the Bulacan provincial capitol in Malolos at 9:30 a.m., the First Lady was greeted by Bulacan Governor Alejo Santos, Rep. Rogaciano Mercado, and other provincial and municipal officials. They escorted the First Lady to the sites of all projects she inaugurated.

The First Lady was back at Malacañang about 8 p.m.

REGARDING Col. Osmundo Mondoñedo's retirement from the Army, a Malacañang spokesman said today:

"President Garcia believes that it is the privilege of every qualified Filipino to run for public office. The President will not in any manner stand in the way of Col. Mondoñedo to seek an elective position. After the colonel has filed his certificate of candidacy, his retirement is a matter of course, unless he has committed anomalies while in the military service."

August 22.—COMPLAINING of slight indisposition, the President cancelled his appointments this morning, including the scheduled induction of four new Cabinet members at 10 o'clock. His physician said he was suffering from a bad cold.

However, he had breakfast with other leaders, and after a brief exchange of views with them, the President motored out of Malacañang to an undisclosed place. It was learned he went to his hideout at Fort McKinley.

THIS afternoon, feeling somewhat better, the President administered the oaths of office to Ambassador Felixberto Serrano as acting secretary of foreign affairs, Rep. Angel M. Castaño as *ad interim* secretary of labor, Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Yenke, Jr., as *ad interim* undersecretary of national defense, and Col. Nicanor Jimenez as *ad interim* assistant executive secretary.

The ceremonies which were held at the social hall in Malacañang were witnessed by senators and representatives; ranking officials of the Departments of Foreign Affairs, Labor, and Defense; and labor leaders, relatives, friends, and admirers of the new appointees.

In inducting Ambassador Serrano to the premier Cabinet portfolio, the President expressed confidence that Serrano would "conduct the affairs of the nation in such a way as will give glory and honor to the Filipino people." Serrano succeeds Raul Manglapus, who had been holding the foreign affairs secretaryship in an acting capacity since March when the then Vice-President and concurrently Secretary of Foreign Affairs Garcia assumed the Presidency on the death of President Magsaysay.

On the induction of Rep. Castaño to the labor portfolio, the President pointed out that the role of labor had grown in importance in the economic security of the country. He said that the Philippines was trying to establish an example to Asian countries in ideal labor-management relations, and expressed hope that Castaño's leadership would be instrumental in bringing labor and management to work "not *against* one another but *with* one another to enrich the economy of the nation and the Filipino people." Castaño succeeds Eleuterio Adevos, resigned.

Regarding the appointments of Assistant Executive Secretary Yenke to the undersecretaryship of defense and Col. Jimenez to the assistant executive secretaryship, the Chief Executive, likewise, expressed confidence that the two men with their long and distinguished military service behind them, would be assets to the offices to which they were just inducted. Yenke succeeds Jose M. Crisol, resigned, while Jimenez takes the post vacated by Yenke in Malacañang.

Despite the inclement weather, hundreds of people trooped to Malacañang and jam-packed the spacious social hall to witness the ceremonies. First to be inducted was Ambassador Serrano at 4:35 p.m. Then he was followed by Rep. Castaño, Secretary Yenke, and Col. Jimenez. The induction rites ended about 5 p.m. with the President's brief remarks.

Among those present were Speaker Protempore Daniel Z. Romualdez, House Majority Floor Leader Arturo W. Tolentino. Sen. Jose P. Laurel, Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao, Gov. Ifeliciano Leviste of Batangas, Brig. Gen. Manuel Cabal, Counselor Tomas de Castro of the Department of Foreign Affairs, and labor leaders.

IN the afternoon President Garcia received Archbishop Rufino J. Santos, who brought to the President's attention a petition of the professors and employees of the University of Santo Tomas requesting the suspension of the application of the Social Security Act to the U.S.T.

According to the petition, the U.S.T. professors and employees prefer their own social security system because it is more beneficial to them than that of the government.

The President told the Archbishop that this matter had been discussed in the Cabinet meeting on August 21 and it was the consensus that there was nothing in the law which would empower the President to postpone the effectivity of the Social Security Act. The President, however, said that an opinion was voiced in the Cabinet that it might be possible for a private corporation to choose between the retirement system of the government or the corporation's own system, depending on which is more beneficial to the employees.

The Chief Executive told Archbishop Santos that this opinion was referred to Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason for a more careful study.

The President and the Archbishop Conferred for about 30 minutes in the music room immediately after the Chief Executive had officiated at the induction ceremonies at the social hall.

August 23.—PHYSICIANS of the V. Luna General Hospital pronounced TM President Garcia “fit as a fiddle” for the exigencies of the political campaign after a thorough check-up this morning.

President Garcia spent a great part of his day at the V. Luna General Hospital checking up on the progress of the recovery of patients he had sent for treatment there. At the same time, he had a thorough physical check-up preparatory to his taking to the field to campaign.

The President was heartened to know that the patients, most of them emergency cases, whom he had sent to the V. Luna General Hospital for treatment were fast regaining their health.

Upon reading in a local magazine an article on the condition of a ten-year old schoolboy, Delfin Bayan, whom he had ordered treated at the VLGH, President Garcia decided to visit the boy, including all the other patients whom he had sent to the hospital.

President Garcia was surprised to see little Delfin, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Maria Bayan, and his uncle, Carlos Pascua, very much improved in health, able to walk and speak, and able to see with his left eye which had been damaged. Delfin greeted the President, saying, “Mr. President, I thank you for sending me to the hospital for treatment. I am well now.”

Delfin, a 10-year old schoolboy from barrio Tangil, Laoag, Ilocos Norte, had suffered from grenade shrapnels inbedded in his skull, with his left eyesight affected. First taken to the North General Hospital, he was later on transferred to the VLGH by order of the President for observation and possible brain surgery.

Lt. Col. Melchor M. Javier, one of the leading brain surgeons of the hospital, who had attended to the boy, said that nature had taken its course in relieving Delfin of his illness, adding that for the present there was no need for a brain surgery. However, the boy is still under further observation and treatment in order that he would recover completely. The boy's mother and uncle thanked the President.

While in the hospital, the President decided to have a medical check-up and was given a thorough looking over by Army physicians under the supervision of Col. Luis Martinez, VLGH commanding officer.

After being given X-Ray tests and electro-cardiography, the Army physicians, in consultation with the presidential physicians. Drs. Luis Gaerlsn and Antonio Guytingco, gave the Chief Executive a clean bill of health.

Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison said that according to the President's physicians, the President “is fit as a fiddle and is ready for the exigencies of the campaign.”

The President underwent medical examination from 9: 45 a.m. to 11 a.m. From the examination room, the President walked up to the second floor of the hospital and proceeded to Ward I, where he visited Second Lieutenants Augusto Flores and Jesus de la Cruz, who had been victims of two ambushes in Sulu last August 17.

Flores had been shot through the thigh while De la Cruz had suffered gunshot wound in the chest. The two lieutenants figured in two separate ambushes, the first in sitio Baono in Panamau District, while the second in barrio Pantao, Biloan, Sulu.

The President congratulated the two officers who are on the way to recovery, for their bravery and directed that good care be given to them.

From there the President proceeded to the Surgical Ward for officers, where the Chief Executive greeted the patients and wished them good luck and fast recovery. Among those in the ward was Cadet Juanito Rimando, who had been one of the hazing victims at the Philippine Military Academy.

From there, the President proceeded to Ward II, where patients requiring brain surgery and orthopedic treatment were confined. While in the ward, the President went from one bed to another, greeting each patients and inquiring into the progress of the recovery of each. He was pleasantly surprised to find in this ward several of the patients whom he had ordered brought to the hospital for emergency treatment.

Among these was four-year old Aniceto Manalo, whom the President had ordered brought to the hospital, for surgery to remove a stone in his bladder. The President was happy to know that the operation was over and the little boy was well on the way to recovery.

The President wondered at the skill of the VLGH surgeons and physicians who had treated these patients who are now on the way to health, although they were in an almost hopeless condition at the time they were brought to the hospital.

The Chief Executive spent about an hour visiting the patients in the wards, leaving the hospital at 12:30 p.m.

The President was accompanied from Malacañang by Acting Press Secretary Guillermo V. Sison and Drs. Guytingco and Gaerlan. The President later on was joined at the VLGH by Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenka, Jr., and Assistant Executive Secretary Nicanor Jimenez.

From the hospital, the President motored to the residence of Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas (ret.) where he ate his lunch about 1:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE Secretary Fortunato de Leon this morning inducted into office Primitivo Ballesteros and Mariano Ledesma as acting director and assistant director, respectively, of the Bureau of Printing.

Ballesteros replaces Director Mateo Ferrer, who retired recently. Present during the ceremony which was held at Secretary De Leon's office at Malacañang were relatives and division chiefs of the Bureau of Printing, including Mrs. Ballesteros, Superintendent of Works Cristino de Guzman, Composing Division Chief Zoilo Nasal, Administrative Officer Eutropio Floresca, and Power Plant Chief Nicasio Ramos.

President Garcia received the credentials of Minister Lincoln Hoon Kim of Korea in a simple but impressive ceremony held at the Malacañang Ceremonial Hall this afternoon upon his return from the V. Luna General Hospital.

After presenting his credentials, Minister Kim pledged to maintain and strengthen the close and friendly relations existing between the Philippines and Korea. These close ties of friendship are based on the common dedication of the two peoples to the ideals of freedom, independence, and democracy, he said.

The Korean minister recalled the part played by Filipino soldiers during the communist aggression in Korea and pointed out that because of developments of recent history, the peoples of the Philippines and Korea play a most vital role in preserving freedom and democracy in Asia.

The new envoy stated that the national unification of Korea, which is the prime objective of the United Nations' effort in Korea, is the most pressing task to be accomplished with the continued positive support of the free world alliance, of which the Philippines is an important member. He added that the economic rehabilitation of Korea to cure the ills of communist aggression is the next important task.

In his response the President said that the close ties linking both peoples must be maintained and solidified further if they are to play a vital role in the preservation of democracy in Asia.

Present at the ceremony were Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, Sens. Cipriano Primicias and Alejo Mabanag, Ministers Juan Arreglado and Tomas de Castro, and Counselor Jose Ma. Espino

President Garcia today received from Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona a report on the comparative statements of annual expenditures of the office of the President during 3 ½ years under the Liberal Party administration, from fiscal years 1951 to 1954, and those of the Nacionalista Party administration from 1954 to 1957.

In submitting his report to the President, Aytona said that he would like the people to know that the Office of the President during the Liberal administration spent in 3 ½ years for such items as travel abroad, discretionary fund, Belo fund, and salaries for miscellaneous and emergency employees and laborers the total sum of ₱3,224,799.99 as against ₱1,949,932.09 spent during the Nacionalista administration. Aytona emphasized that the previous administration spent ₱1,274.867.90 more than the present administration has spent.

In his itemized report to the President, Aytona revealed that during the 3 ½ fiscal years of the Liberal administration, the total spent for travel abroad was ₱390,923.25 as compared to ₱213,067.13 spent by the Nacionalista administration.

The other items were compared as follows: Discretionary fund, ₱998,763.23 (LP) as against ₱534,778.67 (NP); Belo fund, ₱1,637,417.20 (LP) as against ₱1,102,966.29 (NP); and salaries for miscellaneous and emergency employees and laborers, ₱191,696.31 (LP) as against ₱99,120 (NP).

Aytona said that among these four items, the expenditures for the Belo fund was the biggest item in which the Liberal Party administration had exceeded the Nacionalista administration by ₱534,450.91.

IN the evening the President administered the oath of office to Gonzalo Gonzalez as member of the Social Security Commission at a simple ceremony held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

The appointment of Gonzalez to that body completes the membership of the commission. Other ISSC members are GSIS General Manager Rodolfo Andal, chairman, Labor Secretary Angel Castano, Health Secretary Paulino Garcia, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, Ildefonso Remolina, representing labor, and Leopoldo Rovira, Jr., representing management. Gonzalez represents business interests.

Present at the ceremony were SSC Chairman Andal and Sens. Cipriano Primicias and Pedro Sabido.

Earlier, the President received Sens. Cipriano Primicias and Alejo Mabanag, who accompanied political leaders from Ilocos Norte, including Sarat Mayor Gabriel Reyes, former Congressman Vicente Lazo, and former Gov. Bamaso Samonte.

Then the President received Bulacan Gov. Alejo Santos, Rep. Rogaciano Mercado, and Board Member Tomas Martin, who headed a large delegation composed of town mayors and political leaders from that province. Aside from reiterating their pledge to support the President's election bid, the delegation requested assistance for public improvements in Bulacan.

August 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia expressed optimism over the victory of the Nacionalista Party in the coming election, saying that the people would support the NP straight ticket because of the achievements the party has accomplished the last three years of administration.

In six speeches delivered since his arrival in Negros Occidental today, the President said the foremost accomplishment of the NP were the restoration of peace and order and the people's faith in the government. He said these were important because without peace and order and the people's faith in the government, all other programs of good government which the NP sought to undertake would have been impossible of implementation.

The President recalled the late President Magsaysay's promise to stamp out lawlessness when he ran under the NP banner in 1953. On assumption of office, President Magsaysay in no time fulfilled the promise and later proceeded to carry out the NP program of building artesian wells, barrio roads, prefab schoolhouses, and other projects designed to uplift conditions in outlying areas, he said.

He added, however, that the NP program was only one-fourth finished when RM died last March. He expressed the belief that the Filipino people would retain the NP in power in order to let it continue the program started by President Magsaysay.

The President received a royal welcome upon his arrival in Bacolod. Everywhere he went, people turned out *en masse*, cheering and waving "We are for Garcia" placards.

Landing at the Bacolod airport at 10 a.m. aboard PAF plane *Dagohoy*, the President met hundreds representing all towns of the province. He was met by Sen. Jose C. Locsin, Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, and other local officials.

The President mounted the platform at the airfield and thanked the people for the spontaneous reception. He was introduced by Mayor Teofilo Cordova of Bacolod City. Speaker Laurel, who was with the party also spoke and defended himself from charges leveled against him and the Nacionalista Party.

Then the President and the Speaker headed a long motorcade to Bacolod City. All along the way, people from all walks of life lined the streets and cheered heartily as the presidential car passed by. Entering the city, the presidential party was forced to stop owing to large crowd in front of the Negros Occidental High School. The crowd refused to disperse until the President climbed on the hood of one of the escorting jeeps and said a few words to the enthusiastic welcomers.

At the city hall, the President had a brief conference with city officials. Then he proceeded to the University of Negros Occidental, where he and the Speaker addressed the student body in an open auditorium under the heat of the noonday sun.

About 1 p.m. the President and the Speaker again addressed a gathering of local officials who gave a luncheon in their honor at the University Club. About 3 p.m. the President and his party boarded a car and started the scheduled tour of northern municipalities of the province. The next stop was Talisay where people awaited him patiently for hours. The President and the Speaker addressed a huge crowd from a gaily decorated platform erected at the entrance of the Talisay market.

He arrived in Silay City about 8 p.m. for the inauguration ceremonies. He proceeded with a tour of northern towns after an evening stay in Silay.

August 25.—THE President resumed his stumping tour of northern Negros Occidental towns after hearing an early morning mass at Silay City, where he had spent the mjrhf. H'l delivered a total of five speeches in five public rallies in five municipalities.

The Presidential party was welcomed with parades, brass bands, and fireworks in all the towns visited. The people turned out by the thousands and waited patiently for hours under the heat of the noonday sun all along the Presidential route.

In his speeches the President appealed for a straight Nacionalista ticket. He said it was the best way to insure a continuation of the NP economic development program.

The first stop this morning was at Saravia. The President was introduced to the big crowd gathered at the public plaza by Mayor Luis Magalona, a Liberal and son of former Sen. Enrique Magalona, who pledged the support of his town to the President's bid for election.

Other towns visited today were Victorias, Manapla, Cadiz, and Sagay which is about 90 kilometers from Bacolod. The President ate lunch at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Dr. Vicente Gustilo in Cadiz.

PRESIDENT Garcia said today he would try to prevail upon Justice Undersecretary Jesus Barrera to stay in his post.

In an impromptu press conference this afternoon, the President discounted reports that Barrera's resignation had any political significance. He said it was only due to misunderstanding between Secretary Tuason and Barrera. He expressed hope that he would be able to thresh out the misunderstanding.

IN the evening the President returned to Bacolod City, where another rally was scheduled at 10:00 p.m.

The President was accompanied during the tour by Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, Sen. Jose Locsin, and Sen. Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez. The President is scheduled to fly back to Manila tomorrow morning.

August 26.—BEFORE leaving Bacolod City this morning for Bohol to fetch the First Lady, the President expressed his confidence at a press conference that in Negros Occidental the Nacionalista Party would have a "repeat performance of the 1953 overwhelming victory."

In his last speech delivered last night at the Bacolod plaza, the President said that he was seeking re-election not for power nor for wealth but because of his desire to complete the economic development program initiated by the late President Magsaysay.

He appealed to the Bacolod electorate to vote the straight Nacionalista ticket on the basis of the achievements of the Nacionalista administration like the re-establishment of peace and order and the restoration of the people's faith and confidence in the government.

He also said that one of the issues was whether or not the people wanted to preserve the democracy which the Nacionalistas had retrieved in 1953 after it had been lost in the maladministration of the Liberal regime.

Arriving at Tagbilaran, Bohol, at 10:45 this morning, the President was accorder a rousing welcome at the airport in spite of his wish for a quiet homecoming. People lined up both sides of the road from the airport to Tagbilaran and cheered him lustily.

Gov. Juan Pajo informed the President about the results of the NP congressional convetions held yesterday. Proclaimed official NP candidates for Congress were the following: Rep. Natalio Castillo, first district; Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang, second district; and Mayor Maximino Garcia of Talibon, third district.

PRESIDENT Garcia returned this afternoon to Manila after a two-day stumping tour in Negros Occidental, quite confident that the Nacionalistas would sweep the province in the coming November elections.

The President and Mrs. Garcia enplaned for Manila about 3 p.m. and arrived at the Nichols Air Base at 5:25 p.m. From the airport the President motored to the Archbishop's Palace in Mandaluyong, Rizal, to greet Archbishop Rufino J. Santos on the occasion of his birthday. However, the Archbishop was not in.

August 27.—THE President who had just returned from a two-day stumping tour of Negros Occidental, was kept busy today by visiting United States Undersecretary in the morning and feted him at a dinner at the Palace dining room in the evening.

In between his appointments with Undersecretary Herter, the President conferred with political leaders in an effort to strengthen his bid for votes in the coming elections.

With Herter was Ambassador James P. Richard and Ambassador Charles Bohlen.

Earlier this morning, the President received former Sen. Justiniano S. Montano and his son, Gov. Delfin Montano of Cavite. The Montanos protested the exclusion of the former Cavite senator from the NP slate.

However, the President told the Montanos that their protest was under consideration by the NP executive committee.

The President also received the newly-elected officials of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines. The CCP officials invited the President to induct them, on September 3.

The President accepted the invitation. With the CCP group were former Secretary of Labor Primitivo Lovina, Marcelo Balatbat, Benito Medina, Ben Medrand, Ramon V. del Rosario, P. E. Domingo, Jose Y. Orosa, former Justice Manuel Lim, Gil Carlos, E. V. Mendoza, and Luis Ablaza.

Justice Lim later conferred with President Garcia and raised speculations that he had been apprised of his coming appointment as secretary of education.

IN the afternoon the President conferred with the eight senatorial candidates of the majority party.

At the meeting held at the family dining room of the Palace were President Garcia, President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sens. Cipriano P. Primicias, Manuel Briones, Gil J. Puyat, and Reseller T. Lim; Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma and Defense Secretary Eulogio Balao; and Rep. Arturo M. Tolentino, Gov. Juan C. Pajo, Technical Assistant Sofronio Quimson, Bulacan Gov. Alejo Santas, Legislative Secretary Jose C. Nable, Mayor Benigno Aquino, Montano Nazario, and Tomas Arquiza. The meeting lasted for two hours.

PRESIDENT Garcia today cabled President Eisenhower expressing confidence that the U.S. President would sign into law the bill passed by the U.S. Congress providing backpay for Filipino scouts.

President Garcia added that President Eisenhower's "favorable action will bring great joy to many thousands of Filipinos and strengthen the bonds of friendship between our countries."

In his message President Garcia said that the Filipino people "have been greatly impressed by the news of the U.S. Congress having passed H. R. 5807, providing backpay for Filipino scouts during the period between their release from prison camps and return to service with their respective units."

In this connection, President Garcia said that the government and the Filipino people, especially the veterans, were grateful to Defense Eulogio Balao and Col. Bernard Andersen, whose dedicated efforts in presenting the case of the Filipino veterans before American leaders much to an understanding of the justness of their case and finally the passage of the bill.

A veterans mission headed by Secretary Balao, and of which Col. Anderson was a member, was sent recently to the United States to help in securing greater benefits for Filipino veterans through enactment of legislation. Col. Anderson was particularly active in contacting veterans in the U.S. Congress. The passage of the bill providing backpay for Filipino scouts was one of the tangible results of their work.

The full text of President Garcia's message to President follows:

"The Filipino people have been greatly impressed by the news of the Congress having passed H. R. 5807, providing backpay for Filipino scouts during the period between their release from prison camp and return to service with their respective units. Being fully cognizant of your good will toward our Republic and, its people, I am confident that you will sign this bill into law and your favorable action will bring great joy to many thousands of Filipinos and strengthen the bonds of friendship between our countries. With best wishes for your continued good health and success."

August 28.—THIS morning the President continued his conferences with his financial and economic advisers in his determination to strengthen further the country's economy. He met separately with RFC Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr.

In his conferences the President took up with his advisers such matters as the needs of local industries, the rice problem, prices of prime commodities, and reparations. No details were given.

Romualdez and Cuaderno also briefed the President on the forthcoming annual conference of the International Monetary Fund to be held in Washington, D. C., on September 21 to 28, 1957, which they will both attend.

The Philippine delegation to the conference is composed of Miguel Cuaderno, Sr., governor; Eduardo Z. Romualdez, alternate governor; Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Felix de la Costa, Vicente G. Si Calalang, and H. B. Reyes, as members.

The President conferred separately with Romualdez and Cuaderno up to a few minutes before 12 noon. After the conference, the President met with General Emilio Aguinaldo and then proceeded to the Council of State room to preside over the Cabinet meeting.

PRESIDENT Garcia and his Cabinet members today directed the NARIC to sell its special and fancy varieties of rice at not more than ₱6.95 a ganta.

This step was taken as a means to lower immediately the price of rice pending the arrival of the 500,000 cavans of rice on September 15 and an additional 400,000 cavans of rice toward the end of the month. This latter importation was approved today by the Cabinet in addition to the September 15 shipment in order to insure enough supply of rice and to stabilize its price.

The President and his Cabinet spent a greater part of their meeting tackling the rice problem. Aside from deciding on the sale of the special and fancy rice varieties at not higher than ₱6.95 a ganta as an immediate remedial measure and approving the additional 20,000 tons (400,000 cavans), the President and the Cabinet directed:

(1) The FACOMAs, through the ACCFA, to step up their milling of palay and to sell all their available rice to the NARIC so that this agency would have more stocks to sell to the public; and

(2) The NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez to make arrangements for the expeditious arrival in the Philippines of the 10,000 metric tons of rice already ordered from the United States.

The President said that in his trips to the provinces, he received complaints about the soaring price of rice. For this reason, he said, he had summoned to the Cabinet meeting NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco and NARIC General

Manager Vicente Concepcion, together with acting ACCFA Administrator Ernesto Jimenez and NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin F. Estrella, in order to adopt practical measures of easing up the rice situation.

Chairman Chioco said that with the arrival of the 900,000 eavans of imported rice during the month of September and the forthcoming harvest, the country would soon have enough rice stocks to enable the NARIC to maintain the sale of this commodity at ₱0.85 a ganta.

The President turned down Chioco's resignation as NARIC chairman and instead authorized him to leave immediately in order to insure the early arrival of the additional 400,000 eavans of rice expected at the end of September.

The President said that this additional importation is necessary because September is a critical period and that it is imperative that the government has enough rice stocks in order to insure the sale of this staple food at authorized levels.

Acting ACCFA Administrator Jimenez informed the President and the Cabinet that the FACOMAs had sold to the NARIC 21,000 cavans of rice which had already been distributed. The President said that the FACOMAs should intensify their milling of palay, if possible, on a 24-hour basis so that they could sell more rice to the NARIC, which in turn would sell it to the consuming public.

The Chief Executive told Romualdez to make representations for the speedy shipment to the Philippines of the 10,000 metric tons of rice which had been ordered sometime ago from the United States. The arrival of these additional rice stocks, the President said, would further normalize the rice situation here.

Romualdez said that this U.S. rice is expected to come in two months. By that time, rice harvests will be in full swing throughout the Philippines.

The President's directive for the NARIC to sell special and fancy varieties of rice at not more than ₱0.95 a ganta was made after consultation with Chairman Chioco, Commerce Secretary Oscar Ledesma, and NAMARCO General Manager Estrella. It was agreed during the discussion that if losses would be suffered by the government as a result of the sale of these fancy rice varieties, the NARIC and the NAMARCO should share in the losses. The President directed Chioco and Estrella to work out the details regarding this matter,

UPON recommendation of Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, the Cabinet approved the request of Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., for the creation of 206 additional extension teaching positions for elementary schools in various school divisions throughout the country. This will accommodate more school children who could not be admitted before. The money for this purpose was taken from the savings in the appropriations for extension classes.

The recommendation for the filling up of these additional positions had been taken up in a previous conference among Commissioner Aytona, Secretary Aguilar, and the director of public schools.

UPON recommendation of Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia, the Cabinet approved the Philippine participation in the eighth session of the World Health Organization Regional Committee for the Western Pacific to be held in Kowloon, Hongkong, from September 5 to 11, 1957.

The Philippine representatives to the conference are Dr. Jesus A. Nolasco, officer in charge of the Bureau of Health, and Dr. Antonio Ejercito, project director of the Malaria Control Division, Public Health Research Laboratories.

Dr. Nolasco was likewise designated Philippine representative to the Travel Study Tour in Public Health Administration of the WHO for two weeks, one week in Taipeh and one week in Japan, immediately following the close of the eighth session of the WHO in Hongkong.

President Garcia presided over the Cabinet meeting from 12 noon to 2:30 p.m. The Cabinet meeting was held at the Council of State room.

Owing to other important conferences which the President attended prior to the Cabinet meeting, Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason presided over the meeting until the President's arrival.

The Cabinet meeting was attended for the first time by the newly appointed members, Foreign Secretary Felixberto Serrano and Labor Secretary Angel Castaño.

THE President at the Cabinet meeting approved the official program to be held on the 50th birthday anniversary of the late President Magsaysay on August 31.

Mrs. Luz Banzon Magsaysay accepted the invitation of the committee headed by Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., to be present at the ceremonies to be held in honor of her late husband. The Magsaysay children will also be in attendance.

Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon recently sent out a circular to all provincial governors and city mayors enjoining them to cooperate wholeheartedly in the national observance of President Magsaysay's 50th birthday anniversary' which had been proclaimed a national holiday throughout the Philippines by President Garcia.

IN the afternoon the President inducted Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas (Ret.) as *ad interim* secretary of national defense in an but impressive ceremony at the reception hall of Malacañang.

Gen. Vargas replaced Eulogio Balao, who resigned to run for the Senate under the NP ticket. The President inducted Vargas at 3:15 p.m., a few minutes after the regular Cabinet meeting had been adjourned.

Among those present at the induction were Senator Jose P. Laurel, Sr., Balao, Justice of the Court of Appeals and former National Defense Secretary Sotero Cabahug, AFP Chief of Staff Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, top brass of the Armed Forces and other ranking AFP officers and their ladies, and close relatives of Secretary Vargas.

August 29.— AT breakfast this morning President Garcia took further steps to implement the economic development of the country during a long conference with the Fiscal Policy Council which lasted from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The President, with the unanimous endorsement of the members of the Council, decided that the nickel deposits on Nonoc Island in Surigao, the development of which had been long planned, should be fully exploited under the terms provided in the enabling legislation recently passed by Congress.

The President directed the director of mines to take up immediately with the National Economic Council the laying down of the conditions to be complied with by bidders who wish to participate in the exploitation of these mines. It was stipulated that these conditions should be acceptable to the Philippine Government.

The Council believed that from the nickel deposits on Nonoc Island alone, the country's foreign exchange position would be considerably strengthened, considering that aside from the initial outlay estimated at \$100 million, the products from this extractive industry would yield a considerable amount to augment the country's international reserves.

The Fiscal Policy Council, which was created by Executive Order No. 236, met for the first time this morning. With the President as chairman, the members are: Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Ayiona, NEC Presiding Officer Eduardo Z. Romualdez, and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr.

The Council considered the recommendations made by the screening committee for the Council of State on bond issues for the fiscal year 1957-58 intended for the country's economic development. It was decided that the broad categories included in the listing made should be considered after a system of priorities have been adopted.

The categories included bond issues for irrigation, main highways, secondary and feeder roads, pre-fabricated school buildings, artesian wells, hospitals, airports, portworks, river controls, telecommunications, waterworks, and public buildings.

Among the points approved by the Council were:

(1) Authorizing the Manila Railroad to proceed with its expansion plans by releasing through bond issues ₱1,500,000 for the Plaridel, Bulacan, to Cabanatuan railway line. The Council also authorized the MRR to spend ₱100,000 to start the survey of the extension of the Sorsogon railway line.

It was believed that with the expansion of the MRR lines, more areas of the country would be brought under development and products in these regions could be easily transported to where they were needed.

(2) The release of I needed amounts from bond issues to support the accelerated acquisition by the Land Tenure Administration of landed estates. The President said that the Administration's land tenure program should be stepped up in order that more landed estates could be acquired, subdivided, and sold to the tenants; at cost,

(3) The Council gave financial support to the NARRA in order to enable more landless settlers to acquire and own lands and homes and to become independent farmers. It was stressed that the full programming should be undertaken jointly by the NARRA and the NEC to insure the widest possible results.

(4) Continuing the late President's program of providing pure drinking water to all the people, more water systems in the provinces are to be constructed with funds amounting to about ₱8 million. The construction of artesian wells in all barrios will be prosecuted.

(5) The work on reforestation will be intensified in order to conserve the forests and, aside from providing employment to more people, to prevent erosion and floods.

(6) The manufacture of more pre-fabricated school buildings should be accelerated. For this purpose, the sum of ₱1,500,000 was released in addition to an equal amount already spent for the purpose. The Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces was asked by the President to increase the output of pre-fab schoolhouses for distribution to more areas needing them.

THIS morning the President administered the oath of office to Madki Alonto as acting chairman of the Commission on National Integration, at the Malacañang social hall.

After the ceremony, the President lauded the objectives of Republic Act 1888, which created the Commission, in helping in the upliftment of the non-Christian tribes of the country.

The President foresaw a better era for the non-Christian tribes in the country under the Nacionalista administration and promised to continue his policy of educational, cultural, and economic upliftment of the minorities.

After inducting Madki Alonto as acting chairman of the Commission on National Integration, the President swore in former Liberal Cavite Governor Dominador Canierino, and about 5,000 members of his faction, including seven municipal mayors, as members of the Nacionalista Party.

The President then inducted Fortunato Sazon and ex-Mayor Roman Kabiling, both of Lubao, Pampanga, as Nacionalista members. One mayor, two vice-mayors, and six councilors of Isabela also took their oath of affiliation as Nacionalistas before the President.

Manuel Rodriguez, national chairman of the Philippine Federation of Labor and formerly national chairman of the Quirino for President Club in the 1949 and 1953 elections, was also inducted as a Nacionalista by the President, together with Pedro Grande, secretary general of the club.

Luciano Millan, former newspaperman and official NP candidate for the fifth district of Pangasinan, called on the President to ask for help for the typhoon-damaged public works installations in several towns of his district. Millan obtained the assurance of the President that help would be extended to the towns.

NARIC employees, led by acting General Manager Vicente R. Concepcion, called on the President to express their gratitude for the retention of Gov. Juan O. Chioco as chairman of the Board of Directors of the state firm.

ACTING on the appeal of presidential candidate Manuel P. Manahan, President Garcia today directed Health Secretary Paulino J. Garcia to have three women allegedly suffering from mental ailment in Dipolog, Zamboanga, to be attended to immediately and airlifted to Manila for confinement and treatment at the National Mental Hospital, if necessary.

Manahan, who learned of the plight of these three women during his stumping tour in the South, appealed to the President to help them.

President Garcia lost no time in directing the health secretary to have the health officer in Dipolog, Zamboanga, examine these women. He directed that should it be necessary for these women to be confined and treated at the National Mental Hospital, he would immediately send a plane to fetch them,

The President expressed his thanks to Manahan for calling his attention to this case which needed the government's help.

The President said: "Continuing with as much enthusiasm and vigor the policy initiated by the late President Magsaysay in extending the government's help to our unfortunate countrymen, I have always immediately acted in giving succor to those who are in distress, especially the oppressed and the sick. I thank Mr. Manahan for calling my attention to the case of these three unfortunate women. Steps have already been taken to help them."

In another directive, President Garcia this day told Acting Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., to attend immediately to the case of the 106 public school teachers of Jaro, Leyte, who claimed that they had not been paid their salaries in July.

The teachers, through their president, Sofronio Marmita, wrote the President saying that, because of their financial difficulties, some of them had applied for salary loans from the Government Service Insurance System.

The President told Secretary Aguilar to act on this case with dispatch and to see to it that the teachers receive their salaries beginning July. He said that arrangements should be made so that henceforth they would receive their salaries regularly. The Chief Executive told Aguilar to report the result of this directive.

IN the evening the President led the nation in the observance of the 61st anniversary of the Battle of Pinaglabanan. He motored to Pinaglabanan, San Juan, Rizal, where he was guest of honor at a civic-educational-military parade and a literary-musical program held in connection with the two-day celebration.

Arriving at the Pinaglabanan monument at exactly 5 p.m., the President was greeted by a large crowd headed by Rizal Gov. Isidro Rodriguez and San Juan Mayor Nicanor Ibuna.

After inspecting an honor guard made up of a unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion, the President proceeded to an improvised grandstand erected at the foot of the Pinaglabanan monument.

The program started at 5:30 p.m; with the singing of the Philippine National Anthem by the Teachers' Club school children, with Miss Constancia Alva, directing. Other features of the program included floral offerings made by civic, social, and school groups; a *Kundiman* sung by Miss Adelina Cruz; and giving of donations for the improvement of the "Pinaglabanan Heroes Monument." Judge Guillermo Guevarra was master of ceremonies.

In his speech this afternoon President Garcia pledged to harness all the resources of his administration to promote the happiness of the people, saying that the "government has no business to exist if it cannot enhance the general welfare."

He spoke before the monument erected to the memory of the heroes of the battle.

The President recalled that the first shots against Spain and later against the United States were fired at San Juan.

After extolling the heroes of Pinaglabanan, the President called attention to "thousands of other heroes who have made this country what it is today."

He said he referred to farmers, laborers, teachers, social workers, and thousands of other civil servants who have all dedicated their lives to the service of their people.

"These heroes never carried guns, nor took to a bloody battlefield, though history records that they too were ready to pick a bolo if need be in defense of their country," the President said.

He then pointed out that the "challenge of Pinaglabanan rings much clearer today" and that the opportunities for sacrifice and heroism that sparked our heroes sixty-one years ago to deeds of valor are all about us."

President Garcia urged the people to work together for the prosperity and freedom of the country.

"To make this country strong, we must stand together," he said. "All of us should be ready to give up something of ourselves for our country."

The President's speech lasted for about 20 minutes. He was introduced by San Juan Mayor Nicanor Ibuna, (See the next issue of the *Gazette* for the complete text of the President's speech.)

The President returned to Malacañang about 7 o'clock in the evening.

August 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to release the full amount for the implementation of the salary standardization of public secondary school and city intermediate school teachers.

The President gave the directive during a courtesy call of academic supervisors and principals of normal schools who are terminating their seminar on cooperative education.

Jose del Rosario, president of the Academic Supervisors Association, informed the President that the salary standardization insofar as the secondary school and city intermediate school teachers were concerned was not being implemented.

Under the law, the sum of ₱3,028,000 was appropriated to cover salary differentials.

Earlier, the President received three officials of the International Bank who were accompanied by General Manager Filemon Zablan of the National Power Corporation.

During the courtesy call the President and the IB officials discussed various details of the \$25 million loan being applied for by the Philippine Government for the dollar requirement needed for the construction of the Binga Hydroelectric Project in Mt. Province.

The International Bank officials were informed by the President that the Nacionalista administration will pursue vigorously the program of construction of hydroelectric projects.

Rep. Tobias Former, chairman of the appropriation committee of the House of Representatives, informed the President that after a thorough research he found out that the release of discretionary funds is not covered by the provision under the Public Works Act which prohibits the release of funds under said act 45 days before elections.

Augusto J. Lopez called on the President to present one of his "Magsaysay clocks of democracy". Lopez in making the donation expressed the hope that "the ideals of our late President will be forever preserved for our country and people".

Other presidential callers were Sens. Decoroso Rosales and Pedro Sabido, Govs. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga and Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Rep. Manuel Zosa of Cebu, and former Defense Undersecretary Teodosio Dino.

THE President today ordered the airlifting and admission in Manila suburban hospitals of four emergency patients from different parts of the country on urgent requests of members of the patients' families and the local provincial doctors.

The patients were Vicente Daruca from Cebu, Nelita Pescador from Tuguegarao, Cagayan, and Genaro Edquilang and Vicente Talibong from Bukidnon.

Daruca, who was suffering from "intracranial hematoma secondary to trauma, was admitted at the V. Luna General Hospital on the request of his wife, after having been brought to Manila on a Philippine Air Lines plane.

Pescador who was also brought here on a PAL plane was considered an emergency case by the Cagayan provincial doctor, as the case needed the removal of a foreign body in the trachea. She is now confined at the North General Hospital.

Edquilang and Talibong were brought to the city from Bukidnon on a mercy plane of the Philippine Air Force. They were victims of a car accident. They were admitted to the National Orthopedic Hospital on the request of the chief of the Bukidnon provincial hospital.

THE President also directed that President Magsaysay's favorite portrait be hung among the portraits of past presidents on the walls of the reception hall of Malacañang Palace, on the eve of Magsaysay's birthday.

The portrait is a new copy recently made of the one presented as a gift by Mrs. Vicky Quirino-Gonzalez, daughter of the late President Quirino, when Magsaysay was still secretary of national defense. It was President Magsaysay's favorite picture hung in Mrs. Magsaysay's bedroom during their stay in Malacañang.

Recently, President Garcia had ordered a new copy made by Garcia-Llamas, the famous Filipino painter who did the original which was returned to Mrs. Magsaysay, it being a personal property of the family.

The copy was delivered to Malacañang today in time for the observance of the late President's 50th birthday.

THIS afternoon President Garcia was presented with a cover of the first issues of the eight-cent Ramon Magsaysay "Champion of Liberty" U. S. postage stamps by Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen. Accompanied by Minister Horace Smith of the U. S. Embassy, Ambassador Bohlen during his brief call at Malacañang this afternoon, informed the Chief Executive that the stamps were to be the first of a series to be issued by the U. S. Department of Post in memory of the great Filipino leader.

Following the call, the President repaired to the state dining hall where he gave his regular weekly press conference. Then he resumed receiving callers which included a delegation headed by Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., of Cebu City.

AT the press conference, the President said, "I would like to take up with you this afternoon the following points:

"(1) I have been in constant conference with my financial and economic advisers regarding what points in the Administration's economic program can be immediately implemented to bolster our economy and quicken the country's economic development.

"Following my meeting with the Fiscal Policy Council yesterday I told Mines Director Gozon to discuss with the National Economic Council the laying down of the conditions to be complied with in the bidding for the exploitation of the nickel deposits on Nonoc Island in Surigao, which would be acceptable to the government.

"I am glad to inform you that today the NEC Presiding Officer, Eduardo Z. Romualdez, said that Mines Director Gozon would submit on Tuesday all the needed papers preparatory to the opening of bids for the exploitation of these mines. It is needless to say that the development of these mines will provide employment to thousands of our countrymen and bolster tremendously our dollar reserves.

"We will exert all efforts in seeing to it that work on these mines can be started at the earliest possible time. The initial outlay needed for the exploitation of these mines is estimated at \$100 million.

"(2) As I announced about two months ago, I am organizing very soon a committee which will study ways and means of providing incentives to producers. I believe that in order to increase production in our country, the Government should provide real and substantial incentives to our producers. Only through increased production can we solve on a permanent basis the high cost of essential commodities. I believe that incentives which do not go directly to producers but to middlemen and speculators, are not the right kind of incentives which will produce the desired results.

"I have been going over a list of prospective members of this committee representing all the segments of our country's economy. I have been extra careful that the committee is not influenced in one's way or another by political considerations, in order that it can accomplish successfully the task assigned to it. I expect that in a day or so I shall be able to release the membership of this important committee.

"(3) This morning I had a most cordial conference with Justice Undersecretary Jesus Barrera, during which I asked him to defer his resignation until the paramount questions involved in the bases talks between the Philippines and the United States, in which he has played a very important role, would have been fully resolved.

"Undersecretary Barrera said that he would defer his resignation and abide by my wishes and decision.

"(4) In the interest of contributing to the holding of clean and free elections, I ordered today the director of telecommunications to reduce press rates from three centavos to two centavos during the period from November 5 to 19, 1957. I believe that one effective means of preventing frauds in elections is to make the results public as fast and as complete as possible and also to report fully news which are conducive to the holding of free elections. This can be achieved in the present rates are reduced for very obvious reasons. The observance of these reduced press rates is only experimental in nature, but if the experiment proves to be a success, I shall order its continuance.

"(5) As you know, there have been adverse reports in certain U.S. magazines and newspapers concerning our activities in the recent convention. These criticisms are completely false and groundless.

"I resent any suggestion that the Filipinos cannot do a magnificent job in self-government. It is my declared purpose to make this a clean and model election. I am asking your cooperation to this end.

“In countries like the United States, for example, the constant check on the functioning of representative government is a free and informed press. Happily, we have such a press here in the Philippines. I am not sure that some of our critics in other parts of the world are fully aware of this fact.

“Not only to make this plain, but also to provide the additional safeguards of the democratic process that a free press can offer, I wish to extend an invitation that may be unusual from the point of view of governments but that is, in my judgment, right and wise.

“Will those of you who represent non-Philippine newspapers and news agencies kindly extend to your principals, and through them, to other newspapers and agencies, our cordial invitation to “cover,” as you say, this election to the extent of their capacity? We will extend to them every facility within our power to get the facts and to report them promptly. They can be assured of a warm and friendly welcome in this country and an understanding of the fact that their job is to present the news, fairly and freely.

“We do not shun the spotlight of close scrutiny. We want an election that will be an honor to our country, and, when we have it, we want it reported.”

August 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia this day led the nation in the observance of the 50th birthday anniversary of the late President Magsaysay.

Leaving Malacañang at 7:20 a.m., the President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to the tomb of the late Chief Executive where a mass was said by Manila Auxiliary Bishop Vicente Reyes.

Upon arriving at the North Cemetery, the President inspected the honor guard and then proceeded to the pew where Mrs. Luz Banzon Magsaysay was seated, and greeted her. In the next pew were seated the Magsaysay children, Ramon, Jr., Milagros, and Teresita.

After the mass the President offered a wreath at the Magsaysay tomb. He was followed by Sens. Cipriano Primicias and Emmanuel Pelaez who represented the Senate; Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., in representation of the House of Representatives; Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano; and Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, in representation of the Armed Forces. Other wreaths were offered by other high government officials and friends of the late President. After the mass, taps were sounded.

THE President then motored to the Nichols Airbase Officers’ Club where he ate his breakfast. After breakfast the President, on behalf of the Philippine Government, received from Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, aircrafts for the PAF at turnover ceremonies held at the Manila Domestic Air Terminal.

In his speech the President stressed the need for a coordinated and integrated US-PI air defense effort in the Philippines and in this part of the world.

He expressed the hope that this latest increment in the program of modernization of the PAF “may also serve as a deterrent to communist resurgence in our country and as a prop to the defense of our institutions and our way of life.”

At the same time, he pointed out the triple significance of the occasion because it showed that the United States was concerned over the safety of the Filipino people; that she believed in our innate capacity to resist aggression; and that, despite the smallness of the Philippines, the United States considered her a partner in a common cause to help preserve the free world by further strengthening its defense against communism.

The President expressed confidence in the ability of the PAF officers and men to make effective use of the new equipment and facilities. He added that as a tangible manifestation of his confidence, he had authorized the immediate release of ₱200,000 for the housing project of officers and enlisted men at the Basa Air Base.

In his speech Ambassador Bohlen said that the aircraft turnover gave substance to the US-PI Mutual Defense Treaty. He stressed the ever-increasing role that air power played in the modern world in the preservation of peace.

The planes transferred consisted of 30 F-88F Sabrejets, four SA—16A Albatross, and eight T—6G Advance Trainer aircraft.

Among those present at the ceremonies were Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Senator Pacita M. Gonzalez, Justice Sotero Cabahug, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Rep. Numeriano Babao; Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff; Brig. Gen. Diosdado Rodriguez, AFP deputy chief of staff; Brig. Generals Pelagio Cruz and Leoncio Tan; Maj. Gen. Joseph Harper, JUSMAG chief; Maj. Gen. John Ackerman, commanding general of the US 13th Air Force; and Rear Admiral Edgar Cruise.

PRESIDENT Garcia appealed this noon for support to the senatorial slate of the Nacionalista Party at the national convention of the Democratic Labor Party at a Plaza Santa Cruz restaurant.

In appealing for labor support, the President stated that by comparison with the senatorial ticket of the opposition parties, the NP line-up was formidable. He pointed out that the Nacionalista senatorial candidates were men who had rendered long and distinguished public service.

The DLP, headed by former Labor Secretary Jose Figueras, is supporting the entire Nacionalista ticket.

Genaro Magsaysay, brother of the late President Magsaysay and official NP candidate for Congress in the lone district of Zambales, was the keynote speaker.

Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., NP candidate for vice-president, and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., also spoke. They were introduced by Figueras and Rep. Arturo M. Tolentino, respectively.

IN the afternoon the President swore in as a Nacionalista Diosdado Reyes Delima, who had already been proclaimed as the Liberal Party congressional candidate for the third district of Bohol.

Delima was formerly a provincial board member of Bohol. He was accompanied to Malacañang by Bohol Governor Juan Pajo, Lorenzo Piquero, secretary of the Bohol provincial board, and Mayor Maximino Garcia of Talibon.

The President also signed the *ad interim* appointment of Domingo Cordoba as justice of the peace of Hinundayan, Leyte.

President Garcia today directed the airlifting of Mrs. Asuncion de Castro of Iba, Zambales, to Manila for medical treatment.

The President ordered the airlifting upon request of Zambales Governor Manuel Barretto and Pastor de Castro.

Mrs. De Castro is suffering from stones in the kidneys. She was airlifted this morning to Manila and was taken by an Army ambulance to the North General Hospital, where she will be confined and treated.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, President Garcia today granted four conditional pardons and two absolute pardons, and commuted the j sentence of one.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon reiterated his determination to push through the numerous projects launched by the late President Magsaysay, particularly “the redemption of our fellowmen in the barrios, the achievement of their prosperity and self respect, and the restoration of their human dignity.”

Speaking at the Magsaysay youth memorial rally held at the Independence Grandstand on the Luneta this afternoon to commemorate the 50th birthday of the departed leader, the President said: "We carry on, with his memory guiding and prodding us onward to push through the great- reform he had traced out for the redemption of our fellowmen in the barrios, that they may at last regain in full measure the substance of their Christian heritage."

Present at the rally were Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay, widow of the late President; her children, Teresita, Milagros, and Ramon, Jr.; and Genaro Magsaysay, brother of the departed Chief Executive. Also present were members of the Cabinet, other high ranking government officials and large student delegations from various colleges and universities in Manila and suburbs.

The memorial rites were featured with the replay of a recorded speech last delivered by President Magsaysay at the commencement exercises in San Carlos University in Cebu City last March 16. For 10 minutes, the mass assemblage of students listened with rapt attention to the voice coming through the public address system, as President Magsaysay, in his extemporaneous speech, underscored the role of the youth in his program of rural improvement.

Mrs. Magsaysay, who sat misty-eyed throughout the program, was seen to have passed a handkerchief over her eyes several times while listening to the voice of her late husband. However, she could not help laughing when, at one point of the recorded speech, President Magsaysay was talking about his grey hairs and adding, "They are not only greying but falling."

The program started at 5:15 p.m. upon the arrival of President Garcia at the Independence Grandstand. The Magsaysays arrived a few minutes earlier in a Malacañang No. 1-C car with motorcycle escorts. Mrs. Magsaysay wore a black terno with a cattleya orchid on her left breast. Her children Teresita and Milagros were also in black dresses, while Ramon, Jr., wore a white suit with black tie and shoes.

Other speakers were Ignacio Debuque, Jr., who gave a welcome address, Rafael M. Salas, who delivered the opening remarks, and Education Secretary Martin Aguilar, Jr., who introduced the President.

Another feature of the program was the presentation of a presidential plaque to members of the Consultative Council of Students Summer Work Camps for "outstanding and unselfish services rendered to NARRA settlers in Wao Lanao, and Maramag, Bukidnon, Another presidential plaque was awarded to the Medical Students Rural Volunteers headed by Dr. Narciso Monfort, for services rendered to people in the rural areas while performing duties as assistants to rural health officers last summer.

During the presentation of the awards, Debuque, who was master of ceremonies, disclosed that the student work camps last summer had been approved by the late President Magsaysay on the eve of the latter's departure for Cebu City on March 16, and later ratified and given full support by President Garcia.

President Garcia returned to Malacañang about 6 p.m.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: August 24-30, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet Sunday today in his Bohol Avenue residence.

After hearing mass, President Garcia went over the itinerary for his Mindanao trip and studied reports submitted by the members of his Cabinet for topics to bring before the people during his speaking engagements there. He also read the Sunday morning newspapers.

The President took his customary afternoon nap after lunch. Then he repaired to his study where he went over some state papers.

After a light supper, the President retired early in anticipation of his departure tomorrow morning for Davao in a Philippine Air Lines Viscount plane to inaugurate the Davao airfield.

THE President said today he favored the putting up of a PHHC housing project in Sorsogon, but that he would wait for the findings of Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco on the project.

The President also laid down conditions for the final approval of the Sorsogon project, among which were the selection of a most suitable site by impartial survey and the favorable endorsement by the Cabinet and the GSIS. The proposed PHHC project in Sorsogon is not a finished transaction but is still in the process of study and negotiation.

The President made the statement after receiving the report on the project from Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance and Efficiency (PCAPE).

Earlier, PCAPE Vice-Chairman Francisco Calinawan led a PCAPE survey team that looked into the necessity and advisability of the Sorsogon PHHC project.

Calinawan reported that while the tentative site selected was ideal from the point of view of engineering and housing, the price could still be reduced to the satisfaction of all parties. The tentative site chosen by the PHHC is a lot belonging to Jose Ma. Simo.

Other s considered as probable sites for the project are those of Mrs. Carmen Vda. de Vera, Alfredo Heelzl, and Jose Berenguer, all of Sorsogon, Sorsogon.

Provincial officials of Sorsogon headed by Governor Juan Frivaldo expressly endorsed the establishment of a housing project by the PHHC in Sorsogon, regardless of whichever site is eventually selected.

Cited as reasons for putting up the project were to spur progress in the province, to provide a pilot model community, and to introduce to the people of Sorsogon good standards of housing within the facilities of the province.

PRESIDENT Garcia commuted today to life imprisonment the death sentence imposed on three prisoners who had been convicted for the murder of a Camarines Sur couple.

The prisoners are Manuel Daet, Jose Villaroya, and Enrique Arejola. They had been meted out the death penalty by the Camarines Sur Court of First Instance for killing Felix Refugio and Victoria Toy, husband and wife, in the same province.

The convicts had been previously granted four 30-day reprieves by the President in view of a resolution filed by public officials, teachers, and residents of Tinambac, Camarines Sur, alleging the innocence of the trio. The President had ordered a thorough investigation by the Constabulary and the last reprieve was to have expired next week.

Pending the investigation, an inmate in the New Bilibid Prisons in Muntinlupa, one Jose Tariman, had confessed that he shot to death Felix Refugio and that one Solomon Tobale killed Victoria Toy. Tariman definitely cleared the three condemned men.

The Constabulary was directed to redouble its investigations and although the evidence thus far uncovered tended to rebut to a certain degree the findings of the court in convicting the trio, it did not create sufficient moral certainty in the mind of the President on the innocence of the accused.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said that the President was more inclined to commute to life imprisonment the death sentence imposed on the trio. Meanwhile, the investigations being conducted by the Constabulary would continue. The probe would be directed mainly on the circumstances of the killing and the credibility of the confession of Tariman.

August 25.—THIS MORNING President Garcia inaugurated the ₱1.5 million Davao airport and said its opening has enlarged the horizons of trade, commerce, and communications in this country to embrace nearly all points in the South.

The President also told the crowd that his pre-election promise to them about putting up a low-cost housing project for low-salaried group in Davao was about to be fulfilled.

He informed the people that he has approved a PNB loan of ₱5 million to the NARIC for price support of rice and corn in order to give stability to the prices of these staple crops and encourage farmers to produce more.

He urged Mindanao farmers to diversify their crops and plant income-producing crops like cotton and rubber. However, he told them to give priority to food crops so that the country will attain economic self-sufficiency.

The President was accorded a thunderous applause when he told the people that the province and the city of Davao will always have his continued support and sympathy.

The enthusiastic crowd broke through police lines and rushed to the PAL Viscount plane to get a closer glimpse of the President and his party. The plane landed shortly before 10 a.m. after a little more than two hours, flight.

Upon his arrival, President Garcia escorted by Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, IVMA commander, reviewed the military guard of honor composed of ROTC cadets from different colleges in the city.

Sponsor at the ribbon-cutting ceremony was the First Lady, assisted by Mesdames Rosario Moreno, Caridad Almendras, Flora Cabangbang, Consuelo Sepulveda, Fredeswinda Caldoza, Soledad Duterte, Lorenza Porras, and Anselma Fernandez.

The new airport was blessed by Davao Bishop Clovis Thibault, who also delivered the invocation.

From the Davao airfield, President Garcia and his party led a motorcade through Davao's principal streets. They stopped at the Church of St. Peter to hear a *Te Deum* sung by Bishop Thibault.

From the church the party proceeded to the Boy Scouts building where a popular luncheon was held honoring the President and his entourage.

After lunch the President took a brief rest aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria*. At three p.m. he motored to Dalia, Toril, in the city for an on-the-spot inspection of the ramie degumming factory there.

At 5 p.m. the President and his party were guests at a merienda given by the *Kaliwat sa Bohol*, an organization of Boholano residents in Davao, at the residence of Abraham Oppus. This was followed immediately by a press and radio conference attended also by local correspondents.

President Garcia held another conference at 6 p.m. with national, provincial, city, and municipal officials, most of whom sought his help and intervention in the solution of local problems.

He then granted a ten-minute audience to members of the Davao chapter of the Philippine Veterans Legion, the Davao Public School Teachers Association, the Pangasinan-Ilocano community, and representatives of the different FACOMAs in Davao.

At 8 p.m. the President and Mrs. Garcia went to the residence of General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras to attend a dinner given in their honor.

After the formal reception and ball at the Boy Scouts auditorium, President and Mrs. Garcia spent the night aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria*.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo today inducted into office Gen. Leoncio S. Tan as general manager of the National Rice and Corn Corporation (NARIC) in a ceremony held at Malacañang.

Formerly occupying one of the highest positions in the Armed Forces, Tan replaces Vicente Concepcion.

Secretary Pajo also administered the oath of office to Constancio Leuterio as one of the Malacañang technical assistants.

August 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived in Ozamis City this morning from Davao City on the second leg of a five-day tour of Mindanao to assess the economic development of the region.

He and other members of his party, including the First Lady, were welcomed at the Labo airfield by Ozamis Mayor Angel Medina, Gov. Diego Ty-Deling of Zamboanga del Norte, Gov. Bienvenido Ebarle, and Mrs. Remedios Fortich, NARRA administrator.

The Presidential party proceeded to the Immaculate Conception cathedral where Bishop Patrick Cronin of Ozamis sang the *Te Deum*.

Addressing a mammoth rally at the OSROX Plaza, the President sought to enlist the active participation of Mindanao residents in the government's drive to attain economic self-sufficiency.

Mayor Medina welcomed the President during the rally. Rep. William Chiongbian (L-Misamis Occidental) introduced the Chief Executive.

In the afternoon, President Garcia made side trips to Clarin, Tudela, Jimenez, and Aloran towns. He then proceeded to Plaridel where he inaugurated the ₱200.00 Cabalayan bridge.

The President and his party were cheered along the route by school children and people waving flags and carrying placards.

At one point, the presidential motorcade was stopped by a "human roadblock" formed by barrio residents who insisted on shaking the President's hand. The barrio folks then asked him for a new school building.

From Plaridel, the President motored to Oroquieta and had supper in the residence of Oroquieta Mayor Malcolm Enerio. He addressed another rally at the town plaza.

President Garcia returned to Ozamis City late in the evening. He was scheduled to spend the night in the residence of Mayor Medina and to enplane for Butuan City in the morning.

August 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning told public officials of Misamis Oriental that the first objective of his administration is to encourage production so that self-sufficiency in food, clothing, and shelter will be a reality in the Philippines.

Addressing national, provincial, and municipal officials in conference held in the office of highway district engineer in Cagayan de Oro City, the President reiterated that Mindanao is a land of promise. He said he believed Mindanao will be the center of economic prosperity of the country.

He traced the progress of the Philippines since independence was granted and declared that no new nation has had more difficult time adjusting itself to new status, because in 1946 the Philippines was still reeling from the effects of World War II and its national economy was unsettled.

In an hour-long speech in Visayan, the President said that in a short span of 12 years since independence was granted we have raised ourselves from the rubble and debris of war to our present position as a dignified and respected member of the family of free nations.

He instructed the mayors of Misamis Oriental to encourage farmers to discard old ways and try new scientific methods of planting rice for increased production in order to end the importation of this commodity amounting to two million cavans annually. He told them to emphasize to the farmers the importance and need for increased food production.

From the Oroquieta rally last night President Garcia motored to Jimenez where he spent the night in the residence of NARRA Administrator Remedios Fortich. Early this morning the presidential party returned to Ozamis City and had breakfast at the residence of Nicolas Capistrano before enplaning for Cagayan de Oro.

Arriving at Lumbia airfield at 9: 50 a.m., President was greeted with a 21-gun salute. He also reviewed military guard of honor escorted by Brig. Gen. Ramon Aguirre, IV Military Area commander.

From the airfield the presidential party proceeded to St. Augustine's Cathedral in the city for the *Te Deum* sang by Rev. Fr. Rafael De Rivera, S.J.

The President then conferred with local officials from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. after which he proceeded to Camp Evangelista where he was honored at lunch given by provincial and city government officials.

After lunch the President gave a press conference attended by local correspondents and newsmen. At 4: 30 p.m. the presidential party went to the residence of Mayor Justiniano Borja to attend a cocktail party.

In the evening President Garcia was conferred an honorary degree of Doctor of Humannities by Xavier University in a ceremony held in the school auditorium. He was later honored at a formal dinner given by Xavier University at the Cagayan de Oro Casino.

The President was the principal speaker at a well attended public meeting held in Cagayan de Oro public square this evening. After the meeting the President boarded the yacht *Santa Maria* and left for Butuan City.

August 28.—AT A CONFERENCE held this morning President Garcia told national, provincial, and municipal officials that the principal purpose of his Mindanao trip was to give impetus to the Administration's food production campaign in order to achieve self-sufficiency in food, clothing, and shelter.

He also called for support and cooperation of every Filipino in the current all-out drive of the Administration to cleanse the government of graft and corruption.

The President assured the officials that he will attend to the important needs of Agusan, among them the construction of a hydroelectric plant and a modern airfield capable of handling jet traffic.

Speaking in Visayan upon the insistent request of the crowd, the President said that the national political fight was over when independence was granted in 1946. "Now the country's main problem is economic in nature and the solution lies in economic self-sufficiency," he stated.

"Our country is blessed with rich and abundant natural resources and there is no reason why we cannot cut down imports by realizing the goal of self-sufficiency in food, shelter, and clothing," he added.

"The primary need of the country," he continued, "is to establish a sound national economy so that the advantages will extend not only to a privileged few or to those favored by fortune but will also include even the lowest citizen of our country; that's why I have dedicated my administration to the realization of this objective."

He called upon all officials to disseminate the gospel of economic self-sufficiency and decried the fact that the farmers are not following modern and scientific methods of planting rice and corn in order to increase their production.

He assured them that if these methods are adopted the production will rise and self-sufficiency in food will be realized.

The President also urged Agusan farmers to try planting rubber, as the province has been found to be suitable for the growth of rubber trees.

He said that less than 15 per cent of the requirements of the three big rubber companies in the Philippines is supplied by locally grown rubber although they are willing and ready to buy all the local production. He added that the supply is short; so the rubber companies have to import rubber from other countries.

AFTER the rally held last night at Cagayan de Oro, the President boarded the *Sta. Maria* which sailed for Butuan City. The vessel was met at Butuan Bay by well decorated boats bearing welcome signs and posters, and escorted in a colorful fluvial parade to the city wharf. The vessel arrived at 9:30 o'clock this morning.

The President and his party were met at the wharf by Agusan officialdom, among them Gov. Felixberto Dagani, Rep. Guillermo Sanchez, and City Mayor Zacarias Pizarro.

From the wharf, the presidential party motored to St. Joseph church where a *Te Deum* was sung by Fr. Gerard Cruijssen. The President then held a conference with officials at the PTA building in the Butuan City Elementary School which lasted till noon.

The President was honored at a luncheon given by local officials at the city gymnasium. After a short rest, President Garcia inaugurated the Butuan City Maternity Hospital and School of Midwifery, then he proceeded to the residence of Mayor Pizarro for merienda.

Supper was served at the residence of Rep. Sanchez, after which a rally was held at Guingona Park with the President as principal speaker. After the rally, President Garcia slept on board the *Santa Maria*.

August 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia left Butuan City for the return trip to Manila at 9:20 this morning aboard the *Sta. Maria*. Contrary to previous plans, the President decided to take the yacht for Manila to enable him to rest after a rigorous four-day tour which took him to Davao City, Misamis Occidental, Cagayan de Oro City, and Butuan City.

The strain of the trip, during which he delivered a total of 17 speeches, was evident in his slightly hoarse voice and tired look.

Before leaving, President Garcia held a last-minute shipboard conference with Gov. Felixberto Dagani, Rep. Guillermo Sanchez, and City Mayor Zacarias Pizarro on requests of different municipalities to take up with the Chief Executive means to expedite realization plans for the development of Agusan province.

A large crowd gathered at Butuan City wharf to see President Garcia and party off, among them Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, who stayed behind to follow up the President's intensified food production campaign, and Gen. Ramon Aguirre, IV MA commander.

Lt. Commander Manuel Mandapat, skipper of the *Sta. Maria*, experienced difficulty maneuvering the yacht on Agusan River in order to turn around and face seaward because of low tide.

As the yacht steamed down Agusan River seawards, the President chatted with newsmen in the party and then took a rest. After lunch, the President stayed in his cabin for a nap, after which he conversed with party members on general topics. Shortly after partaking of light supper, President Garcia retired to his cabin for much-needed rest.

Earlier this morning the President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass said by Fr. Juan Tugade on board the yacht. After the mass, they went to the residence of Gov. and Mrs. Felixberto Dagani where they had breakfast.

August 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up late this morning and came out from his cabin looking fresh and good as new. After a late breakfast, the President engaged Captain Heracleo Alano in a couple of chess games.

After lunch, newspapermen on board the ship had a press conference with the President, after which he retired to his cabin for an afternoon nap.

After an early dinner, President Garcia entered his cabin to go over some pending state papers. Rough choppy seas kept the ship rolling but President Garcia appeared unaffected.

President Garcia released for publication the following message on the occasion of the 51st birthday anniversary of the late President Ramon Magsaysay:

"I join our people in happily commemorating today the 51st birthday anniversary of our late beloved leader, Ramon Magsaysay.

"No other Filipino indeed had identified himself closer to the aspirations of our common masses than our departed President. It is no wonder then that his memory continues to be cherished with the deepest affection and esteem, by our countrymen. As we remember him for having saved our nation from communism, we should likewise be thankful that he championed democracy in this land by his every word and act and thus assured for us those blessings which only freedom can give.

"We have dedicated our best efforts in carrying on the good work started by President Magsaysay. On the occasion of his birthday, let us pause and resolve to bring to fuller realization what he envisioned for our people during his term when he laid with his own hands a firm foundation for the greater progress and prosperity of our Republic."

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: August 31 – September 6, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 31.— ARRIVING early this morning aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria* from a five-day campaign tour for increased food production which had taken him to four provinces and four cities in Mindanao, the President motored direct to Malacañang where he heard mass said in memory of his predecessor at the social hall.

Officiated by Mons. Rufino J. Santos, the mass was also heard by Mrs. Garcia, Vice-President and Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal, members of the Cabinet, Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, and other high ranking government officials. Also present were Don Exequiel Magsaysay, Rep. Genaro Magsaysay, and Ramon Magsaysay, Jr., father, brother and son, respectively, of the late President. Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay and daughter, Milagros, are abroad.

Following the mass, President and Mrs. Garcia had their guests at breakfast in the family dinning room of the Palace.

Shortly before 10 a.m., the President boarded his car and motored to the North Cemetery where he laid a wreath at the tomb of the late President Magsaysay. He was accompanied by Magsaysay relatives, government officials, and Magsaysay admirers.

After laying the wreath, the President tarried for a while before the tomb and offered a prayer for his predecessor. Then he watched Vice-President and Mrs. Macapagal as they took their turn to lay a wreath on the mausoleum.

From the cemetery, the President proceeded to the Department of Foreign Affairs on Padre Faura, where he accepted the remains of Jose Maria Panganiban which had been brought over to the Philippines from Spain by Dr. Domingo Abello, member of the Philippine National Historical Society.

In his acceptance oration delivered during the solemn rites, the President expressed the hope that the young men and women of the Philippines today would note the example of the Filipino hero "whose ideals are worthy of emulation."

Addressing himself to the patriot, the President concluded: "Welcome home, young intrepid spirit, and touch the kindred spirits amongst your people and infuse into them the internal incorruptibility of character, which is the crying need of our public; service and free enterprise."

IN the afternoon, the President attended the presentation of awards of the Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Foundation held at the GSIS building on Arroceros.

PRESIDENT Garcia this morning inducted into office Jose Alejandrino as ambassador to Pakistan. Among those present at the oath-taking were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Crisanto Alba, Judge Roman Cruz, Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique Quema, and Don Exequiel Magsaysay.

September 1.— THIS morning, President and Mrs. Garcia were breakfast hosts to John D. Rockefeller and his daughter Sandra, who both came to the Philippines to attend the first presentation of the Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Awards.

Mr. Rockefeller had made the initial donation of \$500,000 to get the Magsaysay Foundation started. He is famous for his philanthropic work in America.

Present at the breakfast which lasted from 8 to 9 a.m. were U.S. Ambassador and Mrs. Charles Bohlen, former Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason who, is the chairman of the board of trustees of the Magsaysay Foundation, National Science Board Chairman Paulino Garcia, Mrs. Francisco Benitez, Jesus Magsaysay, Francisco Ortigas, and Miss Belen Abreu.

After the breakfast, the President repaired to the music hall where he received three recipients of the Magsaysay Award, who paid a courtesy call. They were Dr. Chan Monlin, chairman of the Commission on Rural Reconstruction of Formosa; Oscar Arellano, organizer of the Operation Brotherhood; and Dr. Mary Putnam, Canadian born Ceylonese social worker.

During the call, the President reiterated his congratulations to the awardees. He said that the awards were well deserved.

Then the President proceeded to his study where he received numerous palace callers.

President Garcia today directed Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, head of the Philippine Constabulary, to dispatch more troops to Ilocos Sur in order to ease the tension in that province created by the killing of Vigan Mayor Lorenzo Formoso.

At the same time, President Garcia also directed that all the Constabulary troops previously stationed in Ilocos Sur be immediately transferred. This is because of a report that the troops had been stationed in the province too long and had learned to take sides in local political controversies.

The presidential directives were issued at a conference he held at Malacañang with Gov. Pedro Singson Reyes of Ilocos Sur.

The President approved the proposal of Gov. Singson Reyes to intensify the campaign for the collection of loose firearms in Ilocos Sur in which, according to the provincial executive, condition "is even worse than in Cavite."

President Garcia decried the fact that many residents of the province did not avail themselves of the opportunity granted by an expired law to turn in their unlicensed arms, adding that the arms collection campaign would be continued relentlessly.

A delegation of the Bontoc Peninsula Cattle Raisers' Association led by their president, Teodorico Valerio, submitted recommendations to President Garcia on ways and means to enhance the production of beef and other food products in the peninsula.

President Garcia, while approving in principle the suggestions of the cattle raisers, instructed Dr. Anacleto Coronel, acting director of animal industry, to study the suggestions and submit his recommendations.

The cattle raisers proposed the establishment of a dairy farm in the peninsula with the aid of the government in buying the necessary machinery from reparations, promising to furnish milking cows to keep the dairy farm going.

To improve the breed of cows in the area, the cattle raisers also suggested the establishment of a stock farm or breeding station in Bondoc, stocking it with breeds like the Red Scindhis and Sahiwals.

The President also received leaders of the Boy Scout movement in Pangasinan; Board Chairman Gonzalo Gonzalez and Director Rodolfo Andal, Mrs. Amparo Villamor, Angel Castaho, and Ildefonso Remolena of the Social Security Commission.

PRESIDENT Garcia approved today the 22-man membership of the National Security Council and paved the way for its initial meeting on Thursday at 10 a.m. in Camp Murphy's general staff conference room.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable also announced the increased membership of the opposition in the Council. He mentioned three new features in the Council's membership; namely, (1) membership to the National Security Council of Cabinet members was reduced from 11 to seven members; (2) membership in the Council of Senate and House of Representatives members was increased from six to 10; and (3) three past Presidents of the Philippines were named to the Council as regular members.

The members of the newly-constituted National Security Council are:

Executive Department—President Garcia, Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera, and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

Congress of the Philippines—Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Majority Floor Leader Senator Cipriano Promicias, Minority Floor Leader Senator Ambrosio Padilla, Majority Floor Leader Rep. Jose Aldeguer, Minority Floor Leader Rep. Ferdinand Marcos, Chairman of the Senate Committee on National Defense and Security Senator Emmanuel Pelaez, Chairman of the House Committee on National Defense Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs Senator Lorenzo Sumulong, and Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs Rep. Ramon Mitra.

Past Presidents of the Philippines—Sergio Osmeria, Sr., Dr. Jose P. Laurel, and Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo.

President Garcia also decided to strengthen the composition of the National Security Council by appointing as technical advisers the following: Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Director of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency Col. Nicanor Jimenez, and Civil Defense Administrator Alfredo Eugenio.

This is the first time that the Press Secretary to the President is made a regular member of the Council.

In approving the increased membership of the opposition in the Council, President Garcia said that national security is the concern of all Filipinos and national unity is essential.

The newly-created National Security Council was reconstituted under authority of Executive Order No. 330, series of 1950, An alternative plan, Reorganization Plan 38-A, was: not implemented when President Garcia was informed that this plan would exclude minority representation in the Council, making the composition of the Council purely a party affair.

The old Council was composed of the following members: President, Vice-President, Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, head of all departments in the Executive branch (11 members), chairman of the Senate Committee on Army, Navy, and Military Pensions, chairman of the House Committee on National Defense, minority floor leaders in the Senate and in the House, commanding general of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and the chairman of the Philippine Veterans Board.

THIS evening the President received Sergio Ortiz Luis, acting general manager of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, who came to request the President's assistance in securing the release of the balance of the loan of ₱15 million from the GSIS. He was accompanied by Emmanuel Clave and Manuel Leelin, both directors of the PHHC.

Another presidential caller was Capt. Francisco Calinawan, vice-chairman of the PCAPE, who submitted his report on his investigations of the NARIC, the NAMARCO agencies, and the office of the NAFCO (National Abaca and other Fibers Corporation) in Davao. Calinawan also informed President Garcia about the social unrest due to unsettled land disputes prevailing in Davao.

Alexander D. Calhoun, vice-president of the First National City Bank of New York, paid a courtesy call on the President. He was accompanied by Richard M. Henry, manager of the Philippine branch of the bank. Calhoun is making a brief stop-over in Manila on his way to attend a conference of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in New Delhi.

PRESIDENT Garcia was today assured by the Department of Foreign Affairs that four-year old Francisco de Vera, Jr., son of Lydia Cruz de Vera, who was reportedly murdered by her husband last June 4, 1958, in San Francisco, was coming to the Philippines by the middle of September to become the ward of his grandfather, Luciano Cruz.

The assurance was transmitted to the Chief Executive by the department after a cablegram was received from the Philippine consulate general which had been instructed to make a report on the case, particularly on the request of the parents of Lydia to be awarded custody of their grandson.

It will be recalled that President Garcia had instructed Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano to look into the plight of the boy after rep-presentations were made by the child's grandfather who sought the boy's custody after Lydia's death.

The Philippine consulate general reported that San Francisco Juvenile Judge Melvin Cronin had, meanwhile temporarily released the boy to an uncle who resides in San Francisco.

The President signed today Executive Order No. 315, prescribing rules of procedure for the Reparations Commission.

The nine rules contained in the executive order are aimed at carrying out more effectively the provisions of R. A. Act No. 1787 creating the commission.

The executive order was drafted in order to have an appropriate and orderly procedure for the transaction of business and the performance of the duties and functions entrusted to the commission by law.

September 2.—THE APPOINTMENT of a professional administrator with Cabinet rank who would be given charge of a housing program designed to give houses to the low income group, as well as of existing housing agencies like the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation and the Home Financing Commission, was urged by two United Nations housing experts at a conference with President Garcia held at Malacañang this morning.

The two UN housing exeptrts were commissioned by the Philippine Government, through the PHHC, to look into the housing problem in the Philippines. Their preliminary report will soon be prepared in final form and submitted to the President, through the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Accompanied by Sen. Pactita M. Gonzalez, the UN housing experts, Otto Koenigsberger and Charles Abramk stated that although the Government is committed to a housing program for low-income families, the program as now operated, is ignoring requirements of those mostly in need of shelter.

The UN experts urged the adoption of a realistic housing program that will draw upon a minimum of imports in the building of houses, provide job opportunities to the unemployed, spur the development of domestic industries, and help deflate land, rent, and building costs with a minimum of public expenditure.

Of paramount importance, the experts informed the President, would be the use of lumber, bamboo, and nipa which can be locally procured.

President Garcia was informed that the most critical aspect of the program is the land policy and recommend that land must be acquired in large tracts at low costs in suburban areas, improved with roads and utilities, and then re-sold at not more than ₱0.50 a square meter to low-income families in subdivided plots.

Abrams pointed out that the acute housing shortage in the cities is having serious impacts in the political, social, and economic life of the nation, aside from intensifying the illegal appropriation of land, both private and public, by squatters, impairing property rights and deterring essential public improvements.

He also pointed out to President Garcia that the social by-products of the housing shortage are also revealing themselves in slum life, overcrowding and make-shift living, in juvenile delinquency, and in increased fire and health hazards. The situation is particularly serious in Manila, Davao, and Cebu.

The President also conferred with Sen. Gonzalez and Francisco Rodrigo on the fishpond controversy in Bulacan which is endangering the peace and order situation in the province. Both solons are members of the Senate committee on social justice, community development, and welfare.

President Garcia agreed in principle to a plan submitted by Sen. Rodrigo to form a fishermen's cooperative subject to a detailed workable program to be studied by the Bulacan solon.

Rodrigo bared that one of the objectives of his plan is to band the fishermen so that they can in the end own the fishponds.

The President later received Madame Nozie Tlaber, a member of the Turkish Parliament, with whom he discussed the Cyprus and Middle East situations. The Turkish parliamentarist called on the President accompanied by Mesdames Roberto Benedicto and Hilarion Henares.

The President announced that henceforth he will receive members of Congress on Tuesday morning and afternoon, in response to the request of congressmen.

Other callers were Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, who urged the reappointment of Santiago Gahcayco as a member of the PHILCOA board of directors; Reps. Ramon Durano of Cebu, Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Filomeno Kin-tanar of Cebu, Apolinario Apacible of Batangas, Benjamin Ligot and Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, and Luciano Millan of Pangasinan.

PRESIDENT Garcia mobilized this morning all government relief agencies to extend immediate assistance to fire victims of Catubig, Samar.

The President's order was given after receiving a telegram from Catubig Mayor Fidel Robis, who reported that an estimated ₱5 million fire broke out early this morning in that northern Samar town, rendering about 3,000 persons homeless.

The President also ordered the Constabulary to maintain peace and order in the fire-stricken area.

The Social Welfare Administration had airlifted considerable amounts of food and clothing while units of the Department of Health were alerted for any epidemic which may break out owing to congestion of fire victims temporarily housed in public buildings.

Malacañang announced today the following appointments:

- (1) Antonio Yacapin as acting director of the Bureau of Records and Management under the Department of General Services;
- (2) Gabriel Daza and Cesar Sevilla as members of the board of directors of the National Power Corporation; and
- (3) Toribio Peralta as acting governor of Ilocos Norte, vice Antonio Raquiza who ran for Congress in the last election.

September 3.—THIS morning, the President limited his callers to Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, who is leaving on Saturday for the United Nations General Assembly session in New York City.

The President briefed Sen. Sumulong and gave him last-minute instructions preparatory to the latter's departure for the UN assembly meeting.

Sen. Sumulong was with Ambassador Melquiades Gamboa, deputy chief of the Philippine mission and alternate delegate to the UN.

Ambassador Gamboa is leaving Friday for New York City, where he will take over his new position in the PI mission.

President Garcia also received Clarence Young, vice-president of the Pan American Airways, and John Oppenheimer, local manager of the airline company.

The President likewise received Mr. and Mrs. Jose Espinos of Bacolod City.

RELIEF of congestion in the National Mental Hospital as soon as possible and restrictions on the annual Philippine Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca to avert troubles and deaths among pilgrims, was agreed upon by President Garcia and the Cabinet in today's Cabinet meeting.

Malacañang also announced that the person or persons who took advantage of the Muslim pilgrims will be tracked down by the government prosecutors.

The President and the Cabinet were highly critical of the manner Muslim visits to their holy city were being conducted by certain politicians and businessmen.

The Cabinet received a report that 16 pilgrims died aboard the *s.s. Lorraine*, which had been chartered for the trip, owing to insanitary conditions, lack of food, exposure, and overcrowding on board. One was a woman in the family way. Some pilgrims died in Mecca.

Future visits to the Mecca will be closely supervised by the government, according to the decision of the Cabinet.

President Garcia took steps to remedy the congestion in the National Mental Hospital at Mandaluyong by distributing the patients among unused spaces in the PC barracks, in unoccupied government buildings, and the quarantine or detention station.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon formally accepted the credentials of the Italian ambassador to the Philippines Alberto de Clementi, in ceremonies held in the ceremonial hall of Malacañang.

The President expressed to Ambassador de Clementi the warm affection and high esteem of the Filipino nation for the Republic of Italy and assured him of the cooperation and support of the Philippine Government for the successful accomplishment of his mission here.

Ambassador de Clementi cited political, religious, and cultural affinities; the common aspiration for peace and common faith in democracy, in justice, and in the respect for liberty and for the dignity of man that exist between the Philippines and Italy as the reasons that bind these countries spiritually.

Arriving at Malacañang at exactly 5 p.m., Ambassador de Clementi and Minister Jose Estrada, chief of protocol of the Department of Foreign Affairs, were met at the Palace front door by Col. Emilio Borromeo, senior presidential aide.

Also on hand was an honor guard made up of a unit from the presidential guard battalion. After acknowledging raffles and flourishes offered by his honor guard, Ambassador de Clementi, escorted by Estrada and Borromeo, went up the Palace stairs towards the ceremonial hall.

De Clementi succeeds former Italian Ambassador to the Philippines Benedetto d'Acunzo who has been transferred to Quito Ecuador.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon left the regular Cabinet meeting and plunged into a closed-door conference with U.S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen and Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano.

It was indicated that the President took up the Philippine position on the worsening Formosa situation.

Much significance was attached to the conference, as the President had expressed a position diametrically oppose to the stand previously taken by the late President Magsaysay.

Significantly, the conference was held on the eve of the scheduled first meeting of the newly-reconstituted National Security Council at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning in Camp Murphy.

Malacañang announced today the appointment of Dr. Emeterio Roa as commissioner and acting administrator of the Social Security System.

Dr. Roa's appointment was signed by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo this morning. He succeeds Capt. Rodolfo P. Andal, who had asked to be relieved of his duties with the SSS so that he could devote his full time to the Government Service Insurance System.

Secretary Pajo this morning also administered the oath of office to Col. Vicente Tiongson as finance officer in Malacañang, vice Col. Miguel D. Velasco who had been returned to the Armed Forces. Col. Tiongson was, before his new assignment, comptroller of the AFP. He has been in the service for 22 years.

Meanwhile, President Garcia received a wire from former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., in Cebu who thanked him for having been appointed to the National Security Council. The Grand Old Man, however, expressed regret for his inability to attend the first NSC meeting at Camp Murphy tomorrow owing to engagements in Cebu but promised to attend all subsequent meets of the newly-created body.

September 4.—SHORTLY before 10 o'clock this morning, the President motored to Camp Murphy where he met for the first time with the National Security Council. All scheduled calls on the President this morning were cancelled.

The Presidents' arrival at Camp Murphy was announced by the booming of a 21-gun salute. He was greeted by Defense Secretary Vargas, host Cabinet member.

The eight-hour marathon conference was held behind locked doors in the air-conditioned "war room" on the second floor of the main building of Camp Murphy. The meeting was declared open at 10:18 a.m., immediately upon the arrival of the President.

As soon as the conference opened, platoons of military policemen cordoned off the conference area. Civilians and other unauthorized persons were prevented from entering hallways leading to the main hall of the building.

The conference drove on as official took turns at briefing the members of the council on the various aspects of the national security that bear on the Formosa crises.

The conference broke up for a recess at 1:30 p.m. and returned to the conference room at 4 p.m. Most of the latter portion of the discussion was devoted to the manner the conference communique would be worded.

In a carefully-worded official statement made following the eight-hour conference of the National Security Council, President Garcia expressed deep concern for peace in the Pacific.

He avoided categorical stand on whether the Philippines has taken the position of “involvement” or “non-involvement” in the present localized war in the Formosa area, should the United States get committed through military action.

President Garcia, however, upon advice of the 22-member Security Council, placed the country squarely behind the United States by reiterating the policy adopted by Congress in 1955 which supported the policy of the then President Magsaysay in full support of the stand declared by President Eisenhower when the Chinese Reds threatened Formosa through the other outlying islands of the Matsus and the Pescadores.

The official statement follows:

“President Carlos P. Garcia, in line with the advice of the National Security Council reached after a careful review of the general situation, issued the following statement:

“That recalling the concurrent Resolution No. 24 of the Congress, adopted on March 9, 1955, the President reiterated the Philippines’ readiness to comply with its treaty obligations, particularly those in the Phil-U.S. Mutual Defense Pact. He lauded the efforts of the U.S. to deter communist aggression.

“The President also hailed the valiant efforts of Nationalist China in repelling aggression.

“The President expressed deep concern for the peace of the Pacific area. He declared, however, that the current hostilities in Quemoy and Matsus do not presently appear to be a cause for alarm.

“The President nevertheless said that the country should continue to be in a state of vigilance and the government shall prevent any attempt by unscrupulous persons to exploit the situation at the expense of the people.”

September 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia inducted into office this morning Dr. Emeterio Roa as administrator of the Social Security System.

Present at the oath-taking ceremony were SSC Chairman Gonzalo W. Gonzalez, Labor Secretary Angel Castafio, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, GSIS Manager Andal, and Commissioner Ildefonso Remolona.

President Garcia also received Chairman Rodolfo Maslog and Commissioners Juan Alberto and Alejo Santos of the Reparations Commission

They submitted to the President a set of proposed rules of procedure of the Reparations Commission for the programming, scheduling procurement, shipping, servicing, utilization, and payment of reparations goods in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act 1789.

Among other matters they took up with President Garcia were the implementation of the Marikina River multi-purpose project and the expansion of the facilities of the Government Telephone System.

Accompanying the reparations commissioners were Director Jose Alfonso of the Bureau of Telecommunications and Gregorio Abad executive secretary of the commission.

Members of the National Science Development Board and the Philippine Atomic Energy Commission, headed by Chairman Paulino Garcia called on President Garcia to request for the early approval and release of ₱1.4 million needed by the two science bodies for their initial operations.

Chairman Garcia also informed the President about the many offers of assistance received by the Atomic Energy Commission from foreign countries but which they could not take advantage of because of lack of funds.

He also informed President Garcia that research studies on the eradication of *kadang-kadang* being undertaken by the technical staff of the science board is being hampered by inadequate finances

Dr. Garcia was accompanied by Dr Casimiro del Rosario, Commissioner Joaquin Marañon, Commissioner Pedro Afable, Lt. Cmdr Marcelino Calmawan, and Dr. Marcelino V. Bernardo, members of the NSDB and PAEC, and Manuel C. Herrera, Dominador O Reyes, Antonio Habana III, and Ramon A. D. Hermano, members of the staff

President Garcia received three tenant-farmers who complained to the President about a projected move by large hacienda owners in Nueva Ecija for the mass ejection of tenants because of the introduction of mechanized farming methods.

They also requested the President to order the Land Tenure Administration to expedite the purchase of the Hacienda Capitan Berong Guimba, Nueva Ecija, to solve the tenancy unrest problem there.

The farmers were Gregorio Alcantara of Guimba, Federico Baliwa of Nampicuan, and Donado Bilog of Cuyapo in Nueva Ecija.

They were accompanied by Jeremias Montemayor Roman Santiago, and Norberto Arcangel, officers of the Federation of Free Farmers.

The President received callers at his study from 9 a.m to 1 p.m.

Acting on the protests of the Tenants Association of Sapang Palay Estate, President Garcia announced today that he will order a re-examination of the controversial purchase by the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation of 752 hectares of the said estate for a homesite project.

The President gave the assurance to Rep. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan and Aurelio Agapito, head of the tenant's association.

The re-examination will be conducted with the view to finding out if the 752 hectares purchased by the PHHC from the Philippine Suburban Development Corporation is fit only for agricultural purposes but not for homesites.

The Bulacan solon apprised President Garcia of the objections of the tenants who had previously petitioned the Land Tenure Administration to purchase the estate for subdivision and resale to its tenants.

In giving the assurance to Rep. Mercado and Mr. Agapito, President Garcia stated that he will see to it that the area shall be distributed to tenants if the land is found suitable only for farming purposes.

The President signed today the appointment papers of Juan Locsin, Braulio Alfaro, Dr. Genaro Bomediano, and Jose Mercado as members of the board of administrators of the Philippine Coconut Administration, and of Arturo Miranda, Jr., as member of the board of directors of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration.

At the same time, President Garcia signed the reappointment papers of Maximo Calalang as member of the board of directors of the National Rice and Corn Corporation and of Arcadio Matela as ACCFA director.

PRESIDENT Garcia today declared that the Philippines will go to war only if provoked by direct military or naval attacks on her territory.

The President stressed this point at his regular press conference as he explained that the United States involvement in the Formosa crisis will not automatically draw the Philippines into the conflict.

He evaded persistent newsmen's questions for a clarification of a Malacañang communique issued after an eight-hour National Security Council meeting Thursday.

President Garcia said the communique which newsmen claimed was a "vague and ambiguous" was "clear enough and self-explanatory."

However, the President said that if the U. S. naval and military bases in the Philippines are attacked by foreign forces, the country will have to resort to punitive measures to repel what he called a "transgression of our sovereignty."

In discounting possibility of automatic involvement of the Philippines in the Formosa crisis by the United States; the President said the country is "not necessarily" drawn into the war if the vessels of the U.S. Seventh Fleet are attacked by Communist planes or warships.

The President also took occasion to reiterate his previous stand of non-involvement in the Formosa crisis which he enunciated in an interview with newsmen in Butuan City last week.

At the press conference the President reiterated that the Formosa situation is "not alarming and appealed to the press and the radio against stirring war jitters.

He said the war scares would be taken advantage of by unscrupulous persons in an effort to dislocate local economy by padding the prices of prime commodities.

Although he considered the Formosa crisis "not alarming" the President said the Philippines has been placed in a "state of constant vigilance."

He gave the impression at his press conference that the Philippines is prepared to cope with any emergency.

He observed that newspapers had conflicting interpretations of the communique and jokingly stated he wanted the "debate to go on."

However, the President reacted sharply to reports that U.S. pressure had been made to bear on him for a reversal of the PI position as he had announced in Butuan City.

Recalling his closed-door conference with US Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, the President pointed out that it was customary to honor ambassadors' request for appointment as they represent their respective heads of state.

President Garcia emphasized that the Philippines will stand by its treaty commitments in the PI-US Mutual Defense Pact. But he discounted automatic involvement of the Philippines even if the American forces are drawn into a shooting war with the Chinese Communists off Formosa.

The President explained that if the US bases in the country are attacked, he could as Chief Executive of the country, direct implementation of punitive measures to repel the aggression.

He declared that even if the attacks were concentrated on the US military and naval bases, the Philippines would have to react immediately to repel the aggression. He pointed out that in such a situation, the President would not have to wait for Congress to declare war.

THIS evening President Garcia conferred upon Felixberto Gonzales the Golden Heart Presidential Award in a ceremony at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

A native of Bulacan, Gonzales was given the award for his “meritorious and distinguished services to the social and economic well-being of the people of Zamboanga who adopted him as one of their own.”

The citation stated that Gonzales was recognized for his philanthropic deeds and “Christian virtue of solicitude and love for his fellow-men as evidenced by his monetary and material aid and labor for the construction, improvement, and beautification of numerous civic centers, hospitals, and churches in his adopted community of Zamboanga.”

Present during the ceremony were Sen. Roseller T. Lim, Zamboanga del Sur Representative Canuto Enerio, Mrs. Gregoria F. Gonzales, Aurora Cano Gonzales, and former Bohol Gov. Perfecto Balili.

President Garcia today was awarded a plaque of appreciation by the Plywood Manufacturers’ Association of the Philippines (PMAP) in a ceremony held in the music room of Malacañang.

The award was given to President Garcia “for ably espousing the cause of the plywood industry of the Philippines during his state visit to the United States and for outstanding and distinguished contribution to industrial progress in the Philippines.”

The plaque was presented to the President by N. N. Kosloff, president of the PMAP. Those who witnessed the ceremony were Manuel Diaz (vice-president), R. Garcia (treasurer), M. Tinio (secretary), Mrs. E. C. Tinsoy (executive secretary), and Bill Murphy, Hector Jose Mon-fort, Benny Lim, John Gotauco, and Mrs. Allan A. O’Gorman, directors.

President Garcia also received Division Superintendent of Schools for Davao Jose A. Tuazon. He was accompanied by his wife and daughter.

September 6.—THIS morning President Garcia discussed with Gov. Leon Fernandez the peace and order condition obtaining in Sulu and issued directives aimed at improving the situation.

Fernandez alleged that a contributory factor in the worsening of the peace and order situation in his province was the ban imposed against the use of vessels above 30 tons in trading with Borneo. Fernandez pointed out that many of the vessels in his province were affected by the ban, thereby aggravating the situation of Sulu traders. He explained that the ban had thrown many persons out of work and forced them to resort to desperate measures to feed their families.

The President directed Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas to lift the ban on the use of vessels above 30 tons to engage in trading with Borneo, unless there were strong reasons to continue the ban.

The President discussed with the Sulu governor ways of providing the people with a means of livelihood; such as, the establishment of canneries or the promotion of cottage industries among the Muslim population. He said he would take this up with the department secretaries concerned.

The President also directed Vargas to provide high-powered arms to the Sulu police force to enable it to cope with the worsening peace and order situation obtaining in the area.

The Sulu executive said that with pistols alone, the police force of Sulu were helpless to improve the situation. He added that lawless elements in his province were better armed than the police force and were able to purchase high-powered arms from other provinces.

At another conference, President Garcia assured Rep. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental that he will order the Philippine National Bank to release immediately the sum of ₱5 million to enable the NARIC to purchase corn.

President Garcia also had a conference with Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez on party matters. In the course of this conference, Speaker Romualdez took the opportunity to invite the President, to be guest of honor at the annual

observance of the landing of the U.S. forces of liberation in Leyte on October 20. The celebration will be held in Tacloban City.

Other callers at the Bohol Avenue residence of the President in Quezon City this morning were Rep. Salipada Pendatun and Sen. Roseller T. Lim, who called to report on his recent trip abroad.

THIS afternoon President Garcia issued a stern warning against profiteers who take advantage of the war scare to jack up prices to the detriment of the consuming public. The President expressed concern over reports of steadily rising prices, particularly of prime commodities. He said that if this did not stop, the government would be forced to take appropriate measures in order to protect the masses from unscrupulous merchants.

The President reiterated that although the situation in Quemoy and Matsu was rather serious, there was as yet no cause for alarm. He appealed to the general public to refrain from spreading unfounded rumors so as not to unduly alarm the people and cause the skyrocketing of prices and unnecessary hardships to our people.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: September 7-13, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 7.—EARLY this morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass celebrated before an improvised altar in the President's residence in Quezon City.

After mass the President repaired to his study room and went over pending state papers.

He took a brief siesta after lunch and then continued to clear his desk of important papers in preparation for his departure this evening by boat for Cebu.

President Garcia had an early dinner and then motored to the Philippine Navy landing on Dewey Boulevard to board the presidential yacht

PRESIDENT Garcia was informed this evening of the establishment in favor of the Philippines by seven United States private banks of new credit lines amounting to \$77.5 million.

The new accommodations were in addition to the \$125 million loan obtained by the President himself during his June state visit to the US.

Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and Eduardo Z. Romualdez, chairman of the Development Bank of the Philippines, informed the President of the establishment of the new credit lines.

Aytona and Romualdez, who arrived from the US earlier in the morning, made the report to the Chief Executive on board the yacht *Santa Maria* as President Garcia prepared to sail for Cebu.

President Garcia sailed this evening for Cebu to attend the celebration of the 80th birth anniversary of former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., tomorrow.

The officials stressed that the credit lines were established by the President himself while he was on his state visit to the United States and that they were formalized by the President's financial experts who remained there last June.

The new \$77.5 million credit line, it was explained, will be utilized for the importation of raw materials to feed local industrial plants.

Aytona and Romualdez told the President the credit lines, secured as short-term loans, were granted by four private banks in New York and three others in California.

It was understood that the Philippine Government settled for a short-term payment of the loans since they would be utilized only for the importation of raw materials for local industrial plants.

The \$125 million loan obtained by the Chief Executive during his state visit will be utilized for the importation of capital goods. They are long-term loans.

September 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia today hailed current moves for diplomatic talks between the United States and Communist China to settle the crisis which had threatened the peace in Formosa and the whole world.

Commenting on the U.S. acceptance of China's offer to settle the Formosa dispute along diplomatic levels, President Garcia said, "It is better to settle the case on the conference table than shooting it out."

The President met newsmen briefly on board the presidential yacht which is taking the Chief Executive to Cebu where he will personally felicitate former President Sergio Osmeña on the occasion of the latter's 80th birthday anniversary tomorrow.

President Garcia expressed the belief that overtures on the peace talks considerably eased the tension on the Formosa question that threatened the peace of the world.

At the same time, the President said the mission of Eduardo Z. Romualdez, chairman of the Development Bank of the Philippines, and Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona in the United States was "fairly successful."

He disclosed that the \$77.5 million loan secured by the missioners from seven US banks would help conserve the Central Bank's dollar reserves.

The President said he was calling the Council of State to a meeting this month to assess the economic needs of the country.

President Garcia likewise disclosed a plan to create a committee composed of heads of different chambers of commerce, industry, and agriculture to aid the government in planning the utilization of the new dollar loans.

The yacht *Santa Maria* sought sanctuary near the Maestre de Campo Island off Mindoro and Marinduque, some 150 nautical miles from Manila, when bigwaves and strong winds shook the vessel violently.

The vessel stopped off Maestre Island at 10 a.m. today and resumed voyage at 3 p.m. after the weather had improved slightly.

However, the trip was still turbulent with high winds buffeting the presidential yacht. Most of the passengers on board were forced to stay in their respective cabins.

The President told newsmen he was taking the turbulent voyage "stoically." He expressed apprehension that his scheduled arrival at 9 a.m. in Cebu might be disrupted.

On board the yacht with the President were the First Lady, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, and Reps. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., Bartolome Cabangbang, and Maximino Noel.

September 9.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia were given a rousing welcome upon arrival in Cebu shortly after high noon today.

A crowd estimated at 20,000 braved inclement weather to have a glimpse of the Chief Executive, who visited Cebu for the first time since his election.

The yacht *Sta. Maria* bearing the presidential party was met by a fluvial parade consisting of gaily-decorated lunches and motor-boats.

Heading the fluvial parade were Gov. Jose Briones and City Mayor Ramon Duterte, who, together with other high government officials, boarded the presidential yacht when it arrived midway between Opon and Cebu City.

The President's morning schedule was entirely: cancelled because of the late arrival of the *Sta. Maria*, which sought shelter somewhere in Tablas Straits because of swells.

Upon arrival at the Cebu dock, the President immediately inspected an honor guard consisting of a battalion of soldiers, while at a distance an artillery battery fired a 21-gun salute marking the President's arrival.

The President immediately boarded No. 1 car which headed a motorcade that traveled to the residence of former President and Mrs. Sergio Osmeña amidst applause of residents who lined the way.

After greeting the former President who is celebrating his 80th birthday, the Chief Executive and party partook of a luncheon at the Osmeña residence. The President took a brief rest at the yacht, after which he had a press conference with newsmen covering his trip.

He proceeded to the residence of Gov. Briones, who gave cocktails in his honor. During cocktails, the President received numerous resolutions from various provincial and municipal officials.

After cocktails, the President proceeded to the Casino Espanol where dinner was served, climaxing the birthday celebration of former President Osmeña.

The President was expected to board the yacht at 11 o'clock this evening.

September 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia continued to be disturbed by reports of spiralling prices of prime commodities in the face of the Formosa war scare.

The President is sailing toward Manila aboard the yacht *Sta. Maria* which left Cebu early this morning. He went to the southern city to felicitate personally former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., on the latter's 80th birth anniversary yesterday.

President Garcia, in a brief talk with newsmen, reiterated that he would not hesitate to wield his constitutional powers to arrest the artificial skyrocketing of the prices of prime commodities.

The President was particularly disturbed by reports that unscrupulous merchants are exploiting the misery of their country by jacking up the prices of prime commodities.

President Garcia's return voyage to Manila seems to be favored by relatively good weather. His trip to Cebu on board the same yacht was a turbulent one.

The President, accompanied by Mrs. Garcia, was expected to arrive in Manila early tomorrow morning.

September 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned today to Manila after an exciting four-day trip to Cebu aboard the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* through rough weather and choppy seas which gave most of the passengers a dizzy spell throughout the hectic voyage.

Upon his arrival the President conferred with Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, and Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, chief of the Constabulary, on the burning of the Constabulary headquarters. The conference was held at the President's suite aboard the yacht.

The President directed the Constabulary and the National Bureau of Investigation to look into the cause of the blaze.

The President was visibly disturbed by the reports which reached him while he was sailing towards Manila on the burning of Camp Crame headquarters; so he immediately directed his naval aide, Lt. Melchor Fronda, to summon Secretary Vargas to a morning conference aboard the yacht.

IN the afternoon, the President received Admiral Harry D. Felt, commander-in-chief of the United States forces in the Pacific.

Although the President had previously told newsmen that he would discuss the Formosa situation with the US admiral, Malacañang called Felt's visit as a "courtesy call."

Shortly after he had conferred behind closed doors with Admiral Felt, President Garcia said it is “unlikely” that the crisis off Formosa may spread to the Philippines as he reiterated his appeal to the people to be calm and not be unduly alarmed by threatened Chinese communist invasion of Quemoy and the Matsu Islands.

It was indicated that, during the 30-minute conference, the President and the US admiral reviewed the Formosa situation.

President Garcia, it was learned, was briefed by Admiral Felt on US and Formosa preparations to check the threatened communist “push” to Taiwan.

After his conference with Felt, the President presided over a special meeting of his Cabinet and discussed the upward trend in prices of prime commodities.

During the Cabinet meeting, the President directed the Social Security System and the Government Service Insurance System to make available ₱10 million to replenish the common bond fund in the treasury. The SSS will make available ₱5 million while the GSIS will supply the balance.

President Garcia also created a three-man committee to coordinate in the strict enforcement of three laws against profiteering and hoarding.

According to Secretary of Justice Jesus G. Barrera, these laws are the charters of the NAMARCO and the National Rice and Corn Corporation and the price tagging law.

Secretary Barrera had informed the President that these laws, if enforced strictly, would be able to combat the practice of unscrupulous traders of jacking up their prices.

Named to the three-man committee were Secretary Barrera, chairman; and Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez and Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, members.

Barrera pointed out that he will circularize all government fiscals to join the campaign against profiteering and hoarding.

At the same meeting, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo was asked to send a circular to provincial governors and city and municipal mayors to help in the Administration campaign to go after unscrupulous traders who had taken advantage of the Formosa crisis to jack up their prices.

In the early part of the Cabinet discussion, Secretary Hernaez and Col. Flaviano Olivares, chief of staff of the Constabulary, reported that there is no actual scarcity in prime commodities.

However, the two officials confirmed reports of soaring prices which they minimized as “not appreciable.” They said that prices of small items have increased from ₱0.5 to ₱0.15.

They pointed out that the “artificial shortage” was due to large-scale hoarding on account of the brewing crisis in Formosa area which is near the Philippines.

Alarmed by the upward trend in the prices of essential commodities, the President reiterated that the Formosa situation is not serious and is unlikely to spread to the Philippines.

He pointed out that if the danger of Philippine involvement into the conflict comes, he would make the announcement to warn the people properly.

The report of Secretary Hernaez and Col. Olivares jived with the findings of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance and Efficiency (PCAPE) which branded the spiraling of prices as “unjustified.”

Justice Ocampo met Central Bank Deputy Governor Andres Castillo and representatives of the NAMARCO and the NARIC.

Acting Manager Juan Noble of the NAMARCO told the Cabinet this evening that the government marketing agency had sufficient stocks. He pointed out that more canned foods and other essential consumers goods will be distributed shortly.

At the same time, the President ordered the release of 200,000 bags of illegally imported flour which had been impounded in the customs area for distribution through the NAMARCO agencies.

He indicated that the flooding of, the market with essential and critical items would help stabilize the prices of these goods.

Malacañang said these 200,000 bags of flour were impounded by the Bureau of Customs upon the representation of the Central Bank for having been landed without the necessary importation papers.

Aside from the three laws cited by Barrera, President Garcia recalled that, in Manila, city authorities can enforce the provision of the public market code.

The code was cited recently by Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson in his own drive to check the spiralling of prices.

Lacson had threatened to cancel the licenses of traders who would unduly pad their prices. He had poised cancellation of permits of stallholders in city markets for increasing the prices of the goods.

The President also signed during the Cabinet meeting the appointments of Narciso Reyes, as Philippine minister to Rangoon, and Vicente Albano Pads, as Philippine information officer in the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization. Pacis replaced Reyes, who is now Philippine minister to Rangoon.

September 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia received today visiting U. S. Secretary of the Army Wilber M. Brucker at the Malacañang study room.

The American high official was accompanied by Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, Robert Dechert, general counsel of the U. S. Department of Defense; Maj. Gen. William Nutter, JUSMAG chief; Col. Henry L. Miller, U. S. military attache; and Lt. Col. John K. Eney.

Secretary Brucker arrived at 10 a.m. at Malacañang and was given full military honors by the Presidential Guard Battalion.

The President also met the members of his fiscal policy board and received from Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno a verbal report on the status of the negotiations for more U. S. development loans.

Other members present were Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, and Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

Earlier, the President received GSIS General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal, Ambassador Mariano Espeleta, and Senator Edmundo Cea.

THIS AFTERNOON President Garcia said the Philippines will “react militarily” if Formosa is attacked by the Chinese communists.

At his regular press conference, the President endorsed U. S. President Eisenhower's view that if Formosa falls the next communist target would be the Philippines.

The President also:

1. Disclosed that the United States Government has to secure the permission of the Philippine Government first before it could launch nuclear weapons from its bases in the country;
2. Hinted that the Philippines will not "actively participate" in an action to repel a communist invasion of Quemoy and the Matsu islands;
3. Bared that, in his 30-minute conference with U. S. Secretary of the Army Wilbur Brucker, he learned that the United States would defend Quemoy and the Matsu Islands from any communist invasion;
4. Called President Eisenhower's address on the Formosa crisis "frank, highly courageous, and realistic appraisal of the Formosa situation in its implications to Southeast Asia;"
5. Underscored the Philippine position against the recognition of Communist China even if the United States in its projected talks on the ambassadorial level in Warsaw would do so to preserve the peace in the Far East;
6. Refused to comment on Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano's statement in San Francisco that the Philippines would stand side by side with the United States "in the hour of peril."

President Garcia opened his regular press conference by reading a prepared statement endorsing President Eisenhower's assessment of the Formosa situation.

He said that President Eisenhower had set forth "once again, in clear and unmistakable terms, the position of the United States on this raging controversy, and gives reassurance of his country's readiness to stand by her commitments to her allies and friends in the free world."

President Garcia said President Eisenhower "reasserted the determination of the great American people to maintain a lasting and just and honorable peace even at the risk of war."

However, the President hailed President Eisenhower's determination to resolve the; raging conflict in Formosa "at the conference table rather than in the battlefield."

He said "this is very heart-warming, indeed, to all peace and freedom-loving peoples of the world."

The President stressed, however, that the Philippines would react "actively" in the event of a communist attack on Formosa.

He echoed President Eisenhower's views that after the fall of Formosa, the Philippines would be the next in line for conquest.

IN THE EVENING, the President motored to the Institute of Science building on Herran Street where he opened the science exhibition of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization.

He made a brief extemporaneous address on science development which he said had advanced the happiness of mankind.

The President in his speech stressed the importance of science development which he said had "advanced the happiness of mankind."

Speaking extemporaneously, the President said that developments in the fields of science must be directed for useful purposes, as he hinted that the race on the exploitation of atoms have been pursued in preparation for war.

President Garcia expressed the appreciation of the Philippines to the Unesco for bringing the exhibits to the country.

From the Institute of Science building, the President motored to the residence of Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol in Makati where he felicitated the solon on his birthday.

September 13.—THIS MORNING President Garcia gave last-minute instructions to Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, who is leaving tomorrow for Bangkok to attend the 9th SEATO Military Advisers' meeting.

The instructions to Gen. Arellano, who heads the Philippine panel, were given at a closed door conference held at the Quezon City residence of President Garcia. Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas was present at the conference which lasted for about 90 minutes.

IN THE AFTERNOON, the President had a conference with his financial advisers; namely, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez of the Development Bank, and Governor Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank. Also present at the conference which lasted from 5:30 to 8 p.m. was Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

THIS EVENING the President ordered the prosecution in court of a customs broker and an American firm for having allegedly cheated the government of taxes due on several shipments amounting to more than ₱100,000.

He issued the directive to Lt. Ciadr. Marcelino Calinawan, head of an investigating panel, during a conference at the President's private residence in Quezon City.

During the meeting, Calinawan informed the President that he had filed administrative charges against 18 customs officials with Secretary of Finance Jaime Hernandez.

Calinawan said Hernandez had already served the 18 customs officials with copies of the charges and had asked them to submit their explanation "within 72 hours."

The customs prober pointed out that suspension of some of the 18 customs officials will be ordered Wednesday unless they could satisfactorily explain the -charges filed against them.

At his conference with the President, Calinawan recommended the prosecution in court of Narciso Q. Gabriel, operator of the Gabriel Brokerage, and the officials of the American Wire and Cable Company, Inc.

He explained to the Chief Executive that Gabriel had allegedly worked out the exemption of shipments for the Superior Provisions, Inc., without the knowledge of the firm owner, August H. Kuritze.

It was indicated that Gabriel got a refund for several shipments of the Superior Provisions, Inc., amounting to ₱69,000, allegedly without the knowledge of the firm owner.

Calinawan said he will file 14 cases of estafa through falsification of public documents against Gabriel.

In recommending the prosecution of the officials of the American Wire and Cable Company, Inc., Calinawan pointed out that the firm which enjoys tax-free privileges had allegedly imported finished products and sold them locally.

The prober averred that the tax exemption of the firm was issued on the basis of its importation of raw materials in its manufacture of wires and cables.

Calinawan, however, could not immediately estimate the amount the government lost from this anomalous transaction. Asked by newsmen, Calinawan retorted: "I shudder to think of the amount."

The customs prober indicated that several finance officials may be implicated in these transactions. He was still studying the complicity of a top finance official in these cases. This official, he said, has something to do with the grant of tax exemptions to incoming shipments.

Administratively charged by Calinawan with venalities in the performance of their work in the Bureau of Customs are:

Exequel Omila, acting chief, cash division; Isidro Balaoro, appraiser, Emiliano Belulia, examiner; Pantaleon Gotladera, examiner; Emiliana Peralta, examiner; Jose P. Coletto, examiner, Dumaguete; Juan Ramirez, customs inspector; Rafael Poblete, customs inspector; Luis Sibunga, clerk, cash division; Crispin Vere, liquidator, liquidation division; Felix Abadanis y Aguirre, liquidator, liquidation division; Vicente Salvador, customs guard; Napoleon Herrera, customs guard; Leopoldo Huerto, customs guard; Modesto Guerrero, customs guard; Alejandro Dola, assistant customs warehouseman; and Jose M. Kierulf, inspector, hull and boiler.

With the exception of the two groups of morning and afternoon callers, the President did not receive any visitor the whole day. After having his breakfast at Malacañang early this morning, he boarded his car and motored to his Quezon City residence, taking along a pile of important state papers.

He spent the night in Quezon City.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: September 14-20, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet day today in his Bohol Avenue workshop in Quezon City.

This morning the President received Mrs. Remedios O. Fortich, NARRA chairman and general manager, who consulted him on matters pertaining to the NARRA.

She also reported to the President the progress of preparations for the forthcoming six-nation Asian conference on land resettlement sponsored by the United Nations and the World Veterans Federation.

The first phase of this conference will be held in the Philippines from October 6 to 13, she said. The Philippines will be represented by Mario M. Morelos, NARRA assistant general manager.

Mrs. Fortich had just returned from Mindanao to prepare the conference sites in the NARRA projects in Maramag, Bukidnon, and Wao, Lanao, where the participants will conduct study tours and hold seminars for five days.

After receiving Mrs. Fortich, the President took time reading the Sunday newspapers. After lunch he retired to his bedroom for a brief afternoon nap.

Upon Waking up, President Garcia went over pending state papers in his study room.

He retired early after partaking of a light supper.

September 15—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning granted a 30-day reprieve to four members of the notorious Grease Gun Gang of Tondo, after receiving the mother of Manuel Samonte, who tearfully asked the President to spare the life of her son.

Ruperta Vda. de Samonte, presented a petition signed by 250 neighbors of the Samontes in Tondo, for the commutation of the death sentence imposed by the Supreme Court on Samonte and his co-accused, Soriano Alcaraz, Carlos Espino, and Jose Halili, to life imprisonment.

The petition was indorsed by Labor Secretary Angel Castaño.

Samonte and his co-accused were meted two death sentences each in connection with the killing of Alberto Agaran and Jaime Canare, and the wounding of Lorenzo and Romeo Canare in Tondo on May 19, 1954.

The President also received Clifford Randall, president of the Rotary International, who was accompanied on his courtesy call by Joaquin Preysler, president of the Manila Rotary Club, and Rotarians Jose M. Barredo, Sr., Mike Arnold. Ramon Ordoveza, Mariano Lichauco, and Cornelio Balmaceda.

High officials of the Philippine Government Employees' Association led by their president, Bienvenido C. Olarte, presented to the President a resolution approved unanimously by the association supporting the campaign of the Administration to eradicate graft and corruption in the government service.

Other PGEA officials present were Mariano Ledesma, Sofio del Mundo, Venancio Garduce, Domingo de Vera, Fernando de los Reyes, Jose Mar. Manglicmot, Agustin Lachica, Mrs. Gloria Villano, Alfonso Gregorio, Marcelo Quiroz, Pedro Hernandez, Nieves Baens del Rosario, and Artemio Gesmundo.

A big delegation composed of members of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines led by Gen. Juan Relosa, Cols. Jose Razon and Conrado B. Rigor, and Maj. Francisco Offemaria, also saw President Garcia to present plaques of appreciation for his sympathetic work which benefited the veterans.

Members of the Philippine golf team which leaves on Wednesday for Japan on the way to the first world amateur team championship in Scotland paid a courtesy call on President Garcia. The golfers were Luis Silverio, Alex Prieto, Francisco Reyes, Melanio Gana, and Manuel J. Gonzalez.

Other callers were Dr. Belen Arguelles; Professors Maria Eugenia Perfecto, Natividad Galian, Virginia Macrohon, and Apolinaria Seva; Manuel and Jose Barredo; Rep. Gerardo Roxas of Capiz; Col. Margarito Torralba; and Maj. Ruben Jose.

THIS morning the President conferred with Internal Revenue Commissioner Jose Arahaz on legislative matters aimed at plugging the loopholes in the administration and enforcement of internal revenue laws, as well as preventing or minimizing tax evasions.

Arañas, who submitted his first report since he was detailed to Malacañang to assist in the preparation of legislative measures to be submitted to Congress, recommended the amendment or repeal of several provisions of the national internal revenue code and other tax laws.

The President was informed by Arañas on the latter's proposals to tap new sources of revenue andV, redistribute the burden of taxation equitably on the basis of ability to pay.

Arañas also proposed the conversion of the Bureau of Internal Revenue into a Commission in accordance with the recommendation of the Government Survey and Reorganization Commission.

Arañas proposed amendments to the tax exemption law in order to do away with "ghost" factories which imported goods during the last three years for resale to third parties and not for its actual use.

IN THE AFTERNOON, the President received Jesus Cabarrus, president of the Philippine Base Metals Association.

J. Antonio Araneta, former BIR collector, also saw the President.

Retired Brig. Gen. Leoncio Tan, newly-named general manager of the National Rice and Com Corporation, was the last caller to see the President early in the evening.

THE PRESIDENT directed the suspension of the order laying off and reducing the salaries of, some personnel of the Bureau of Printing after some 100 members of the Bureau of Printing Employees Association saw him in Malacañang this afternoon.

In a directive addressed to Acting Secretary Serafin Salvador of General Services and Director Mariano Ledesma of the Bureau of Printing, President Garcia called the two officials to a conference for the purpose of finding out the justification for such laying off or salary reductions, purportedly in the implementation of Executive Order No. 290.

The President also expressed a desire to have a representative of the employees at the conference so that the side of the employees could be properly presented. The conference has been scheduled at Malacañang at 9 a.m. on Wednesday.

Through their spokesmen, Pacifico Advincula, president of the association, the printing employees requested the intervention of the President on the following: (1) that unjustified dismissal of employees be stopped; (2) that there should be no reduction in their salaries; (3) that there should be no changes in the classification of employees; and (4) that the modified plantilla of the Bureau of Printing as prepared by the WAPCO be implemented.

The President was informed that last July 1, 47 employees had been dismissed allegedly because their items had been eliminated from the plantilla. However, after subsequent representations made with the Department of General Services, 30 of the 47 dismissed employees had been reinstated while new men had been hired to replace the rest.

The President was also told that some of those dismissed had been in the service for periods ranging from two to 10 years.

Advincula said also that 18 other employees were slated to be laid off tomorrow (Sept. 16) and that their replacements had already been informed to report for work.

The President was also informed by Advincula that the order dismissing these employees had been signed by Secretary Alejandro Almendras of the Department of General Services before he left for London.

The President in turn assured these employees that he would see to it that no dismissal would be made without justification.

September 16.—IMMEDIATE repair of the Sayre Highway in Mindanao to help small farmers in bringing their bountiful corn crop to market was urged this day by three Mindanao solons at a conference in Malacañang with President Garcia.

Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez informed the President that the Sayre Highway is actually in a deplorable state, especially in Bukidnon where it is “no better than logging roads.”

Reps. Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon and Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental supported Sen. Pelaez’ statement.

Sen. Pelaez also informed the President that the release of the maintenance funds of the highway should be expedited as well as the release of the amount of ₱100,000 provided for by law for the construction of a permanent bridge to replace the ferry at Carmen, Cotabato.

The Senator informed President Garcia that the immediate repair of the highway would help the small farmers in transporting to market their corn crops. Practically all the countryside had been planted to corn and the harvest is good, Pelaez said.

Pelaez also took the opportunity to inform the President that a portion of the Agusan-Davao road is impassable, forcing the residents of about seven or eight towns to walk the distance to get another bus at the other end of the road in order to reach the capital of Agusan.

Pelaez urged the cancellation of the contract and asked that the Bureau of Public Highways take over the work.

Brig. Gen. Alfredo Santos, acting chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, paid a courtesy call on the President. Santos is acting as AFP head during the absence of Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, and Maj. Gen. Manuel Cabal, vice-chief of staff, who are in Bangkok attending the SEATO military advisers’ confab.

Other callers of President Garcia consisted mostly of congressmen who consulted him on problems of their respective localities. They included Reps. Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, Justiniano Montano of Cavite, Manuel Enverga and Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, Benjamin Ligot and Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Eladio Balite of Samar, Francisco Sumulong of Rizal, and Luciano* Millan of Pangasinan.

PRESIDENT Garcia and House leaders this evening agreed to enforce the controversial tax census law.

The President, after a long conference with House scions headed by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, “is of the opinion that the law should be implemented within the means provided for by Congress.”

Deadline for the submission of the tax census papers with the Bureau of Internal Revenue falls on Monday, September 22.

The President, in deciding to enforce the law, admitted that it contained certain defects.

However, he expressed the belief that the defects can be cured by presidential action.

The President stressed that he would “study seriously” the defects and bring about the necessary remedies.

Present at the conference were, in addition to Speaker Romualdez, Reps. Eladio Balite, Lamberto Macis, Natalio P. Castillo, Faustino Tobia, Godofredo Reyes, Bartolome Cabangbang, Lorenzo Teves, Domitilo Abordo, Mar-celino Veloso, Sergio Osmeña, Jr., Isidro Kintanar, Salipada Pendatum, Leonardo Perez, Luciano Millan, Emilio Cortez, Jacobo Gonzales, Justiniano S. Montano, Francisco Sumulong, Benjamin T. Ligot, Vicente L. Peralta, and Ricardo Yap Ladrado.

The President pointed out that one of the widely-criticized statements in the tax census form was the requirement to report the bank deposits of persons who had reached 18 years or over.

Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., (N-Cebu) also assailed the BIR forms and called them “inquisitorial.”

The Cebu solon charged that the BIR had required a census of the property of the taxpayers.

The President pointed out that he would study the Cebu solon’s objections.

The President had agreed in principle to the proposal of Speaker Romualdez for the creation of a “secretariat” in the Nacionalista Party to direct the affairs of the political organization throughout the year.

The Speaker deplored the present practice of neglecting the political organization after every election.

He indicated that the creation of a “secretariat” will strengthen the political organization and attend to the intramural rifts which have weakened the group as a result of political jealousies and to the handling of political patronage.

September 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia discussed this morning with high government officials and labor leaders the reclassification and promotion in salaries of the personnel of the Bureau of Printing.

Present at the conference held at the Quezon City residence of the Chief Executive were Undersecretary Serafin Salvador of General Services, Printing Director Mariano Ledesma, Eulogio Lerum, and Pacifico Advincula, president of the Bureau of Printing Employees Association.

The conferees discussed the readjustments made under Executive Order No. 290, which implements the Government Reorganization Act, and referred the matter to the Budget Commission for the reclassification of positions in the bureau.

The President called Salvador and Ledesma to a conference after he had received last Friday some 100 BPEA members who asked for the reinstatement of 17 dismissed employees and for the implementation of the WAPCO modified plantilla for the bureau.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening ordered a “blanket” extension by 30 days of the deadline for the filing of tax census forms following numerous requests and protests from various sectors of the economy.

The President, during a conference with Secretary of Finance Jaime Hernandez and Commissioner of Internal Revenue Melecio Domingo, also decided to “do away with three extraneous matters” required in the forms but “which were not specifically called for in Republic Act 2070, the tax census law.”

It was decided that in future forms to be printed, the requirements on bank deposits in item No. 11, and the columns titled “fair market value” and “acquisition cost” in item Nos. 6 and 7 will be deleted.

However, for those who have already secured forms, these requirements should only be considered “optional” which the filer may or may not fill.

Upon recommendation of Domingo, the President decided to allow a general extension in the deadline for filing.

Original deadline for filing was set on September 22, 1958. The extended deadline has now been set for October 21, 1958.

The President called to conference Hernandez and Domingo shortly before presiding over the weekly Cabinet meeting purposely to thresh out criticisms and protests against the tax census forms issued by the BIR for the implementation of the tax census law.

AT the regular Cabinet meeting this afternoon, the President directed the National Marketing Corporation to release 166,000 bags of impounded flour and release all its stocks of canned foods as a counter-measure to arrest the spiralling of prices.

The President was disturbed by reports of the unabated upswing of prices of prime commodities brought about by unscrupulous merchants who are taking advantage of the Formosa crisis.

The Cabinet, at the same time, also approved the allocation of ₱5 million from the reparations to finance the acquisition of pre-fabricated houses to accommodate the increasing school population.

The Cabinet action was spurred by the recurrent school crisis at the opening of the school term every year due to lack of school buildings.

September 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia was informed today by acting Vigan Mayor Atilano Nolasco that civic-minded citizens and politicians of different party affiliations agreed to bring about the restoration of peace and order in Vigan.

Mayor Nolasco, accompanied by Reps. Faustino Tobia and Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, pledged the support of the members of the municipal council to the peace and order campaign ordered by President Garcia immediately after the killing of Mayor Vicente Formoso.

President Garcia impressed upon the Ilocos Sur politicians the need to restore peace and order in the province so as “not to desecrate the memory of the late President Elpidio Quirino.”

While he lamented the deterioration of the peace and order situation in Ilocos Sur due to the killing of Mayor Formoso, President Garcia expressed his determination to press his pacification campaign.

Other members of the Vigan municipal council who pledged support to the Garcia pacification campaign in Ilocos Sur were Librado Espiritu, Pedro Colcol, Susano Ancheta, Francisco Averia, Florencio Arcano, and Juan Florentino.

The President also conferred with Mines Director Benjamin Gozon and expressed his satisfaction that the survey of the mineral deposits in the islands of Nonoc and Dinagat has been completed.

Gozon informed President Garcia that in both islands the survey disclosed that there is about one billion tons of mineral ore, and preliminary findings seem to show that there are about one billion tons of mineral ore in the province of Surigao.

In view of the Gozon report, President Garcia expressed his determination to push through the integrated steel industry project in order to avoid the exportation of ore to Japan for processing.

The President also discussed with Gov. Felixberto Dagani of Agusan the exploitation of hydroelectric power in the province, and then directed the National Power Corporation officials to study the sites of a hydroelectric plant either in Agay or in Paypay.

In a directive to NPC officials President Garcia stated that the lumber industry in Agusan is increasingly in need of hydroelectric power.

Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Taliora complained to President Garcia that the Central Bank is demanding that Baguio pay ₱96,000 representing the amortization and interests of a bond issue amounting to ₱640,000 for the improvement of the city's waterworks system.

Tabora informed President Garcia that Baguio had only received the amount of ₱100,000 for the improvement of its waterworks system which was later disposed of by the City Engineer without the knowledge and consent of the Mayor or the Municipal Council.

Other presidential callers this morning included Guillermo Jurado, PRO of the Reparations Commission who reported to President Garcia on his trip to Japan, and Governors Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya and Fernando Veloso of Samar.

The President today directed the Department of Foreign Affairs to conduct a formal inquiry into the reported incident featuring the unauthorized landing of a Chinese Nationalist plane in Poro Point, La Union.

IN THE AFTERNOON, the President received Albertus Taapken, vice-president and manager of the international banking department of the Crocker-Anglo National Bank in San Francisco, California, and G. Scott Runyan, assistant vice-president of the international banking department of the same bank. This bank is one of the seven banking institutions which have granted a \$77.5 million credit line to the Philippines.

Taapken and Runyan arrived in the Philippines last Sunday. They will stay here for two weeks. Taapken is on his way to attend the International Monetary Fund conference in New Delhi, India, while Runyan will visit other Asian countries. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Chairman Eduardo Z. Romualdez of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

President Garcia likewise received N.A. Fittinghoff, president of the Koppel (Phil.) Inc., and Ronald Miller of Caterpillar Overseas, C. A.

Among the topics taken up was the proposed arrangements for the deferred payment of capital goods amounting to \$15 million which the United States Industries, Inc., and Caterpillar Overseas, C.A., will jointly extend to the Philippines.

Preliminary talks on this subject between the President and officials of the U.S. Industries, Inc., and Caterpillar Overseas, C.A., were stated during the President's state visit to America last June.

President Garcia also received Richard Baldwin, Vicente Orosa, and A. L. Pineda of the Philippine Suburban Development Corporation.

They showed the President plans for the construction and establishment of a new international airport which they said will be capable of handling jet aircraft which will be coming in within a year or two.

Baldwin told President Garcia that, this airfield will have a total area of 2,500 hectares and will be the largest in the world when completed.

Idlewild International Airport in New York, Baldwin said, has an area of 2,000 hectares.

According to their plan, the airport will be located some 15 kilometers away from Nichols Field.

Other afternoon callers were Senator Arturo M. Tolentino, who saw the President for final instructions prior to his departure on Monday for the United Nations General Assembly meeting; and Telecommunications Director Jose Alfonso, who conferred with the President on plans for the expansion of the bureau with equipment from Japanese reparations.

President Garcia and Eduardo Z. Romualdez this afternoon considered seriously a proposal to intensify financing of agricultural and industrial enterprises through the Development Bank of the Philippines, in line with the Administration's objective for increased production both in the agricultural and the industrial fields.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said that this step would tie up the development program of financing to loans obtained from the United States, particularly those from capital goods secured through credit sources in the U. S.

President Garcia and Romualdez discussed in particular ways and means of encouraging further the mining industry in the Philippines and other industries needing raw materials locally obtainable.

September 19.— CONSTABULARY protection was extended today to the family of Lorenzo Formoso, murdered mayor of Vigan, Ilocos Sur, by President Garcia immediately after he was informed by Rep. Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur that a rival political group had hired goons to liquidate leaders of the Formoso faction.

The Ilocos Sur solon who accompanied the widow and two daughters of the slain town executive to Malacañang also informed President Garcia that the goons had threatened his life as well as that of Lorenzo Formoso, Jr., son of the slain mayor.

Mrs. Lourdes I. Formoso, widow of the murdered mayor, and her daughters Letty and Lilia stated before President Garcia that Lorenzo, Jr., was ordered to leave Vigan or face liquidation.

President Garcia also received Manuel Castañeda, chairman-administrator of the Land Tenure Administration, who submitted a progress report on the activities and accomplishments of his office.

National Integration Commissioner Madki Alonto, together with Hadji Ibrahim Ali, saw President Garcia and reiterated his recommendation that in future pilgrimages to Mecca closer government control and supervision should be instituted.

Alonto informed President Garcia that there were only 16 registered deaths on board the pilgrimage ship; most of those who died were either old, sickly, or too young.

Members of the Peace and Amelioration Fund Commission took their oath of office before President Garcia this morning. The new PAFC members are Andres Soriano, Jr., Carlos Palanca, Jr., Marcelo Balatbat, and Cailos Fernandez.

Other presidential callers this morning were Mayor Carmelo Porras of Davao City, Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke, and Mayor Getulio Calope of Bahian, Bohol.

THE CIVIL SERVICE Board of Appeals was reconstituted this morning with the induction of Justice Undersecretary Enrique A. Fernandez as the third member of the three-man body.

Fernandez took his oath of office before Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, chairman of the board. He replaces Sen. Ambrosio Padilla whose term of office expired on February 8, 1958.

As reconstituted, the Civil Service Board of Appeals is now composed of Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, chairman, and Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and Justice Undersecretary Enrique A. Fernandez, members.

Immediately after the oath-taking, Chairman Aytona announced that the board will commence full operations and meet every Friday to clear up the backlog of pending cases arising from the failure of the board to meet since early this year.

AT his regular press conference this afternoon, the President expressed optimism on the possible settlement of the Formosa question and frowned upon a congressional agitation for a special session to take up the fluctuating tension north of the Philippines.

He said "calling Congress to a special session now is unnecessary and it would merely add to the war jitters."

The President also:

1. Refused to comment on the reported Russian and Chinese Communist warnings against the Philippines on the use of U.S. bases here in the defense of Quemoy and Matsu Islands;
2. Branded as "academic" discussions on the possible launching of nuclear weapons in U.S. bases in the Philippines;
3. Indicated that the Philippines will comply with its obligation of providing for a token force in the event the United Nations approves a plan to establish a UN peace force to police troubled spots in the world;
4. Denied reports that the Philippine delegation to the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization military advisers conference has sponsored a plan to include the Formosa straits within the SEATO area; and
5. Shied away from questions on the unexpected landing in Poro Point, La Union, of a damaged Chinese Nationalist warplane.

The President supported the U.S. proposal for a "ceasefire" in Formosa even as Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano was reported as preparing to sponsor the move before the UN General Assembly meeting Monday.

Serrano, reports said, will take up the U.S. proposal which was first broached by U.S. State Secretary John Foster Dulles before the UN assembly meeting.

The President pointed out that it was "routinary" for countries to observe a ceasefire agreement pending talks for the settlement of their conflicts, and indicated that the Philippines will also support the move to sidetrack the Formosa question from UN discussion until the move to pletion of the Warsaw peace talks.

September 20.- ALTHOUGH the President had wanted to rest during weekends, he found out this afternoon that several callers were waiting for him at the receiving room of his private residence in Quezon City.

This afternoon the President received a delegation from Davao headed by Gov. Vicente Duterte, who took up problems confronting his province.

Duterte told the President that he had come a long way from the southern Mindanao province and could not wait until an appointment was fixed for his audience with the Chief Executive.

Gov. Duterte had sought financial aid from the Chief Executive for the National Trade School in Davao City. He said that unless Malacañang helped the institution, the trade school may be closed for lack of funds.

With Duterte were Mayors Osqaldo Barol of Lupon and Gregorio Dujan of Panabo.

After the Davao delegation, the President received Sen. Eulogio Balao, who returned the other day from a ten-day trip to Japan.

The Cagayan Senator reported to the President on his trip to Tokyo. He recommended a plan to extend the Manila Railroad line from Manila to Cagayan by procuring the necessary materials from the reparations items.

The President said he will submit the Balao plan to the Reparations Commission and to the board of directors of the Manila Railroad Company.

Constancio Soria, Quezon City electrician, this evening called on the President. Although Malacañang did not reveal the subject matter taken up at the conference, it was learned that the caller had- urged President Garcia to go ahead with the latter's plan of reorganizing the Quezon City administration.

Soria, who is from Bohol, is one of the aspirants for the naayoralty of Quezon City.

Rep. Bartolome C. Cabangbang, President Garcia's "hatchet man," had strongly recommended the appointment of Carlitos V. David to the city mayoralty in the event Mayor Norberto Amorarto is relieved. David was national vice-chairman of the Garcia-for-President-Movement in the last elections.

PRESIDENT Garcia was informed by the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE) that exchange controls as now administered by the Central Bank, can never stop the drain on the country's dollar reserves.

A report submitted to the President in Malacañang this evening said that "there is too much discretion being exercised by persons who are not subject to the restraints of public opinion and who can therefore afford to be capricious or arbitrary for their own interest.

"As long as controls are continued to protect the dollar reserves, import and export anomalies such as are happening now are too lucrative to be resisted by even normally honest men," the report claimed.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: September 21-27, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia did not receive any caller the whole day today. He spent the day at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

Waking up early this morning, the President heard mass said at the living room of his residence. With him at the mass were Maj. Jose Estrella, military aide, and members of the household help.

After a light breakfast, the President spent some time strolling around the lawn, engaging in conversation some gardeners he found tending flower plants in the premises.

About 10 a.m., the President repaired to his study where he read the Sunday papers. He also went over some state papers he had brought over from Malacañang the day before.

The President had lunch about 1 p.m. After a brief siesta, he again repaired to his study where he continued poring over state papers.

September 22.—THIS MORNING President Garcia explored the possibility of expanding the plywood industry and, as a complementary measure, the establishment of glue factories in the Philippines at a conference with American plywood manufacturers.

The President received Harold R. Jones and Russell Jones of Oregon, and Alfredo Ferrer and Mrs. Rosario Valdez, with whom he discussed the problems of the local plywood industry.

The Chief Executive stressed the importance of developing the local plywood industry as a means of giving job opportunities to the labor force.

The President was assured by Mr. Jones that there is a ready market for Philippine plywood in the United States. Mr. Jones pointed out that the local plywood industry could expand its production by two or three times and could still be absorbed by the American market.

Mr. Jones decried the exportation of Philippine logs to Japan where it is processed and then sent as finished product to the American market where it competes with locally produced plywood.

The President assured members of the Philippine Contractors Association who called on him this morning in Malacañang that the government is not contemplating to import Japanese engineers and contractors to undertake the extension of the MRR line to Cagayan.

PCA members, led by Eduardo Escobar, PCA president, had expressed fear that Japanese technical men might be employed in the project, following a recent conference between President Garcia and Sen. Eulogio Balao on this subject.

According to Escobar, Filipino engineers possess the technical know-how but that they lack the equipment to do the job. He added that the equipment could be procured from Japan as part of the reparations payments to the Philippines.

President Garcia, in turn, told them that he and Sen. Balao merely discussed plans for the financing of the project and that nothing was mentioned about how the construction would be carried out.

Other members of the PCA delegation were Perfecto Mahalac, Pedro Valdez, Domingo Poblete, Maximo Dimson, Lorenzo Viedad, Graciano Borja, and Placido Urbanes.

President Garcia also received an invitation to be the guest speaker at the opening of the Labor-Management Congress on October 16. The invitation was extended to Malacañang by Labor Secretary Angel Castaño.

The President was informed that some 2,000 delegates, including 17 from Asian countries, England, and the United States, are expected to attend the congress.

Members of the executive council of the Labor-Management Congress who called on President Garcia this morning included Director Bernardino R. Abes of the Bureau of Labor Relations, secretary-general of the council; Teofilo Reyes, Sr.; Juan Tan; Jose Hernandez; Zosimo Resurreccion; H. B. Reyes; Dean Conrado Benitez; and Enrique Cruz, council secretary.

Officers of two technological associations, the United Technological Organizations of the Philippines (UTOP) and the Chamber of Technology, called on President Garcia to pledge their support and to offer their services to the Administration.

The UTOP requested President Garcia to appoint one of their members to the National Science Development Board. They recommended the following: Manuel Felizardo, Manuel Aycardo, and Benjamin Salonga.

Among those in the UTOP delegation were Otillo Arellano, president, Jones Castro, Werner Fischer, Crisostomo Alma Jose, Vivencio Araos, Carlos Arguelles, Dr. Joaquin Marafion, Manuel Felizardo, Fernando Ocampo, Cesar Concio, Manuel Aycardo, Benjamin Salonga, and Andres Hizon.

Newly-elected officers of the Chamber of Technology who paid a courtesy call on President Garcia were Filemon Rodriguez, president; Arturo Tongco, vice-president; George Adamson, treasurer; Sergio Bayan, Manuel Felizardo, Florencio Tamesis, Eduardo Taylor, Benito Legarda, Sr., and Felix Maramba, directors; and Gabino Mendoza, executive secretary.

President Garcia also thanked members of the Women's Party of the Philippines who came to offer their services in the government's campaign to stop the spiralling prices of prime commodities.

Miss Inocencia Revilla, president of the organization, told the President that the women are most concerned about increasing prices of goods because any rise in the price of commodities adversely affects the home budget.

The WPP group included Mesdames Dorotea Esguerra, Polly Cayetano, Criselda Esguerra, Carmen Zanduetta, Aurelia Saporna, Modesta Sollorano, and Socorro Cudiamat.

A delegation of homesteaders led by Buenaventura de Guzman called on President Garcia and requested his help for the opening of public land in the Zambales-Bataan-Pampanga junction area for agricultural purposes.

Some 50 small Filipino importers, members of the National Traders Association, requested President Garcia's help for the gradual nationalization of our import trade.

Spokesmen of the group were Leandro Canlas, president of the association, and Jose Huerta, director.

Other callers were Rev. Fr. Felix Perez, Mrs. Lourdes C. Raymundo, and Francisco P. Nuguid in connection with the coming fiesta of the district of San Miguel, Manila; Fernando Fuentes, Alfonso Fallarme, Crispin Veloso, Pablo Garcia, Bonaparte Garcia, and Ubaldo C. Lalin.

PRESIDENT Garcia accepted the credentials of Dr. Anton Mayr-Harting as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Austria to the Philippines in a ceremony held in Malacañang this afternoon.

In presenting his credentials, Dr. Mayr-Harting expressed confidence that he would find in the Philippine Chief Executive “a helpful friend at my efforts to intensify and to deepen the good relations already existing between Austria and the Philippines.”

The Austrian minister also conveyed his “most sincere wishes for Your Excellency’s welfare and happiness as well as for the prosperity of the Philippines.”

The President, in accepting the credentials, said that with the accreditation of the new envoy, the ties that link the Philippines and Austria would be given added strength.

Dr. Mayr-Harting is resident minister of Austria to Thailand and concurrently non-resident minister to the Philippines.

Born in Vienna on February 12, 1904, he obtained his LI. D. degree at the University of Prague in 1928. He started service with the ministry of foreign affairs in Prague in 1935. He was named vice-consul and assigned to Czechoslovakian consulate general in Istanbul in 1937, resigned from the ministry of foreign affairs in 1938, rendered military service from 1942 to 1945, reentered the foreign service of his government in 1946, was named secretary of legation in 1948 as Austrian consul at Johannesburg from 1950 to 1955, and then counsellor, second class, in 1957.

Accompanied by honorary Austrian Consul Hans Steiner and Minister Jose Estrada, protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Minister Mayr-Harting was rendered full military honors on his arrival at Malacañang at 5 p.m. by an honor guard formed by a unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion.

After acknowledging the raffles and flourishes offered by his honor guard, the Austrian minister was led up the Palace stairs to the ceremonial hall for the presentation. Present at the ceremonies were Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Juan Alcazaren, and Ministers Benito Bautista and Enrique Garcia.

The presentation lasted about 23 minutes.

IN THE EVENING President Garcia emphatically declared that he cannot suspend the effectivity of the tax census law, much as he would want to, because there is no specific provision in the Constitution granting him that power.

The President issued this statement to clarify certain reports which tend to show that he refused to hold in abeyance the implementation of this much-discussed law.

He expressed his personal inclination to have the implementation of the tax census act suspended this year until January of next year.

He said the holding of a census in October and another three months later would inconvenience a large segment of our people, as the period of time in-between is apparently very short.

President Garcia recalled that during his conference last week with congressmen, the conferees were of the opinion that the President had no power to suspend the effectivity of this law. In that meeting the conferees stressed that only data contained in the tax census act should be required of persons filing a tax census report.

As a result, he continued, the questions requiring the revelation of bank deposits, the cost of acquisition of properties, and their fair market value have been omitted.

President Garcia said it would not be fair to require persons to answer questions that are optional in character. He pointed out that such tax census reports will be filed as sworn statements.

The President, however, qualified his statement by intimating that he would go over decided cases in the hope of finding a precedent which could be used as a basis for ordering the suspension of the tax census law until certain defects could be ironed out by the Congress.

Directors of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines this evening presented to President Garcia a memorandum which embodies six recommendations aimed at giving Filipinos a more active participation in business.

Led by their president, Marcelo S. Balatbat, CCP directors reiterated their endorsement of the "Filipino first" policy of the National Economic Council in the allocation of foreign exchange to implement the policies of the government to encourage Filipinos to engage in enterprises and industries vital to the economic growth, stability, and security of the country.

The CCF directors also reiterated their previous recommendation for the immediate implementation of the policy of the Central Bank to give special foreign exchange support to *bona fide* Filipino importers who can secure exclusive distributorship contracts with foreign manufacturers and suppliers.

Another recommendation submitted by the CCF directors was to the effect that, in the purchase of equipment and materials above \$10,000 not manufactured in the country, the calls for bids should be on C & F prices instead of F.O.B bodega.

The CCP directors pointed out the fact that present bids allow only importers with big dollar allocations to participate in these government transaction. Under their proposal, the CCP directors stated that small businessmen would be placed on an equal footing with the big ones.

Another recommendation submitted to President Garcia would exempt all Filipino importers with less than \$10,000 quota allocations per semester from the requirement of the Central Bank to put up a marginal deposit equivalent to 100 per cent on semi-essential and 200 per cent on non-essential imports.

The President assured the CCP directors that he would study their recommendations.

Other CCP directors who saw President Garcia were Ramon V. del Rosario, Jose Y. Orosa, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, H. R. Reyes, Ben Medrano, Martiniano G. Abad, and Efren V. Mendoza.

September 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia will study the possibility of authorizing the release of funds under the ₱25 million bond issue sold to the Government Service Insurance System and the Social Security System to complete the construction of six new operating rooms for the Philippine General Hospital.

The Chief Executive discussed this morning with Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo the problems of the hospital, especially the congestion of patients due to lack of wards.

Under Republic Act 1900, better known as the Bond Issue Act, the sum of ₱700,000 was appropriated for the construction of the six operating rooms. However, only the sum of ₱400,000 was released.

Owing to lack of funds, the construction of the operating rooms was suspended, according to the Iloilo solon who was directed by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez to go to the hospital on a fact-finding mission in view of numerous complaints against the personnel and facilities of the hospital.

President Garcia was informed that the hospital has actually two makeshift operating rooms; so operations are sometimes postponed except for major ones.

The Iloilo Solon also informed the President that the PGH with a 940-bed capacity should have at least eight operating rooms, pointing out that the North General Hospital with only a 450-bed capacity has eight operating rooms.

The President also directed F. F. Santiago, general manager of the Manila Railroad Company, to suspend the bidding for the sale of a tract of land owned by the state firm in San Mateo, Rizal.

Upon hearing that there are about 1,000 houses in the area facing demolition in case the land is sold to bidders for subdivision purposes, President Garcia directed Santiago to make necessary plans for the sale of the lot to present occupants.

The presidential directives were given at a conference President Garcia had with Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa.

Other callers were Reps. Natalio Castillo and Maximino Garcia of Bohol, Laurentino Badelles of Lanao, Manuel Agudo of Batanes, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Justiniano Montano of Cavite, Apolinario Apacible of Batangas, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, and Manuel Enverga of Quezon.

The President this day directed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to submit at the earliest date the list of one-peso-a-year men in Malacañang for the purpose of weeding out undesirable appointees.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable quoted the President as seriously bent on eliminating those appointees who would make use of their positions for purely personal and commercial motives.

President Garcia, however, qualified his position in favor of retaining those appointees who have helped the government in the study of administration problems, naming in particular several prominent citizens.

The latest presidential directive is in line with President Garcia's campaign against influence peddling and graft and corruption in the government ranks, Secretary Nable said.

THIS EVENING the President had another marathon conference with members of Congress who saw him at his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, to discuss party matters but mostly on the political patronage, "pork barrel" funds, and alleged discourtesy of government officials to the solons.

A Malacañang spokesman who reported on the proceedings early this evening said the solons griped against the officials of the backpay division of the national treasurer's office for allegedly ignoring members of Congress who follow up papers for their clients.

Irate solons, who unburdened their grievances for being given the run-around in the backpay division, urged the President to mobilize the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency to conduct an inquiry into the procedure followed by the office.

What incensed the solons was the fact that their disappointed clients switched to "fixers" in the office, who, they charged could get the check in record time.

Amused by the solon's gripes, the President said he will refer their complaint to National Treasurer Vicente Gella.

Until press time, the President was still in conference with the solons. They recessed at 9 o'clock this evening to join the President at the dining table.

September 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received Lt. Gen. Sir Richard Hull, commander-in-chief of the British Land Forces in the Far East, at the Malacañang music room.

The visiting U. K. general was accompanied by British Ambassador George L. Glutton.

Officials of the Philippine Producers' Co-operative Marketing Association, Inc., accompanied by Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez and Reps. Vicente Gustilo and Agustin Gatuslao saw President Garcia and submitted a memorandum applying for allocation of irrigation sets from Japanese reparations. They also submitted a proposal to barter sugar fertilizer.

Jose Gaston, PHILPROCUM president, informed President Garcia that the irrigation sets will be used on lowland rice and corn fields to which the sugar planters are now earnestly directing their attention in preparation for the time when the sugar industry may not be so profitable.

Earlier, the President received Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Games and Amusement Board Chairman Manuel Nieto, Jr., and J. V. Pickering and C. A. Larsen, director and Philippine general manager, respectively, of the Standard-Vacuum Oil Co.

From Malacañang, the President motored to the Manila Hotel to address the members of the Manila Lions Club.

PRESIDENT Garcia today pictured a rosy future for local industries and pledged government support to the fiscal needs of such industries.

In a fighting extemporaneous speech before a large gathering of the Manila Lions Club in the Manila Hotel, the President also underscored the unprecedented record of the Administration in ridding the Bureau of Customs of grafters.

President Garcia asked his audience which consisted of businessmen to look at the industrial situation realistically and accept both the good and the bad sides of the problem.

He gave importance to the increase of new industries from 150 in 1950 to around 900 this year which is a healthy sign of progress towards achieving self-sufficiency in this country.

While admitting the existence of a low-dollar reserve in the Central Bank, President Garcia pointed out that this should not be a cause for alarm. The greater number of industries in the country today makes it imperative for the government to support them with the necessary dollars for the purchase of raw materials and spare parts.

It is the government's moral obligation to support such industries; so this fiscal backing will be continued by the government, President Garcia assured.

As a Filipino, President Garcia said, we should be proud that in such a short time we have been able to go very far in our industrialization.

The Chief Executive assailed administration critics for distorting the true situation obtaining in the government's program for industrialization.

Earlier in his speech President Garcia explained the functions and bared the excellent record of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance and Efficiency (PCAPE). He said that the PCAPE would be the machinery which will check up on the implementation of administration programs.

He revealed that as of September 19, 1958, a total of 57 cases have been reported and acted upon by the PCAPE in its investigation of the Bureau of Customs.

President Garcia however was quick to emphasize that the accused would be given their day in court and that care will be exerted to the utmost in order to prevent any possible injustice committed against any one of the accused.

The President took time to lash back at the administration critics for their unjust claim of whitewash of the investigations. This country observes the democratic principles, President Garcia said, and there is the legislative department to make the laws, the executive department to execute such laws, and finally the judiciary to interpret them.

Because of this system of government, the President said, the accused must be granted every opportunity to defend himself. To rush such things may be tantamount to establishing a dictatorial form of government in this country.

THE EARLY RELEASE of more than ₱19,408,000 for the operation and maintenance of the Department of Education was urged by Secretary of Education Manuel Lim on President Garcia and the Cabinet during the Cabinet meeting today.

In a memorandum submitted during the meeting for the consideration of the President and the members of the Cabinet, Secretary Lim pointed out that if the amount will not be released, all public school teachers and other school personnel may not receive their salaries for one month, several vocational schools will be closed, and several projects of the department will stop operations.

Secretary Lim said the following amounts are urgently needed;

- (1) ₱9,971,550 for the payment of one month's salary of all teachers and other school personnel;
- (2) ₱3,000,000 for the payment of gratuity of retirees under Republic Act No. 1616;
- (3) ₱1,050,000 for the improvement and current operating expenses of four vocational schools which were formerly financed partly from local funds, now completely withdrawn by the local government;
- (4) ₱925,000 for the operation and maintenance of six general high schools converted to vocational schools effective this fiscal year;
- (5) ₱885,000 for operation and maintenance of schools not included in the first two items;
- (6) ₱3,425,000 for the establishment of new vocational schools because of insistent demands from public officials, parents, and civic organizations; and
- (7) ₱123,000 for the operation and maintenance of deworming, malnutrition, and health education units of the Medical and Dental Services.

Other projects of the Department of Education which are being hampered owing to lack of funds, according to Secretary Lim, included the purchase of books; the acquisition, preservation, and exchange of specimens by the National Museum with other countries; and the supervision of private educational institutions by the Bureau of Public Schools. Secretary Lim said that if the travel allotment for the Bureau of Private Schools is not released this year, the supervision of private educational institutions, which is imperative for the purpose of maintaining a higher standard of education, will be adversely affected.

In his memorandum, Secretary Lim called the attention of the President and the Cabinet to the possibility of all public school teachers and school personnel not receiving their one month's salary if the amount of ₱9,971,550 is not made available during the current fiscal year.

In his request for the early release of ₱1,050,000 for four vocational schools, Secretary Lim said that the amount now available for their operations will not be sufficient to allow normal operation up to the end of the current fiscal year.

The President and the Cabinet this evening approved in principle the proposal on the Batjak, Inc., to construct five processing plants for producing coconut oil in the Philippines.

The Cabinet also approved the request of the Motor Vehicles Office to purchase nine police model sedans as well as the requisition for cars made by Iloilo and Albay provinces.

Final approval of the Batjak proposal was withheld pending compliance with the following conditions required by the Cabinet:

1. Verification of the financial and industrial standing of Arnold Otto Meyer, West German supplier of the machines;
2. Recommendation for approval by the Secretary of Justice;
3. Technical specifications of the machinery to be installed in the mills be furnished by the Cabinet;
4. Assurance that the supply of spare parts for these machines will be steady and that payment for them will be made in the same manner as payment for the machines;
5. Capitalization of the Batjak, Inc., be increased from ₱1 million to 20 million; and
6. No dollars should be involved in the shipment of machinery from West Germany to the Philippines.

James Keister and Tereso Dumon, officers of Batjak, Inc., appeared before the Cabinet and explained the prospects of a ready market for the oil produced by the mills and the chances of Philippine oil against the oil cartels already established in Europe.

The two key men of the corporation assured the Cabinet that their German contact, Arnold Otto Meyer, had promised to buy all the oil they could produce and that their corporation is free to sell the oil in other areas of the world where the price may be better.

Sites for the five oil processing mills proposed to be constructed by Batjak, Inc., are Siain, Quezon; Iligan City; Medina, Misamis Oriental; Davao City; and Tacloban City.

No dollars will be involved in the purchase of the machines, Keister and Dumon told the Cabinet, as payment will be made in copra over a period of twelve months.

They said their West German supplier offered to finance initially the purchase and shipment of machinery in advance of receipt of the copra payment so that it will be possible for the plants to be producing and earning foreign exchange before the time full payment is required.

Machinery for each mill will cost \$750,000 and the five mills proposed will cost a total of \$3,754,500. However, they said, they expect to produce \$75 million annually in foreign exchange as soon as the mills start operation.

Authority of the Cabinet for the MVO to purchase nine police sedans for the enforcement of traffic regulations in nine regional districts is necessary in view of a Cabinet ruling that all purchases over ₱10,000 will have to be approved by the Cabinet.

Acting General Services Secretary Serafin Salvador said that the ceiling price of cars be raised because of the general rise in prices.

For special purposes, such as the use by law enforcement agencies, the ceiling be set at ₱12,000 while proposed purchases of cars for other offices remain ₱10,000.

In approving the request of the MVO and that of the provinces of Iloilo and Albay as exceptions to rule, the Cabinet ruled that it was not yet ready to effect any change in the ceiling of ₱10,000 established in 1957.

President Garcia sent today the following message to former Speaker Jose Yulo on the occasion of his 64th birthday anniversary:

“Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia and I wish you many happy returns of the day, continued success and good health.”

The President created today a special committee to plan, supervise, and direct an information and education radio program specially beamed for the rural areas.

National Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenko and Bernardo G. Silverio were appointed chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, while Carlos F. Nivera, former editor of the *Philippines Herald*, was named executive director of the new committee.

The contemplated radio program will be conducted through the radio facilities donated by the people of the United States through the Committee for American Relief Everywhere (CARE).

During President Garcia’s recent state visit to the United States he succeeded in arousing interest among private individuals and civic organizations to assist the Philippines in combatting communist expansion through extensive radio information and education campaign.

As a result, the American people donated an initial 1,000 transistor radios specially constructed for barrio use. CARE will continue to receive contributions for more radios until all of the Philippines’ 19,000 barrios will have at least one radio receiving set each.

As conceived by President Garcia, the committee will be composed of the following: undersecretary of national defense, chairman Bernardo G. Silverio, vice-chairman; Carlos F. Nivera, executive director; and the director of public schools, the presidential assistant on community development or his authorized representative, the manager of Station DZFM or his authorized representative, and the chairman of the Radio Control Board, members.

The Philippine representative of CARE will serve with the committee in a consultative capacity.

The committee shall be responsible to the President and shall submit a report periodically or as often as required by him.

Committee members shall serve without compensation, and expenses incurred in carrying out the programs shall be paid from funds to be provided in consultation with the budget commissioner.

September 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning directed the government agencies concerned to look into the complaint filed by the municipal council of Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte, through Mayor Marciano C. Linis against the application of Fernando Gaité for the lease of about 2,000 hectares of land for pasture purposes.

Mayor Linis denounced Gaité for “pulling a fast one” over 800 families, some of whose declared and titled property planted to coconuts and bananas, are included in the application.

Linis told President Garcia that the application covers the entire barrio of Dahican and expressed fear that it may lead to bloodshed.

President Garcia authorized the release of ₱50,000 for the completion of the Jose Panganiban breakwater in his conference with Mayor Linis.

Mayor Telesforo Unas of Maragondon, Cavite, also conferred with President Garcia regarding the availability of funds for the construction of a new municipal building. President Garcia directed Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to release the amount of ₱59,000, as provided for by Republic Act 1900 for the purpose.

A group of municipal mayors who underwent a course on community development under the joint auspices of the Presidential Assistant on Community Development and the University of the Philippines paid a courtesy call on President Garcia.

The group was composed of Mayors Mario Lizares of Talisay, Negros Occidental; Pedro Yulo of Binalbagan, Negros Occidental; Braulio Cayson of Libon, Albay; Gregorio Gajo of Irosin, Sorsogon; Columbio Celosia of Jetafe, Bohol; Roger Trinidad of Santa Magdalena, Sorsogon; Vicente Ramos of Bustos, Bulacan; Pedro Edano of Masinloc, Zambales; Conrado Lucena of Bulusan, Sorsogon; Ramona Trillana of Hagonoy, Bulacan; Faustino Marcelo of Santa Cruz, Laguna; Philip Buencamino of San Miguel, Bulacan; and Ramon de los Cientos of Banzalan, Davao.

Other callers included Govs. Esmeraldo Eco of Camarines Norte, Jesus Almero of Masbate, Leon Guinto, Sr., of Quezon, Vicente Duterte of Davao, Dominador Chipeco of Laguna, and Manuel Barretto of Zambales; and Mayors Norberto Amoranto of Quezon City, Benjamin Magallanes of Masbate, Masbate, and Pedro Rinoza of Nasugbu, Batangas.

The President today directed the Immigration Commission to submit a report on the case of Dr. Robert Fox, an American anthropologist, who appealed for an extension of his stay in the country.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the presidential directives was spurred by the editorial of a metropolitan newspaper.

Fox first came to the Philippines on a scientific assignment and is now acting chief of the division of anthropology of the national museum.

THIS AFTERNOON President Garcia received Takoma Utsunomiya, member of the Japanese House of Representatives and secretary-general of the Liberal Democratic Party.

Utsunomiya was accompanied to Malacañang by Satoshi Kinaso, press officer of the Japanese Embassy, and Lucio Ong, liaison officer. Utsunomiya presented the President and the First Lady with gifts.

Delegates of the American College of Chest Physicians also paid a courtesy call on the President. The delegation was led by Dr. Burgess Gordon, immediate past president of the International College of Chest Physicians; Dr. M. G. Flipsey, vice-president of the ACCP; and Dr. Andrew Banyai, chairman of the ACCP council on international affairs.

They were accompanied by Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia and Dr. Fidel Nepomuceno, chief of the TB division, Department of Health.

A portrait of Abraham Lincoln sent by Illinois Governor William G. Stratton was given President Garcia by Dr. Otto L. Betag, director of the Department of Public Welfare of the State of Illinois.

The physicians are here on a brief stop-over after attending a conference of the International College of Chest Physicians held recently in Tokyo. They are leaving tonight for the States.

Ambassador Trinidad F. Legarda paid a farewell call on President Garcia to receive final instructions prior to her departure early Saturday morning for her post in Saigon, Vietnam.

Mrs. Legarda was accompanied by Benito Legarda, Sr., and Edward Dennis Normandy, TCI. Jose Rodriguez and Jose Panganiban of the National Development Company reported to the President on the results of their recent trip to Japan to survey the possibility of acquiring ocean-going ships from that country.

President and Mrs. Garcia this afternoon sent the following message of condolence to Mrs. R. Stanley Dollar, Sr., on the death of her husband:

“Mrs. R. Stanley Dollar, Sr.
“86 Sea View Blvd., Piedmont
“San Francisco, California

“We would like you to know that Mrs. Garcia and I were both deeply grieved to hear of the sudden passing of your beloved husband, especially because only recently we had the rare pleasure of meeting with both of you in the States. There can be no doubt that in the passing of Mr. Dollar the United States has lost one of its financial giants who until his death was contributing immensely to the economic progress of your great country. Please know that we sincerely share your loss and we fervently hope that this expression of our deepest sympathies will somehow assuage your present grief. With our kindest personal regards,

“PRESIDENT AND MRS. GARCIA.”

The food production campaign launched by President Garcia is a tremendous success in Nueva Ecija where a bountiful rice harvest estimated conservatively at more than 9 million cavans or an average of 35 cavans per hectare is expected this year, according to a report submitted today to President Garcia by Gov. Amado Aleta.

This unprecedented production, Gov. Aleta added, will create a problem in his province in view of a surplus of about 700,000 cavans of rice and 400,000 cavans of corn from the first and second crops this year.

Aleta urged that the NARIC purchase the surplus rice and corn to alleviate the plight of small farmers. The President promised to study the matter.

Aleta informed President Garcia that there is practically no buyer for corn in his province.

The Chief Executive was also informed that the increased production in Nueva Ecija is due to the adoption of modern farm practices; like the use of certified seeds, the adoption of the masagana system of planting rice, and the control of insects, pests, and diseases.

At the same time, Gov. Aleta presented to President Garcia resolutions approved by the Provincial Board and the Mayors' League urging the appointment of Conrado Sevilla, executive vice-president of the Philippine National Bank, for president of the PNB to replace Arsenio Jison.

September 26.—THIS morning President Garcia declared that the Philippines is strongly committed in its adherence to the World Health Organization.

He said that the new WHO building in Manila is an “eloquent symbol of our desire and our wish to participate actively in all efforts and activities for the benefit of mankind.”

The President spoke at the opening ceremonies of the ninth session of the WHO Western Pacific regional committee. He also formally opened the new WHO building on Isaac Peral corner Taft Avenue. President Garcia also said:

“The signal achievements in the field of health that this country has made are due not only to the great vigor of our people and of our government but to the World Health Organization as well. As a coordinating and assisting agency

in international health work, the WHO has ignited the spark that led to the effective development of national health planning and action. That vital spark lit the flame which has now illumined our country.”

“In the overall tally,” the President continued, “our people have become healthier, taller, heavier, more resistant to disease, and more aware of the same health habits which are so necessary in the tremendous job of nation-building.”

Following the President’s speech, health officials of 15 countries and representatives of various medical and scientific organizations started a week-long review and examination of the progress of health in the Western Pacific.

THIS afternoon President Garcia defended the appointment of “Belo Boys” and one-peso-a-year Malacañang assistants as he debunked Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson’s expose Thursday night as “full of inaccuracies and fallacies and does not merit any comment.”

At his press conference the President announced he had authorized his press secretary to make public the list of “Belo Boys” and one-peso-a-year technical assistants.

President Garcia said, “I can stand comparison with any other administration” by way of commented on the appointments of one-peso-a-year advisers.

At his press conference, the President:

1. Refused to comment on the move within the Nacionalista Party to expel Mariano Jesus Cuenco;
2. Considered the Nationalist plane landing incident on Poro Point, La Union, a “closed matter.”
3. Believed Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano was misquoted in New York when he disclosed his secret formula to solve 2,700 overstaying Chinese visitors in the country;
4. Renewed his warning against profiteers and hoarders who had taken advantage of the Formosa crisis to increase the prices of prime commodities; and
5. Indicated he may return Jose Arahaz as commissioner of the bureau of internal revenue after the latter is through with his work in Malacañang.

President Garcia virtually took issue with Mayer Lacson as he debunked the latter’s charges that Malacañang has employed numerous Belo Boys to dissipate government funds. He said he has authorized Press Secretary Nable to release the records of the Belo Boys and the “one-peso a-year advisers and technical assistants.”

The President pointed out that the practice started since Quezon’s time. He recalled that in other regimes, Malacañang allocated ₱500,000 as Belo fund to subsidize these technical advisers.

He said that other administrations had oversubscribed their appropriations by disbursing ₱700,000 to pay these technical advisers or “Belo Boys.”

The President pointed out that during his first year as President, he has not exceeded the amount of ₱162,000 appropriated for the payment of the salaries of the so-called “Belo Boys.”

He said he has asked Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to give him the list of one-peso-a-year assistants in order that he could start his purge of the “undersirables” from the list of Malacañang technical advisers.

Asked to comment on Senator Cuenco’s charge that most of the Malacañang technical assistants are Boholanos, the President said: “That is bunk.”

The President, however, refused to comment on the move within the Nacionalista Party to expel Cuenco.

Before starting his press conference, the President read a prepared statement reiterating his warning against profiteers and hoarders who had taken advantage of the Formosa crisis.

“Although the situation in Formosa is serious,” The President read, “there is no cause for alarm.”

He said he has mobilized all government agencies concerned to apprehend and punish anybody found victimizing the consumers by taking advantage of the war scare. “The increase in the prices of prime commodities,” he added, “is unreasonable and my administration has taken the necessary steps to stop it.”

He, however, said the Chinese community has cooperated in the government campaign to bring down the prices of essential goods.

The President had “no comment” on the reported move in the Department of Foreign Affairs for the recall of Chinese Ambassador Chen Chihmai. Ambassador Chen’s recall was indicated by foreign sources following the refusal of the envoy to report to the Department of Foreign Affairs on the unauthorized landing of a Chinese Nationalist plane in Poro Point, La Union, recently.

Commenting on Serrano’s statement on the Chinese temporary visitors, the President expressed the belief that his foreign affairs secretary had been “misquoted.”

Foreign Affairs Press Officer Ramon V. Mitra said the basis for the attack against Serrano was “wrong.”

He said the secretary did not announce his “formula” at the United Nations. He said it was bared in answer to newsmen’s queries.

The President told newsmen he considered the case of the unauthorized landing of the Chinese Nationalist plane in Poro Point closed.

President Garcia issued the following statement at the beginning of his weekly press conference this afternoon:

“Although the situation in Formosa is serious, there is no cause for alarm. At the present time, there is no indication that the situation there will spread into a general war that will directly affect the Philippines.

“In this connection, I like to reiterate my warning to unscrupulous businessmen and speculators that the Administration will take strong measures to protect the public. I have mobilized all government agencies concerned to apprehend and punish anybody found victimizing the consumers by taking advantage of the war scare. The increase in the prices of prime commodities is unreasonable and my administration has taken the necessary steps to stop it.

THE PRESIDENT signed today the following appointments:

- (1) Judge Rafael Amparo as Associate Justice of the Court of Appeals;
- (2) Roberto Villanueva as *ad interim* member of the Monetary Board, vice President Sinco, whose term will expire on December 23, 1958.
- (3) Gaudencio Antonino as *ad interim* member of the Monetary Board vice Secretary Amando Dalisay, whose term will expire on December 23, 1960.
- (4) Judge Jesus Perez for the 3rd Branch of Manila;

- (5) Judge Angel Mojica for the 7th Branch of Rizal;
- (6) Judge Manuel Mejia for the 1st Branch of Bulacan;
- (7) Ex-Judge Enrique Maglanoc for the 2nd Branch of Quezon Provinces; and
- (8) Hermenegildo Rosales as Chairman of the Board of Examiners for chemists.

The President also recommended to the Philippine National Bank Board of Directors the appointment of Eduardo Romualdez as President of the Philippine National Bank, effective October 1, 1958, vice resigned President Arsenio Jisou.

The successor of Romualdez in the Development Bank of the Philippines will be announced in a few days.

Gaudencio Antonino, new member of the Monetary Board of the CB was the recipient of the "Lumberman of the Year" award from the Business Writers' Association of the Philippines in 1954 and the "Special Outstanding Award for Contribution to Exportation and Production" in 1956.

Born in Jaen, Nueva Ecija, on February 12, 1909, Antonino had been the President of the Producers and Exporters Association of the Philippines, the United Finance Corporation, the Apayao Consolidated Mining Company, the Western Mindanao Lumber Company, the Mindanao Lumber Development Company, G. E. Antonino, Inc., and the USAFIP NL, Greater Manila Chapter.

Antonino is also a member and director of several business organizations.

Roberto Villanueva, who replaces U. P. President Vicente Sinco, was twice president of the Philippine Chamber of Industries, elected in 1952 in Australia International President of the JAYCEES, and twice delegate of the Philippines to the International Monetary Fund Conference.

IN A SPECIAL MEETING called at 4 o'clock this afternoon, the Cabinet rallied behind Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona's call for reduced expenditures to achieve a sound and balanced government budget.

All Cabinet members, with the exception of Education Secretary Manuel Lim and National Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, expressed the belief that their offices could continue operations and achieve the maximum social and economic objectives of the Administration.

Secretary Lim reiterated to the Cabinet his previous request for the early release of more than ₱19,408,000 for the operation and maintenance of the Department of Education.

He pointed out that if the amount will not be released, all public school teachers and other school personnel may not receive their salaries for one month, several vocational schools will close, and several projects of the department will stop operations.

On the other hand, Secretary Vargas said he will have to make a further study of his department's original budget and the new allotment before he can state definitely whether the revised appropriation will be sufficient to enable his department to carry on its operations.

He admitted that the present tense situation in the Far East will have some effect on his final decision.

Secretary Vargas also said he will ask for the release of ₱2 million allocated to the Veterans' Memorial Hospital and not scheduled in the proposed program of expenditures for this fiscal year, to permit the hospitalization in the VMH of veterans with injuries or disabilities not sustained in combat.

This afternoon's special Cabinet meeting was called to determine the best means of using the limited resources of the government in order to achieve best the social and economic objectives of the government.

Commissioner Aytona told the Cabinet that the government expects an estimated income of only ₱806.4 million which is ₱151.8 million less than the ₱958.2 million originally estimated in the 1958-1959 fiscal year budget;

The decrease in the estimated income was attributed mainly to two factors; namely, (1) the failure of Congress to enact special tax measures recommended by the President in the 1959 budget and (2) the downward trend in expected revenues due to unfavorable business climate that limits the expansion of domestic and foreign trade.

He also said that if all the authorized appropriations of ₱1,292.6 million were to be programmed for expenditure this fiscal year in the face of an estimated income of only ₱806.4 million, there would be a deficit of ₱486.2 million.

Aytona submitted for the consideration of the Cabinet a proposed program of expenditures for the 1958-59 fiscal year that would limit expenditures to ₱806.2 million.

September 27.—THIS morning, the President, like a thoughtful brother, motored to the residence of his brother, ex-Minister Cosme Garcia, to felicitate personally the latter on the occasion of his birthday.

The President had breakfast at his brother's residence.

From his brother's residence, the President returned to his private house on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, where he received the representatives of the various intelligence agencies.

President Garcia this morning received various proposals to insure a more systematic coordination of efforts among the various intelligence and investigative agencies of the government.

The proposals were presented to the President by ranking members of the various intelligence agencies headed by Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano. The proposals were aimed at minimizing unnecessary duplication of functions and efforts among the agencies.

The meeting which was held at the President's residence in Quezon City, was attended by NICA Director Nicanor T. Jimenez, PC Chief Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, Philippine Navy Chief Commodore Jose Francisco, PAF Chief Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, NBI Chief Major Jose T. Lucban, Captain (PN) Carlos Albert, G-2 of the AFP, Lt. Col. Romeo Honasan of the Presidential Guard Battalion, and Lt. Col. Manuel Yan of the intelligence division of the PC.

THIS AFTERNOON President Garcia told a special press conference of college editors that the dissemination of truth should be the first objective of every real writer and journalist.

The press conference was held at the President's residence in Quezon City and was attended by college editors from all over the country.

The President urged the students to seek the truth because in the market of opinions, he pointed out, only those that are true will endure. Those that do not come up to this standard, he continued, will perish in the mass of forgotten things.

President Garcia decried the present trend in journalism whereby selling the paper has become a matter of greater importance than imparting the truth.

He blamed this tendency on newspapermen who go into sensationalism by sacrificing truth and slanting.

The President approved a proposal to increase the membership of the Consultative Council of Students to provide regional representation. The CCS will call a meeting in Manila of student leaders late next month. Possible legislation affecting the welfare of the students will be taken up at the meeting.

The President regretted the inability of the present administration to fulfill a promise made by the late President Magsaysay to construct a Student Youth Center building owing to lack of funds.

He said, however, that he will try to make arrangements whereby their headquarters will be accommodated in a room in some public building.

After President Garcia's brief remarks, he entertained questions put to him by the college editors. The questions asked ranged from the reasons for the low dollar reserves of the country, the "white paper," and the Administration's determined campaign against graft and corruption in the government.

Napoleon Lechoco, chairman of the Consultative Council of Students, acted as moderator during the conference.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: September 28 – October 4, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 28.— AS USUAL, the President and the First Lady heard mass said at their residence on Bohol Avenue this morning.

After mass, the President read the Sunday papers and then proceeded to his study to work on pending state papers until lunch time.

Feeling rested and refreshed after an afternoon nap, the President went over the speech he would deliver before the Philippine Medical Association at the Manila Hotel this evening.

PRESIDENT Garcia said in his Manila Hotel Speech that he will urge the Monetary Board to relax current exchange controls on the importation of vital drugs and medical equipment.

The President took cognizance of the inadequacy of the supply of drugs due to the lack of dollar allocations with which to import and stock-pile them for emergency.

He said, "I will urge the Monetary Board to widen decontrol of vital drug items and allocate more dollars for essential drugs and equipment which will insure medical sufficiency in times of emergency."

President Garcia also announced that he was supporting whole-heartedly a revitalized health program proposed earlier by the Department of Health.

The President expressed the hope that the health program will get underway immediately.

"The Office of the President is duly prepared to extend whatever assistance may be necessary to get this program into high gear," he said.

President Garcia said that the revitalization program "may be considered as the basic health program of this administration."

The health program involves the adoption of improved policies governing health department operations, minimization of politics, and expansion of present facilities.

The President stressed, however, that the health plan is not the sole undertaking of the government. It also involves action on the part of private entities, he said.

President Garcia made public the "thoughts of this administration" on certain important measures that need to be adopted in order "to insure a healthier way of life for our people."

September 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning expressed his appreciation to the members of the Manila Breakfast Group for their unqualified support and cooperation in the implementation of the moral crusade he had initiated recently.

The assurance of support and cooperation was embodied in a manifesto presented to the President by Dr. Gumersindo Garcia, Sr., chairman of the group.

The Manila Breakfast Group is a non-partisan organization and is affiliated with the International Christian Leadership, a world-wide association of civic-minded men.

President Garcia also told them he will consider seriously their proposal for the creation of a Commission on Moral Standards for the promotion and elevation of moral standards among our people.

The President also received James A. Jacobson and Charles Cain, Jr., executive vice-president and vice-president, respectively, of the Chase Manhattan Bank of New York.

The American bank executives are in Manila for a brief stop-over on their way to New Delhi to attend the International Monetary Fund conference which will start early next month.

Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr., accompanied them in their courtesy call on the President.

PHILCOA Chairman Feliciano V. de Gala submitted to the President a list of proposed nominees to constitute the Philippine delegation to the Food and Agriculture Organization conference on coconut and coconut products.

The conference will be held in Manila from October 20 to 29. Tentative site for the conference is the new World Health Organization building on Taft Avenue.

Among those recommended to compose the Philippine panel are Agriculture Undersecretary Amando Dalisay, Gov. Juan Triviño, Dean Conrado Benitez, Science Director Joaquin Maraño, and Juan Alano.

Officers of the "Big Ten" Club, led by Dr. Emiliano C. Ramirez, club president, called on President Garcia to invite him to be their guest of honor at a thanksgiving dinner on November 27 at the Manila Hotel.

The "Big Ten" Club is composed of alumni of the ten leading universities in the United States; namely, Ohio State, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan State, Northwestern, Chicago, Purdue, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. Alumni of Ohio State University will be this year's hosts.

In the group were Col. Salvador Villa, Marcelino Ganay, Maj. Sotero Cacainindin, Miss Ethel Alikpala, Dr. Sofiia Prudenciado, Miss Ofelia del Rosario, Miss Lita Servando, Ricardo Castro, Jr., Mrs. Teresita Reyes Bocobo, Israel Bocobo, and Pablo Ocampo.

President Garcia also received Dr. Emilio Javier of the Philippine Band of Mercy, who extended an invitation to the President to inaugurate the new ₱150,000 headquarters of the organization in Quezon City on October 16.

Members of President Garcia's class of 1923 of the Philippine Law School called on him to express their appreciation for the appointment of Justice Rafael Amparo to the Court of Appeals.

The group included Justice Conrado Sanchez, Dean Ricardo Lacson, Pastor Gonzales, Protasio Amonoy, and ex-Rep. Jose T. Nueno.

President Garcia was presented with an Italian-made miniature statue of Moses by Ambrosio S. Velasquez, manager of Paramount Pictures, Inc., in the Philippines, in connection with the forthcoming showing of *the Ten Commandments*. Accompanying Velasquez were Guillermo Timico, manager of Galaxy theater, and Ricardo Javier, Paramount PRO.

Presidents of three national organizations for the blind saw President Garcia and requested his help in the implementation of R.A. 1169, an act authorizing the holding of a regular sweepstakes draw for the purpose of raising funds for the aid of the blind and other handicapped persons.

Amado S. Clemente, president of the United Blind Association, Inc.; Nicomedes S. Maligat, president of the Foundation for the Blind of the Philippines, Inc.; and Julian C. Ramos, president of the Philippine Blind Association, Inc., told the President that the money to be realized from the sweepstakes draws will go a long way towards the implementation of the self-help projects among their members.

Others Who called on President Garcia this morning were ACCFA Treasurer Doroteo Toledo, Sr., and Benjamin Blando, officer in charge of the ACCFA fertilizer project; Restituto Armea, Constancio Leuterio, and Perfecto Cagampang.

The President this day proclaimed September 30, 1958, as Philippine-Australian Day during which Filipinos and Australians will get together to mark the significant growth of closer association and unity between the two nations.

The declaration of Philippine-Australian Day is in connection with the arrival in Manila of 1,300 Australian tourists tomorrow. The Australian tourists are scheduled to arrive on board the *SS Orsuva*, which is one of a number of large Pacific area tourist ships regularly scheduled to call at Manila.

The President recalled that the first Philippine-Australian Day was proclaimed last year during the visit in Manila of 1,200 Australian tourists. The President said that the event last year generated rapid growth of the volume of tourist traffic and tremendous goodwill between the Philippines and Australia.

In his proclamation, declaring the Philippine-Australian Day, the President said that it is in the highest interest of both the Philippines and Australia and of the Pacific area as a whole that there be increasing intimate relations, mutual understanding, and lasting cooperation between Filipinos and Australians.

The President also said that it is the desire of the Philippine Government that the Australian guests fully enjoy utmost courtesy, friendly attention, and Philippine hospitality at its best during their sojourn here.

The Chief Executive called upon all Filipinos and Australians residing in the Philippines; upon business, civic, and service organizations; and upon public and private schools to help render the observance of the day memorable through appropriate means of welcoming the Australian visitors and making them feel at home on Philippine soil.

The President approved today the appointments of three Philippine honorary consuls and a vice-consul. They were as follows:

1. Joan Porrot du Cray as Philippine honorary consul to Toulouse, France;
2. Enrique Castills Marterell as Philippine honorary consul to Caracas, Venezuela;
3. Lodewijk Spellman as Philippine honorary consul to Amsterdam, Netherlands; and
4. Felipe S. Landagan as Philippine vice-consul to Los Angeles, California.

The President also approved the accreditations to the Philippines of Robert Harold Gaynor as vice-consul of Canada in Manila, Charles A. Parsons as honorary consul general of Panama in Manila, and Andres M. Soriano as honorary consular agent substitute of Cuba in Manila.

September 30.—THIS morning President Garcia received Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, who returned from an on-the-spot survey of conditions in the tobacco-growing regions of the North.

Sen. Gonzalez told the President that the farmers have complained against dishonest FACOMA officials who take advantage of farmers by down-grading their produce and buying them at low prices and then upgrading the same leaves and selling them at higher prices to the ACCFA.

President Garcia administered the oath of affiliation to Mayor Venerando Udarbe of Sta. Ana, Cagayan, a former Liberal now turned Nacionalista.

Udarbe was accompanied to Malacañang by Rep. Felipe Garduque of Cagayan and Mayor Isaac Villegas of Alcala, Cagayan. Rep. Garduque told the President that Udarbe had cooperated with the Nacionalistas in the last presidential elections.

Rep. Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna requested President Garcia to order the release of P100,000 for the establishment of a school of fishery in Los Baños, Laguna, as authorized by R. A. No. 1879.

Rep. Gonzales said the school will have the responsibility of undertaking researches on fresh water resources. He claimed that the depletion of fish in Laguna Lake is now causing untold hardships on the people depending on fishing in the lake as their main source of livelihood.

Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela secured presidential authority for the release of one million pesos from funds of the Philippine Tobacco Administration for the purchase of native cigar fillers.

President Garcia was informed by Rep. Dominador Tan of Leyte and Mayor Esteban C. Conejos of Ormoc City about the great need for the establishment of a hospital in that city. The President's help was also sought in securing funds for the repair of the road leading to the wharf in Ormoc City.

Rep. Justiniano Montano saw President Garcia to request the appropriation of P150,000 from sweepstakes proceeds to finance the construction of the proposed Andres Bonifacio Memorial Hospital in Trece Martires City.

Rep. Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao accompanied two mayors from his province seeking the release of funds for various projects in their respective municipalities.

Mayor Ramon Kaimo of Surigao requested the allocation of funds for the construction of a dispensary building, while Mayor Adela Serra-Ty of Tandag, Surigao, sought financial help for the completion of a river-control project in her town.

Other solons who saw the President this morning were Reps. Jose B. Legaspi of Aklan, Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan, Emilio P. Cortez of Pampanga, Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, and Antonio de Pio of Cebu.

The President this day issued a directive to correct alleged malpractices in the grading of Virginia leaf tobacco by FACOMA officials in several Northern Luzon provinces, including Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte, Cagayan, Isabela, La Union, and Pangasinan.

The presidential order, transmitted through Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta directed acting ACCFA Administrator Arcadio G. Matela and acting BIR Commissioner Melecio Domingo to have representatives of their offices present in all stages of classification and purchase of tobacco leaves.

The President's action came in the wake of representations made by Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, chairman of the Senate committee on social justice, community development, and welfare, in behalf of more than two million tobacco farmers.

Sen. Gonzalez informed President Garcia that tobacco growers in the North, especially in the Ilocos provinces, have filed formal complaints with her committee regarding the following alleged malpractices of FACOMA officials: (1) improper grading of their produce, (2) not paying them the corresponding price, and (3) not paying them on time.

The woman senator told the President that tobacco growers have not been able to take advantage of the so-called "tobacco boom" because of these irregularities being committed by FACOMA officials.

To prevent FACOMA officials from “under-grading” the produce of small tobacco farmers, Sen Gonzalez proposed to the President the assignment of impartial tobacco experts from the ACCFA and the BIR to each of the 72 tobacco-purchasing stations of the FACOMAs.

President Garcia said he will study the proposal of Ilocos Sur Gov. Pedro Singson Reyes, as relayed by Sen. Gonzales, for the placing of samples of different grades of tobacco in the FACOMA warehouses to serve as guides and standards to both farmers and FACOMA appraisers.

Acting Administrator Arcadio Matela of the ACCFA, who accompanied Sen. Gonzalez, told President Garcia that he will leave for Ilocos Sur tomorrow to implement as early as possible the orders of the President.

President Garcia today assured the agricultural industry of the country representation in the Monetary Board during the oath-taking ceremonies of Gaudencio Antonino and Roberto Villanueva as members of the Monetary Board. They replaced President Vicente Sinco of the University of the Philippines and Undersecretary of Agriculture Amando Dalisay.

President Garcia said he was glad that the appointments of Antonino and Villanueva met with the approval of commercial and industrial circles.

He expressed the hope that the actuations of the new board members would reflect the needs and opinions of commercial and industrial circles.

The President gave assurance that on the first available opportunity he would appoint a Monetary Board member to represent the agricultural industry of the country.

President Garcia said he will seriously consider the request of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration (ACCFA) for an additional ₱10 million outlay with which to finance certain credit operations after he was briefed today on the lending operations of the government agriculture financing agency by officials of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, headed by Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo.

The President emphasized that it is the small farmers who need help most and that their application for short-term crop loans should be attended to with promptness and dispatch.

The President was told that in view of the increase in the number of FACOMAs and in their total membership, there has been a corresponding rise in the demand for crop loans.

To accommodate the growing number of applicants for loans, ACCFA deems it necessary to request an additional amount of ₱10 million to augment the original ₱100 million capital made available for loans.

The President said he will endorse to ACCFA the following recommendations of the PCAPE for the improvement of their lending services: (1) faster processing of loan applications, (2) supervision in the use of these loans to make sure that they are not misapplied, and (3) maintenance of an efficient field force to supervise the cooperative activities of FACOMAs and dovetail them with the ACCFA credit assistance program.

In the PCAPE group that briefed the President, besides Justice Ocampo, were Capt. Francisco H. Calinawan, PCAPE vice-chairman; Maximo Maceren, special assistant on research and analysis; Maj. Federico Salcedo, special assistant on communications and liaison; Johnny Planas, economic analyst; and Judge Tirso Joson and Maj. Teodulo Natividad, technical assistants.

This afternoon the President assured senators and representatives that he would direct Chairman Paulino J. Garcia of the National Science Development Board to coordinate scientific efforts for the early discovery of a remedy against *cadang-cadang* and mosaic diseases plaguing the coconut and abaca plantations of the country.

The President gave his assurance following a report by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez that *cadang-cadang* has spread to Samar. Speaker Romualdez expressed fears that unless preventive measures are taken, the disease will spread to Mindanao and other Visayan provinces.

At his meeting with the lawmakers in his residence in Quezon City, the President also received a report from Speaker Romualdez that several intra-party squabbles among the Nacionalistas in Albay had already been patched up. The Speaker returned from a trip to Albay this morning.

Present at the meeting were Speaker Romualdez, Sens. Eulogio Balao and Pacita M. Gonzalez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Reps. Eniilio Cortez of Pampanga, Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo, Jose Legaspi of Aklan, Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan, Natalio Castillo of Bohol, and Pedro Trono of Iloilo. The conference lasted from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia, addressed as “Champion of Democracy” and “a Friend of the Press” addressed the Fourth Estate this evening as principal speaker at the third annual journalism awards sponsored by the Standard Vacuum Oil Company at the National Press Club.

The President flayed the press for what he charged as “too much regimentation” in the distribution of news and information compared with the past ’10s and ’20s when newsmen were observed to have stood by their convictions.

President Garcia stressed that, the “highest mission” of the press is to “record the truth,” regardless of whether it may hurt what he called as “dictators or mighty men of the country.”

The President followed Senator Claro M. Recto, as one of the guest speakers at the NPC dinner.

Commenting on Senator Recto’s speech, the President observed that the Batangas solon deserved award for being one of the most faithful historians of the press.

President Garcia arrived on the dot at 8 o’clock, while Senator Recto was five minutes ahead of time.

President Garcia delivered an extemporaneous address, saying he came with the impression that he was invited to hand the awards and not as a principal speaker.

October 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia received a first-hand military estimate of the Quemoy-Matsu situation from Vice-Admiral Wallace M. Beakley, former commanding officer of the U. S. Seventh Fleet, at a breakfast conference this morning in his Bohol Avenue home in Quezon City.

Admiral Beakley is in the Philippines en route to the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., to assume his new position as deputy chief of naval operations in the defense department. He paid a courtesy call on the President.

Others present at the two-hour long breakfast conference were U. S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff; Commodore Jose Francisco, PN flag officer in command; and Capt. J. A. Myers, naval attache of the U. S. Embassy.

After the conference, President Garcia retired to his private study with Secretaries Vargas and Pajo and Gen. Arellano.

Secretary Vargas reported to the President the measures he had taken to implement the retrenchment policy of the Administration in the Armed Forces.

Ambassador Jose Fuentebella, Philippine envoy to Indonesia, called on President Garcia for consultations.

Ambassador Fuentebella denied newspaper reports claiming that he had returned to the country to submit his resignation to the President.

Instead, he said, President Garcia had told a press conference that he (the President) did not know of any so-called agreement whereby Ambassador Fuentebella would be allowed to resign.

Ambassador Fuentebella reported to President Garcia on the situation obtaining in Indonesia and other Southeast Asian countries with which he was in constant communication.

President Garcia today approved the retirement of Miguel Y. Garcia as Malacañang supervisor of buildings and grounds.

The President's approval was given following receipt of a letter from Engineer Garcia, who requested that he be allowed to retire because he is already 60 years and has more than thirty-six years of continuous service in the government.

Engineer Garcia will continue to serve as chairman of the National Planning Commission.

In his letter to the President, Engineer Garcia expressed his gratitude and submitted his recommendations filling the vacancies created by his retirement. His recommendations follow: Ramon Llave as superintendent of buildings and grounds; Timoteo Manzanero to take the place of Llave; and Architect Domingo Chacon to take the place of Manzanero. The recommendations were approved by the President.

THE CABINET at its meeting this afternoon approved the program of expenditures for the general fund for the current fiscal year, as submitted by Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, which recommends to Congress the enactment of special revenue measures to cover expected deficits in the budget.

President Garcia was informed that the estimated income for the current fiscal year will amount to ₱806.4 million, which is ₱151.8 million less than the ₱958.2 million originally estimated.

The expected decrease in income, according to Commissioner Aytona, can be attributed mainly to the following factors: (1) the failure of Congress to enact special tax measures recommended by the President in the 1959 budget and (2) the downward trend in expected revenues due to unfavorable business climate that limits the expansion of domestic and foreign trade.

The decision of the Cabinet, however, is without prejudice for the department heads to submit modifications with financial arrangements to support the modifications. The departments which cannot fully meet the plan of reduced expenditures are the Department of National Defense, Education, and Health.

The Cabinet meeting was presided over by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo in the absence of President Garcia, who was in conference with the Monetary Board members.

In the case of the Department of Education, it was explained that some services of the offices under the department will be hampered if the appropriations will be reduced.

With respect to the Department of National Defense, Undersecretary Mariano Yenke informed the Cabinet members that more than 2,000 disabled veterans receiving disability pensions will be affected if the retrenchment policy would be enforced.

PRESIDENT Garcia today agreed in principle to meet every month with the members of the Monetary Board for consultations.

The Chief Executive, in his meeting this evening with the Monetary Board members, Governor Miguel Cuaderno, and Deputy Governor Andres Castillo of the Central Bank, reviewed the present policies of the Central Bank with a view to improving the system of dollar allocations.

The conference also agreed to further study plans for giving aid to small businessmen.

Another subject taken up during the conference was the implementation of the Philippine Overseas Shipping Act in pursuance of present plans to expand the Philippine merchant marine fleet.

It was understood that a revised policy of granting dollar allocations and the plans to aid small businessmen will be submitted to President Garcia at the next conference.

Members of the Monetary Board who attended the conference were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Jimmy Velasquez, Roberto Villanueva, and Gaudencio Antonino.

The President also met this evening Economic Coordinator Juan Concon and directed him to leave shortly for the United States to assist NASSCO General Manager Bernardo Abrera in the final stages of negotiations for a loan to be used in the purchase of machinery for an integrated steel mill proposed to be set up here by the NASSCO.

Abrera is now in Washington, D.C., finalizing details of a projected \$74 million loan with the Export-Import Bank for the purchase of said steel mill in line with NASSCO's program of expansion.

The President also conferred with Aniceto Crisostomo and Ramon T. Jimenez, directors of NASSCO, who requested his help in expediting the delivery of ₱5 million worth of machinery and equipment ordered by the government corporation from Japan.

President Garcia approved the sending of a three-man team to be headed by Leonardo Estrada, acting general manager of the firm, to undertake inspection and accept delivery of the machines and equipment.

The NASSCO officials informed the President that these machinery and equipment ordered from Japan will be used in the expansion of the firm's steel mill in Iligan City and in their smelting plant in Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte.

October 2.—THIS morning the President received Hon. Inche Abdul Aziz bin Ishok, minister of agriculture of the Federation of Malaya, who paid a courtesy call.

Minister Ishok is in the Philippines on his way to Tokyo to attend the Food and Agriculture Organization conference. He expressed a desire to observe community development projects in nearby towns around Manila.

Ishok was accompanied by Agriculture Undersecretary Amando Dalisay, Salvador F. Cunanan, executive assistant of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and Pedro Angara Aragon of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

President Garcia also received Dr. Bonifacio Masilogan, mayor; Dr. Miguel Anval, vice-mayor; and Dr. Leonardo Ona, Pedro Yanez, and Mrs. Modesta Umali-Remo, councilors of San Jose, Batangas.

They requested authority from the President to enable them to increase charges on water consumption in their municipality to augment local income. Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez accompanied the municipal officials to Malacañang.

Mayors Francisco Abarientos of Talisayan and Carlos Magapayag of El Salvador, Misamis Oriental, asked financial aid from the President to finance the construction of certain projects and public improvements in their respective municipalities.

Mayor Gregorio Dujali of Panabo, Davao, requested the appropriation of ₱18,000 for the construction of the town's municipal building and police station.

Mayor Ramon de los Cientos of Bansalan, Davao, asked for the release of a portion of the Apo National Park for agricultural purposes to enable the occupants to acquire the land they are now cultivating.

Vice-Mayor Manuel B. Suaybaguio of Tagum, Davao, presented a request for the appropriation of ₱30,000 for a proposed irrigation project to help the farmers in his town. He also asked for the release of 10,000 for the construction of the Tipaz-Magugpo road.

Two Quezon province mayors, Leon S. Ruiden of Gen. Nakar and Francisco P. Enriquez of Atimonan, sought President Garcia's assistance in securing the release of money from the President's contingent funds for the repair of school buildings in their respective municipalities which were damaged by typhoon *Kit*.

Opon Mayor Mariano Dimataga and Ladislao Tolentino, highway district engineer of Cebu, requested government financial assistance for the construction of a ₱175,000 road leading to the proposed auxiliary international airport in Opon.

Mayor Elpidio O. Cucio of Cabanatuan City and Norberto L. Cajucom informed the President of the *mandamus* filed with the court of first instance in Nueva Ecija by Dr. Emiliano Perez, chief of the provincial hospital, against the mayor, municipal board, and treasurer of Cabanatuan City.

They told President Garcia that the hospital chief brought action against them in an effort to collect the seven per cent of the city's gross income for the maintenance of the hospital as provided for by R. A. 1939.

According to Cucio, Dr. Perez is trying to collect ₱24,983.12 for the 1957-58 fiscal year and ₱35,000 for the current year. He said this will result in the deprivation of vital services which are badly needed.

Cucio asked for financial assistance for the construction of a new and bigger city jail to prevent a repetition of a recent jailbreak. He claimed provincial officials have refused to take in city prisoners. As a result, he added, the city jail, which can accommodate only six prisoners, now is packed with 34 inmates.

PRESIDENT Garcia today transmitted to the Department of Public Works for comment the project study of two Italian engineers on the reclamation of the Candaba swamps.

Gov. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga presented to President Garcia the report of Umberto Romano, chief of the technical service of the Conzorzio Della Grande Bonificazione Renana, and Giancarlo Jovi, of their study.

The report envisions the reclamation of the Candaba swamps through the construction of a drainage system and the installation of five pumping plants in strategic places.

The President was informed that the project, proposed to cost \$15,650,000 will reclaim 61,000 hectares that can be planted to rice, sugarcane, corn, and fruit crops with an estimated annual production of about ₱17 million.

To finance the project, Gov. Lazatin urged President Garcia to utilize the blocked currency of the foreign film industries.

Designed to bring the swampy lands of the Candaba Plain under cultivation, the reclamation as proposed by the two Italian engineers will be undertaken through the control of the waters coming down the mountains overlooking the plain which now constitutes a natural basin.

Meanwhile, Gov. Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac informed President Garcia that the IMA bloc of governors and city mayors endorsed the plan to construct a super-highway from Quezon City to Binalonan, Pangasinan in order to relieve the traffic congestion along the Manila North Road.

Other presidential callers were former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., and Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales.

PRESIDENT Garcia was briefed today on conditions obtaining in the customs area and received several recommendations to expedite release of cargoes and facilitate collection of customs duties.

The report was submitted to the President by members of the subcommittee on performance and procedures under the presidential fact-finding committee on customs headed by Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino Calinawan.

The President was also informed that as of June 30, 1958, the Bureau of Customs has accounts receivable amounting to over ₱13 million. Of this amount, over ₱7 million is owed by different government agencies and offices while private sectors have a standing account of more than ₱5 million.

Maj. Zoilo M. Estrella, acting chairman of the presidential committee in the absence of Lt. Cmdr. Calanawan, told President Garcia that this amount is increasing every month. He said they have taken initial measures to check this, and among them is the introduction of the "immediate payment" system.

Under this system, importers pay the required customs duties on articles as soon as the customs appraiser has fixed the amount.

President Garcia was told by the members of the sub-committee that a new system of examining cargoes was implemented yesterday and that legitimate brokers and importers were "very happy" about it.

Ordinarily, the delay in the release of goods is due mainly to delays incurred in the examination of cargoes. Formerly, four separate groups of examiners went over the cargoes independently of each other usually resulting in delays of from three to five days.

It was explained that new members of these four groups are combined into one team and the examination and subsequent release of articles take only a few hours.

President Garcia expressed satisfaction in their work, particularly when he was informed that the reforms they had instituted met with the fierce opposition of fixers, pseudo-brokers, importers engaged in clandestine operations, and other persons profiting from the delay in the release of shipments. Among those present at the briefing were Augusto L. Sevilla, chairman of the sub-committee on performance and procedures; Jose Bondoc Oscar Sarte, Felipe Rey Hipolito, Renato Mendoza, Nicanor Papa, members; Col. Vicente Novales, technical assistant on security; and Lt. Clemente E Antonio, PRO.

A CLOSER supervision of the activities of government-owned and operated corporations was envisioned by President Garcia today.

This plan does not in any way reflect against the ability of any chief of any government corporation but rather it is intended to step up implementation of President Garcia's program, particularly along lines of self-sufficiency.

The President directed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to look into the possible submission of monthly reports on accomplishments of government corporations instead of the annual reports submitted at the close of each fiscal year.

October 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia directed today Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas and Customs Collector Isidro Ang-angco to prepare a manual outlining procedures to be followed by the Bureau of Customs.

The manual will be a compilation of rules and regulations promulgated by the Bureau of Customs in connection with the importation and exportation of goods, the examination and appraisal of incoming and outgoing cargoes, the payment of customs duties due on these articles, and other functions of the bureau.

This was one of the recommendations submitted to the President by the sub-committee on performance and procedure of the presidential fact-finding committee on customs following a briefing held yesterday in Malacañang.

The President's instructions for the preparation of a customs manual will fill a long-felt need in the bureau and will speed up operations and at the same time eliminate opportunities for the commission of graft, particularly, with regard to the processing of cargoes for release.

President Garcia observed that the Philippines is one of the few countries in the world without a compiled set of customs rules.

He said the manual will benefit not only the local business public but also foreign countries having trade relations with the Philippines.

They also discussed the acceptance of surety bonds instead of cash bonds, as is being practiced now, in the case of violations of customs regulations.

It was agreed during the conference that surety bonds will be accepted provided the bonds are put up by an established and reliable bonding company.

Among those present at the discussions on reforms to be instituted in the Bureau of Customs were Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, Commissioner Capapas, Collector Ang-angco, Administrator Carlos Quirino of the No-Dollar Import Office, and Bayani Bautista, member of the legal staff of the Bureau of Customs.

President Garcia received on behalf of the Philippine Government invitations to participate in two international trade fairs. The first was extended to the President by Frank L. Gilbert, vice-president of the Seattle World Trade Fair, and the other by Harold B. Say, adviser on international trade of the Oregon State Centennial Exposition and International Trade Fair.

Accompanying Gilbert and Say during their call on President Garcia this morning were Mrs. Lilian Porter Say, Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto E. Laguio, Hilarion Henares, Sr., president of the Home Industries Association of the Philippines, Salvador F. Peña, vice-president of the Philippine Tourist and Travel Association, and J. V. Garcia.

Mrs. Say is Washington correspondent of the *Oregon Journal* and is representing the *Washington Evening Star* and the *Baltimore Sun* in their tour.

Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez assured President Garcia of a bumper harvest in rice and corn during this crop year and said he is expecting a surplus in these staple cereals.

The President expressed satisfaction over the enthusiastic response of the people to his call for increased food production and lauded Rodriguez for the excellent work done by fieldmen of the DANR in connection with the Administration's food production campaign.

Rodriguez also received final instructions from President Garcia preparatory to his departure early tomorrow morning for a 10-day visit to Australia to observe agricultural techniques being practiced there.

Rodriguez had accepted an invitation extended to him by the Australian Government to study and observe agricultural techniques being practiced in that country.

President Garcia also received President Vicente Sinco of the University of the Philippines, who came to Malacañang for final instructions prior to his departure tonight for Seattle to attend a conference among member countries of the Colombo Plan.

After the conference, Sinco will visit outstanding American schools and universities before returning to the Philippines.

Mayor Godofredo Rilloraza of San Fernando, La Union, requested the appropriation of ₱100,000 from the President's contingent funds for the construction of a new market, as the old one was razed to the ground; during the recent ₱3 million fire that hit the town.

He also sought President Garcia's favorable endorsement of his request for a ₱200,000 budgetary loan from the Central Bank to tide the municipal government over until the completion of the new market.

Rilloraza said revenues from the market constituted two-thirds of the town's income and now that, that source has been temporarily cut off, the municipality might not be able to meet its expenses.

PRESIDENT Garcia today said the invasion of Quemoy and Matsu does not constitute a threat to the security of the Philippines.

At his regular press conference this afternoon, the President virtually expressed his support behind the "revised" United States policy on Formosa seeking the Chinese Nationalist evacuation of the offshore islands off the China mainland in exchange for a ceasefire.

The President pointed out that Quemoy and Matsu are closer to the Chinese mainland than to Formosa and indicated that the Philippines would only feel the threat to its security if Taiwan itself is invaded by the Chinese communists.

President Garcia did not, however, comment on the reported new drift in the United States outlook on the Formosa crisis.

He said the U.S. policy is still "muddled," adding that it "would be premature" for him to make his comment until the United States' stand is more clearly defined.

At his press conference, the President also:

1. Disclosed that the Nacionalista leaders had deferred action on the move to oust Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco from the NP until after the return of Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez from a world tour;
2. Reiterated his desire to retire from politics after his four-year term in Malacañang but expressed his gratitude to those who had wished him to run for re-election;
3. Indicated that his administration has no new plans for Ambassador Jose Fuentebella, who was reported to have agreed to retire after a month's stint in Jakarta;
4. Said the reclamation of the Candaba swamps would boost the Administration's program of increased food production; and
5. Stressed that the administration has "accomplished something" in its campaign against grafter in the Bureau of Customs.

October 4.—THIS MORNING President Garcia instructed National Treasurer Vicente Gella to go after "fixers" and "percenters" frequenting the National Treasury office, particularly the back-pay division.

The President called Gella to a conference in his Quezon City residence following receipt of numerous reports from different sources about the alleged activities of “fixers” and “percenters” in the National Treasury.

Gella informed President Garcia that the redemption of back-pay certificates under R. A. No. 304 had to be suspended temporarily for lack of available cash in the backpay sinking fund.

He said they have taken steps to procure cash by negotiating assets of the backpay sinking fund, among them, bonds of the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company amounting to ₱1,275,000, which matter is now pending consideration by the Social Security Commission.

President Garcia is now considering two recommendations submitted by Gella so that the redemption of backpay certificates under R. A. 304 can be resumed; namely,

(1) That the appropriation of ₱21 million in the current annual budget for the redemption of backpay under R. A. 304 be programmed for release this fiscal year and

(2) That the appropriation of ₱3.8 million in the current annual budget for the backpay sinking fund under R. A. 897 be also released immediately. This amount could be utilized in the redemptions of backpay under R.A. 304 by simply transferring the investments in the form of real estate loans under R. A. 304 into investments under R. A. 897.

After his conference with Gella, President Garcia left with Education Secretary Manuel Lim and motored to the Manila Hotel to address the third national seminar of the Association of Spanish Professors of the Philippines.

THE PRESIDENT affirmed the value of the Castilian language from the practical and utilitarian points of view in his speech before the “Tercer Cursillo Nacional de Adiestramiento de Profesores y Maestros de Espanol” this noon at the Manila Hotel.

He said that Spanish has its political use and commercial utility and that it serves as a pathway to an inspiring past to the trenchant thoughts of our great propagandists of the 19th century and to the noble and lofty thoughts and sentiments of noted Filipino poets and patriots like Guerrero, Apostol, and Rizal whom he quoted in his speech.

The President urged the teachers to make it their aim to teach their students not only to talk in Spanish but, through it, to think and become masters of the two-fold Logos, the thought and the word, the creative and the revelatory.

The President was introduced by Judge Lourdes Paredes of the Pangasinan court of first instance, who acted as master of ceremonies.

The affair was attended by members of the diplomatic corps, officials of the Department of Education, and heads of schools and colleges.

PRESIDENT Garcia directed today Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera to report before the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday on the reported problems besetting provincial and city fiscals.

Presidential action on this matter was spurred by the editorial of a metropolitan newspaper which reported the drop in the number of anti-dummy cases acted on in the courts of justice.

In his conference with provincial and city fiscals recently, Secretary Barrera, as chairman of the anti-dummy board, underscored two important points.

He asked the fiscals to notify the anti-dummy board before deciding to drop any one case. This procedure, according to Barrera, would give the board an opportunity to submit new evidence.

The second point underscored by Secretary Barrera was the importance of closer coordination with the fiscals, particularly by keeping tab on the number of cases pending action in the courts.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: October 5-11, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 5.— PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia heard mass early this morning at the San Miguel Pro-Cathedral on the occasion of the annual feast of San Miguel district.

The President and the First Lady are the leading parishioners of San Miguel Pro-Cathedral, which is only a few blocks from Malacañang. The Chief Executive and the First Lady arrived at the church about 8 a.m. from their residence in Quezon City.

After the mass, President and Mrs. Garcia had breakfast with Bishop Hernando Antiporda of Manila at the San Miguel Pro-Cathedral convent.

From the church, the President and the First Lady returned to their Quezon City home where the President worked on pending important state papers until lunch time.

After a brief rest in the afternoon, the President went back to work on state papers. He received no callers and spent the whole day working on state papers.

October 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today went to Nueva Ecija to look into the progress of the food production campaign in that province. Impressed by the good results he saw in the “granary” of Central Luzon, he expressed his determination to push through with more vigor the campaign.

He inspected the experimental hybrid rice field of the Central Luzon Agricultural College, the Maligaya experimental station at Muñoz, and the Gabaldon farm in Guimba.

The President lauded the CLAC faculty for its efforts in extending to the rural areas the most modern and scientific methods of farming. In his extemporaneous speech before the CLAC student body, the President reiterated the three major goals of his administration; namely, self-sufficiency in food, clothing, and shelter.

The President said that through the industrialization program initiated by the Nacionalista administration, the country has been able to save annually the amount of about ₱200 million in textile alone. He said that the annual importation of textiles would be further reduced with the establishment of ramie processing plants and the planting of cotton to supply the needs of local textile mills.

With regard to the importation of steel products for construction purposes, President Garcia said that the establishment of an integrated steel mill in Mindanao and the exploitation of the local iron ore resources would reduce the annual importation of steel products amounting to about ₱115 million.

The President urged the CLAC student body to redouble their efforts to produce more rice in order to stop the annual drain on the local dollar reserves caused by the importation of the cereal which annually averages about ₱2 million.

The Chief Executive also spoke before trainees at the Maligaya Experimental station. These trainees are taking courses under Republic Act 2080, which appropriates ₱20 million for increasing rice production.

In his visit to the CLAC, as well as to the Maligaya rice fields and the Gabaldon farm, the President saw the increased yield which, according to the rice planters was due to the use of selected seeds, irrigation, and fertilizers.

The President was accompanied in his inspection trip by Agriculture Undersecretary Amando Dalisay, Cabanatuan City Mayor Elpidio Cucio, NARIC Board Chairman Juan O. Chioco, Rep. Eugenio Baltao, Mayor Dario Santos of Muñoz, and Mayor Nicetas Viesca of San Antonio, president of the Nueva Ecija mayors' league.

From the Gabaldon farm the President motored to Manila to keep his dinner engagement with newspaper publishers and editors at 8:30 at his Quezon City residence.

October 7.—THE President promised today to look into the reports that “fixers” and “percenters” are still plying their trade in the National Treasury office.

At an impromptu caucus with congressmen, President Garcia was informed by several solons that there are people who are still “fixing” and expediting the payment of back pay claims in the back pay division.

Some solons mentioned the names of relatives of a high ranking official in the National Treasury, as well as that of several officials and employees who facilitate the payment of claims.

The solons vigorously condemned the activities of the “fixers” who “demand a commission as high as 40 per cent.”

Some of the congressmen demanded an investigation of the anomalous practice.

President Garcia reminded the congressmen that he had instructed National Treasurer Vicente Gella to go after the “fixers” at a conference held at his Quezon City residence last Saturday.

The President this morning administered the oath of office to Francisco Dalupan, president of the University of the East, as acting member of the National Economic Council.

The ceremony took place in the Malacañang reception hall and was witnessed by Central Bank Deputy Governor Andres Castillo, Reps. Lucas Paredes of Abra, Natalio Castillo of Bohol, and Jose Albert of Catanduanes; and H. B. Reyes and Lino Gutierrez, NEC members.

After the ceremony, President Garcia received Sens. Quintin Paredes and Eulogio Balao and Rep. Benjamin T. Ligot of Cagayan and discussed with them party matters affecting Northern Luzon.

The President also received Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Reps. Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Pedro Trono of Iloilo, and Luis Hora of Mountain Province.

President Garcia had to cancel some of his appointments owing to the meeting of the Council of State.

UNANIMOUS indorsement of the proposed state visit of President Garcia to Japan was voiced by members of the Council of State in their monthly meeting today.

President Garcia said he will soon make public his decision on this matter after hearing the indorsements expressed by ranking members of the Council, especially former President Sergio Osmeña, Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Acting Senate President Fernando Lopez, and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez.

President Garcia said the proposed state visit to Japan, if and when accepted finally, would underscore two purposes: (1) to reciprocate the state visit to the Philippines last December of Japanese Prime Minister Nabusuke Kishi and (2) to foster friendly relations with neighboring Asian countries.

President Garcia informed the Council members that the Japanese Government was committed to shoulder the expenses by members of the official party.

The possibility that other matters would be discussed in the course of the projected state visit, such as the finalization of the Marikina multi-purpose project and the extension of the railroad lines north and south of Manila, was voiced by President Garcia.

He, however, emphasized that the state visit was primarily intended as a goodwill mission to Japan.

President Garcia also took time to explain to Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez that the Filipino people had chosen to forget the atrocities committed by the Japanese occupation troops. The President mentioned as evidence of the people's choice the ratification of the Japanese Peace Treaty and the approval of the Reparations Act.

President Garcia recalled that he was one of those Philippine officials who were made to suffer during the Japanese occupation, but said that the proposed trip would open a new chapter of friendship between the Philippines and Japan.

President Garcia was assured by Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas that there is no cause for alarm in spite of the tension in the Formosa straits.

The assurance was made when Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda questioned the advisability of making the trip in the immediate future in view of the tension in the Formosa area.

Vice-President Macapagal voiced his support of the trip, stating he was "not opposed to goodwill trips by President Garcia." He inquired if the trip would entail expenses on the part of the Philippine Government.

President Garcia gave assurance that in case he accepted the Japanese invitation, the Japanese Government would shoulder the expenses of the official entourage of the Philippine President.

Members of the Council who were present at the meeting presided over by President Garcia were Vice-President Macapagal, former President Sergio Osmeña, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castaneda, acting Senate Majority Floor Leader Quintin Peredes, acting House Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, Labor Secretary Angel Castano, LP President Cornelio Villareal, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Juan Alcazaren, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Justice Secretary Jesus Bariera, NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, Agriculture Undersecretary Amando Dalisay, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, General Services Undersecretary Serafin Salvador, Budget Deputy Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

IN the evening the President received several members of the USAFIP-NL who requested executive clemency for Lt. Sabino Flores, who had been convicted of being responsible for a murder in Santo Tomas, La Union, in September 1944.

The members of the delegation included Fr. Osmundo Calip, chaplain of the organization, Danny Kalipano, Tancredo M. Guray, Maj. Ambrosio Pena, Diego Sipon, Jose M. Lizardo, Dr. Alejandro Dario, Dr. Trajano V. Bernardo, Mrs. Sabino Flores, and Mrs. T. M. Guray. The delegation was accompanied by Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chiefs of staff.

Msgr. Egidio Vagnozzi, Papal Nuncio to the Philippines, paid his respects to the President. Msgr. Vagnozzi arrived recently from Europe.

Economic Coordinator Juan Concon saw the President for final instructions prior to his departure for the United States to assist NASSCO General Manager Bernardo Abrera in the final negotiations for a loan for the purchase of integrated steel mill machinery for the NASSCO.

Another caller of the President was Harold L. Armstrong, a representative of several West German manufacturers, who also paid a courtesy call. Armstrong was accompanied by German Ambassador F. L. von Furstenbergh.

Minister Mauro Mendez also saw the President for final instructions preparatory to his return soon to his post in Paris.

PRESIDENT Garcia today required the justice of the peace of Culaba, Leyte, to resign because of an immorality charge against him.

The presidential directive contained in an administrative order was in line with President Garcia's avowed policy of eliminating from the government service officials and employees who are unfit to hold public office.

The justice of the peace concerned, Cresenciano L. Avila, had been charged with immorality by one Gerardo Sabarre.

Secretary of Justice Jesus Barrera recommended to the President that Avila be dismissed from the service or be required to resign. Secretary Barrera found the justice of the peace guilty of the charge.

Avila had been previously recommended for exoneration with a warning by the district judge who investigated the case, but Secretary Barrera said that the respondent's illicit relation with a woman who was not his wife was borne out not only by oral evidence but also by documentary proofs.

The Chief Executive gave the justice of the peace four days from the receipt of the administrative order within which to submit his resignation.

October 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia this day decided to push through his plan to expand the Philippine merchant marine fleet.

The Chief Executive made the decision after the Cabinet, at its regular weekly meeting, approved in principle to implement the provisions of Republic Act No. 1407, otherwise known as the Philippine Overseas Shipping Act of 1955.

The details of the financing plan of the shipbuilding program will be worked out later.

The President expressed his determination to give Filipino shipping firms more participation in the overseas shipping business, adding that the expansion of the Philippine merchant marine fleet would mean a bigger share in freight for the local companies.

A bigger number of Filipino bottoms, the President said, would also mean a bigger slash on dollars spent for freight, thus conserving the Philippine dollar reserves.

He cited statistics which showed that the Philippines spent in freight for imports and exports the amount of \$436 million in one year alone.

The participation of vessels of Philippine registry amounted only to \$17 million, the President added.

The President told the Cabinet that Filipino shipping firms are trying to avail this year of the government subsidy provided for by the said act owing to the long and tedious task of preparing plans and specifications and working out other details.

The subsidy granted by the Philippine Government to local shipping firms in the construction of ocean-going vessels is among the highest in the world, according to the President.

The act provides that loans not exceeding 75 per cent of the construction cost of ocean-going vessels will be granted to local shipping firms. All the loans shall be self-liquidating within a period not to exceed 20 years, bearing an interest at the rate of not more than four and one-half per cent per annum.

THE President informed the Cabinet today that he will recommend to Congress next year the enactment of an administration bill giving price support to certain high grades of tobacco leaf.

The President said that this will be one of the several measures he will recommend to Congress to protect small tobacco farmers from being exploited by unscrupulous individuals and groups.

He told the Cabinet that the Administration is decided on protecting the interests of the small tobacco farmers. He said the price support under the proposed legislation should be given only to certain high grades of tobacco. Lower grade tobacco not specified in the projected legislation will not be entitled to the price support.

The Chief Executive also underscored the need for more scientific ways of grading tobacco. He expressed concern over reports that unscrupulous individuals and FACOMA officials downgrade tobacco when they buy the tobacco leaves from the farmers and upgrade the same tobacco when they resell it to the ACCFA. Measures had already been taken by the Administration to check the practice, the President said.

President Garcia said that defective grading of tobacco will adversely affect the future of the tobacco industry. He reminded the Cabinet that he had previously instructed the ACCFA and the BIR to send representatives to witness the grading of tobacco in all phases.

He informed the Cabinet of existing plans to use low-grade tobacco for the manufacture of tobacco by-products. National Science Development Board Chairman Paulino Garcia said he would direct scientists in his office to conduct researches on tobacco by-products.

Dr. Garcia said that there were discrepancies in the reports of NSDB and ACCFA researchers on the curing of tobacco leaf which leads to defective grading.

The Cabinet also discussed the proposed importation by Yuhangco Co., Inc., of \$2,000,000 worth of Virginia leaf tobacco on a no-dollar remittance basis. The proceeds from the proposed importation of 2,000,000 kilos of Virginia leaf tobacco will be invested in local agricultural enterprise.

The pros and cons on the proposed importation were thoroughly discussed by the cabinet. All the members expressed their individual opinions on the matter. President Garcia said that he will take into account the opinions of the Cabinet members when he finally decides on the proposed importation.

THIS AFTERNOON President Garcia sailed for Mindanao on a mission to seek all-out support of people in the southern regions for the stepped-up food production campaign of his administration.

The President boarded the yacht *Santa Maria* which lifted anchor at the Philippine Navy landing at 3:15 p.m. He was accompanied by Manila newsmen.

President Garcia's first port of call will be Ozamis City, where he was expected Friday morning. From there, he will proceed to Pagadian, Zamboanga del Sur.

He will also visit Cotabato, Zamboanga City, and Dipolog in Zamboanga del Norte. He is expected to be back in Manila in the afternoon of October 15.

Earlier in the morning, the President called Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to his office to brief him on the items in the agenda of the Cabinet meeting.

The President met his Cabinet at 10 a.m. instead of at 4 p.m. in order to enable him to leave for his Mindanao trip early in the afternoon.

Following the Cabinet meeting, the President took an afternoon nap. On waking up, he proceeded to the PN landing on Dewey Boulevard to board the yacht for the southern voyage.

October 9.—THIS morning the President held a conference with Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia and Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista. He discussed with them the needs of Mindanao, especially those pertaining to health and public works.

In his conference with Secretary Valencia inside the presidential cabin, the President inquired into the health conditions in the provinces of Mindanao. He expressed deep concern about the sanitation, prevention of diseases, and installation of water systems in the major towns of the island.

The President told Secretary Valencia that water is the key solution to the health problems of Mindanao. He said that if the Mindanao people are assured of clean and steady water supply, health problems could be overcome.

Secretary Valencia informed the Chief Executive that a large stock of assorted medicine is on board the presidential yacht for distribution to the different hospitals and health centers in the cities and towns to be visited by the President.

The site for the proposed National Hospital branch in Mindanao was also taken up at the conference. Secretary Valencia recommended that the hospital be constructed either in Davao or in one of the two Misamis provinces. The site will probably be decided by the President during his current Mindanao inspection trip.

President Garcia also expressed concern over the imperative need for the early construction of public works projects in Mindanao. Public works projects like the Maria Cristina Hydro-electric Power Plant and the NASSCO Steel Mills in Mindanao will hasten the industrial and agricultural development of the island, the President pointed out.

Secretary Bautista assured the President that his department has recommended the channeling of more funds and personnel to Mindanao to speed up the construction of several public works projects. Bautista recommended to the Chief Executive the creation of another regional engineer's office for Mindanao to expedite the completion of public works projects and divide the voluminous work and other details involved in constructions.

PRESIDENT Garcia and members of his party received with deep sorrow news of the death of Pope Pius XII this morning.

The President, immediately upon receiving a flash from Press Secretary Jose C. Nable on the death of Pius XII, stopped his conference with Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia and Acting Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista and, stepping out of his cabin, personally announced the demise of the Pope to the members of the presidential party.

The Chief Executive then requested Fr. Juan Tugade, navy chaplain, to say a prayer for the late Pope and invited all the members of the party to join the prayer. After the prayer, the President dictated a message on the death of the late "Pope of Peace" which was immediately transmitted to Malacañang.

After lunch, President Garcia returned to his cabin for his usual afternoon nap.

At dinner, the President chatted informally with newspapermen and other members of his party. He retired to his cabin early in anticipation of the heavy schedule facing him tomorrow.

October 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today mounted his administration's drive for economic self-sufficiency by urging local farmers to increase rice production.

The President is in Zamboanga del Norte in the course of a seven-day tour of four Mindanao provinces to drum up support of farmers of the region of his stepped-up rice production program.

In addresses delivered in Molave, Zamboanga del Norte, and in Tangub and Bonifacio municipalities, he stressed the need for increasing farm yields per hectare.

The President said that increase in the country's production of rice will mean a halt in the drain of the country's dollar reserves as occasioned by the yearly importation of the cereal.

President Garcia debarked from the yacht *Sta. Maria* in Ozamis City.

IN AN INTERVIEW with newsmen this afternoon, the President took time out to defend himself from a Senate Blue Ribbon Committee charge that his election was linked to land purchases made by the PHHC.

The committee expressed the belief yesterday that the PHHC purchased the housing lots at high costs to raise money for the President's election.

The President branded the charge as "far-fetched." He advised the committee to look into the dates of the purchases to determine the truth.

President Garcia is scheduled to proceed to Pagadian tonight where he will board a waiting Navy LST for Cotabato.

THE PRESIDENT ordered the flying of the Philippine flag at half mast in all government buildings today in deference to the passing away of Pope Pius XII as head of state.

The presidential order was relayed to all department heads by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo. The presidential order was also transmitted to all provincial governors, municipal mayors, and provincial commanders.

October 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia resumed this morning his all-out campaign for increased food production started during his last visit to Mindanao a couple of months ago.

Arriving at Ozamis City at 8 a.m., the President inaugurated the Malaubang Bridge at the outskirts of the city, then motored to Pagadian stopping briefly at the towns of Tangub, Bonifacio, Liloan, and Tambulig to say a few words in response to the insistent demands of local officials and townspeople.

In his speeches, President Garcia stressed the need for the Philippines' achieving self-sufficiency in food, clothing, and shelter and said this is the most important aim of his administration. Saying these three are man's most elementary needs, he decried our present inability to achieve these goals in spite of favorable local conditions.

Despite assurances made by Agriculture Secretary Rodriguez that we will have surpluses in rice and corn this year, the President urged the people of Mindanao to concentrate on planting staple food crops before turning to money crops like cotton, rubber, sugar, etc.

President Garcia told the people that cotton has been raised successfully in Cotabato and that now they are planning to increase plantings there.

The President said the establishment of textile mills in the Philippines has proved to be a great boon to the country as textile imports have dropped from ₱300 million last year to ₱100 million this year, most of it having been spent for the purchase of raw materials.

Regarding shelter, the President said virgin forests in Mindanao can amply supply the country's building requirements for generations to come.

He revealed that the Bureau of Mines statistics put iron ore deposits in Tinaga and Nunop towns of Surigao alone at close to 1.2 billion metric tons which will last us for more than 300 years.

He assured the municipal officials and townspeople of his willingness to assist them in the construction of their pet projects but recommended that they put up first projects that will be a source of revenue for the town and the people.

Early this morning the President and Mrs. Garcia heard a *requiem mass* for Pope Pius XII celebrated by Fr. Juan Tugade, navy chaplain, before an improvised altar set up on board the *Sta. Maria*:

Among those who were present at the mass were Health Secretary Valencia, Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista, Education Undersecretary Daniel Salcedo, and other members of the presidential party, including newspapermen.

The presidential yacht was met at the mouth of Panguil Bay by gaily decorated launches and motor bancas that escorted the *Sta. Maria* to Ozamis City in a colorful fluvial parade.

On hand at the wharf to meet the President and his party were Misamis Occidental Governor Diego Ty-Deling, Ozamis City Mayor Angel Medina, National Integration Commissioner Madki Alonto, Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, and others.

After luncheon at the Molave High School, President Garcia delivered a brief speech on the urgent need for attaining economic self-sufficiency.

After a short rest the party continued the trip to Pagadian with stops at Aurora and Labangan towns.

The party arrived at Pagadian shortly after 4 p.m. Then the President held a public rally in the town square until 6 p.m.

In his speech before Pagadian people he talked on the same theme and urged them to do their utmost to achieve the Administration's aims.

After the rally the President and his party proceeded to the residence of Zamboanga del Sur Governor Bienvenido Ebarle for *merienda cena* and then to Pagadian Central School for conference and open forum with municipal, provincial, and national officials.

These officials broached their problems to the President and requested his intervention for their quick solution.

The conference lasted until midnight after which the President and his party boarded a Philippine Navy LST for Parang, Cotabato.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: October 12-18, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia called his countrymen “spoiled children of nature” and blamed this fact as the reason for our failure to grow and produce enough rice for our needs.

Addressing a capacity crowd at a public meeting held on the campus of the Cotabato High School this morning, the President said life in our country is so easy that our people pay more attention to raising money crops and neglect food crops.

He called upon the people to do first thing first. He said that since food is one of the three elementary requirements of man, we should pay more attention and concentrate more effort on the raising of food crops.

Speaking about the need to achieve self-sufficiency in food, clothing, and shelter, the President admitted his partiality for Mindanao because, he said, Mindanao is the key to the attainment of this primary aim of the Administration.

Citing figures, he said the average rice production in the Philippines is only 27 cavanese per hectare which is the lowest among Southeast Asian countries. If the present yield can be increased by only one cavan per hectare, we will be self-sufficient in rice, he said.

President Garcia pointed out the possibility of the Philippines exporting rice and said that Japan is ready and willing to purchase all the rice we can export.

He urged the adoption of modern farming methods and techniques for increased rice production.

President Garcia reminded the audience of the potentialities of Cotabato, particularly with regard to the planting of cotton and rubber. He said that cotton grown in Cotabato has proved to be better than cotton imported from the United States.

Approximately 1,500 hectares in Cotabato are now planted to cotton.

The President also announced that three large rubber companies in the Philippines are eager to purchase all the rubber we can produce.

October 13.—IN A SPEECH delivered today in Katipunan, Zamboanga del Norte, the President urged the farmers to avail themselves of the services and facilities of the Department of Public Works and Communications and the office of the Presidential Assistant on Community Development, especially in the construction of feeder roads connecting interior barrios, to highways.

Explaining the work of the PACD to a large, crowd composed of national, provincial, and local officials of Zamboanga del Norte and the townspeople of Katipunan at the inauguration of the ₱750,000 Dicayo bridge in Katipunan, the President, said feeder roads will enable them to take their products to the nearest market cheaper, faster, and easier.

He told the people that his administration has placed emphasis on road-building in Mindanao in order to open new lands for settlement and accelerate the economic development of the island.

President Garcia said the new Dicayo bridge is only one of the major constructions being undertaken by the Administration in Zamboanga del Norte and other parts of Mindanao. He expressed the hope that, before the end of his term, all towns will be connected with each other by roads.

President Garcia declared that the Administration has planned a road-building program this year in Mindanao of more than 800 kilometers with an estimated cost of ₱100 million. Of this amount, ₱25 million will come from ICA assistance and the rest will be furnished by the government.

Acting Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista, who delivered the opening remarks, said that Mindanao needs a total of over 27,000 kilometers of roads and that this has been programmed for a period of 10 years.

It is estimated that, when completed, the government will have spent over ₱540 million.

President Garcia was introduced by Gov. Romulo Garrovillo of Zamboanga del Norte.

Among those who assisted in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were Secretary Bautista, Highways Commissioner Nicolas Cuenca, Gov. Garrovillo, Rep. Alberto Ubay, and Katipunan Councilor Remedies Carpio.

After the program, the President and his party proceeded to the town hall of Katipunan for lunch after which they returned to Dipolog for a brief rest.

At the luncheon at the Katipunan town hall, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Juan Alcazaren arrived with Central Bank Deputy Governor Andres Castillo. They said they had received a telegram from President Garcia instructing them to go to Dipolog for a conference.

In Dipolog President Garcia took a brief rest in the residence of Gov. Garrovillo and at 5 p.m. went to Rep. Ubay's house for cocktails.

After dinner at Garrovillo's residence, President Garcia addressed a well-attended public rally held in front of the Dipolog municipal building.

October 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia announced today that local industries may apply through local banks for development and investment loans from Japanese banks under the Japanese Reparations Agreement, following a four-hour conference this morning on board the S.S. *Sta. Maria*.

Present at the closed-door conference held inside the presidential cabin of the yacht were Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Juan Alcazaren, Reparations Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog, Deputy Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, Minister Enrique Garcia, and Manuel Marquez, president of the Trust and Commercial Bank.

President Garcia has instructed them to meet with him in Dipolog, Zamboanga del Norte, but the meeting was postponed until today owing to the heavy schedule of the President.

Under the reparations agreement, the Philippines will receive \$250 million in loans for investment purposes.

President Garcia called for the conference at 9 a.m. after breakfast and was closeted with the officials until 1 p.m. when they broke up for lunch.

After luncheon the President gave a press conference after which he retired to his cabin for his usual afternoon rest.

Upon waking up, President Garcia took light merienda then worked on state papers he took along with him until supper. After supper he went over pending state papers again.

THE PRESIDENT today let loose another blast at the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee by saying that the Senate body cannot choose confidential men for him.

“Not even the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee can decide for me the men I should repose my confidence in,” the President said.

The presidential outburst came by way of comment on reports that a group of former officials and employees of the defunct Presidential Complaints and Action Committee had complained to the Senate body on their supposed unjust dismissal.

President Garcia stressed that the PCAC was an office directly under the Office of the President and that he had a free hand to choose men for positions of confidence.

PRESIDENT Garcia sent the following message to United States President Dwight D. Eisenhower on the occasion of the latter’s 68th birthday anniversary today:

“Please accept my warmest greetings and most sincere wishes on your 68th Birthday Anniversary. May God Grant You Long and Healthy Life.

“PRESIDENT GARCIA”

October 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed satisfaction over his Mindanao trip saying that his intensive campaign for increased food production had brought very encouraging results.

The President made this statement soon after the *Sta. Maria* had docked at the Philippine Navy landing on Dewey Boulevard at 4 o’clock this afternoon.

During the eight-day trip the presidential party covered the provinces of Cotabato, Zamboanga del Sur, and Zamboanga del Norte.

The President was able to verify reports about a bumper crop in rice and corn during his trip. He was also able to hear at first hand the gripes and complaints of the people in these provinces of Mindanao.

The President’s talks with the people of the provinces he visited and with Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia and Acting Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista could be the basis for accelerated implementation of the health and public works projects in Mindanao.

The proposed National Mental Hospital branch in Mindanao and the highways and roads programmed for construction are among those which may be implemented soon as a result of the President’s inspection trip.

Aside from calling upon the people to plant and produce more in order to achieve economic self-sufficiency, particularly in our staple foods, President Garcia also urged Mindanao farmers to plant cotton and rubber.

Rubber and cotton, the President said, have a ready market in the Philippines and the dollars spent annually on these two items could be applied for the expansion of existing industries or for the establishment of new ones.

President Garcia delivered 12 speeches during his four-day stay in Mindanao. He inaugurated two bridges and the 220-kilometer long Cotabato-Marbel highway.

THE President held a closed-door conference with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano on board the *Sta. Maria* immediately after the presidential yacht had docked at the Philippine Navy landing at 4 o’clock this afternoon.

Secretary Serrano reported to the President on the result of his mission to the United States.

Arriving at the mouth of Manila Bay at 8 o'clock this morning, President Garcia instructed Lt. Comdr. Manuel Mandapat, skipper of the *Sta. Maria*, to drop anchor at Sisiman Bay off Mariveles so that he could continue his conference with government officials on board the yacht.

Among those who took part in this morning's conference were Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Juan Alcazaren, Central Bank Deputy Governor Andres Castillo, Reparations Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog, and Minister Enrique Garcia.

They continued their discussions on the application of the \$250 million investment loans from Japan under the reparations agreement and the procedures to be followed.

After lunch President Garcia retired to his cabin for a rest and woke up just as the yacht was entering the breakwater.

After his conference with Secretary Serrano, President Garcia motored to his Bohol Avenue residence and there worked until late this evening on state papers that had piled up during his absence.

October 16—PRESIDENT Garcia today opened the three-day second Labor-Management Congress with the ominous warning that "the only reasonable and permanent solution to mass unemployment is increased productive capacity."

The President delivered his speech before some 2,500 labor and management representatives who had converged at the University of the East auditorium for the inaugural ceremonies.

Part of the crowd on opening day included observers from Japan, Burma, Pakistan, and Malaya, and diplomats from the Southeast Asian countries.

Of government policies in the economic and social fields, the President said, "I should be the last to claim that any existing policy is infallible or sacrosanct . . ."

"They define for us the framework, the limits of action. But within that framework . . . we must be flexible without being lax, receptive to new ideas but not capricious," he added.

Unemployment, the President said, is caused by the fact that "our rate of economic development has not caught up with the accelerated pace of population growth."

He said this problem could be solved by full and effective utilization of the available resources—both natural and human.

President Garcia averred that this could be achieved "by the application of science and technology to socio-economic problems as well as the development of a modern outlook."

He issued a call for the development of an "intellectual attitude capable of sustaining purposeful and efficient effort, a desire to achieve that makes man shape his environment according to his needs."

The President said this would involve the development of a "high degree of self-reliance, not only individual but also national self-reliance."

He clearly illustrated this fact by pointing to an "alien minority" which had gained "notable success in the economic field" through the exercise of such "intangible qualities."

The Chief Executive said the policy of the government, begun in 1954, is to achieve industrialization and the "modernization of Philippine economy and society."

He declared that the government has taken positive steps “to encourage and assist private industry to the extent that the percentage increases in our gross national product . . . are considered short of phenomenal for an underdeveloped country.”

However, he warned that the government could not risk further direct participation in the country’s economic life “without impairing the freedom of private enterprise.”

He explained that once the government assumed responsibility for economic development, it must necessarily demand an effective authority to exercise or fulfill that responsibility.

“We have elected to conduct our development efforts along the lines of a private enterprise system,” he said. “So far we have no reason to think or feel that our choice has not been made wisely.”

He pointed out, however, that the system, as the mainstay of Philippine economic development, was “on trial.”

“If necessity warrants,” he continued, “the government should be in a position to enlarge the public sector and become more active than ever before in the economic field.”

President Garcia arrived at the U.E. at 9:15 a.m., and after reviewing a guard of honor composed of U.E. model cadets, was escorted to the auditorium stage by members of the L-M advisory council.

With the President on the stage were the First Lady, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Archbishop of Manila Rufino J. Santos, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, UE President Francisco Dalupan, Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, and members of Congress and the diplomatic corps.

After the President was seated, the Constabulary Band struck up the official congress march, *Magtutungan*, especially composed for the occasion by Prof. Felipe Padilla de Leon.

Mrs. Leonila Garcia, assisted by Mrs. Castaño, then released from a cardboard cage two be-ribboned ceremonial doves, symbolic of industrial peace.

PRESIDENT Garcia was requested this day by Rep. Felipe Garduque of Cagayan to defer his decision on the controversial Virginia leaf tobacco to enable a sub-committee of the Committee on Codification of Laws, Census, and Statistics to compile the necessary data for submission to the Chief Executive.

Garduque, who heads the sub-committee, informed President Garcia that it will need a few more days to hear the testimonies of interested parties in order to reflect and compile all the data necessary for it to arrive at a correct conclusion.

He also informed President Garcia that in conducting hearings during the recess of Congress on the correct statistical data about the total supply of Virginia leaf tobacco now existing in the Philippines, including a conservative estimate of production during this year, the sub-committee has heard the testimonies of government officials.

Earlier in the morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass at the Malacañang Chapel on the occasion of the birthday anniversary of their only daughter, Mrs. Linda Garcia-Campos.

Relatives of the presidential family and the parents and brothers of Fernando Campos, Linda’s husband, also heard the mass.

Mrs. Campos is now in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with her husband who is taking post graduate studies for a master’s degree in Harvard. Breakfast was served at the family dining hall after the mass.

IN THE EVENING the President received ACCFA Administrator Ernesto T. Jimenez, who gave a verbal report on his observations during his recent trip abroad.

Alan H. Temple and Harold Whitman, executive vice-president and vice-president, respectively, of the First National City Bank of New York, called on President Garcia earlier this afternoon. They were accompanied in their courtesy call by Richard M. Henry, manager of the Manila branch of the First National City Bank of New York.

Temple and Whitman came from New Delhi, where they attended the recently concluded International Monetary Fund conference. They are in Manila on a brief stop-over on their way back to the United States.

President Garcia and the First Lady later this evening called by overseas telephone their daughter Linda to greet her on her birthday. They had a pleasant 27-minute chat with Linda and her husband over the phone.

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia gave a formal dinner in Malacañang this evening in honor of United States Defense Secretary and Mrs. Neil H. McElroy, who paid a courtesy call on the President and the First Lady.

The dinner was held at 8 p.m. after a conference between President Garcia and Secretary McElroy.

The guest list follows:

Secretary and Mrs. Neil McElroy, Miss Nancy McElroy; Admiral Harry D. Felt, commander-in-chief, Pacific Fleet; Admiral and Mrs. James S. Russell, assistant chief of naval operations; Mr. and Mrs. Oliver M. Gale, special assistant of the Defense Secretary; Brig. Gen. Kerry Randall;

Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Acting Senate President Fernando Lopez, Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, Chief Justice Ricardo Paras, Secretary and Mrs. Felixberto Serrano, U. S. Ambassador and Mrs. Charles

E. Bohlen, Secretary and Mrs. Jesus Vargas, Secretary and Mrs. Juan C. Pajo, Chairman of Senate Committee on National Defense and Security and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelaez, Chairman of House Committee on National Defense and Mrs. Bartolome Cabangbang;

Undersecretary and Mrs. Juan Alcazaren, Undersecretary and Mrs. Mariano Yenko, Jr., Minister and Mrs. George M. Abbott, Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Admiral and Mrs. Edgar A. Cruise, Maj. Gen. and Mrs. William H. Nutter, Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Thomas S. Moorman, Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Manuel Cabal, Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Pelagio Cruz, Mr. Paul D. Summers, Mr. and Mrs. Henry G. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. Koren, Capt. and Mrs. Horace V. Bird (aide to Secretary McElroy), Col. Emilio O. Borromeo, and Manuel G. Zamora.

MALACAÑANG forwarded to Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, chief of the Philippine Constabulary, for comment and action the complaint of Manila Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson against the alleged act of encroachment by Philippine Constabulary soldiers within the compound of strike-bound National Marketing Corporation.

In endorsing the complaint of the Manila Mayor, Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Logarta requested Gen. Cruz to give his comment or take appropriate action.

At the same time, Secretary Logarta, by order of President Garcia, informed Mayor Lacson of the action taken on his complaint.

In calling the attention of President Garcia about the incident, Mayor Lacson cited the Revised Charter of Manila which provides that the Chief of Police of Manila "shall exercise exclusive police supervision over all land and water within the police jurisdiction of the city."

Mayor Lacson, in his letter to President Garcia, stated that Congress approved this proviso when he was still a Congressman taking into account the bloody incident between PC troopers and Manila policemen in Intramuros.

Constabulary troopers were detailed at the Muelle de la Industria compound of NAMARCO at the request of Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez in his capacity as chairman of the NAMARCO board of directors.

The strike, despite efforts of Labor Secretary Angel Castaño to help the strikers and the NAMARCO management to arrive at a mutually satisfactory solution, remains unsettled.

October 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning approved the recommendation of his Fiscal Policy Council reducing the ceiling on bond issues from ₱175 million as proposed in the budget message for fiscal year 1959 to ₱110.26 million.

The members of the Fiscal Policy Council who strongly recommended the approval of the initial ceiling on cash disbursements of the proceeds of bond issues for fiscal year 1959, were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, National Economic Council Chairman Jose C. Locsin, Deputy Central Bank Governor Andres V. Castillo, and Deputy Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco.

The report of the Fiscal Policy Council was submitted to the President shortly before the Cabinet meeting started.

The fiscal policy members told the President that the reduction in the ceiling on bond issues was made imperative by the developments in fiscal, monetary, and economic conditions. They agreed, however, to the proposition that the ceiling may be revised as soon as conditions warrant such adjustment.

They also said that the reduction must be taken in order to minimize the disrupting effects on price levels, money supply, and balance of payments of financing by the use of public credit.

Although the fiscal policy members believed that the amount of ₱110 million is not enough to implement the national development program for the current fiscal year, they said the ceiling on bond issues must be kept down because of the inflationary nature of the present system of development financing with the use of proceeds of bond issues sold to the banking system.

It was recommended in the report that the initial ceiling on bond issues must be kept down until such time as fiscal and monetary conditions would be more favorable.

The fiscal policy group informed the President that in line with the new ceiling on bond issues, the agencies concerned have been requested to submit to the Budget Commission their program of expenditures within the limits of the respective amounts allocated to them on the basis of a list of priority of their project.

It was emphasized in the report that the cash allocation for public works shall be used to pay for projects that are active and physically started and those which have already been completed.

The members of the fiscal policy group agreed unanimously in subscribing to the principle of utilizing non-inflationary source of development financing.

In line with the principle, the members recommended to the President that as much of new bond issues as possible should be absorbed by private savings.

The measure would involve tapping the savings in the hands of the GSIS and SSS initially, and later inducing private banks and other financial institutions, to invest actually their savings in government securities instead of resorting to the present inflationary practice of using their funds to buy government bonds as a means of increasing their lending capacity through the resale of the bonds to the Central Bank.

The fiscal policy council, however, said that should it be absolutely necessary to sell bonds through inflationary media, the maximum amount that may be sold through the banking system shall not exceed ₱75 million which is the

amount of new money the CB Governor believes can be absorbed by the country without impairing monetary stability.

THE CABINET agreed today to the filing of a petition for declaratory judgment before the Supreme Court to determine the legality of the NAMARCO strike.

The petition, to be filed by Solicitor General Edilberto Barot, will specifically seek a final ruling on whether the state firm, is performing governmental or proprietary functions.

In arriving at the decision, as suggested by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, the Cabinet took into account the conflicting opinions of Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, who wanted the President to certify the strike to the Court of Industrial Relations, and Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, who maintained that the strike was illegal.

Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera rules that NAMARCO is performing governmental functions and, therefore, its employees may not join any labor organization which imposes the obligation to strike or to join in strike.

Secretary Barrera quoted the functions of the NAMARCO and said that the provisions of law “clearly indicate that the said corporation is performing a public or governmental function.” He said: “In opinion No. 264, series of 1956, this Office had occasion to state that said corporation is a service and stabilization agency of the government and not a business or industrial enterprise in the ordinary sense of the term.”

In seeking a declaratory judgment, the Cabinet also agreed that striking NAMARCO employees should voluntarily go back to work while the case is pending decision.

Secretary Hernaez, in his capacity as NAMARCO board chairman, gave the assurance that the board would” withdraw its ultimatum to the strikers to go back to work or be considered separated from the service.

The case of the NAMARCO strike was brought up by President Garcia during the Cabinet meeting after Secretary Castaño had insisted that the Chief Executive certify the strike to the Court of Industrial Relations.

Secretary Hernaez insisted that the strike was illegal as NAMARCO employees could not have the right to strike, citing the opinion of Justice Secretary Barrera.

To break the impasse and to avoid the implication that the government can be involved in a litigation, Secretary Serrano offered the suggestion to institute declaratory judgment proceedings and thus decide whether NAMARCO employees have the right to collective bargaining and to declare a strike.

Secretary Hernaez also gave the assurance that the strikers, including! the leaders, could go back to their former jobs and that the NAMARCO management would maintain the *status quo*.

PRESIDENT Garcia, in a proclamation issued today set aside the last week of October of every year as Nurses’ Week and authorized the Filipino Nurses’ Association to take charge of its proper observance.

The President deemed it essential that a period be dedicated to the members of the nursing profession in order to develop fully a consciousness and understanding among the people on the importance and availability of the nursing resources.

In spite of the progress that has been achieved in the field of health and nursing today, it has been noticed that there are still many people who do not utilize the services of nurses in times of their ailments.

To insure the success of the celebration of Nurses’ Week, President Garcia called upon all citizens and residents of the Philippines, irrespective of nationality or creed, to observe the occasion.

October 18.—THIS MORNING, the President paid tribute to private institutions and individuals who have voluntarily assumed their share of public responsibility, willingly and generously.

In his speech at the inauguration of the Convalescent Home and Administrative Building of the Philippine Band of Mercy in Quezon City, the President said that one of the most striking evidences of a nation's progress lies in the achievements of private institutions and individuals.

The President praised the members of the Philippine Band of Mercy "whose selflessness is manifest in their collective concern and unceasing solicitude for the unfortunates of our country."

The Chief Executive paid homage to the late Irving "Dady" Hart "whose almost single-handed efforts in founding this civic organization about 15 years ago are a testament to man's unbounded love for his fellow men."

During the inauguration ceremonies Dr. Emilio H. Javier, president of the PBM, awarded a plaque of appreciation to Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia for her services and contributions to the organization. The First Lady also attended the ceremonies.

Other PBM awardees included Rodolfo P. Andal, Mrs. Pacita C. Roces, Dr. Felix B. Acebedo, Col. Bernard L. Anderson, Miss Lourdes R. Caruncho, Ralph G. Hawkins, Col. Salvador T. Villa, and Mrs. Barbara B. Mariano.

PRESIDENT Garcia pledged government cooperation and support of the objectives enunciated during the labor-management congress which came to a successful end this evening at the University of the East auditorium.

Speaking extemporaneously, President Garcia congratulated both labor and management representatives for getting together and discussing ways and means of improving relations between them.

He also lauded them for their constructive discussions on the all-important subject of fighting off, unemployment, and expressed his personal view that the permanent solution to this problem is more productivity.

The President arrived at the congress hall with Labor Secretary Angel Castaño. The Chief Executive was earlier briefed by Castaño on the nature of the 27 resolutions approved during the three-day labor-management congress.

President Garcia assured the congress that, if he finds these resolutions meritorious, he will incorporate them into the labor program of the Administration. He also said he will leave an open mind to their propositions and will give them his most serious consideration.

PRESIDENT Garcia left at midnight tonight on board the presidential yacht *Santa Maria* for Tacloban, Leyte, where he will be the guest speaker during the ceremonies commemorating the landing of liberation forces in that island.

Sailing with the President are Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia, Senator Emmanuel Pelaez, Speaker Protempore Manuel Castañeda, Reps. Bartolome Cabangbang, Marcelino Veloso, and Maximo Garcia.

Representatives of metropolitan newspapers were also with the presidential party. The President is scheduled to return to Manila on Wednesday, October 22.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: October 19-25, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia closeted himself the whole morning today in his cabin after hearing mass and after breakfast with the members of the presidential party.

Before lunch the President came out from his cabin and chatted with the members of the party. After lunch the President gave a press conference and then retired later to his cabin to study important state papers which he took along in the trip.

Some of the members of the presidential party, include SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor; Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda; Mrs. Paz Romualdez, wife of Speaker Daniel Romualdez; Mrs. Milagros Sumulong, wife of Rep. Francisco Sumulong of Rizal; Mrs. Edith Pelaez, wife of Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez; Mrs. Marcelino Veloso; and Reps. Lucas Paredes of Abra, Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, and Laurentino Badelles of Lanao.

The President discussed with the solons matter of purely local import.

October 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia this noon extolled the Philippine resistance movement whose main task during the Japanese occupation was to preserve the morale and loyalty of the Filipino people to the United States.

The President was the guest of honor at a testimonial banquet, given by local officials at the Leyte Regional School of Arts and Trades in Tacloban City.

He disclosed that, after Leyte had been liberated, a group of American soldiers fetched him from Bohol and took him before General Douglas Mac-Arthur and President Sergio Osmeña, Sr.

President Garcia said he was then commissioned by President Osmeña to go to the United States and work for the release of war damage payments and funds for the rehabilitation of the Philippines.

Rep. George Miller of California, who attended the rites commemorating the landing of American liberation forces in Leyte exactly 14 years ago, was given a resounding ovation at the popular luncheon after President Garcia publicly acknowledged his "numerous and invaluable services" in the promotion of Philippine interests in the United States.

President Garcia and his party arrived in Tacloban City at 8 a.m. today to participate in the 14th anniversary celebration of the landing in Leyte of U. S. forces.

The strong rain this morning did not dampen the spontaneous enthusiasm of the people from all walks of life who went to meet the presidential party at the wharf.

Among those who welcomed President Garcia at the Tacloban City wharf were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Gov. Ildefonso Cinco, Rep. Marcelino Veloso, Tacloban City Mayor Artemio Mate, and other national, provincial, and city officials.

After debarking from the *Sta. Maria*, President Garcia proceeded to the Sto. Niño church, where a *Te Deum* was sang. From the church, the presidential party went to Red Beach in Palo where the commemorative program was held.

Before the plain tomb erected in memory of unknown Filipino and American soldiers who died during the battle for the liberation of Leyte, President Garcia and U. S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen laid a wreath each.

From the ceremonies at Red Beach, the President proceeded to the Leyte Regional School of Arts and Trades, where he was guest of honor at a testimonial banquet tendered by local officials.

After lunch President Garcia returned to the yacht to take a short rest. He ordered the parade scheduled for this afternoon cancelled because the heavy rain would endanger the health of the participants, especially the schoolchildren.

President Garcia spoke before national, provincial, and municipal officials and prominent Leyteños in the evening at the Leyte Normal School gymnasium.

October 21.—HEAVY RAINS delayed the departure of the presidential yacht, *Sta. Maria* from Tacloban today.

Early this morning, however, the rains stopped a little, increasing visibility, and the *Sta. Maria* steamed out from San Jacinto Strait only to encounter heavy waves in Samar sea.

A tropical depression with 30-knots an hour winds forced the vessel to seek shelter off the eastern coast of Masbate. Ten-foot waves lashed the *Sta. Maria* forcing most of the members of the presidential party to stay in their cabins.

Some of the members of the party could not go to their cabins owing to sea-sickness and spent the whole morning in lounging chairs. The President's personal physician, Dr. Antonio Guytingco, had a busy time passing some pills around before he himself got affected.

The *Sta. Maria* is steaming at midday towards Masbate harbor, where it will seek shelter to allow the tropical depression to pass or dissipate.

THE PRESIDENTIAL yacht *Sta. Maria* with President Garcia and his party abroad took refuge in Masbate harbor at 2:30 p.m. today after being battered by huge waves and strong winds created by a tropical depression east of Catanduanes.

The presidential yacht is anchored at Masbate harbor and is not expected to sail for Manila until tomorrow noon in order to avoid the path of the typhoon which developed strong winds and rains the whole day.

On board the yacht are the President, the First Lady, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Rep. Lucas Paredes, Rep. Badilles, Mesdames Emmanuel Pelaez, Francisco Sumulong, Marcelino Veloso, and others.

Capt. Heracleo Alano, Philippine Navy operations chief, and Lt. Comdr. Manuel C. Mardapat, skipper of the presidential yacht, stayed at the bridge of the ship since it sailed from Tacloban at 5 a.m. today because of battering huge ten-foot waves which tossed the yacht around. Capt. Alano ordered the yacht anchored at Masbate harbor and said the earliest time that the President could get to Manila is Friday morning.

The yacht is expected to stay in the harbor the whole night and even the whole morning tomorrow, depending on weather forecasts which are being received by radio regularly.

Even at Masbate harbor, the effect of the tropical depression is being felt. At sea and all around is foreboding darkness created by heavy clouds, torrents of rain, and lashing winds.

President Garcia stayed inside his cabin the whole morning studying state papers.

Mass was said by Fr. Juan Tugade before an improvised altar on deck at 7 a.m. today. After the mass some passengers had breakfast while others proceeded to their cabins because of seasickness. Many passengers stayed in bed and did not eat until about 2 p.m. when the yacht was already in Masbate harbor where the waves were comparatively calm.

PRESIDENT Garcia issued a proclamation declaring the period from February 14 to March 31 next year for the 12th annual fund campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross, it was announced by Malacañang today.

The President, in his proclamation, pointed out that the PNRC had, "through unstinted labor, proven itself an indispensable institution in the promotion of public welfare, especially in times of emergency, symbolizing our national spirit of compassion and our aspiration for world peace and understanding."

The Chief Executive urged all citizen and residents of this country, as well as all associations and organizations, to help actively in the campaign by giving generously of their means, time, and efforts to realize the aims and purposes of the organization.

He also authorized all national, provincial, city, and municipal government officials and school authorities to accept for the PNRC "fund-raising responsibilities," urging them to take the initiative and active leadership in their respective communities.

October 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed all government relief agencies to extend aid to the victims of typhoon *Kathy* after getting reports on the extent of the typhoon damage.

The President instructed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, who is on board the yacht, to contact the SWA office and mobilize personnel for relief work.

President Garcia expressed grave concern over reports that 16 persons were feared lost off Libertad, Capiz, when their fishing boat was sunk by huge waves and strong wind generated by the typhoon.

The yacht *Santa Maria* has been marooned in the Masbate harbor since 2:30 p.m. yesterday on account of bad weather.

In a brief conference with newsmen, the President brushed aside the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee's claim that most fishing ships from the Japanese reparations have been allocated to companies headed by Boholanos.

"That is ridiculous," the President said curtly.

The Chief Executive had a brief conference on board the vessel with Masbate officials. They reported to him on the local problems. The conference was held after lunch, before the President retired to his cabin for his usual afternoon *siesta*.

Earlier in the morning, President Garcia had breakfast in his cabin after hearing mass said by Father Juan Tugade, PN chaplain, at an improvised altar on deck.

After breakfast, the President closeted himself in his cabin and went over state papers he took along with him in his trip which took him last Monday to Leyte, where he attended the Leyte landing celebration.

The presidential yacht is expected to sail for Manila tomorrow morning, if the weather permits. However, from the Masbate harbor the sea still looks rough.

THE President issued a proclamation today declaring Thursday, October 23, as special public holiday in the province of Ilocos Norte, the birthplace of the Filipino painter, Juan Luna, whose first centenary year celebration terminates on that day.

October 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia said today he has not discussed with the Department of Foreign Affairs any move of the Philippines to bring the Formosa question before the United Nations.

The President pointed out that there is a standing agreement among UN diplomats that the world body will step into the picture only when all other steps have failed to settle the issue.

President Garcia commented on reports that the foreign affairs office was planning to instruct the Philippine delegation in the UN to start exploratory talks with other delegations in the UN on the possible move of the world body regarding the Formosa crisis.

At the same time, the Chief Executive said he will decide upon his arrival in Manila early tomorrow morning whether he will call members of his Cabinet for the regular weekly meeting.

In a brief conference with newsmen, the President also:

1. Admitted he received the request of Administrator of Economic Coordination Juan Concon for retirement and said he was seriously studying it;
2. Endorsed Lieut-Comdr. Marcelino Calinawan's plan to catch law violators through close examination of their income tax returns;
3. Made no comment on a reported disagreement between US State Secretary John Foster Dulles and President Chiang Kai-shek over the proposed demilitarization of the disputed offshore islands; and
4. Said the Cuenco ouster bid should wait until Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez arrives in accordance with a previous understanding among NP leaders.

The President made the last statement when asked to comment on a story that Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo supported a move to oust Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco from the Nacionalista Party.

Sen. Cuenco, who is chairman of the Senate Blue-Ribbon Committee, is now considered a "thorn on the side of peace" within the NP because of his investigations of venalities in the government.

On the story that the Department of Foreign Office was studying the possibility of inviting Dulles here for a discussion with Philippine officials of matters affecting US-PS relations, the President said it was rather too sudden.

President Garcia has been receiving regular reports from Capt. Heracleo Alano, Philippine Navy operations chief, on the progress of the rescue operations for the recovery of any survivor of the ill-fated *m.v. Guesan*.

The *m.v. Guesan* sanked with a crew of 16 off the coast Libertad, Antique, last Tuesday when it ran into rough seas in the wake of typhoon *Kathy*.

President Garcia expressed grave concern over the destruction wrought by the typhoon and over the lives lost in its wake.

The yacht left Masbate harbor at 8:30 this morning for the return voyage to Manila, and immediately ran again into rough seas.

However, ship officers said the yacht can tackle the rough seas and could proceed full speed toward Manila. The yacht, with the President aboard, was expected to arrive in Manila at 6 a.m. tomorrow.

October 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning appeared none the worse after his rough return trip from Leyte during which the yacht *Sta Maria* encountered typhoon *Kathy* and was forced to seek shelter in Masbate harbor.

The *Sta. Maria*, carrying the President and the members of his party, docked at the Philippine Navy landing at 6: 30 a.m. On hand to meet them at the dock were, among others, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, Ambassador Manuel A. Adeva, and Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez.

From the PN landing President Garcia motored direct to Malacañang and held a closed-door conference with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano and Ambassador Adeva, Philippine envoy to Japan.

No details were released as to the topics they discussed during the three-hour conference.

Labor Secretary Castaño briefed the President on the latest developments on the protracted NAMARCO strike. Castaño was accompanied by Rep. Lucas Paredes of Abra.

The Chief Executive told Secretary Castaño to advise the striking employees of the state firm to return to work pending decision by the Supreme Court on their petition for mandatory relief.

President Garcia was also informed this morning on the progress of the talks by members of the Philippine panel, discussing with officials of the US Development Loan Fund the procedures to be followed in determining priorities for the granting of development loans totalling \$50 million.

Those who saw the President were Acting Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista, panel chairman, and NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, CB Deputy Governor Andres Castillo, and Director Faustino Lozada of the Industrial Development Center, members.

After this afternoon's regular weekly press and radio conference, President Garcia received Isaac Grainger, president of the Chemical Corn Exchange Bank of New York, and Charles Love, assistant vice-president of the same institution, who paid a courtesy call.

They were accompanied by Alfonso Calabang, president of the Security Bank and Trust Co., and J. P. Jacinto and B. M. del Rosario, executive vice-president and vice-president, respectively, of the same firm,

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon announced he will leave on a ten-day "goodwill" visit to Japan on December 1 this year.

He made the announcement at his regular press conference, stressing that his trip "will be one of goodwill and in reciprocation of the state visit of Prime Minister Kishi to the Philippines last year."

However, the President indicated he may take up other matters of interest between the Philippines and Japan during his visit to Japan.

At the same time, the President said the government-controlled Philippine Air Lines will reopen its overseas service and would use jet planes for these lines.

PAL's foreign operations were suspended in 1954 shortly after President Magsaysay took over the administration.

During the press conference, the President:

1. Said he will inquire into the conflicting reports of the management and directors of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration;
2. Spiked report that Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo will be relieved of his position in the Cabinet;

3. Had no comment on the reported relief of Lt. Col. Ramon Gelvezon as chief of the Constabulary criminal investigation service;
4. Disclosed he had asked Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, coordinator of the Constabulary-Custom-Revenue team, and Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino Calinawan, head of the Palace fact-finding committee on customs affairs, to settle their dispute and threatened to step in if the two could not get together harmoniously;
5. Justified anew the government's acquisition of the ₱5 million yacht;
6. Hailed the Hungarian revolution on its second anniversary the other day as the "fight of the people;"
7. Denied he had officially endorsed the multiple reserves plan for the peso; and
8. Denied having received Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera's report on the "white paper."

"I have decided to accept the official invitation extended to me by Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi to visit Japan on the first 10 days of next December. This state visit will be one of goodwill and in reciprocation of the state visit of Prime Minister Kishi to the Philippines last year."

October 25.—THIS MORNING President Garcia received Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

Secretary Rodriguez reported on his observations of cattle-raising and agricultural techniques employed in Australia and on the extent of the use of irrigation in that country as a means of making available for agricultural purposes large tracts of arid land.

Rodriguez returned recently from a 10-day observation tour of Australia upon the invitation of the Australian Government. He was accompanied during his call on President Garcia by Salvador Cunanan, technical assistant in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Rep; William Chiongbian headed a group of mayors from Misamis Occidental who saw the President to ask for the release of funds for the construction of feeder roads in their respective municipalities.

In the group were Mayors Angel Medina of Ozamis City, Agapito Yap of Baliangao, Francisco Paylaga of Jimenez, and Vice-Mayor Rafael Gurbuxani of Ozamis City.

Other callers were Stanley Hiller, inventor and manufacturer of Hiller machines for the processing of coconut, who was accompanied by Sen. Roseller T. Lim, and Ambassador Manuel A. Adeva, Philippine envoy to Japan.

PRESIDENT Garcia received this afternoon the Third International Scroll of Honor of the American Public Relations Association at a ceremony held at the Malacañang Social Hall.

At the same time, the President received the first and only plaque of the Philippine Public Relations Association.

In presenting the American award, Art Domingo, APRA member, said it was given for the highly successful visit of the President to the United States.

Mr. J. P. Roxas, PRSP president, presented the award of his association to President Garcia.

Present at the ceremonies were U.S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, prominent members of foreign and local business circles, and other high government officials.

In his address the President said “the problems we face are common, to the government and business. The success we seek is common and commonly beneficial. There should be no line to split and divide government and business. There is no issue of partisanship here, no issue of politics—there should be none,” he pointed out.

In calling for “business statemanship” the President scored what he branded as “too-grasping” the business which places profit over and above public welfare.

He recalled that some businessmen have taken advantage of the Formosa crises to jack up their prices to the prejudice of the public welfare.

He said under these circumstances, it makes it imperative for the government to crack down on business.

“This is no blanket accusation of business, for we have great institutions here,” he said, “that have demonstrated their capacity to sacrifice for the public goods. But this country can certainly do more with more business statemanship,” he pointed out.

President Garcia stressed that “in the face of international uncertainties, with the weight of economic problems upon us, the need of the time is for faith-inspired business statemanship. “Our way of life,” he said, “our system of government, makes it imperative for government and business to work together with trust and confidence undismayed by temporary reverses. The trouble with some business, sometimes, is that it becomes too grasping; in its fight for existence, it often places the profit over and above the public welfare.”

He called upon the public relations men to take upon themselves to promote better understanding between the government and business “so that instead of carping criticism one way or the other, there would result a harmonious hammering of policies and practices that would redound to their common good and the country’s welfare.”

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: October 26- November 1, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia called today officials of the Central Bank and the NAMARCO to a conference at Malacañang early this week for the purpose of devising ways of insuring an uninterrupted supply of evaporated milk and some other essential commodities in the country.

The President's action was spurred by reports appearing in the metropolitan papers the past few days to the effect that unscrupulous merchants were jacking up the prices of evaporated milk which is being widely used, by Filipino mothers as an inexpensive supplementary infant feed.

Expressing concern over the health of infants adversely affected by the increased prices, the Chief Executive reiterated his warning to profiteers and hoarders to stop their nefarious practices, otherwise, the government might be forced to take punitive action against them to protect the nation's health.

The President today spent his Sunday quietly at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He did not receive any caller.

Waking up early this morning, the President started the day by hearing mass before an improvised altar at the living room, of his workshop.

After the mass the President had breakfast with the First Lady. Then he repaired to his private study, where he spent some time going over the Sunday morning newspapers.

About 10 a.m., the President boarded his car and motored to Funeraria Paz in Manila to view the remains of Pedro C. Caunan, a friend from Tagbilaran, Bohol. Accompanied by the First Lady, the Chief Executive stayed at the funeral parlor about 15 minutes condoling with the bereaved family.

After lunch with the first Lady at their residence in Quezon City, the President had a brief rest. He spent the rest of the afternoon in his study working over state papers he had taken along with him from Malacañang.

October 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia reiterated this morning his directive to officials of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation to stop buying lands and instead concentrate their efforts in the development of its low-cost housing projects in line with the policy of the Administration to provide homes for low-salaried employees.

The President decried the fact that the state firm had been actively playing the role of a realtor by purchasing estates for subdivision purposes, completely defeating its objectives.

At a conference held at Malacañang with Manuel T. Leelin and Enrique J. L. Ruiz, members of the PHHC board of directors, President Garcia stated that the PHHC should be the first government entity to implement the policy of the Administration to give land to the landless and home to the homeless.

At the same conference President Garcia inquired into measures adopted by the PHHC in order to straighten its finances.

The two PHHC directors informed President Garcia that the state firm had reduced its personnel in order to effect some savings. They added that in view of the drastic measures adopted by the PHHC, it is now able to liquidate partially some of its pending obligations, especially its accounts with the contractors.

In a letter he submitted to President Garcia, Director Ruiz suggested that the state firm be thoroughly revamped from top to bottom and subsequently revitalized with a system of management and administration patterned in a business way.

For his part, Director Leelin submitted a proposal to implement the policy of the Administration by constructing low-cost houses in rural areas for indigents, coupled with a program to develop cottage industries.

The construction of housing projects in rural areas, Leelin informed the President, would solve in part the unemployment problem in the areas and increase the per capita income of the rural masses.

The President also received Ramon V. del Rosario and his brothers Jesus, Francisco, and Mariano. They called on the President to invite him to the inauguration of the new Del Rosario building at the Sta. Mesa Boulevard.

Other callers were Col. Ben Valenzona, Edmundo Reyes, Protacio Caiialita, Jose Sabalone, Eduardo Manalo, Dr. Augusto Cortez, GAB Commissioner Manuel Nieto, Jr., and Tube Itoh.

THE President this morning ordered the Constabulary to provide adequate protection for Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco after reading a news dispatch that a live hand grenade had been found at the Cuenco home in Lahug, Cebu, yesterday.

The President also directed the Constabulary to submit a report on the matter as soon as possible.

A movie of the funeral of Pope Pius XII will be shown at the Palace projection room at 9:30 p.m. tomorrow. Invited to see the film were Cabinet members and their ladies and local church dignitaries.

The film which will last an hour was sent to the President by Ambassador Jose Ma. Delgado, Philippine envoy to the Vatican.

A delegation from the Philippine Association of Public School Superintendents will call on the President some time next week to inform him of the projected inauguration and unveiling of the historical marker of the Quezon-Roosevelt memorial building at the Teacher's Camp in Baguio.

The association plans to invite Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt to be guest of honor at the inauguration scheduled in May next year. If the former U. S. First Lady accepts, she may be house guest of President and Mrs. Garcia during her stay here.

IN THE EVENING the President received a number of northern Luzon solons who have been at loggerheads in connection with the controversial tobacco importation.

Eight Luzon solons urged the President to disapprove any proposal to import Virginia leaf tobacco, as it would incite the growers in northern Luzon against the Administration.

They claimed it would be "political suicide" for the Nacionalista administration to authorize the importation of Virginia leaf tobacco considering the fact that a responsible official of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration has stated that there is surplus tobacco this year.

They also said that the House committee headed by Rep. Felipe Garduque found out that there are sufficient tobacco stocks in the country.

These solons were Reps. Godofredo Reyes, Faustino Tobia, Cipriano Primicias, Jr., Luciano Millan, Luis Hora, Garduque, Benjamin T. Ligot, and Manuel Agudo.

Rep. Lucas Paredes was the only congressman who went against the eight other House members and urged the President to authorize the importation of tobacco.

The Abra solon said many laborers were facing temporary lay-offs unless the cigarette manufacturers were given materials to carry on their business operations.

Earlier in the evening, the President received Maurice Pate, executive director of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

The President also received officials of the ACCFA and discussed with them the alleged discrepancies in their report on the shortage of tobacco stocks. Those who responded to the President's call were Capt. Ernesto T. Jimenez, general manager and chairman of the ACCFA board; Directors Joaquin Ortega and Arcadio Matela; Ben Labayan, Primitivo Tugadi, Fermin Malingbayan, Celso Dan, and Doroteo Toledo, Sr.

Before meeting the ACCFA officials, the President received Fr. R. van Glansveek and Fr. Mariano Gaviola.

The President also received Commodore Jose V. Andrada, manager of the Home Financing Commission.

Andrada invited the President to be the guest speaker at the 3rd anniversary of the HFC on November 17.

October 28.—THIS MORNING the President directed Malacañang assistants to study the complaint of the National Market Vendors Association of the Philippines against the Bureau of Internal Revenue for compelling NMVAP members to pay the percentage tax of 3 per cent on gross sales from 1952 to 1956 with penalties.

The complaint was delivered to President Garcia by Rep. Augusto Francisco of Manila.

The President was informed that the BIR has been serving collection letters to market stall vendors, especially in the cooked food section, with amounts varying from ₱500 to ₱1,500.

The Manila solon also informed the Chief Executive that previous administrations never enforced the collection of the tax insofar as the market vendors were concerned.

The President also received Rep. Justiniano Montano of Cavite, who requested the release of at least ₱40,000 to be used in the implementation of Republic Act No. 2046, which created the Cavite Electricity Distributing Authority.

The Cavite solon informed President Garcia that his province, although with a good industrial potential in view of its proximity to marketing areas and the availability of raw materials, has been left behind in the development of industries owing to the lack of cheap electricity.

The President received visitors at his study from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Other callers included Agriculture Undersecretary Jose Trinidad, Sen. Reseller Lim, Mayor Leroy Broun of Basilan City, and Reps. Domitilo Abordo and Pedro Trono of Iloilo, Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Apolinario Apacible of Batangas, Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, and Francisco Sumulong of Rizal.

The President approved today the release of ₱400,000 to the Bureau of Plant Industry for locust scouting and control work in the provinces of Cotabato, Bukidnon, Davao, Bohol, Negros Oriental, and Masbate.

The President directed the immediate release of the money upon learning that swarms of locusts have already appeared in the six provinces.

The locust scouting and control work will be undertaken in order to prevent the pests from increasing in number and size and from spreading to other areas where they would be more difficult and expensive to combat and eradicate.

The presidential directive was issued through Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta. The ₱400,000 will be taken from the contingent fund.

The President this day proclaimed Saturday, November 1, as a special public holiday.

In declaring All Saints' Day a special public holiday, the President said that "paying homage to the dead on All Saints' Day is one of our cherished traditions."

The President said that the people should be given full opportunity to observe the day with all its religious fervors.

President Garcia signed today the ad interim appointments of one provincial fiscal, one register of deeds, II justices of the peace, and one clerk of court.

Signed by the President were the ad interim appointments of Narciso Aquino as provincial fiscal of Cagayan; Miss Lorenza D. Azicate as register of deeds of Catanduanes; Manuel Magistrado as clerk of court of Catanduanes; Policarpio Canda as justice of the peace of Dagohoy, Bohol; Jose Baroga as justice of the peace of Predtol, Mt. Province; Jose Bumanglag as justice of the peace of Angaki, Ilocos Sur; Mrs. Enriqueta Cayagoy-Bruno as auxiliary justice of the peace of Manaoag, Pangasinan; Crispulo Miranda as justice of the peace of Gregorio del Pilar, Ilocos Sur; Julian Velasquez as auxiliary justice of the peace of Urbiztondo, Pangasinan; Juanito Panganiban as auxiliary justice of the peace of Lobo, Batangas; Wilfredo Abiog as justice of the peace of Araceli, Palawan; Wilfredo Bueno as justice of the peace of Tumbao, Cotabato; Juan A. de Lira as justice of the peace of Mercedes, Samar; and Domosthenes B. Maginsay as justice of the peace of Dimataling, Zamboanga del Sur.

IN THE EVENING the President conferred with congressmen headed by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez to sound them out on the possible election issues the Liberals may raise in next year's polls.

The President calls Congress members to a weekly conference every Tuesday in order to strengthen the relation between Malacañang and the legislators.

'President Garcia, reacting sharply to the reports that a PHHC director had testified before the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee that the land purchases of the housing agency were made to boost the NP fund campaign, said, "That is a crude lie."

The President referred to an alleged testimony of Emmanuel Clave, PHHC director, who indicated that the various land purchases of the agency were made to swell the NP campaign fund.

About 26 solons attended the weekly conference with the President.

October 29.—THIS MORNING President Garcia conferred with Dempster McIntosh, managing director of the Development Loan Fund, on ways and means to insure the early approval of loans as well as the prompt assessment of all projects to be financed by the American loans.

It was understood that the conferees arrived at some basic agreements regarding the implementation of the \$50 million development loans which President Garica was able to obtain during his state visit to the United States.

The American group led by Mr. McIntosh arrived recently to discuss with a Philippine committee all the applications for dollar loans under the Development Loan Fund.

Present at the conference were U. S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen, ICA director Paul Summer, General David Ogden and Ralph Philipps of the Development Loan Fund, Central Bank Deputy Governor Andress Castillo, acting Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista, NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, and Director Faustino Lozada of the Industrial Development Center.

The conferees went over the revised list of projects to be financed by the Development Loan Fund.

McIntosh stated that his firm was in favor of developing industries which can use raw materials locally available. He also said that his firm was anxious to establish an office here, in order to be of some assistance to the Filipino people.

AFTER the conference, President Garcia sent the following radiogram to Vatican City:

“HIS HOLINESS

POPE JOHN XXIII

VATICAN CITY

“Please accept the warmest congratulations and sincere best wishes of the people of the Philippines and of my own on your Holiness election as the 262nd Supreme Ruler of the Holy See. The world has grown spiritually richer with your election and amidst our rejoicing we pray for your continued good health and blessings for the maintenance of peace and understanding among the peoples of the world.”

The President also received PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo who rendered a progress report on the surveys made by his office of the different government agencies.

The Chief Executive received his callers at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning. In the afternoon he motored back to Malacañang to preside over the regular weekly meeting of his cabinet.

AT ITS REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING today the Cabinet approved a recommendation of the Department of General Services to raise the maximum price at which government cars may be purchased, from ₱10,000 to ₱12,000 each.

Acting General Services Secretary Serafin Salvador called the attention of the Cabinet to the fact that the ceiling price of ₱10,000 previously set by the Cabinet was already “obsolete” and recommended its modification.

In approving the increase of ₱2,000, the Cabinet reiterated that cars to be purchased for government use should be limited to low-priced ones, in line with the austerity program of the Administration.

The Cabinet started its meeting about 5:30 p.m., with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez presiding. The President was then out fulfilling other engagements.

The President entered the Cabinet room about 6:15 p.m.

President Garcia at his regular weekly Cabinet meeting today entered the Cabinet to direct Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor to act immediately on the request of Gov. Nicanor Maronilla-Seva of Albay for relief.

Gov. Seva, in a telegram to President Garcia, reported that 90 per cent of the rice crop in the third district, and 20 percent in the first district of Albay were destroyed by the recent typhoon. Seva also reported that three towns, namely Manito, Libon, and Tiwi, were isolated.

Gov. Seva reported to the President that the damage to national and provincial roads and public works was estimated at ₱300,000. However, the governor did not report any casualty so far.

IN THE EVENING the President administered the oath of office to Francisco Delgado of Delgado Brothers, Inc., as a member of the board of commissioners of the Peace and Amelioration Fund Commission in a ceremony held at the reception hall of Malacañang.

From the oath-taking ceremony the President, members of the Cabinet and their ladies, and local church dignitaries saw a movie taken of the funeral of Pope Pius XII which was shown at the Palace projection room.

The film was brought to the Philippines by Francisco Delgado, who returned recently from Rome where he attended the necrological services and the burial of the Holy Father.

At four o'clock this afternoon, President Garcia left his Bohol Avenue residence where they had been receiving callers since this morning and motored to Malacañang.

On the way to the Palace, he dropped at the new offices of the Del Rosario Brothers, Inc., Sta. Mesa Boulevard to attend the fifth anniversary celebration of the firm.

When the President arrived at the offices of the Del Rosario Brothers, Inc., a fashion show was in progress with pretty Filipino society models displaying creations of local dress designers.

Shortly after his arrival, the Chief Executive was joined by the First Lady who was accompanied by Mrs. Dolores Gaerlan.

In the ceremonial hall of Malacañang, the President gave a cocktail party in honor of delegates to the Food and Agriculture Organization Group on Coconut and Coconut Products meet which was opened this morning. Some 40 foreign delegates representing 16 countries are attending the conference.

After posing for pictures with members of the different delegations, he went to the Council of State room to preside over this week's meeting of the Cabinet.

October 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia today endorsed in principle a plan to construct a hospital for crippled children, as presented by Col. Gordon Heritage, president of the Mabuhay Shrine Club of Olongapo, Zambales.

The proposed hospital will admit indigent patients up to 15 years only, regardless of creed, according to Col. Heritage, who was accompanied by Primo Balatayo, a Manila businessman.

Although still in the planning stage, the plan will be pushed through by Col. Heritage who expects the help and assistance of civic-minded citizens.

The President had a breakfast conference with Sen. Cipriano Primicias, Sr., and Rep. Manuel Zosa. The Pangasinan solon recently returned from abroad after attending the Inter-parliamentary Union Conference at Rio de Janeiro, as chairman of the Philippine delegation. Rep. Zosa was a member of the delegation.

After a conference with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, President Garcia received provincial governors and city and municipal mayors, most of whom requested aid from the contingent funds for the reconstruction of public works and buildings destroyed by typhoons.

Gov. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon called on President Garcia to express his gratitude for the plane that was sent to Legaspi by order of the President to airlift him to Manila after the car in which he was riding fell into a ravine.

With his left arm still in a plaster cast, Gov. Frivaldo recently left the V. Luna General Hospital.

Mayor Macario B. Peña of Naic, Cavite, obtained aid amounting to ₱12,000 for the reconstruction of the Naic Home Economics Building which was damaged by recent typhoons.

Gov. Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Oriental was also able to get ₱70,000 from the contingent funds of the President for the repair of roads and public buildings damaged by typhoon *Kathy*.

Other callers included Gov. Vicente Lara of Misamis Oriental, Feliciano Leviste of Batangas, Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, Serafin Teves of Negros Oriental, Panfilo Manguerra of Marinduque, Jose Briones of Cebu, and Bernardo Gapuz of La Union; Ozamiz City Mayor Angel Medina, accompanied by Saladino Medina and Mrs. Josefa Capistrano; Reps. Agaton Ursua and Felix Fuentebella of Camarines Sur; and Municipal Mayors Ismael Labir of Alubijid, Misamis Oriental, Vicente Santos of Balingoan, Mindoro Oriental, and Marcelino Maagad of Opol, Mindoro Oriental.

President Garcia today sent a message of condolence to the widow of former Mayor Manuel de la Fuente of Manila, who had succumbed to a heart attack at his Sampaloc residence early this morning.

"Mrs. Garcia joins me in extending to you our deepest sympathies on the passing of Mayor de la Fuente," the President said in his message.

"I remember him vividly as a towering figure in city politics whose physical proximity to the masses made him a well-loved public servant."

The President added: "There is no doubt that the city he had served so well will have fond memories of him. Again please know we share your loss."

THE PRESIDENT cancelled all his appointments for this afternoon in order to devote his time on pending state papers and decide on several important matters, among them, the long-drawn tobacco imbroglio.

Scheduled to see him this afternoon were Chairman Gregorio Licaros of the Development Bank of the Philippines, General Manager Leoncio Tan of the NARIC, and General Manager Bernardo Torres of the PHHC.

They were advised that their appointments to see the President today had been moved to tomorrow afternoon after the regular weekly press conference at 5 p.m.

President Garcia, however, took time out this evening to receive John Norris, a visiting correspondent of the *Washington Post*, who came to interview him on vital international issues. Norris was accompanied by Al Valencia, until recently director of the Philippine Information Agency in Washington and now assigned to the PIA office in New York.

October 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning directed NARIC officials to revise their corn-buying program in Mindanao and start buying from small farmers.

At a conference held at Malacañang the President bared before NARIC General Manager Leoncio Tan, Assistant General Manager Jose Drilon, and Director Ramon Enriquez that he had received complaints from small farmers that they could not sell corn direct to NARIC agents.

At the same time, President Garcia approved the proposal submitted by Tan of exporting 500,000 cavans of corn to Japan on barter for whatever goods the NAMARCO would require.

In their complaint to President Garcia, the small farmers of Mindanao alleged that alien middlemen bought at low prices the corn they could not sell direct to the NARIC. The same corn was later sold to the NARIC, the small farmers alleged, by the alien middlemen.

The NARIC head explained that the state firm had previously entered into an agreement with the ACCFA to purchase corn in Mindanao through FACOMA's.

Tan also informed President Garcia that the NARIC has plenty of corn in its warehouses in view of the bumper crop in Mindanao. The corn-buying program was started after the Philippine National Bank had extended a credit line of ₱5 million to the NARIC on orders from President Garcia.

In recommending the exportation of corn to Japan, Tan alleged that it would solve the corn marketing problem of the state -firm and would help NAMARCO acquire needed goods without depleting the dollar reserves of the country.

President Garcia approved the exportation of corn after receiving a verbal report of his legal adviser, Judge Salvador Esguerra, to the effect that there was no legal impediment to the proposal.

With respect to the public auction of the NARIC corn stocks in Cebu, Tan informed President Garcia that the state firm, had rejected all offers. The highest bidder offered a price of only ₱7.10 per bag of 200 pounds, which would mean a loss of about ₱1,200,000 to the NARIC for the 20,000 metric tons of Rhodesian corn it has in its possession.

The President also received William Martin, Jr., chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and Andrew Overby, first vice-president of the First Boston Corporation and formerly undersecretary of the U. S. Treasury Department.

The visitors attended the recently concluded Monetary Fund Conference held at New Delhi, India, and are enroute to the United States via Japan. They were accompanied by Governor Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank; Mike Cross, U. S. Embassy attache; and Rizalino Mendoza of the Central Bank.

Another caller was Herman D. Nichols of the Tubbs Cordage Company of San Francisco, California, who was accompanied by Howard P. Strickler, chairman of the board of directors of the Manila Cordage Company, and Luis Concepcion.

Other callers were German Ambassador F. L. von Furstenberg, J. Antonio Araneta, Fr. Francisco Araneta, rector of Xavier University in Mindanao, Vicente Orosa, and a group of Laos officers who are taking courses in criminal investigation at the PC headquarters in Camp Crame.

The President summoned this noon top Nacionalista Party leaders to Malacañang for a conference.

Called to Malacañang for a luncheon-conference were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, concurrently acting NP president, and Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda, who is being groomed to become NP secretary-general.

The three top administration officials were reported to have discussed recent political developments.

AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE this afternoon, the President said he is not bound by the findings of the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee in its investigations and will act only in accordance with his best judgment and discretion.

The President made the statement in commenting on reports that the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee had recommended a drastic reorganization of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation.

At the conference, the President also:

1. Disclosed plans to write his decision on the controversial importation of Virginia leaf tobacco. He was reported to have previously abandoned plans of importing US Virginia leaf tobacco after he found out there actually was no shortage of the commodity here; and
2. Said that the \$50 million development plan from the United States will be utilized to finance vital projects which are needed to boost the Administration's campaign for self-sufficiency in the basic requirements of the people.

As the press conference switched on Defense Secretary Vargas, the President said he had "no comment" on reports that the secretary of national defense was being boosted for the presidency.

The President indicated he had received reports that Senator Jose P. Laurel had said that Vargas was qualified for the “highest position” in the government.

Asked if he was contemplating to relieve Vargas from the Cabinet, President Garcia again demurred and stressed that he did not want to comment on the Vargas case.

The President later cautioned the people against “playing with fire” as he dismissed reports of a possible *coup d’etat* to be led by a military strongman.

“I don’t want to discuss subjects of such character,” the President said. The *coup d’etat* question was based on reports of a possible emergence of a military strongman similar to the recent political upheavals in Pakistan, Thailand, and Burma.

THE President administered the oath of office to Commodore Jose V. Andrada as general manager and chairman of the board of directors of the Home Financing Commission in a ceremony held this afternoon at the reception hall in Malacañang.

Other members of the board who took their oaths of office were Sixto L. Orosa, Jr., Judge Felix de la Costa, and Simeon A. Reyes.

Immediately after his regular weekly press and radio conference, the President received at 6 p.m. Leland Russell of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. Later, the President conferred with Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff.

Then the President received Chairman Gregorio S. Licaros and Govs. Florencio Garcia and Bobby Benedicto of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

The bank officials took up with the President plans for the revitalization of the operations and functions of the DBP, in order to include within the scope of its benefits a bigger proportion of the population.

The Chief Executive received callers until 9 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening called off the projected military mission headed by Secretary of National Defense Jesus Vargas to the United States.

At an-hour-and-fifty-minute conference in Malacañang, the President told Vargas he was suspending the departure of the military mission.

Vargas was originally scheduled to leave next week for the United States to follow up negotiations for increased arms assistance to the Philippines under the PI-US Mutual Assistance Pact.

President Garcia called Vargas and Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, to a closed-door conference in Malacañang. They discussed the projected mission to the United States and decided to suspend its departure.

The President’s decision was prompted by the reported arrival here of a committee of Pentagon officials on November 23 presumably to make a survey of the defense requirements of the country.

November 1.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this morning joined people from all walks of life in the traditional pilgrimage to cemeteries to pay homage to the honored dead.

After hearing mass at the Malacañang chapel, the Chief Executive and his lady motored to the North Cemetery, where they first visited the tomb of the late President Ramon Magsaysay to say a silent prayer.

After a brief conversation with Dr. and Mrs. Jose Corpus at the tomb of his predecessor, the President accompanied by the First Lady went to the tomb of President Manuel Luis Quezon. Then they went to the tomb of President Manuel A. Roxas, where the President chatted with Rep. Gerardo Roxas, son of the Capiz statesman.

From the North Cemetery, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Manila South Cemetery at Makati, Rizal, to visit the tomb of President Elpidio Quirino, where he saw Judge Antonio Quirino and Mrs. Victoria Quirino-Gonzalez; only daughter of the late Chief Executive.

Before returning to his Quezon City residence, the President also visited the “Libingan Ng Mga Bayani” in Fort William McKinley.

The President did not receive any caller in the afternoon.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: November 2-8, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet and busy day today in his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

With Mrs. Garcia and Maj. Jose A. Estrella, military aide, the Chief Executive heard an early morning mass before an improvised altar in the President's residence.

After breakfast, President Garcia read the morning papers and then retired to his study to go over pending state papers and prepare his decisions on vital issues.

He took his usual siesta after lunch and ate a light merienda upon waking up.

After partaking of supper, the President continued working on state papers until late at night.

November 3.—THIS morning President Garcia received Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, chief of staff of the United States Army, who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang.

Gen. Taylor was accompanied by U. S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen; Brig. Gen. Charles Bonesteel III, secretary to the general staff, Department of the Army; Maj. Gen. William H. Nutter, JUSMAG chief; Col. Henry L. Miller, U. S. Embassy military attache; and Lt. Col. Bernard W. Rogers, aide-de-camp to Gen. Taylor.

Gen. Taylor arrived in Manila recently in the course of a world tour of major U. S. defense installations.

Rep. John F. Shelley (D. Calif.), a member of the U. S. Congress' appropriations committee, also came to pay a courtesy call on the President.

They had a pleasant 30-minute talk on various subjects including trade relations, the aid situation, and reparations.

The President did not receive any caller in the afternoon. He devoted his time going over some pending state papers, including the records of about 100 prisoners recommended for executive clemency by the Board of Pardons and Parole. The Chief Executive expressed his desire to act on the parole recommendations on the occasion of his birthday tomorrow.

President Garcia today started a series of studies on government assistance to farmers which would ease up two major problems facing the expected harvest of a bumper rice crop.

The President singled out the need of warehousing and transportation as the pressing problems which would face the farmers after the rice would have been harvested this crop year which ends about June 1959.

He will confer with government officials concerned on the matter, especially with those of the National Rice and Corn Corporation (NARIC) and the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration (ACCFA).

President Garcia expressed deep concern over both problems. He said he wanted to insure the gains made in his program for self-sufficiency in food.

The President may also consider the proposal to use Army trucks and Navy ships in transporting the rice from the inland farms to marketing centers or warehouses. The trucks and boats may be placed at the disposal of FA-COMA members.

This program scheduled improvements in 300,000 hectares of ricelands and 50,000 hectares in cornlands. The areas will be progressively increased by 350,000 hectares yearly through 1959, 1960, and 1961.

Among other direct support being extended by the Administration in food production may be mentioned the following:

(1) The ACCFA has during the last six months distributed 315,000 bags of fertilizers worth ₱3 million which will fertilize 100,000 hectares of ricelands and boost production by 800,000 cavans of rice worth ₱8 million;

(2) The government has provided ₱78 million in 1957 for irrigation of 500,000 hectares of ricelands and constructed 4,000 kilometers of feeder roads to facilitate marketing of rice crops; and

(3) Through the RFC and the ACCFA, the government has extended assistance to rice and corn farmers in the form of liberal loans totalling ₱172 million to enable the farmers to produce more.

It is hoped that with these aids to production, the rice crop for 1958-1959 will exceed 80 million cavans which is more than the national consumption.

The President this days designated Ambassador Jose Delgado as head of the delegation to represent the Philippines at the coronation of Pope John XXIII at the Vatican City.

Other members of the delegation are Sen. Oscar Ledesma, who is now in Rome, and Ambassador Roberto Regala, Philippine envoy in Italy.

Ambassador Delgado is the Philippine diplomatic representative in the Vatican.

PRESIDENT Garcia was feted this evening with an *asalto* by Congress members and Cabinet men to start the celebration of the Chief Executive's 62nd birthday tomorrow.

President and Mrs. Garcia stayed at home to receive their well-wishers who felicitated the Chief Executive at Malacañang.

The President and the First Lady went down to the Malacañang social hall where he joined his well-wishers to a dinner.

President Garcia is scheduled to have a "quiet" celebration of his birthday tomorrow.

He will be at "home" at Malacañang to receive his well-wishers tomorrow morning.

The President this evening issued the following statement on the eve of his 62nd birthday:

"I wish to acknowledge with grateful appreciation the numerous messages of felicitation which I have received from our people throughout the country on the occasion of my birthday. I am deeply moved by these expressions of good wishes; they have given me comfort and fresh sources of inspiration.

"The task of making our country truly free, prosperous, and happy is great and arduous indeed. It cannot be accomplished by 'working at cross purposes, by mutual suspicions and recriminations. It needs sincerity of purpose, cooperation, and the hardening of our sinews and our spirits. I am confident that, in spite of clashes of opinion and misconception of motives, we will move steadily onward.

“I look forward, therefore, with hope and renewed enthusiasm to the years ahead, confident that, with the blessings of the Divine Guidance, all of us, in whatever walk of life we may be, will work together in a united effort to achieve earlier, prosperity for our country.”

November 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up early this morning and started his 62nd birthday anniversary with a 30-minute meditation.

The first to greet the President this morning were his daughter, Linda, and son-in-law, Fernando Campos, who extended their greetings during a 15-minute conversation via radiophone from the United States.

Shortly after, he confessed to Fr. Domingo Niebres. At eight o'clock he went down with Mrs. Garcia to hear a pontifical mass sung by Msgr. Vicente Reyes, auxiliary bishop of Manila, who represented Archbishop Rufino Santos.

The little chapel was filled to overflowing with members of the Cabinet and their ladies, Malacañang officials, and close friends of the family who came early to greet the Chief Executive.

Members of the Cabinet who were on hand to extend their felicitations to the President were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Defense Secretary and Mrs. Jesus Vargas, Executive Secretary and Mrs. Juan C. Pajo, and Health Secretary and Mrs. Elpidio Valencia.

Relatives present at the early morning mass were Mr. and Mrs. Moises Ramos, Opon Mayor Mariano Dimataga, and Mr. and Mrs. Nino T. Ramirez.

Others present were Msgr. Rufino Santos, Cebu Gov. Jose Briones, Mrs. Jose Aldeguer, Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas, Col. Godofredo Magallanes, Col. Geminiano Yabut, and Highway District Engineer Vicente Cabrera of Cagayan de Oro City.

As soon as the President and the First Lady entered the Palace lobby from the chapel, the Presidential Guard Battalion band played the song *Happy Birthday* and followed it with Tirso Cruz' popular Philippine theme song, *Mabuhay*.

After acknowledging the greetings of well-wishers, President Garcia, the First Lady, and their guests went upstairs to the family dining room where breakfast was served.

After breakfast, the President retired to his bedroom for a brief rest. While he was resting, Senator Claro M. Recto arrived to extend his personal greetings to the Chief Executive.

At 10:05 a.m., President and Mrs. Garcia proceeded to the reception hall to await the arrival of Philippine government officials and members of the diplomatic corps who were coming to felicitate the President on his 62nd birthday.

The first well-wishers went up the Palace stairs at 10:10 a.m. They were Acting Senate President Fernando Lopez and Senators Cipriano Primicias and Reseller Lim.

At 10:25 a.m., members of the diplomatic corps, led by Apostolic Nuncio Egidio Vagnozzi, went up the Palace stairs to greet the Chief Executive. They were introduced by Pedro Angara Aragon, protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The President and the First Lady took time out from their reception chores and joined the diplomatic corps in the State dining room where glasses were raised in a toast led by the dean of the diplomatic corps, His Excellency, Msgr. Egidio Vagnozzi, for the continued good health of President Garcia.

Basi, the ceremonial wine of Malacañang, was used during the occasion, but the women took pineapple juice.

After the toasts, President Garcia and the First Lady returned to the reception hall and continued receiving government officials and people from all walks of life until noon.

At the stroke of twelve o'clock, the President administered the oaths to newly-appointed Brigadier Generals Oscar Rialp and Manuel Flores. Gen. Rialp is the commanding general of the first military area, while General Flores is the commandant of this Philippine Military Academy in Baguio.

After the oath-taking ceremony, Mrs. Betty Rialp and Mrs. Yvonne Flores removed the colonel's insignias from the shoulder pads on their respective husbands' white duck uniforms and then pinned on, with the assistance of President Garcia, their husbands' one-star, indicative of their new rank.

President and Mrs. Garcia then retired to their respective bedrooms to take a much-needed respite and prepare for lunch.

Other highlights at this morning's "at home" affair were:

Among those who felicitated President Garcia on his natal day today was a 28-year-old cripple, Dominador M. Carriaga, of San Juan, Rizal, who is employed as an assistant statistician in the Social Welfare Administration;

Members of the *Bayanihan* troupe of the Philippine Women's University also greeted the President and pinned on him and the First Lady a commemorative pin of the Brussels International Fair where they had performed;

Officers and members of the Philippine Law School Alumni Association, Alma Mater of President Garcia, presented to him a resolution of the association felicitating him on his birthday; and Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal was conspicuously absent during the reception ceremonies.

A continuous stream of congratulatory wires and letters kept pouring into Malacañang today. Among those received were from Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay, Sen. and Mrs. Mariano J. Cuenco, Archbishop Jose Maria Cuenco of Iloilo, Auditor General and Mrs. Pedro M. Gimenez, Marcelo Balatbat, Fisheries Director and Mrs. Heracleo Montalban, Civil Service Commissioner Amado del Rosario, Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, and Gov. and Mrs. Bienvenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur.

President Garcia this morning also dispatched, a radiogram to Pope John XXIII congratulating him on his coronation today as the 262nd Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church.

THIS afternoon the President was honored by the Armed Forces of the Philippines with a testimonial parade and review at Camp Murphy, Quezon City, on the occasion of his 62nd birthday.

The traditional testimonial review was originally set for last July 3, but owing to the tight schedule of the President who arrived on the same day from a state visit to the United States, it had been postponed to coincide with his birthday.

The President's speech lasted about five minutes. He was introduced by Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano.

A composite division, which included cadets of the Philippine Military Academy, marched in review before the President. Members of diplomatic corps, Congress, Cabinet, judiciary, veterans organizations, and high ranking AFP officers were present at the occasion.

Other units of the composite division were made up from the Presidential Guard Battalion, Philippine Army, Philippine Air Force, Philippine Navy, and the school for reserve commission.

The GHQ band under the baton of Lt. Col. Laureano Cariho made a hit when, in passing before the grandstand, it played *For He's a Jolly Good Fellow* and *Good Luck, Good Health, God Bless You*.

At the end of the review, the band again played *Happy Birthday* which everybody sang.

After the review, President Garcia was honored at the Officers' Clubhouse with cocktails. However, President Garcia, upon hearing that one of the Sabrejet planes that participated in the review had crashed, left Camp Murphy to visit the crash scene.

After trying vainly to locate the crash scene, President Garcia proceeded to the Sto. Domingo Church to attend the pontifical low mass and a solemn *Te Deum* to celebrate the coronation of His Holiness, Pope John XXIII. The President received holy communion.

From the Sto. Domingo Church, President Garcia returned to Malacañang to receive members of the Malacañang Newspapermen's Association.

In his brief speech at the testimonial parade and review, the President exhorted the Armed Forces to have "the people's trust and confidence."

He also urged them to "harden your muscles, strengthen your will, and above all discipline your heart and mind."

Significantly, President Garcia, in the course of his speech, reiterated his faith and confidence in the officers and men of the Armed Forces and in their leaders,

"I wish to assure you of my own faith and confidence in you and in your leaders and in your ability to carry out any mission assigned to you by our people," the President said.

The President's speech followed a strong, protestation of loyalty voiced by Lt. Alfonso Arellano, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, who branded the coup *d'état* reports as "baseless rumors and loose talk."

Arellano, in a challenging speech, accused those who started the *coup* talks as the "the same irresponsible and self-seeking persons who have lately been fanning the flames of confusion to sabotage the people's faith in the Filipino soldier."

The President paid tribute to the Filipino soldier who, he said, "has never failed his country and his people, that in the bitterest crisis he has come out with flying colors."

He pointed out that as commander-in-chief he reassured the people that the Armed Forces will forever keep faith with them; "that they will never betray the trust which you have reposed in them."

He said he is certain the Armed Forces will continue to remain the "defender of the weak, our bulwark against oppression, and the custodian of our hard-won liberties. There is no doubt about the loyalty of these men to our country," he added.

He pointed out that the need of the hour is unity and solidarity.

"We cannot allow divisive forces to rend our people asunder," he said.

He, however, reiterated his faith and confidence in the Army and "your leaders and in your ability to carry out any mission assigned to you by our people."

President Garcia, in an interview with newsmen, said the loyalty pledge of the Army was the “best gift” he had received on his 62nd birthday yesterday.

He said that a group of “young captains” had initiated the plot to overthrow the government through military action.

However, he considered the matter a “closed case.” He said a military coup will never succeed in the Philippines, as the “Army cliques could not get along together and stage a successful *coup d’etat*.”

President Garcia this afternoon extended executive clemency to 95 prisoners on the occasion of his 62nd birthday today.

In considering the petitions for clemency, the President took into consideration the number of years the prisoners had served. Out of 94 pardoned, over 60 had served 15 years or more of their sentences.

November 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia went to the Nichols Air Base this morning to view the remains of 2nd Lt. Luis C. Gatmaitan now lying in state at the PAF chapel there and to comfort his bereaved parents, Judge and Mrs. Magno S. Gatmaitan of the Manila court of first instance.

Earlier, he conferred with General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, who gave him a verbal report on the results of his mission abroad.

Almendras said President Garcia had agreed in principle with his proposal to purchase printing equipment worth \$800,000 so that the printing of paper money of low denominations could be done here.

Secretary Almendras revealed that the government spends \$600,000 annually for the printing of paper money of 5-, 10-, 20-, and 50-centavo denominations. He said it would mean large savings for our government if the printing could be done locally.

Almendras said he was going to consult officials of the Central Bank on this matter in order to expedite the purchase of the necessary equipment and materials.

Upon reaching the PAF chapel, President Garcia went straight to Judge and Mrs. Gatmaitan to express his personal condolence.

After offering a brief prayer before the flag-draped casket of the 21-year old jet pilot, the President talked with some old friends he found at the chapel.

He was escorted out of the chapel by Col. Manecio Reventar, chief of air staff, PAF.

From Nichols Air Base, President Garcia proceeded to an undisclosed place to seek quiet and rest after a busy day occasioned by his birthday celebration. He took along with him some pending state papers for study.

THIS EVENING the President received Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera and discussed the jailbreak staged by 18 hardened criminals at the New Bilibid Prison in Muntinlupa, Rizal.

The President was disturbed by the jailbreaks at the national penitentiary.

Upon recommendation of Barrera, the President suspended Director of Prisons Alfredo M. Bunye and Assistant Director Eriberto B. Misa, Jr.

The President also conferred with Col. Nicanor T. Jimenez, chief of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency. The President was briefed on the conditions obtaining in the country.

November 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia received Minister Sardon Bin Haji Jubir, minister for works, posts, and telecommunications of the Federation of Malaya, who paid a courtesy call this morning at Malacañang.

Minister Sardon, who was dressed in the colorful native costume of his country, presented a book about Malaya to the President.

The Malayan Cabinet member is the first recipient of a travel grant from the Magsaysay Foundation and, during his two-week stay in the Philippines, he will visit different places of interest all over the country. Russel G. Smith, executive vice-president of the Bank of America, also paid a courtesy Call on President Garcia. Accompanying him were CB Gov. Miguel Cuaderno and D. A. Ten Grotenhuis, manager of the local branch of the bank.

Governors and mayors from the Bicol provinces seeking releases from the President's contingent funds for the repair and reconstruction of roads, bridges, schools, and other public works projects, damaged by typhoons *Kathy* and *Lorna* comprised the rest of this morning's callers.

Albay Governor N. Maronilla-Seva, with a delegation composed of members of the provincial board, mayors, and other officials of his province, submitted a report of damages caused by the two recent typhoons and requested President Garcia to allocate the amount of ₱500,000 from his contingent funds for Albay.

He also asked the Chief Executive to intercede with the National Power Corporation in behalf of his province for the harnessing of the Malinao River and the construction of a hydroelectric plant to supply the electrical and power needs of Albay.

Others who saw the President this morning and asked for financial assistance were:

Gov. Esmeraldo Eco of Camarines Norte—₱500,000 from the President's contingent fund;

Mayor Marciano Linis of Luis Panganiban, Camarines Norte—₱30,000 from the President's contingent fund and ₱50,000 from the ports and harbors appropriations for the completion of the breakwater in his municipality;

Tarlac Gov. Arsenio Lugay—₱60,000 for improvements in his province;

Gov. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga—₱80,000 for various public works projects;

Zambales Gov. Mariano Barretto and Mayor Jose B. Pastor of Cabangan— ₱35,000 for the construction of an irrigation project in Cabangan, Zambales; and

Capiz Gov. Jose Dinglasan—₱200,000 financial aid from the President's contingent funds. He told President Garcia that five towns in his province had been under water for from three to seven days and considerable damage had been wrought by typhoon *Kathy* to the rice crop and public works in the province.

Gov. Dominador Chipeco of Laguna led two delegations to see the President. The first was composed of residents of San Pablo City who requested the Chief Executive to direct the Land Tenure Administration to expropriate the Azores hacienda for resale to occupants at cost while the second, made up of farmers, asked the President to order the expropriation of a large tract of land in San Pedro Tunasan.

The President today directed Budget Commissioner Dominador R. Aytona to release the sum of 1100,000 as aid to the Music Promotion Foundation of the Philippines.

The President directed Commissioner Aytona to release the sum upon request of the chairman of the MPFP who called the attention of the President to the said plight of the music scholars and trainees abroad and at the U. P. Conservatory of Music, as well, as the personnel of the foundation.

In her appeal to the President, Miss Fuentes submitted to the Chief Executive, through Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, a statement of the obligations that the foundation has to meet, as well as editorial clippings from various newspapers and magazines and a list of its achievements.

The release of the amount of ₱100,000 is specifically authorized under Republic Act No. 2086, which was unanimously passed by both Houses of Congress last June, on the strength of the Chief Executive's certification to its importance and urgency.

Republic Act No. 2086 appropriates annually out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of ₱100,000 as aid of the government to the Music Promotion Foundation in the prosecution of the objectives of the foundation.

President Garcia this day gave positive assurance that tourists visiting the Philippines would be accorded "utmost courtesy and expeditious clearance" in Philippine harbors and airports.

"There shall be no frisking of visiting tourists nor harassing enforcement of customs laws," the President said. "On the other hand, we will strive to so relax existing regulations further as to make it easy and pleasant for tourists to come to our shores and render their sojourn a satisfying experience."

The Cabinet Executive expressed regret that efforts to bring about an efficient enforcement of customs regulations were being misrepresented in irresponsible quarters to create the impression that foreign visitors and tourists were now being subjected to unnecessary searches and harassments.

"This is an injustice that I cannot tolerate, and I wish to warn against misrepresentations that can only do us unnecessary harm," the President said.

November 7.— ALL APPOINTMENTS and engagements scheduled for this morning were ordered cancelled by President Garcia to give him time to study important state papers and to prepare for this afternoon's regular Cabinet session and tomorrow's breakfast conference with the Council of Leaders.

Earlier, he had ordered the release for publication of the names of three more prisoners who were granted absolute pardon on his birthday last Tuesday, November 4. The prisoners are Rufino Tomaneng y Corpus, Patrocinio Gonzaga, and Aurelio Pacis.

President Garcia signed the appointments of the following: Eligio Herrera, member of the NASSCO board of directors; David Manipula, senior officer of the Reparations Mission in Tokyo; and Col. Vicente O. Tiongson, member of the GSIS board of trustees.

President Garcia signed today Proclamation No. 542 extending the 1958 national fund-raising and educational drive of the Philippine Tuberculosis Society to December 31, 1958.

In extending the society's fund raising campaign up to the end of the year, the President took cognizance of the vital role the society is playing in the country's fight against tuberculosis.

In a previous proclamation, the President had authorized the society to launch a fund-raising and educational drive from August 19 to September 30, 1958. However, the period expired without the society having achieved its goal of ₱600,000. The President, therefore, extended the period up to the end of the year so as not impair the activities of the society.

The President also proclaimed today the fourth week of November, 1958, as Business and Professional Women's Week.

The President issued the proclamation in cognizance of the important role being played by business and professional women in the promotion of the economic and social welfare of the country.

In proclaiming Business and Professional Women's Week, the President called upon all citizens and residents of the Philippines, irrespective of creed or nationality, to cooperate in the proper observance of this week to bring to the attention of the people the important contributions of business and professional women to the economic development of the country, as well as to their problems as homemakers and earners at the same time.

PRESIDENT Garcia received the painting showing the facilities of the proposed Mactan airport from Rear Admiral W. B. Short, director, Pacific Division, Bureau of Yards and Docks, U. S. Navy, when, the latter paid a courtesy call this afternoon at Malacañang.

The Mactan airport will cost an estimated ₱15 million when completed and will be an auxiliary international airport, second only to the Manila international airport. It will be capable of handling both civilian as well as military jet planes.

In presenting the painting to the President, Admiral Short said "he hoped that the painting will be a symbol of cooperation," and offered the assistance of the organization he heads in any construction project of the Philippine Government where its services may be needed.

President Garcia thanked Admiral Short for the painting and said he is proud that Filipino contractors are earning a name for themselves and their country in their chosen field.

Admiral Short was accompanied by Commander W. R. Yankey, USN, resident officer in charge of construction in the Philippines; Col. Benjamin Mata, chief of the Corps of Engineers, AFP; Edmundo Escobar, president of the Philippine Contractors Association; Lt. Col. Paul Vickers, JUSMAG engineering adviser; Domingo Poblete, vice-president of the Asian and Western Pacific Contractors Federation; and Lt. Commander Richard Williams, aide to Admiral Short.

President Garcia also received Al Valencia, director of the Philippine Information Agency in Washington, D.C., who came for final instructions prior to his return to his post this Sunday.

The Chief Executive then proceeded to meet the press at his regular weekly radio and press conference. After the press conference, the President proceeded to the Cabinet to preside over the Cabinet meeting.

THE PRESIDENT indicated this afternoon he will take action against the officers of the Armed Forces who had plotted to stage a *coup d'etat*.

At his press conference today, the President said he will confer shortly with Armed Forces brass and assess the evidence gathered in connection with the reported plan of the military to wrest control of the government.

While he earlier sought to discourage talks of a *coup d'etat*, President Garcia finally admitted he will review the evidence gathered so far and decide what course of action to take against those who participated in the abortive coup.

Asked if he would invoke command responsibility for the *coup* plan President Garcia said, "I will decide that during the investigation of the preliminary matters connected with the plot."

Earlier during the press conference, the President sought to discourage questions on the coup, saying he had considered the matter a "closed case."

"I want to discourage talks of a *coup d'etat*," the President stressed. He said that talks of a *coup d'etat* were disturbing the line of thinking of the people."

At the press conference, the President:

1. Said that he favored the exportation of rice through barter if the harvest this year would show that there is an excess in local production;
2. Refused to comment on reports that Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco may run for reelection under the Nacionalista Party next year;
3. Denied reports he was planning to relieve Commissioner of Immigration Emilio L. Galang;
4. Said he will release shortly his decision on the controversial importation of additional Virginia leaf tobacco from the United States to fill up a supposed shortage in the stocks needed by legitimate cigarette manufacturers; and
5. Denied reports of plans to open diplomatic relations with Russia.

Asked to comment on the disclosure of Rep. Salipada Pendatun that colonels were in the *coup d'etat* plot, the President said Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz chief of the Constabulary, had contacted Pendatun on the evidence he has in his possession.

He said that he has not been informed of the development of the case.

However, the President intimated that he would confer shortly with the Army brass and help evaluate the evidence.

He said he would go over the preliminary evidence by the Armed Forces which would serve as the basis for the action he would take against the plotters.

"I cannot anticipate now what action or degree of action I would take until I have been apprised of the evidence," the President told newsmen who inquired as to what steps he would take against those who participated in the *coup* plan.

At the same time, the President denied he will take up with the Council of Leaders the coup plot.

THE CABINET discussed extensively this evening measures to maintain the government price support of ₱11 per cavan in the purchase of palay by the National Rice and Corn Corporation as an incentive to farmers to increase their production.

The President decided to consult members of his Cabinet on ways and means to maintain the government price support, as the bumper crop may tend to bring down the cost of palay.

President Garcia was alarmed by reports that the price of palay has gone down owing to the increased harvest this year.

However, Malacañang said no definite decision was reached as the discussions were merely exploratory.

Jose Drillon, assistant Naric manager, was summoned to the Cabinet meeting to brief the members of the body on the financial condition of the government rice agency.

The Cabinet also approved a plan to amend the regulations promulgated recently by the Wage and Position Classification Office to correct inequities resulting from the promotions of some government employees.

Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona recommended a plan to amend the WAPCO regulations following complaints from several employees who* have protested against the alleged injustice in the implementation of WAPCO rules.

Malacañang explained that among the inequities cited were that a government official promoted to a higher position is required to receive the minimum salary for his new post first. It was explained that the minimum wage in his new post may sometimes be lower than the scale of salary he is actually getting from his former position.

Aytona said that under the new plan a government official promoted to a higher position will not receive a salary less in pay than his former job.

November 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia met with members of the Council of Leaders this morning at a breakfast conference at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

Present at the conference were Acting Senate President Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castafieda, and Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

The conferees closeted themselves for almost three hours, but no details were available as to the subjects discussed. It was however intimated that they talked about party matters in view of the approaching return of Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., from abroad.

After the conference which lasted until noon, President Garcia received Vice-Mayor Rafael Gurbuxani of Ozamiz City and Tudela Mayor Gregorio Gamotin and Tangub Mayor Alfonso Tan, both of Misamis Occidental. They were accompanied by Rep. William Chiongbian of the same province.

In the afternoon, the President worked on pending state papers. He also received former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., who has been mentioned as possible secretary of justice in the event Secretary Jesus G. Barrera is appointed to the Supreme Court to fill a vacancy.

President Garcia today signed an executive order relaxing and liberalizing WAPCO rules and regulations, particularly those governing salary increases and promotions of government employees.

The President issued the order following receipt by the Budget Commission of numerous complaints and criticisms from government officials and employees who felt prejudiced by the implementation of the WAPCO Position Classification and Pay Plans.

Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, who had recommended the liberalization of the WAPCO rules, informed the President that his office had experienced difficulties and encountered problems in the implementation of the WAPCO Position Classification and Pay Plans and in the enforcement of rules and regulations issued for the purpose, owing to certain circumstances, among which were:

1. The failure of Congress to authorize the second partial adjustment of 35 per cent which was included in the President's budget for the current

fiscal year.

2. The prohibition against reclassification of positions, and consequent modification of salary ranges by WAPCO during this fiscal year which was inserted by Congress in the item authorizing the Salary Standardization Fund.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: November 9-15, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took steps to boost further his program of increased rice production by creating teams headed by Malacañang technical assistants that will spread out to the provinces to propagate improved methods of rice production.

Spurred by consistent reports of a bumper crop expected this harvest year owing to stimulation provided by the Administration to rice producers, particularly the small farmers, the President expressed his determination to improve this year's rice production in succeeding years.

The President reiterated that barring typhoons, floods, and other unforeseen natural calamities, the country might realize this year its dream of self-sufficiency in rice, a goal which previous administrations had consistently sought to achieve.

Called the Malacañang Rice Production Teams, the task forces of trained personnel will stump the provinces. Their composition will vary according to the nature and sizes of the regions assigned to them. Their itineraries will include the remotest farm areas so that the most ignorant farmer could be indoctrinated with improved methods of rice culture.

Every member of the teams will be armed with letters of introduction to provincial governors seeking the cooperation of local officials in their assigned mission. Rural agriculturists will also be directed to assist the Malacañang task forces sent to their respective districts.

The work of the various teams will be coordinated by a Malacañang rice production office under the direct supervision of Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and headed by Eugenio Margate, the Zamboanga farmer who discovered an improved system of rice cultivation.

A two-week seminar has recently been held for the benefit of the Malacañang task forces in the Margate method of rice planting preparatory to their being sent out to the field to intensify the implementation of President Garcia's program of achieving self-sufficiency in food.

President Garcia spent his Sunday quietly at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He did not receive any caller. He devoted much of his time going over pending state papers which he had taken along from Malacañang the day before.

The President started the day by hearing mass said at his residence living room where an improvised altar had been set up. After breakfast with the First Lady, the President spent some time in his study going over the Sunday morning papers. He also heard broadcasts of news commentators over the radio.

The Chief Executive started working on a pile of state papers shortly after 10 a.m.

After lunch with Mrs. Garcia and a brief rest in the early afternoon, the President again repaired to his study where he resumed working on state papers until the evening.

November 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today accepted the formal invitation extended to him by Japanese Emperor Hirohito to visit Japan in December this year.

The President's acceptance was made during his conference this morning with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who called at the President's Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. Secretary Serrano personally delivered the Emperor's invitation to the President.

At the same conference the President also approved an itinerary jointly prepared by the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo and the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

Meanwhile the Chief Executive started drawing up a list of officials composing his official entourage on his state visit to Japan. The list will be released soon.

Other callers this morning at the President's home were Jose Rodriguez and Jose Panganiban, board chairman and general manager, respectively, of the National Development Company, who called to receive final instructions prior to their departure for Germany on the invitation of the German Government.

The NDC officials will visit German ship-building facilities with the end in view of looking into the offer made by the German Government to build ocean-going ships for the Philippines in implementation of Republic Act No. 1407, which provides for the expansion of Philippine overseas shipping and appropriates ₱100 million over a five-year period for the purpose.

In the afternoon the President received Frederick W. Rys, vice-president and manager of Koppers, Co., Inc., Pittsburgh; and M. F. Scherr, manager, estimating, engineering, and construction division of the same company. They were accompanied by NASSCO Board Chairman Ulpiano Sarmiento; Directors Eligio Herrera, Larry Henares and Commodore Jose Francisco; Sergio Reyes and Jose Amante, technical consultants.

Rys and Scherr are in the country to look into the feasibility of granting the \$74 million loan requested by the Philippine Government for the purchase of machinery and equipment for the integrated steel plant proposed to be set up in the country.

President Garcia also received this afternoon at his Bohol Avenue residence Juan J. Carlos, chairman of the Manila Railroad board, who reported on the result of his mission as delegate of the MRR to the International Railway Congress held recently in Madrid.

He also invited the President to lay the cornerstone of the MRR hospital in Caloocan on November 23.

President Garcia also received William P. Brady, president of the Corn Products Refining Company of New York, and Winstanley Briggs, director of Far East Operation of the same company, who came to pay a courtesy call at the President's residence on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City.

They were accompanied by George A. Wegwitz of Connel Bros., the Philippine representative of the Corn Products Refining Co.

Sergio M. Aguirre, publisher of medical magazines, accompanied Dr. Karl Winnacker, president of the Hoechst Dye Stuff and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company and member of the International Atomic Organization, and Dr. Otto Hern, director, and G. Bunge, M.D., scientific counsellor, when they paid a courtesy call on President Garcia.

Manuel Elizalde saw the President about the Sibuguey Iron Mines in Zamboanga del Sur, which is owned by the Elizalde y Cia. He told the President that his company is willing to feed the integrated steel plant of the NASSCO all the iron ore they can use in order to develop more quickly the iron industry in the Philippines and to help the nation's economy.

The Sibuguey Iron Mines, Mr. Elizalde told President Garcia, produces annually 600,000 tons of high-grade iron ore, while the NASSCO steel plant has a capacity of only 300,000 tons annually.

Mr. Elizalde was accompanied by Capt. Hilarion Benedicto of the, Elizalde y Cia.

The President directed Labor Secretary Angel Castaño to investigate and render a complete report on the complaint of abuse against labor in the Santa Cecilia Sawmill in Tagcawayan, Quezon. The information received by the

President mentioned the following: (1) violation of the Mini-mum Wage Law; and (2) the issuance of “chits” and profiteering in the company canteen.

President Garcia expressed concern over the report in his conversation with. Castaño.

President Garcia sent today a message to King Norodom Suramarit of Cambodia’ congratulating him on the occasion of the anniversary of Cambodian independence.

November 12.—THE PRESIDENT transmitted today to the Department of National Defense for implementation the recommendation of Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, for the court martial of of two Army captains for supposed “indiscretion” in the premises of Malacañang.

Arellano had submitted last Saturday the findings of the preliminary investigation conducted by AFP authorities on the two erring officers and recommended their court martial.

President Garcia stated that he would act on the matter only after the court martial proceedings, if both officers were found guilty of the charges to be presented against them.

According to the recommendation of Arellano, Capt. Emilio Domingo will be charged for conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline.

In the case of Capt. Alfaro, Gen. Arellano had stated that there was lack of evidence to support a charge of conduct unbecoming an officer.

Meanwhile, President Garcia received members of Congress this morning, after receiving the report of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno regarding the financing of important public works, like the Manila International Airport, and the improvement of the Manila harbor.

Three Samar solons, Eladio Balite, Felipe Yancha, and Valeriano Abrigo conferred with President Garcia regarding the fire that broke out in the center of Allen, Samar, last November 3 razing the town hall and the public market.

Upon representations made by the Samar Solons, President Garcia directed Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to release the amount needed for the reconstruction of the two public buildings from his contingent funds.

Rep. Ricardo Yap Ladrado of Iloilo reported to the President his observations on his investigation of the situation obtaining in the Philippine General Hospital. Ladrado informed the President that the PGH director, Dr. Florencio Quintos, will retire from the government service next month.

Rep. Laurentino LI. Badelles and Iligan City Mayor Mariano Badelles saw President Garcia to ask for aid in the reconstruction of the Tambacan Elementary School in Iligan City that was destroyed by a tornado last October 15 after school hours.

Other callers included Reps. Salvador Encinas and Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Francisco Sumulong of Rizal, Jose Leido of Mindoro Oriental, and Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental who was accompanied by Cagayan de Oro City Mayor Osmundo Waga; Mayors Manuel Varquez and Sixto Abao, former Gov. Pedro Baculio, Marino Avancefia, Capt. Martiniano Chavez, Alex Velez, and Vidal Magto.

The President received callers at his study in Malacaflang continuously from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia also directed today National Treasurer Vicente G. Gella to submit his answer to the 8-point charge filed against him by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez under the over-all heading of “grave misconduct in office and conduct highly prejudicial to the interest of the service.”

The 8-point charge as contained in a complaint submitted to the President by Secretary Hernandez follows:

1. That Treasurer Gella had issued Philippine National Bank checks in payment of backpay claims involving millions of pesos without sufficient funds either at the PNB, the Central Bank, or the national treasury;
2. That as a result of such “indiscriminate and irregular” issuance of PNB checks, many of the checks amounting to ₱1,370,600.06 had been paid to claimants by provincial treasurers and postmasters, but were subsequently dishonored when remitted to the PNB for lack of necessary deposit; 3. That Gella, instead of providing the PNB with sufficient funds to cover the dishonored backpay checks, kept the dishonored checks as “cash items” in the treasury vaults in violation of General Auditing Office’s rules and regulations;
4. That notwithstanding the fact that the backpay checks were already dishonored by the PNB for lack of funds, Gella, despite repeated letters of the auditor general instructing him to stop the improper practice, continued to issue similar checks involving considerable amounts without sufficient funds, thereby placing the government in an embarrassing position and subjecting it to criticism by the public;
5. That checks amounting to ₱1,370,600.06 already paid to claimants by the provincial treasurers and postmasters and those cashed directly at the Bureau of Treasury in Manila had been authorized by the national treasurer to be charged and debited against the demand deposit of the National Treasury with the Central Bank, notwithstanding the fact that said demand deposit did not constitute the appropriate fund for the payment of backpay claims;
6. That the national treasurer issued treasury warrants in payment of backpay claims against the backpay sinking fund in the national treasury in excess of available cash balance in said sinking fund, resulting in overdrawing to the extent of ₱1,725,441.26;
7. That respondent Gella never kept in- the Bureau of Treasury or elsewhere an accurate, reliable, and up-to-date record of backpay depository account nor of the checks draw and disbursements made against said backpay depository account in the PNB.
8. That notwithstanding existing regulations and policy to give preference to the very numerous small claims (not more than ₱2,000.00 each) in paying backpay claimants, the respondent had issued checks and made payments to claimants of big amount (over ₱10,000.00 each) in preference over many unsatisfied and pressing small claims,

Secretary Hernandez, in his complaint also recommended: (1) That the National Treasury, after due hearing, be separated from the public service for cause; (2) that pending investigation of the complaint, the respondent be placed under preventive suspension; and (3) that the secretary of justice be requested to look into the violation of the Revised Penal Code “for such appropriate action as the facts and circumstances would warrant and justify.

THE President today sent a message of felicitation to King Gustav of Sweden on the occasion of the latter’s birthday.

THE PRESIDENT this evening signed the *ad interim* appointments of five provincial and municipal officials.

Appointed were Placido L. Lumbay as provincial assessor of Zambaonga del Sur; Jose Escalona as justice of the peace of La Paz, Tarlac; Marcelino Bueno as justice of the peace of Sitangkai and Sibutu, Sulu; Manuel de la Cruz as justice of the peace of Sto. Domingo, Nueva Ecija; and Cesar Paras as auxiliary justice of the peace of Angeles, Pampanga.

November 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning conferred with senators whom he consulted on various pressing problems of state. They also discussed party matters.

Also at the conference were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez and Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez.

In the Course of the conference which started about 9 a.m. and lasted until noon, the President enlisted the assistance of the lawmakers in the campaign for increased food production.

The President said that senators and congressmen, through speeches and press statements, could do much in the provinces in encouraging the people, particularly the farmers, to continue increasing their rice and corn production.

Those present at the conference were acting Senate President Fernando Lopez, Sens. Francisco Rodrigo, Roseller Lim, Emmanuel Pelaez, Pedro Sabido, Alejo Mabanag, Domocao Alonto, Quintin Paredes, and Edmundo Cea. PRESIDENT Garcia disturbed by reports that No. 3 Huk leader Alfredo B. Saulo had successfully sought political asylum at the Indonesian Embassy in Manila, conferred this afternoon with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano and Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas.

The President took up with the two Cabinet officials possible government action in an effort to bring the wanted Pluk leader before the courts and face charges of rebellion.

No official statement was issued by Malacañang except the fact that the President and the two Cabinet members conferred on the Saulo case. Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the President was briefed completely on the developments of the Saulo case.

The President also met the members of his Cabinet this afternoon.

During the Cabinet meeting, the President read his written decision rejecting the bid of cigarette manufacturers to import Virginia leaf tobacco to fill up a supposed shortage of about two million kilos.

The President denied today the application of the Yuhangco Company, Inc., to import two million kilos of Virginia-type leaf tobacco on a no-dollar remittance basis.

In explaining his decision to deny the proposed importation at the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet this afternoon, the President said he had taken into consideration the interest of both the tobacco growers and the cigarette manufacturers.

The President said that his decision had hinged mainly on the question of whether or not there was a shortage for the present fiscal year of locally produced Virginia-type leaf tobacco. He said his findings showed that there did not exist such sufficient amount of shortage as to justify the importation applied for.

He pointed out that, under existing laws, the authority to import might be granted by the President "only to the extent necessary to cover the shortage in the local production of said tobacco so as to maintain the manufacture in this country of tobacco products at a level sufficient to produce not less than the quantity manufactured in the preceding year."

The Chief Executive further explained that the shortage should be certified by the commissioner of internal revenue and reported to the President by the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration (ACCFA) on the basis of such certification.

Regarding the fears expressed by labor representatives that denial of the proposed importation might cause a shortage of raw materials in cigarette factories and throw out of work hundreds of factory workers, the President assured Labor Secretary Angel Castaño that the ACCFA had guaranteed that all cigarette manufacturers could now purchase from the stock of Harry Stonehill at only ten per cent above procurement cost to insure continuous work for these workers.

November 13.—HIS MORNING President Garcia discussed with top officials of the NARIC, ACCFA, and government financial institutions the incentives to be given farmers to enable them to continue producing more rice and corn.

The President took up with them the corn and palay procurement program as well as the food production campaign of the Administration.

During a conference in Malacañang, President Garcia created a committee that will determine the floor prices for palay and corn, as well as the financing requirements of the procurement program.

The committee is composed of Natural Resources Undersecretary Amando Dalisay, chairman, Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, ACCFA Assistant Administrator Francisco Sakay, NARIC Assistant General Manager Jose Drilon, Mario Moreno, and Mrs. Remedios Fortich.

President Garcia gave the committee 48 hours to submit its report so that the government could promptly start to purchase cereals at floor prices for stabilization purposes. The President was informed by ACCFA Administrator Ernesto Jimenez that the food production campaign of the Administration has started to show results.

Jimenez stated that the construction of irrigation systems and the distribution of fertilizer and selected seeds to farmers had contributed a great deal in spurring the food production campaign.

President Garcia brought up for discussion some problems that will come up with the expected bumper crop this year, like the slump in price that will seriously affect the farmers.

While the government should protect the consumers by establishing a ceiling price of ₱0.85 a ganta for the ordinary variety of rice, the farmers have need for price support to encourage them to continue planting at a profit, the President stressed.

The conferees also took up the fertilizer problem and the plan of the NARIC to export corn as consumers' goods.

The NARIC has an excess stock of 30,000 tons of corn worth \$2.4 million which it plans to export to Japan.

Jimenez proposed that the excess corn be bartered with fertilizers, sprayers, tractors, and agricultural implements for the food production campaign.

With respect to the corn procurement campaign of the NARIC, Gen. Leoncio Tan, general manager of the state firm, informed President Garcia that the NARIC is now buying corn direct from the farmers and that it is concentrating its campaign in Mindanao.

Those present at the conference were Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, PNB President Eduardo Z. Romualdez, DBF Chairman Gregorio Licaros, ACCFA Administrator Ernesto Jimenez and his assistant Dr. Francisco Sakay, NARIC Board Chairman Juan O. Chioco, NARIC General Manager Leoncio Tan and his assistant Jose Drilon, R. B. de los Reyes of the PNB, Augusto Espiritu of the Central Bank, and Benjamin R. Labayan of the ACCFA.

After the conference, President Garcia received Govs. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, Juan Trivino of Camarines Sur, Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Diego Ty Deling of Misamis Occidental, and Jose Cadiao of Antique. The provincial executives called at Malacañang to consult him on problems of their respective localities.

THE President directed Labor Secretary Angel Castaño today to expedite the investigation of complaints lodged by workers against the Sta. Cecilia Sawmill Company in Tagkawayan, Quezon, and to see to it that the workers were paid their just wages.

On orders from the President, Secretary Castaño had dispatched labor investigators to Quezon province to look into the complaints of the sawmill workers involving gross violation of the minimum wage law, such as nonpayment of wages on time and payment of wages in the form of "chits" which could only be exchanged with goods sold in the company stores at exorbitant prices.

Secretary Castaño reported to the President today that he had given the sawmill until November 22 within which to pay the back wages of its workers totalling about ₱100,000. Castaño said he would prosecute the company owners in court if they failed to satisfy the legitimate demands of their workers.

Meanwhile, President Garcia sent a message of congratulations to Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, 2nd MA commanding general and 2nd PC Zone commander, congratulating him and his men for the successful rescue of the boy, Rogelio Malihan, and the arrest of the boy's kidnappers.

In a wire dispatched to the PC Zone headquarters in Canlubang, Laguna, the President said: "Congratulations to you and your boys on the successful rescue of Rogelio Malihan and the arrest of his kidnappers. Continue with the good work." Malacañang announced today that Porfirio Sevilla is no longer connected with the Office of the President. Sevilla had been a technical assistant in Malacañang with a compensation of ₱1 a year, but his services was terminated last October 14 in line with President's policy of dismissing assistants whose services are no longer essential.

November 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning was informed by officials of the Filipino Shipowners Association of their interest in acquiring at least four ocean-going vessels, in line with the presidential policy to implement Republic Act No. 1407, otherwise known as the Philippine Overseas Shipping Act of 1955.

The shipowners endorsed the project of the National Development Company to acquire twelve vessels.

The President informed the group that the Administration seeks the expansion of the Philippine Merchant Marine in order to compete in the overseas trade.

However, he asked the group to present a formal memorandum, stating its financial resources and other data that may be required by the government before considering its application.

The shipowners hailed the policy of President Garcia to develop the Philippine Merchant Marine as soon as possible.

In this respect, President Garcia stated that the NDC will pioneer only in the field, leaving it when private enterprise is ready and willing to take over in line with his established policy.

The shipowners informed President Garcia that the expansion program will be too slow if the government depends on Japanese reparations alone. They informed the President that normally they would advocate that shipping enterprises be left completely in the hands of private enterprises. However, owing to the heavy financial requirements, particularly in the establishment of overseas liner-services, the group said that it is practical for the NDC to undertake the initial acquisition.

The state firm proposes to avail itself of a deferred payment plan with the necessary government guarantee to purchase several vessels which will form the nucleus of a well balanced merchant marine.

The group was composed of Angel Concepcion, president of the Philippine Ace Lines, Inc.; Margarito Torralba, General Shipping Co.; A. A. R. Botelho, Botelho Shipping Corp.; James Chiongbiai, Eastern Shipping Lines; Gil Garcia, Escafio Lines; Espiritu Tan, William, Lines; Miguel Magsaysay, A. Magsaysay Inc.; Roberto Ho and Antonio Castillejo, vice-president and treasurer, respectively, of the Filipino Shipowners Association.

Earlier, the President received K. Ishiyama, chief representative in the Philippines of the Mitsubishi Companies, who invited him to visit the Mitsubishi factories and dockyards at Yokohama. Ishiyama was accompanied by Jose Mayuga and Manuel Leelin.

The President also received a group of visiting foreign university heads who recently concluded a conference at the Silliman University in Dumaguete City.

The group led by Dr. Henry Little, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Silliman University, was composed of Dr. Hachiro' Yuwasa, president of the Tokyo International Christian University; Dr. William, Feen and, Dr. Henry Palmer, executive secretary and treasurer, respectively, of the United Board for Higher Christian Education in Asia; Dr. Pauline Tompkins, special consultant of the Tunghai University of Taiwan; Dr. D. Y. Lin, president of the Chingchi College of Hongkong; Dr. P. Simondjuntak, president of the Indonesian Christian University; Dr. T. Y. Wu, president of the Taiwan Tunghai University; Dr. George Paid and Dr. Horace Underwood, president and treasurer, respectively, of the Seoul Yunsei University.

The President also received George S. Franklin, Jr., executive director of the Council of Foreign Relations; Sir Godfrey Ince, chairman of the Eastern Telegraph Extension Co. of London, and H. C. Baker, Hongkong representative of the company; Director Jose Alfonso of the Bureau of Telecommunications; Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez; Census and Statistics Director Leon Ma. Gonzalez; Civil Defense Administration Alfredo Eugenio; Dr. Romeo Atienza, president of the Philippine Medical Association; and Drs. Rodolfo Gonzales and Victorino de Dios, president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, of the Asian Medical Confederation.

PRESIDENT Garcia conferred this afternoon with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, National Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, PC Chief Brig. Gen. Pelagio A. Cruz, and Col. Eugenio C. Torres, acting chief of police of Manila, on the stone-throwing incident at the Indonesian embassy last night.

Although the Chief Executive justified peaceful demonstrations demanding the surrender of Huk leader Alfredo B. Saulo as the natural reaction of a people who value their freedom and rights under a democratic form of government, he deplored yesterday's outburst of violence and issued a statement to that effect at his regular weekly press conference this afternoon.

The President also received Cres I. Richards and Jose Corominas, Jr., of the Corominas and Richards Company of Cebu, copra exporters.

Richards is vice-president of the Copra Exporters Association of the Philippines and was recently elected one of the five directors of the International Institute of Oil Seed Products at a recent conference of the organization held in San Francisco and Los Angeles, California.

The Chief Executive also met with the Rice Price Control Committee composed of Undersecretary Jose Trinidad of Agriculture and Natural Resources, chairman; and Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, NARIC Assistant General Manager Jose Drilon, NARRA Administrator Remedios Fortich, ACCFA Assistant Administrator Francisco Sacay, and Mario Moreno, president of the National Rice and Corn Producers Association, members.

President Garcia bestowed upon Dr. I. Sanciangco of Ozamis City the Golden Heart Presidential Award in a ceremony held this afternoon in the ceremonial hall of Malacañang.

Dr. Sanciangco donated to the government a total of 28 hectares of land in Lanao and Zamboanga del Sur for use as school site and townsites and for a plant experimental station.

He was also cited for devoted service in the promotion of the welfare of our people in the rural areas in his capacity as president of the sanitary division and later as consulting physician in Misamis Occidental.

Among those present at the ceremony were Custodia and Marieta Sanciangco, daughters of the awardee, Mr. and Mrs. Raymundo' Garcia and Lutgarda Garcia, relatives, Sen. Jose P. Laurel, ex-Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Rep. Cesas Fortich of Bukidnon, Baguio Mayor Alfonso Tabora, Mrs. Josefa B. Capistrano, and friends of the family from Batangas and Mindanao.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon reiterated his confidence in the Army and its leaders as he spiked congressional agitations for the relief of Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Armed Forces chief of staff.

At his press conference, the President said he has reaffirmed his confidence in the Armed Forces and its leaders at the "loyalty parade" given him by the Army on the occasion of his 62nd birthday last November 4.

He discussed the congressional agitations as an "independent movement of an independent body."

In the same token, the President branded as "speculative" reports of a projected reorganization in the Cabinet.

At the press conference, the President:

1. Said he was going to schedule for hearing administrative charges filed against Socorro Ke. Ladrera, chairman of the board of directors of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation;
2. Defended the overseas trips of several government officials including members of Congress; 3. Indicated that the Chinese temporary visitors case is still in the process of negotiation; and
4. Said he is heartened by reports of a bumper rice crop and pointed out that, while the former problem in the cereal was deficiency, his headache now is how to dispose of the expected surplus in the production of the staple.

President Garcia told newsmen he has not received the so-called "whitepaper" on the *coup d'etat* prepared by Rep. Bartolome C. Cabangbang, chairman of the House committee on national defense.

He said, however, that he had read the contents of the so-called "white paper" in the newspapers.

He branded the move as the sentiment of a group of congressmen belonging to an independent branch of the government.

President Garcia today sent a message of condolence to Mrs. John Randolph Hearst, widow of the assistant general manager of the Hearst newspapers who died yesterday.

The President also issued today the following message on the occasion of Philippine-American Day tomorrow:

"Philippine-American Day which we celebrate today provides me with a welcome opportunity to greet the American people on behalf of Filipino people.

"A commemoration of the warm and tested friendship of the two peoples recalls for both of them experiences not often vouchsafed to many others. It evokes that special feeling whose wellsprings are compassion, understanding, and a sense of dignified and honorable unity. The changes of time serve only to underscore the fact that the relations of the two peoples occupy a special place in their present purposes. It is to be hoped that this special place and its special meaning, will grow even more.

"On behalf of the Filipino people, I wish on this occasion to renew pledges for the continuance of our spiritual and fraternal ties with the American people."

November 15.—THE PRESIDENT directed today his rice and corn committee to devise a system of financing the government's procurement program of these two most important staple commodities so as to keep it on a more stable and continuing basis.

In a communication directed to the committee this noon, the President expressed his desire for the setting up of a revolving fund for the palay and corn buying program to avoid the necessity of having to formulate anew ways of financing the project which had hampered or delayed its implementation every harvest season.

With the stimuli provided by the Administration in connection with its policy of increased food production, it is expected that the yearly yield would continue to improve. The President said he would like to put the financial requirements of the project on a more or less steady footing to assure rice growers of a ready market for their produce each harvest season.

The President recently created the committee to determine the maximum and minimum selling prices of palay and corn for the various regions of the country. He gave the body 48 hours within which to submit its report and recommendations.

Under Executive Order No. 319, the President explained, he was creating the committee for the purpose of extending protection to rice and corn producers throughout the country by assuring them the recovery of the cost of production, including a fair return from their investments, and of offering sufficient incentive for their continued efforts in improving the quality and quantity of the yields of their farms.

The committee is given the following powers: (1) to determine the minimum and maximum price per cavan of palay and corn for the various regions of the country producing these basic commodities; and (2) to determine the financing requirements of the government for the procurement of the commodities from producers at the minimum and maximum prices it may fix.

The committee submitted its report last night. The President, however, returned the report to the committee today with the instructions that a plan for a continuing and steady financing of the programs be included in the recommendations.

With agriculture Undersecretary Jose M. Trinidad as chairman, the committee is composed of Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, Francisco Sacay of the AGFA, Jose Drilon of the NARIC, Mario Moreno, representing the producers, and Mrs. Remedios Fortich of the NARRA.

PRESIDENT Garcia authorized today the increase in the quarterly allotment for supplies of the Bureau of Prisons from ₱300,000 to ₱800,000.

The authorization was granted in line with the President's policy of improving existing conditions in the state penitentiary as a means of putting an end to outbreaks of violence in our prisons.

Considering that the program of the Administration is to increase the stock of uniforms of the 17,000 prisoners from one to three suits each and considering also the present high prices of other commodities, the Budget Commission recommended that the increase in the fund was necessary.

It was also stated that the bureau had increased its activities by opening and operating a new penal farm in Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro, and that the prisons population is on the upward trend with an estimated increase of 8 per cent annually.

The prisons industries and salvage warehouse revolving fund, however, will remain at the authorized amount of ₱140,000.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: November 16-22, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia authorized today the release of ₱4,074,835.00 for the operation, maintenance, improvement, construction, and reconstruction of national and provincial roads and bridges.

Out of this amount, ₱3,994,835 which is to be utilized for roads and bridges will be made available from surpluses realized out of the authorized outlays for the fiscal years 1957 and 1958 from the Highway Special Fund.

The remaining ₱80,000 which is earmarked for the operation and maintenance of the Baguio-Bontoc national toll road will be chargeable against the Baguio-Bontoc national toll road fund.

The surplus had been realized as a result of the reduction of the shares of different provinces for the last two years. Their release has now been found necessary in order to provide additional funds to meet expenses for much-needed improvements, reconstruction, and construction of national and provincial, roads and bridges.

President and Mrs. Garcia headed the list of patrons at tonight's ₱100-a-plate *Cena de Oro* in the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel in connection with the Tenth Boy Scouts' World Jamboree fund campaign.

Earlier in the evening, the President presented a handsome trophy to Hank Lockwood, captain of the Manila Yacht Club team that won the Dragon-class interport regatta over a visiting Japanese team. The presentation ceremony was held at the Manila Yacht Club building.

This morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass at their Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. After breakfast, the Chief Executive read the morning papers and then went to his study room to go over pending state papers.

The President took a siesta after lunch and, upon waking up, took a stroll around the garden of his house.

At 6: 30 in the evening, the President left his residence for Malacañang to pick up the First Lady and attend the presentation ceremony at the Manila Yacht Club.

November 17.—THIS MORNING President Garcia took cognizance of the plight of 2,300 shoe workers in Marikina and ordered NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin Estrella to release a shipment of imported shoe materials worth \$250,000.

The order was issued upon representations made by officers and members of the Marikina Shoemakers Guild, Inc., who informed the President that, unless the shipment is released, these workers and their families would face the prospect of a bleak and empty Christmas.

Mariano Sta. Ana, president of the guild, told the Chief Executive that they have only a few weeks left to work on Christmas orders, and that they cannot accept any order unless they have the necessary raw materials.

Sta. Ana said these shoe materials have been held up in bodegas of the state marketing firm since August of this year.

Other members of the guild who sought the President's intervention in connection with the release of these raw materials were Romeo de Guzman, guild secretary; Cornelio Mariano and Mario Mejia, board members; and Agustin Lachica, adviser on cooperatives, Cooperative Administration Office.

THE President directed today the Department of Public Works and Communications to forward to Malacañang immediately the complete records of the case of small fishermen who had protested against fishpond owners in Bulacan.

Irked by the delay in the transmission of the records for review in Malacañang, the President ordered this noon Judge Salvador Esguerra, legal adviser, to get hold of the papers as soon as possible for prompt study and disposition of the case by the President.

The President's action came following the publication in one of the morning newspapers of an editorial seeking, presidential intervention on the complaint for the sake of hundreds of fishermen whose means of livelihood had been allegedly curtailed by the construction of dikes in the communal fishing grounds.

The case had previously been investigated by the Department of Public Works and Communications which, under the law, is charged with the enforcement of the law prohibiting the construction of obstructions in public streams and rivers. The department later came out with a decision that the dikes had been constructed legally in connection with applications for fishpond permits and lease of public lands.

The fishermen adversely affected by the decision had appealed the case to Malacañang and the President, forthwith, had directed the department to forward to him all papers on the case. That was two weeks ago, but until now the records had not yet reached the Office of the President.

PRESIDENT Garcia was named an honorary member of the Association of Management and Industrial Engineer of the Philippines when the newly elected officers of the organization called on him in Malacañang this morning.

They presented to the Chief Executive a testimonial pledging the full resources of the association in men and materials towards fuller industrialization of the Philippines and the solution of the unemployment problem in the country.

After expressing his acceptance, President Garcia administered the oath of office to the following officers of the association: Jesus Tanghal Dera, president; Hernani P. Estella and Magleo C. Adriano, secretaries; Nilda Lukban, assistant treasurer; Felipe Ray Hipolico, PRO; Romeo Ranjo, special assistant; and Oscar Sarte, Jose Jacinto, Eliseo Aspillega, Francisco R. Tantoco, Edgardo Villavicencio, Emiliano G. Aguinaldo, and Ernesto B. Salazar, Jr., trustees.

A delegation composed of members of the PGH Medical Association and the UP Medical Alumni Society also called on President Garcia this morning and submitted resolutions endorsing the names of four prominent UP medical alumni for the position as director of the PGH when the retirement of Dr. Florencio Quintos, present director of the hospital, becomes due on December 1.

Those recommended by the two societies are Dr. Agerico B. M. Sison, Dr. Jose Barcelona, Dr. Florentine- Herrera, and Dr. Benjamin Barrera.

The organization also requested President Garcia to expedite the release of ₱300,000 to facilitate the construction of more operating reams in the PGH.

Dr. Benjamin Roa, president of the UP Medical Alumni Association, informed the President that the PGH which has a bed capacity of 900 has only two operating rooms while the North General Hospital, with a bed capacity of 450, has nine.

In the group were Dr. Isidro Benitez, secretary of the PGH Medical Association, Dr. Solita Camara-Besa, Dr. Lourdes Manahan, Dr. Marcos Fojas, Dr. Romeo Ibay, Jr., and Edigio Manto.

President Garcia this morning accepted an invitation extended to him by officials of the University of the Philippines to be the guest speaker at a special convocation marking the opening of the conference on higher education among Southeast Asian countries on December 15.

Dr. Enrique T. Virata; acting UP president, informed the Chief Executive that the conference will be held in connection with the Golden Jubilee celebration of the state university.

Dr. Virata was accompanied by Dr. Ricardo Pascual, Dean Gregorio Zamuco, Director Nazario Pidlaoan, and Prof. Jose Campos, Jr., secretary of the UP board of regents.

The President also received around 85 foreign students from 13 countries who are at present enrolled in the state university in Diliman and in Los Baños.

G. K. Chedah, spokesman of the students, invited President Garcia to be their guest of honor at the opening of the International Students' Festival on February 16, next year, which will be held in Diliman.

The foreign students were accompanied by Felixberto Sta. Maria, acting executive secretary of the Philippine Board of Scholarships for Southeast Asia, and Mariano Mondofiedo, counsellor of foreign students, U. P., Los Baños.

Other callers at Malacañang this morning were Mr. and Mrs. Ray Halin, international photo-reporters.; Sixto Hernaez and Gen. Florencio Selga, Judge Gavino Abaya, Mrs. Remedios Gatmaitan, Ex-Rep. Jose Topacio Nueno, Ex-Secretary Sotero Baluyut, Jose Acebedo, Manuel Militante, Nellita Natividad, and Mrs. Josefina Rodrigo Natividad.

THE President this day issued Executive Order No. 320, prescribing the rules of procedure to be followed in the transaction of business and the performance of the duties of the Reparations Commission.

In issuing the executive order, the President laid down eight points to be observed by the Reparations Commission for the appropriate and orderly transaction of business as well as the performance of the duties and functions entrusted to the commission under Republic Act No. 1789.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening received Col. Nicanor T. Jimenez, chief of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, but both cautiously avoided taking up the latter's plan to quit the NICA in protest against reports linking him with the abortive *coup d'etat*.

Jimenez limited himself to clearing his accounts with Washington when he went there at the middle of the year to pave the way for President Garcia's state visit to the United States.

Late this evening the President and the First Lady sailed aboard the *Santa Maria* for Cebu City.

The President will inspect the proposed Mactan airport and go over his speeches which he will deliver in Tokyo when he makes a state visit to Japan early next month.

Incidentally, the President and the First Lady will attend the town fiesta of Opon tomorrow.

PRESIDENT Garcia after consultation with the presidential cereal price committee today, approved the floor price of palay in a bid to support the rice producing industry in the country. The price support per cavan of palay was announced at from ₱8.50 to ₱10.00, depending on the place where the cereal would be purchased.

The presidential announcement was aimed at encouraging the rice producers and at the same time bringing down the cost of the cereal to benefit the consumers of this staple cereal.

President Garcia conferred for an hour and a half with members of his presidential cereal price committee composed of the following: Mrs. Remedios Fortich of the NARRA; Labor Undersecretary Braganza; Jose Drilon, NARIC assistant general manager; Francisco Sacay, assistant ACCFA administrator; and Mario Moreno, president of the association of palay producers.

The presidential decision setting the price support for rice was immediately followed by a directive to the NARIC to implement this decision.

Seven principal purchasing centers were agreed upon by the conferees. These are Cabanatuan City; Cawayan, Isabela; Iloilo City; Cagayan de Oro, Cotabato; Gen. Santos, Cotabato; and Manila.

November 18.—THE presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* left the Philippine Navy landing a few minutes before midnight last night with President and Mrs. Garcia on board.

The Chief Executive is bound for the South to make ocular survey of conditions obtaining in different places in Cebu and possibly even in Mindanao.

At daybreak the yacht was cruising at twelve knots off Batangas province with overcast sky, slight drizzle, mild wind blowing, and choppy seas.

The President, the First Lady, and members of the party heard early morning mass said before an improvised altar set up on the aft deck of the *Sta. Maria*.

After the mass, Lt. Cdr. Manuel Mandapat, skipper of the presidential yacht, ordered the ship to stay near Malabrigo Point in southern Batangas to enable passengers to take breakfast with only the slightest movements of the ship.

President Garcia retired to his cabin after breakfast and went over state papers and drafts of speeches he will deliver during his state visit to Japan early next month.

He gave a press conference after lunch and then returned to his cabin to take an afternoon nap.

The President came out of his cabin shortly, before dinner time and engaged Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia and newsmen on board the ship in informal conversation on general topics.

The President retired to his cabin after dinner and continued work on the drafts of speeches to be delivered in Japan until late in the evening.

PRESIDENT Garcia appeared elated this afternoon upon receiving official notification of Alfredo' B. Saulo's surrender to Philippine authorities.

In a general statement the President congratulated Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak, the Army, the Constabulary, and the intelligence officials "for their capable and satisfactory handling of this case."

Viewing Saulo's capitulation on the international level, he said: "This is a reaffirmation of the close ties of cordial and friendly relations between both nations (Indonesia and the Philippines)."

In an interview with newsmen later, the President said he was instructing Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas to improve the Army intelligence work.

The President issued the statement from the yacht *Santa Maria*, which is taking him and Mrs. Gaitia to Cebu for "surprise visits to several localities." He has no itinerary for the trip.

November 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning made a surprise visit to the site of the Mactan auxiliary airport and expressed satisfaction when informed by Lt. Col. Augusto R. Roa, project engineer, that work in the project is ahead of schedule with almost 25 per cent of the construction finished.

Col. Roa briefed the President on the progress of the work and said although the deadline is still in 1961, he expects it to be ready to land aircraft by the end of February 1959.

When fully completed, the airfield will be capable of handling most modern civil and military planes. It will cost a total of approximately \$25 million.

President Garcia was told that 723 hectares of land was reserved for the airport site and that paved runways alone will cover an area of 43 hectares.

He was also informed that major problems encountered by P. J. Keiner, airport contractors, are low supply of cement and shortage of spare parts for heavy equipment badly needed in construction work.

The President promised to look into these problems and find means of solving them in order to expedite completion of the project.

Accompanying the President on the inspection of Mactan airfield were Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Cebu Gov. Jose Briones, Cebu City Mayor Ramon Duterte, Opon Mayor Mariano Dimataga, and Gil Garcia.

From the airport site, the President motored to Mactan, barrio of Opon town, where he visited the Magellan monument and resthouse with a historical marker showing the exact spot where the Spanish *conquistador* was felled by Lapu-Lapu.

The presidential yacht docked at the Opon wharf at 9:30 a.m. The President and party proceeded to Mactan airfield.

Shortly after luncheon given in the residence of Mayor Dimataga, the President boarded the yacht and left for Ubay, Bohol, to make a surprise visit to Ubay stock farm, largest government stock farm in the country today.

President Garcia will stay overnight in Bohol and will return to Cebu tomorrow.

PRESIDENT Garcia declared today that his forthcoming trip to Japan was “necessary to restore the ruptured relations between that country and the Philippines brought about by the last world war.”

He gave the reasons for his trip during a radio-press interview in Opon, Cebu, hometown of the First Lady, in answer to criticisms that the trip was untimely and unnecessary.

“My trip to Japan is necessary to restore goodwill between these two countries that was ruptured during the last war, especially as there are still those who still nurture resentment against the Japanese,” he said.

“The war has passed. We have started to accept reparations from Japan and we have signed the San Francisco peace treaty which ended the state of war with Japan. It’s but fitting and proper that I go on a good will mission,” the President added.

The Presidential yacht arrived at Opon about 9: 30 this morning, stayed there until noon, and then proceeded to Ubay, Bohol. The First Lady remained in Opon to attend the town fiesta.

November 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning conducted a comprehensive on-the-spot inspection of government-owned Ubay stock farm as a first step in implementing his desire that the farm expand its activities and play a more important role in developing and improving the country’s livestock resources.

The Chief Executive was shown around the farm by Pedro M. Bautista, farm superintendent, who took him to corrals each holding different breeds of imported cattle.

Bautista informed the President of their stock available to the people under the cattle dispersal program whereby bulls are lent to them for crossbreeding with native cattle to improve local stock.

The Chief Executive was also told that those desiring to raise pure-breed herd may purchase stock from the farm after first securing permission from, the director of animal industry.

Among the breeds of cattle in the Ubay stock farm are red Sindhi, Tharparker, Braham bulls, Ongole, and brown Swiss.

The farm at present has approximately 500 head of pure-breed imported cattle, including 120 weanlings.

President Garcia visited the installations on the farm, including corrals, branding chutes, milking shed, heavy equipment garage, farm office, and pasture lands where different types of grasses suitable for cattle fodder are grown and raised.

The farm has also other livestock like swine, buffaloes, goats, etc.

It covers a total of 4,600 hectares and is the biggest stock farm in the country with good pasture and favorable year-round weather for stock raising.

After having lunch in the stock farm, the President and party returned to the wharf in barrio Triple Union, Ubay, where the presidential yacht *Sta. Maria* lay anchored, and boarded the ship for Cebu City.

In the party of provincial and municipal officials who met President Garcia upon his arrival in Ubay yesterday afternoon and who accompanied him on his inspection tour of the stock farm were Acting Gov. Timoteo Butalid, Board Member Lino Chato, Provincial Veterinarian Teofilo Cortez, District Engineer Magdaleno Camacho, Ubay Mayor Ricardo Boyles, Baliliban Mayor Getulio Calope, and Loay Mayor Paulino Inting.

The *Sta. Maria* docked at Cebu wharf around 4 p.m. after which President Garcia proceeded to the residence of his brother-in-law, Opon Mayor Mariano Dimataga, where he held conferences with Cebu provincial and municipal officials, among them Gov. Jose Briones, Cebu Mayor Duterte, and others.

President Garcia this evening sent a directive to Labor Secretary Angel Castaño to investigate and settle the stevedore's strike in Cebu piers.

The President was informed that the strike had caused a dip in revenues from foreign shipping. Foreign ships now tied up at Cebu wharf cannot load or unload in view of the picket line.

In his directive to Secretary Castaño, the President said "it is imperative that the matter be settled as soon as possible."

This evening the President and the First Lady attended the coronation ball held in connection with the town fiesta of Opon, and in response to public clamor danced once to the tune of the anniversary song.

November 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning signed the appointments of Capts. Jose Basa and Ruperto Abueva as members of the board of examiners for marine officers at a conference with Leoncio Piquera, secretary to the executive secretary.

The President also approved the appointments of Virginia Yaptinchay, Natalio Balboa, and Amado Brinas, all of the Central Bank, and of Aguedo Gepte as acting director of the supply coordination of the Department of General Services.

The President amended an executive order by segregating 1,000 hectares out of five thousand hectares of the government's Ubay Stock Farms for distribution to the landless, especially kaingeros.

At noon today, the President sailed for Cebu City from where he was expected to depart for Manila at about midnight tonight.

President Garcia and party are expected to be back in Manila by early morning of Sunday.

November 22.— ABOARD the yacht *Sta. Maria* sailing on calm waters, President Garcia continued to work at his cabin on a dozen speeches he expects to deliver in his forthcoming state visit to Japan.

The President is sailing towards Manila from a five-day inspection trip to Cebu and Bohol. The Yacht bearing the President and the First Lady is steaming back to Manila under good weather conditions.

Despite overcast skies and occasional drizzles, the sea was calm the whole day. The ship hardly moved when it passed Sibuyan seas where, on previous voyages, passengers of the *Santa Maria* were usually flat on their stomachs because of rough sailing.

At 4: 55 p. m.. while the yacht was cruising off tiny Camasa Island between Cebu and Masbate, the ship's engine were ordered stopped when a cable in the electrical steering mechanism suddenly broke loose.

The yacht proceeded on its course for about two hours on an emergency manual steerage. There was, however, no danger as the sea was then "glassy smooth" in the area.

The Presidential party left Cebu shortly before midnight last night and at the rate it is going, it will be in Manila by about 5 a.m. tomorrow.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: November 23-29, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Manila this morning, aboard the *RPS Sta. Maria* from a five-day inspection trip to the South.

Docking at the Philippine Navy headquarters landing on Dewey Boulevard about 8 a.m., the President received on board Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who consulted him on pending matters.

Then the President received Acting Commissioner Melecio Domingo, who rendered a full report on the cases of 48 BIR personnel who had no items on the BIR plantilla and yet are receiving salaries from the general fund of the office, as well as the cases of three other employees who hold more than one item each.

The President said that the cases of these employees were anomalous. He instructed Commissioner Domingo to remedy the situation right away.

Commissioner Domingo informed the Chief Executive that some of the personnel involved were ranking officials of his bureau. He said he had given the BIR personnel officer 72 hours within which to explain the anomalous arrangement. The period expires tomorrow.

Domingo, during his conference with the President, also recommended the transfer of BIR personnel from the central office to undermanned regional offices to increase the efficiency of the branch offices. The transfers contemplated involved some 200 personnel, most of whom are technical men, to complete the full complement of undermanned offices. The commissioner also recommended cuts in the personnel in other branches which he believed were overstaffed.

Another caller aboard before the President disembarked from the *Sta. Maria* was Commissioner John S. Graham of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, who called to pay his respects following his recent arrival in Manila to survey the local atomic research potentialities in connection with the \$500,000 U. S. grant for the Philippine reactor project.

Commissioner Graham was accompanied by Neil D. Naiden, also of the U. S. AEC, Chairman Paulino J. Garcia of the National Science Development Board, and Acting Commissioner Pedro G. Afable of the Philippine Atomic Energy Commission.

THIS afternoon the President lauded the service that the Manila Railroad Company has been rendering to the country during its 66 years of existence.

The President was the principal speaker at the cornerstone laying of the MRR Hospital at Caimito Road in Caloocan.

The Administration, taking into account the role that the company is playing in the economic progress of the nation, has fully endorsed the expansion of the railroad lines to Cagayan Valley and Sorsogon, the President said.

The Chief Executive added that the realization of this project, despite financial difficulties, is one of the pet projects of his party.

Regarding the construction of a hospital for the employees of the state firm, the President stated that it was one of the social amelioration measures of the Nacionalistas.

Present at the cornerstone laying ceremonies were high government officials led by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Caloocan Mayor Macario Asistio, Vice-Mayor Mateo Lualhati, MRR Board Chairman Juan J. Carlos,

General Manager F. F. Santiago, OBC Acting Administrator Pablo Cruz, and MRR Directors Salvador T. Villa and Francisco Calinawan.

At the ceremony, President Garcia was presented with a resolution of appreciation approved by the Senate Committee on Transportation and Public Services, the Committee on Railways of the House of Representatives, and the Board of Directors of the state firm for his assistance and encouragements which led to the immediate passage of Republic Act 1867, presiding for the extension of the railroad lines to the Cagayan Valley and Sorsogon.

November 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia today pledged the help of the administration to a Filipino inventor who is placing in the market a new rice-corn mill that is expected to revolutionize the milling industry in the Philippines.

The pledge was made to Felicisimo D. Reyta, who invented a machine that can simultaneously mill rice and corn, with a better grain recovery than other mills sold locally.

The President said that he is going to confer with NARIC and ACCFA officials to explore the possibility of purchasing the Reyta rice-corn mill for installation in rural areas, especially in the Visayas and Mindanao where it can operate continuously in both wet and dry seasons while other mills are idle.

Reyta, who was called to Malacañang by the President, was accompanied by Mayor Teodulo Bernados of Tanay, Rizal, and Patricio C. Carlay.

The President also received GSIS officials who called to deliver to him his dividend for this current year, as a policy holder. The GSIS officials were Francisco Raymundo, Federico Romero, Baltazar Guerra, and Cristino Ybañez.

Earlier, the President received at his Quezon City residence Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto Serrano, who briefed him on the final arrangements of his state visit to Japan and submitted a progress report on the bases talks.

Other presidential callers included Chinese Ambassador Chen Chih-mai who accompanied Chinese poet and artist, Chan Ching-hung, Roman Lorenzo, and Pablo Reyes.

The President this day proclaimed Thursday, November 27, this year, as a special public holiday for national thanksgiving.

In issuing Proclamation No. 545, the Chief Executive stressed the importance of setting aside a day each year on which to dedicate “our noblest thoughts in prayer and thanksgiving to God for all the blessings He has showered upon us.”

The President called upon all the people “to turn their thoughts on that day to the Lord and offer Him a prayer of thanks for all the blessings He has bestowed upon us.”

President Garcia also signed today a proclamation authorizing the Philippine Cancer Society to conduct a national educational, membership, and fund drive during the period from December 15, 1958, to January 15, 1959.

The Chief Executive has accepted to be present at the kick-off ceremonies of the drive to be held in the afternoon of December 15, this year.

The proclamation was signed in the presence of Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia; Earl Carroll, general campaign chairman of the third cancer drive; Felino Neri, chairman of the Philippine Cancer Society; Gen. Basilio Valdez; Drs. Ramon Paterno; Juan Z. Sta. Cruz; Col. Roman Salacup; R. R. de la Cruz; and Mrs. Lourdes Guillermo.

THIS afternoon the President received Japanese Ambassador Morio Yukawa, who came to Malacañang to make final arrangements regarding the President’s six-day state visit to Japan starting December 1.

The Japanese ambassador is flying ahead to Tokyo to help in the welcome preparations for President Garcia and members of his party.

Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez reported to the President on the results of his recent mission to Rome, where he attended the conference of the Food and Agricultural Organization. Rodriguez was elected first vice-chairman of the FAO council. He also informed the President of the tentative visit of B. R. Sen, director-general of FOA, which is scheduled for March 9 to 15, 1959.

Officers of the Philippine Sugar Institute also called on President Garcia to request an early decision of the President on their controversy with Commerce Secretary Hernaez regarding the filling up of the deficit in Class "D" Philippine sugar in the world free market.

Jose Mapa Gomez, president of PHILSUGIN and the National Federation of Sugar Planters, told the President that the groups he represents would like to use the milled sugar to cover the deficit in the country's Class "D" sugar quota.

On the other hand, Hernaez wants to use Class "C" sugar to fill this quota. The matter is now up for decision of President Garcia.

Gomez was accompanied by Ramon Nolan and former Ambassador Jose E. Romero, secretary and director, respectively, of the PHILSUGIN, and Ramon L. Pagua, PHILSUGIN administrator.

November 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia today decided to allow millers and planters to fill up their 1958 "D" quotas with early milled sugar corresponding to the 1958-1959 crop year.

The decision of the President was in part due to the fact that the declaration and allocation of the 1958 "D" quotas were quite delayed. It was understood that this policy will be effective for this year only.

The general policy shall be, as stated by the President, that sugar production of any year shall be used or applied only to cover the quota allotments for that year, except in the case of sugar carry-over or sugar reserve stocks.

Henceforth, declarations as well as allocations to mills and planters of Philippine "D" quota for world free market quota shall be made as early as practicable and that is when the majority have terminated their milling season.

However, the filling of "D" quotas will only be permitted at a time to be determined when the complete filling of U. S. export and domestic quotas is positively assured by the stocks of sugar deposited in the various warehouses.

The President's decision was made after a series of conferences with sugar planters and sugar quota administration officials, including Jose Mapa Gomez, Ramon Nolas, Jose Romero, and Sugar Quota Administrator Ramon L. Pagua.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon ordered the reorganization of the Backpay Unit of the Bureau of Treasury with the view to eliminating possible sources of anomalies and bringing about a more efficient and expeditious disposition of backpay claims.

The President issued this afternoon an administrative order creating a special committee charged with the introduction of such innovations and changes, in accordance with existing laws, in the personnel assignment, operational setup, office policies, and procedures of the Backpay Unit.

At a conference in Malacañang this noon, the President instructed members of the committee to look into reports of "fixers" allegedly victimizing backpay claimants, and expressed his desire to have this "evil practice uprooted right away."

He told the committee to check up the records of the Philippine National Bank to verify reports that certain persons were monopolizing backpay checks, that numerous claimants had only one address, and that claims were being sold at unreasonable rates of discounts.

The Chief Executive, in his Administrative Order No. 284, directed the committee to submit partial reports and recommendations from time to time to the secretary of finance, who shall advise the President on the progress of their work. The body was, however, given no more than three months to complete and submit a final report.

The national treasurer and all officials and employees of the Backpay Unit were enjoined by the administrative order to extend full assistance and cooperation to the committee. The special body was also authorized to call upon any department or agency of the government for such assistance as it may need in the performance of its work.

The committee is composed of Pedro V. Aguilar, chief supervising auditor in the General Auditing Office, as chairman, and the following members: Ruben de Castro, assistant chief of the management service in the budget commission, and Rodolfo Ocampo, secretary to the PCAPE chairman.

PRESIDENT Garcia formally opened to the public the "Atoms for Peace" exhibit sponsored by the National Science Development Board, in the Institute of Science and Technology building in a ceremony held this afternoon.

The Chief Executive showed great interest in the exhibits on display showing how the atom could be put to peaceful uses to the benefit of mankind.

The President delivered the principal address at a brief program which marked the opening of the exhibit. Other speakers at the program were US Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen and Dr. Paulino Garcia, chairman of the National Science Development Board.

Among those present at the opening of the exhibit were members of the Cabinet, members of the National Science Development Board, ICA officials, and others prominent in the scientific and medical fields.

The President today expressed gratification over the numerous messages of support and encouragement received from various sectors of the population on his forthcoming state visit to Japan.

Such messages which continued to pour in Malacañang since the President had started preparations for the visit were received from provincial and municipal officials, mayors' leagues, municipal councils, barrio lieutenants' leagues, and from civic, veterans, and student organizations all over the country.

November 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received a commemorative medal from Msgr. Rufmo J. Santos, archbishop of Manila, on the occasion of the solemn blessing and consecration of the Metropolitan Cathedral of Manila to be held on the feast day of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception on December 8. He also presented a plaque to the President in appreciation for his donation for the construction of the Cathedral.

Archbishop Santos informed President Garcia that the famed Sistine choir of Rome will be coming for the inauguration rites.

The Archbishop was accompanied by Guillermo Dy Buncio, Ernesto Lagdameo, Antonio Delgado, and Mrs. Rosita de la Concepcion. They were received at the President's Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

Other callers of the President at his Bohol Avenue residence were Tristan Beplat, vice-president of the Manufacturers' Trust and Banking Corporation, and his assistant. Harold Smith; Andres Soriano, Jr., M. Noel, and Hal Roberts of the Far Eastern Coca Cola Export Company, who delivered an album of the presidential state visit to the United States prepared by the Coca Cola with a dedication from Jim Farley; Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas; Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff; Sen. Claro M. Recto-former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr.; and Col. Telesforo Tenorio, Manila chief of police.

In the afternoon, the President motored to Malacañang and presided over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

THE PRESIDENT and his Cabinet, at their regular weekly meeting this afternoon, approved the grant of Christmas bonuses to employees of government-owned or controlled corporations not to exceed seven per cent of their net profits.

The grant of Christmas bonus is subject to the following conditions:

- (1) That the total amount to be set aside for this purpose shall not exceed seven per cent of the net profits of the corporation for the last fiscal year;
- (2) That the schedule of bonus shall provide increasing percentage in favor of low-salaried employees;
- (3) That in no case shall the bonus exceed one month's salary;
- (4) That for employees and laborers who have served less than one year, bonus shall be in proportion to their length of service; and
- (5) That public utility corporations, like the National Power Corporation, the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority, and the National Rice and Corn Corporation, may grant a Christmas bonus to their personnel in an amount not to exceed ₱50,000 if the corresponding seven per cent of their net profit is less than said amount.

The Cabinet started preliminary discussions on the proposed sale of the Maria Cristina Fertilizer Plant at its regular weekly meeting this afternoon.

The proposed sale is in line with the Administration's policy to dispose of government-owned industrial plants when private capital is ready, willing, and in a position to take over their operations.

The proposal is sanctioned by the National Power Corporation's board of directors and was recommended for the President's approval by the Office of Economic Coordination.

The appraised value of the property has been set at ₱18,311,994.78 and excludes the cost of the plant and housing site which are part of the land reservations of the government, reserved for the NPC for industrial purposes.

Among the proposed terms of the sale are: (1) the sale shall be through public bidding; (2) only Filipinos or Americans and/or corporations, partnerships, or associations at least 60 per cent of whose capital is owned by Filipinos or Americans, can participate in the bid; and (3) the successful bidder shall recognize and assume the obligations and acquire all rights of the National Power Corporation under its existing contracts with other parties in connection with the operation of the fertilizer plant.

The President expressed his desire to add another condition of the sale in that the purchaser should guarantee that fertilizer produced by the plant should be sold at a low price. This is to place the fertilizer within the reach of the small farmers.

Final decision on the matter was, however, deferred for future meetings.

November 27.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia led the nation today in observing Thanksgiving Day. They heard mass at their Quezon City residence together with Malacañang aides.

After mass the President and the First Lady had breakfast with Fr. Tugade, Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, II MA commanding general, and aides.

The first caller was Minister Octavio Maloles, who has been reassigned to head the Philippine legation in Mexico.

Gov. Diego Ty Deling of Misamis Occidental, in the presence of Col. Basilio Hernandez, executive officer of the Peace and Amelioration Fund Commission and of Provincial Board Member Lucas Naranjo, Mayor Ricardo

Dumalangan of Plariden, Misamis Occidental, and David Dulanas, presented a check for ₱4,500 as partial contribution of his province to the peace and amelioration fund.

The President also received Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique Quema, Former Press Secretary Baldomero T. Olivera, PNS general manager, and his son Baldomero, Jr., who brought a collection of Philippine shells to be presented to Emperor Hirohito during the coming state visit of President Garcia to Japan.

Another caller was Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, who conferred with the President on matters pertaining to his province.

THIS afternoon the President received NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin Estrella, who reported on reforms introduced by the management to minimize incidence of irregular trading practices on the part of NAMARCO distributors and retailers.

Estrella also briefed the President on the losses sustained by the corporation as a result of the 45-day strike which ended only last week.

Estrella reported to the President that the state marketing firm suffered losses totalling ₱800,000 owing to the strike. Of this amount, according to Estrella, ₱500,000 represented payroll losses and the remaining ₱300,000 was lost in warehousing fees.

He also told the Chief Executive that the directive issued by the President had the effect of abbreviating the duration of the strike.

President Garcia had directed that cash advances be given to employees of the strike-bound firm to be charged against their accumulated leave, pending decision by the Supreme Court of the appeal of the management for certiorari.

Estrella explained that if the Supreme Court decides in favor of the workers, their leave will be returned to them and the cash advances they had received will represent their strike duration pay.

Earlier, Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak called on the President to extend personally his thanks for the many words of appreciation expressed by President Garcia with regard to the major role he had played in affecting the turnover of Alfredo B. Saulo, number 3 Huk, to the Philippine Government.

MPD Chief Telesforo Tenorio also reported to President Garcia on his observation during his two-month trip to the United States, during which he attended an international conference of chiefs of police.

At eight o'clock this evening, President Garcia left his Bohol Avenue residence and motored to Malacanang to pick up Mrs. Garcia on their way to attend the Big Ten alumni reunion held at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel. The President was the guest of honor at this meeting.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening appealed for a moratorium on politics and exhorted the people "to close ranks and pull together" in a common endeavor to bring about self-sufficiency and prosperity to the country.

He made the appeal in his address before the annual celebration of the alumni of the "Big Ten," the Manila Hotel this evening. The so-called "Big Ten" is an organization of alumni of ten universities of the United States.

The Big ten members are the Illinois University, Indiana University, Iowa University, Michigan University, Michigan State University, Minnesota University, Northwestern University, Ohio State University, Purdue University, and Wisconsin University.

"This is no time for petty bickering and recriminations," the President stressed.

He declared that "Filipinos from all walks of life must close ranks and contribute their strength, learning, and wisdom to the attainment of our common objective of ushering in a brighter day for our country."

He pointed out that his administration is pledged to work for the welfare and happiness of the people. ‘

"In line with this objective," he said, "steps have been taken to improve the condition of our people not only in the urban centers but also in the rural areas."

The Chief Executive cited measures taken by the Administration to institute land reforms, the organization of cooperatives, the extension of credits, the harnessing of streams in order to provide the people with electricity for lighting and for power, the establishment of rural health units, the construction of irrigation systems and as well as that of highways and feeder roads, the sinking of artesian wells, and the extension of school facilities to the remotest barrios.

"All these," the President said, "have been motivated by the sincere and earnest desire of the Administration to raise the standard of living of our people."

He pointed out, however, that the successful implementation of this ambitious program of the Administration requires the earnest and wholehearted cooperation of all sectors and elements of the population.

"In the great and arduous task of nation building," he said, "the need is for unity of effort. We cannot afford to dissipate our energies and our strength by working at cross-purposes. I, therefore, call upon you to join us in the pursuit of our objective so that we may all pull together to the end that our Republic, which came into being after so many untold sacrifices, may live and endure until time shall be no more."

In appealing for national unity the President said "the problems ahead are many and they are difficult. But they are not incapable of solution."

November 28.—BEFORE MOTORING to the University of the East, President Garcia had a breakfast-conference this morning with Leyte and Samar politicians led by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez and Sen. Decoroso Rosales.

The conferees discussed a long range road-building program for the two provinces, as well as the full utilization of Leyte asphalt in the construction of roads in the country.

Present at the breakfast-conference were Gov. Fernando Veloso of Samar, Reps. Nicanor Yniguez, Marcelino Veloso, Dominador Tan, and Alberto Aguja of Leyte, and Eladio Balite, Valeriano Yancha, and Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Tacloban City Mayor Artemio Mate, and Leyte Provincial Board Members Emiliano Melgazo and Jose Clemente.

President Garcia today lauded the objective of the Philippine Historical Association of rewriting Philippine history in order to make "a proper assessment of our past."

The President was the principal speaker at the opening session of the PHA annual convention held this morning at the auditorium of the University of the East.

The Spanish rule and the American tutelage are well documented, President Garcia said, but the historians will have difficulty with respect to the facts of Philippine history before the coming of Spain.

The historians, he added, must have the energy and patience to reconstruct the facts from obscure evidences, with the aid of related sciences like archeology, anthropology, and paleontology, and to dig into the records of neighboring nations in the East whose historians must have recorded the intercourse, both commercial and cultural, of the Philippines with their countries.

The session opened with a choral number by the Teachers' Chorus of the Division of City Schools, conducted by Mrs. Candida B. Bautista, after which Dr. Francisco T. Dalupan, president of the University of the East, delivered a welcome address.

After a vocal solo by Mrs. Irinea S. Jeremillo, Prof. Nicolas Zafra, PHA president, who earlier had delivered the keynote address, introduced President Garcia.

At HIS regular press conference this afternoon, the President spiked what he branded as "speculative" reports quoting Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona's testimony before a House committee that the government is on the brink of bankruptcy.

Visibly irritated by the report, the President assailed what he termed "speculative reporting" on matters affecting the solvency of the government.

He likewise indirectly hurled a broadside against some members of the House committee on good government, who had disclosed to the press Aytona's testimony which was made under "mantle of secrecy and confidence."

"I assure you," he told his regular press conference today, "there is no fund shortage."

President Garcia reassured the nation that the government is financially stable although he admitted that it is facing "financial difficulties."

At the press conference, the President:

1. Disclosed that Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, has recommended the suspension of National Treasurer Vicente Gella, who is facing administrative charges filed against him by Secretary of Finance Jaime Hernandez;
2. Said that steps are being taken by Secretary Hernandez to expedite the release of P50 million from the Philippine National Bank to finance the rice support program of the Administration;
3. Allayed fears of mass lay-offs at the Bureau of Posts or other government offices before Christmas; and
4. Endorsed the move to have a Filipino named a cardinal. Bristling with indignation, the President denied Aytona had told the House committee on good government that the government is facing bankruptcy.

"Aytona did not make that statement and it is not fair for the budget commissioner to be quoted on the matter affecting the solvency of the government in his testimony which was given in an executive session under the "mantle of confidence and secrecy," the President said.

He recalled that the House committee had denied the story but deplored the fact that the newspapers had published it in inconspicuous columns. He said the rectification was printed "behind the eight ball."

Taking an indirect dig at the press, the President said the newspapers "should not speculate on matters which happened in a closed-door session."

He underlined the fact that the newspapers should not indulge in speculative reporting on the solvency of the government.

However, the President admitted at the latter part of the press conference that the government is facing "financial difficulties."

He said the budget commissioner is unable to release the P2 million needed by the Bureau of Posts, as the government is at present facing financial difficulties.

He attributed this state of affairs to the imbalance in the expected government income and the budgetary appropriations.

He assailed the failure of Congress to pass the tax measures Malacañang had recommended to boost the government income to be able to cover up all the authorized expenditures.

The President said that Aytona, when questioned by the House committee on this sum, asked for time to be able to raise the amounts.

President Garcia, however, spiked reports that government employees in the Bureau of Posts or in the other offices may be laid off *en masse* in view of the financial difficulties of the government.

He pointed out that he would not allow the laying-off of employees before Christmas.

PRESIDENT Garcia administered the oaths of office to four new members of the National Science Development Board in a ceremony held this afternoon in Malacañang.

The new members of the NSDB are Teodoro Evangelista, representing education; Oscar D. Mapua, industry; Jose J. Mirasol, agriculture; and Gre-gorio Y. Zara, technology.

The ceremony was witnessed by members of the scientific body and friends of the inductees, among them, NSDB Chairman Paulino J. Garcia, acting Chairman Pedro G. Afable of the Philippine Atomic Energy Commission, Dean Amando Clemente, Commissioner Joaquin Maranon of the National Institute of Science and Technology, Director Isidro Macaspac of the National Economic Council, Dr. Arsenio Regala, executive secretary of the NSDB, Mrs. Jose J. Mirasol, Ignacio Debuque, Deputy Commissioner Canuto Manuel of the National Science Institute of Technology, and many others.

After the regular weekly press conference, President Garcia made a taperecording of a message for a documentary film for the Armed Forces of the Philippines being prepared by Documentary, Inc., a local movie company specializing in documentary films, headed by Lamberto Avellana, well-known movie director.

Undersecretary Serafin Salvador of General Services accompanied Estanislao Macaraeg, a local boxing promoter, who requested President Garcia to donate a silver belt for the forthcoming match for the flyweight championship of the world to be held in Manila on December 15.

Macaraeg, who is sponsoring the fight, said the title bout will be between Dommy Ursua and World Champion Pascual Perez of Argentina.

This fight will be the first one to take advantage of RA 1812, fathered by Undersecretary Salvador when he was still a member of Congress, which provides that world title bouts to be held in the Philippines and in which one of the protagonists is a Filipino will be considered tax-exempt.

From Malacañang President Garcia motored to his Bohol Avenue residence, where he spent the rest of the evening poring over the speeches he will deliver during his state visit to Japan next week.

THIS evening President Garcia expressed appreciation to the Committee for American Relief Everywhere (CARE) for the projects they have initiated in the Philippines.

The President expressed his appreciation to Frank Gaffio, assistant director of (CARE), who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang. Gaffio was accompanied by Dr. Allan Kline, director of the CARE office in the Philippines.

Among the many projects set up by CARE in the country is the school-feeding program which is said to be the largest program of its kind in the Far East.

Gaffio revealed that CARE will soon launch in the Philippines, an ambitious medical program aimed at minimizing the incidence of intestinal parasites among our schoolchildren. He said three mobile health units, specially constructed for the tropics will soon arrive in the Philippines to administer to the health needs of our children.

Each mobile unit, Gaffio said, is capable of treating approximately 20,000 schoolchildren a year. The necessary arrangements for the implementation of this program have already been made with the Department of Education, which will provide two technicians and a driver for each of these units.

CARE has also started in the Philippines self-help projects in the fields of agriculture, health resettlement, and fishing. To promote further the development of agriculture in the country, it has donated a carabao to a veterans settlement in Iloilo and a tractor to farmers in Isabela.

Gaffio is leaving for Ceylon tomorrow in the course of an inspection tour of CARE offices in the East. He will visit ten countries.

The President created the municipality of Tukuran in the province of Zamboanga del Sur in an executive order he signed tonight in Malacañang.

The new municipality will include the barrios of Tukuran, Luya, Tino-tungan, Militar, and Tagolo, all formerly belonging to the municipality of Labangan, Zamboanga del Sur.

Tukuran has a population of 8,225 and an annual income of ₱24,000. Approximately 39 sitios and barrios are included in its territory.

November 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received Dr. and Mrs. J. Mark Heibert, who paid a courtesy call at the Chief Executive and the First Lady at the music room in Malacañang. Dr. Heibert is the president of the Sterling Drug, Inc., parent corporation of Winthrop Stearns and Sterling Products, well-known drug manufacturers.

Mrs. Garcia also accepted from Dr. Heibert a check for ₱1,000 representing the latter's personal contribution to the Christmas Festival fund campaign which is under the over-all chairmanship of the First Lady.

Dr. and Mrs. Heibert were accompanied by Paul C. Wren, vice-president and Far East regional director of Winthrop-Sterling, Inc., Mrs. Alvin Burridge, Mrs. Allen Routon, and Antonio L. Reyes, supervisor for Luzon of the Winthrop Stearns, Inc.

PRESIDENT Garcia this noon thanked the veterans' organizations, representing men who fought the Japanese Imperial Forces during the last World War, for endorsing his state visit to Japan.

The Chief Executive made public his gratitude for the veterans' endorsement at a "send-off" luncheon jointly tendered in his honor by the Philippine Veterans Legion and the Veterans Commanders League of the Philippines at the National Press Club.

The endorsement was considered significant by President Garcia because it came from men "who stood firm to the very end for the cause of freedom

The President pointed out that his trip to Japan is consistent with the wish of the people, as evidenced by the ratification of the San Francisco Peace Treaty and of the Japanese reparations agreement.

In approving the peace treaty and the reparations agreement, the Philippines, which was the aggrieved party in the last war showed that it had decided to forget the past for the higher interests of the nation, the President said.

The state visit to Japan, the President added, will usher a new era of friendship between the Filipino and the Japanese peoples.

“I go to Japan as a bearer of good will and friendship of the Filipino people to the Japanese and as friends we will face the future together, working for the mutual benefit of our countries,” he stated.

The President and officials of the veterans’ organizations who fetched him from his Quezon City residence arrived somewhat late at the National Press Club building as the presidential car had engine trouble

Legionnaire Jose Arañas, PVL national vice-commander for Luzon, introduced the President. The President spoke extemporaneously for 15 minutes. .

The President this day continued to receive overwhelming support of his state visit to Japan from all sectors of the population.

Popular endorsement of the President’s trip came in the form of telegrams, letters from private individuals, and resolutions passed by provincial boards and municipal councils throughout the Philippines. .

In his telegram to the President, Carlos T. Viniegra, president of the Cavite Bar Association, made of record the association’s unconditional support and endorsement of the President’s state visit to Japan “in order to enhance the prestige of the Philippines in the concert of nations.”

The president of the San Fernando Jaycees and the La Union Council of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, wired the President saying that his two organizations are solidly behind the President’s Japan visit. He said he saw three benefits to be derived from the state visit; namely, goodwill, diplomatic, and economic advantages.

Mayor Felix T. Reyes of Malolos, Bulacan, on the other hand, pledged the support of the people of Malolos to the President’s visit and warned would-be detractors from dampening the spirit of the goodwill mission.

Similar telegrams also came from Gov. Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan; the people of Guiguinto, Bulacan; General Trias, Noveleta, Silang, and Rosa-no, Cavite; and Mayor Santos of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija.

Among the resolutions received were those of the provincial board of La Union and the municipal council of Imus, Cavite, which said that after weighing the pros and cons of the President’s state visit to Japan, the council saw the necessity for, and the benefits to be derived from, such trip

The municipal council of Concepcion, Tarlac, said that the goodwill mission of President Garcia to Japan was necessary if only to foster closer relations between the Philippines and Japan, and wished the President a very successful trip.

Among the letters endorsing the President’s trip came from Mayor Tomas Hembrador of Dasmarinas, Cavite; Mayor Dominador llano of Imus, Cavite, who is bed-ridden; Luis Tamayo of Olongapo, Zambales; Jacobo Musilina of Sta. Cruz, Zambales; and Macario Josafat of Iba, Zambales.

THIS afternoon Resident Garcia called upon the women professionals of the Philippines to venture into private fields of endeavor in order to assist more effectively the economic development of the Philippines

The President told some 300 women chemical engineers of the Philippines that this country is one of those blessed by Divine Providence with rich natural resources; such as, minerals, forest lands, and fishing grounds.

The President said that these resources are virtually untapped, awaiting eager hands to exploit them, and that the women professionals can play a major role in their development.

The President congratulated the women chemical engineers of the Philippines for their success in their chosen field and said that their example should be emulated by other women professionals of the Philippines.

President Garcia was the guest speaker at the inaugural program of the Women Chemical Engineers of the Philippines (WOCHEP) held at the Malacañang Social Hall Saturday afternoon.

During the program, Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia was awarded the first Gold Medal award of the organization for being the “first most distinguished woman” in the Philippines who holds a degree in the technological profession.

Mrs. Garcia holds the degree of Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and was the first pharmacist from her hometown, Opon, Cebu.

President Garcia pinned the award on her.

The program, which climaxed the celebration of Women’s Week was emceed by Mrs. Celia Gallego Bantegui.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: November 30- December 6, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 30.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia attended a send-off mass celebrated by Msgr. Rufino J. Santos, Archbishop of Manila, this morning in the Malacañang chapel.

Present at the mass were Justice Secretary and Mrs. Jesus Barrera, Public Works Secretary and Mrs. Florencio Moreno, Defense Secretary and Mrs. Jesus Vargas, Agriculture Secretary and Mrs. Juan de G. Rodriguez, Budget Commissioner and Mrs. Dominador Aytona, General Services Secretary and Mrs. Alejandro Almendras, acting Education Secretary Daniel Salcedo, Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbokon, Finance Secretary and Mrs. Jaime Hernandez, General Alfonso Arellano, NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, NSDB Chairman Paulino J. Garcia, Assistant Executive Secretary and Mrs. Enrique C. Quema, Mrs. Felixberto Serrano, and close friends and relatives of the presidential family.

After the mass, breakfast was served in the family dining room of Malacañang.

During the breakfast, Msgr. Santos informed President Garcia about the Solemn inauguration of the Manila Cathedral and the arrival of the Papal Legate, His Excellency, Gregory Peter XV Cardinal Agagianian.

From Malacañang, President Garcia motored to the residence of Dr. Jose P. Laurel in Mandaluyong, Rizal, to visit the Batangas statesman who had recently suffered a stroke.

The Chief Executive greeted Dr. Laurel, who was confined in bed and wished him a speedy recovery. Dr. Laurel thanked the President for his visit and expressed his concurrence in the objectives: of President Garcia's state visit to Japan.

President Garcia left the residence of Dr. Laurel at 10:15 a.m. and proceeded to his Bohol Avenue residence, where he plunged into work clearing his desk of pending state papers preparatory to his departure for Japan early tomorrow morning.

December 1—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia enplaned early this morning for a five day state visit to Japan amidst the cheers and well-wishes of thousands who went to the Manila International Airport to see them off.

In a brief extemporaneous speech at the airport, the Chief Executive exhorted the people to "consign to oblivion whatever hatred and rancor had been aroused in us during the bitter years of the war."

He said that as a country dedicated to world peace, the Philippines has declared that we will stand behind every move to further the cause of peace in this part of the world.

The President expressed his sincere belief that "we should show to the world and to Japan that, as we have not been beaten on the battlefields in the time of war, we will not be beaten in the show of magnanimity in peace."

He urged the people "to close forever the dark chapter in our history resulting from the outbreak of hostilities 17 years ago and enter into a new era of friendship with Japan, one of cooperation and faith, to our mutual advantage."

President Garcia said the "governments of the world look with favor on his mission to Japan as one step towards the furtherance of peace and good will among nations,"

After thanking members of the diplomatic corps and the large crowd for coming to see him off and wish him success, and *bon voyage*, President and Mrs. Garcia shook hands with the people and slowly made their way to the chartered PAL Viscount plane that would carry them on this historic trip to Japan.

Earlier, the President held last-minute conferences in Malacañang; with members of his Cabinet, among them, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, whom he had designated as “caretaker” of the government in his absence.

President and Mrs. Garcia left Malacañang at 6:15 a.m. after receiving and acknowledging the farewells and well-wishes of ranking officials of the government, close friends, and relatives of the family.

Preceded by an escort of Manila motorcycle cops, the presidential motorcade passed along Aviles, Sanchez, Ayala Boulevard, Taft Avenue, San Luis, Dewey Boulevard, and turned left to the Manila International Airport.

All along the route taken by the motorcade, pedestrians, motorists, and early-morning strollers stopped to wave good-bye to the President.

At the Pasay City boundary, near the corner of Dewey Boulevard and Vito Cruz, the motorcade was met and joined by a large delegation of officials and residents of Pasay City and nearby municipalities.

Among those on hand to greet the President on his arrival at the airport were Vice-President and Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal, members of the diplomatic corps led by Mons. Egidio Vagnozzi, ranking officers of the Armed Forces, and a composite honor guard battalion composed of elements from the different branches of the Armed Forces.

After saluting the colors and acknowledging the 21 gun salute given by an artillery battalion of the AFP, President Garcia reviewed the honor guard escorted by acting Senate President Fernando Lopez, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, and Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, while an aerial cover of six PAF F-80 Sabrejet planes roared overhead.

President and Mrs. Garcia boarded their plane at 6:57 a.m. after pausing briefly at the ramp to wave good-bye to the crowd.

At exactly 7:05 a.m., the four-engined Viscount taxied out to the runway preparatory to taking off for Okinawa, their first and only stop on the way to Tokyo.

PRESIDENT Garcia, in a dark woollen suit, with a Homburg hat to match, landed at 4:17 p.m. today at the Haneda airport, Tokyo, to be accorded one of the most lavish receptions in the Japanese capital.

The President was accompanied by the First Lady and a host of other government officials and three security officers.

Press dispatches from Tokyo said that virtually the entire royal family and practically every foreign diplomat in Japan was on hand to greet the visiting Philippine President.

The President and his party landed from a chartered Philippine Air Lines Viscount plane which took off five minutes behind schedule at the domestic airport in Manila this morning.

Mrs. Garcia wore a fur coat to protect herself against the gusty chilly winds which swept across the airport as the presidential party landed.

After the ceremonies at the Haneda airport, the President and Emperor Hirohito boarded an ancient maroon Mercedes Benz which was said to be 30 years old.

Conspicuous among the spectators who had jammed the airport to witness the arrival of the President was a streamer which read, “Mabuhay President Garcia.”

Crown Prince Akihito was the first member of the royal family to be at the airport. Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nagako followed a few minutes later. With the Emperor were Prince Yoshi, Prince Hiatsu, Prince Mikasa, Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi, and other members of the royal family,

President Garcia was introduced to Prince Akihito. No report was available in Manila this evening on the meeting between the President and the crown prince.

From the airport, the President led a motorcade to the *Geihinkan*, the Japanese Guest House.

A few minutes after arriving at the *Geihinkan*, the President delivered his message over TV and radio.

IN THE EVENING, the President and members of his party attended an informal dinner.

From Manila, the PAL Viscount touched down at Naha for refuelling and engine check-up. Reports said that the trip was uneventful.

December 2—PRESIDENT Garcia today broke centuries-old tradition in Japan when he addressed the joint session of the Japanese Diet.

It was the first time a foreign head of state had addressed the two chambers of the Japanese Diet.

Previous plans called for a mere reception by the members of both Houses of the Japanese parliament in honor of the visiting Philippine Chief Executive.

In his address the Philippine President called for lasting friendship between the Philippines and Japan. He said that there was still lingering “ill-will” in the Philippines because of the Japanese occupation of the country.

In his first morning in the misty and cold Tokyo weather, the President and the First Lady boarded the imperial coach from the Guest House (*Guinhinkan*) to start his scheduled call on the Emperor.

The First Couple called on Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nagako at the Imperial Palace. They were guided by the Emperor’s younger brother, Prince Mikasa.

Emperor Hirohito, who was waiting for the presidential coach at the foot of the stairs, showed them to the third floor which houses the imperial suite. They met there Empress Nagako and Crown Prince Akihito.

Emperor Hirohito and the Empress later returned the visit. Governor S. Yasui of Tokyo also went to the Guest House to present the key of the world’s largest city.

In accepting the symbolic key to the city, the President said he would treasure it as a symbol of the growing friendship between the two countries.

After an intimate luncheon at the Guest House, the President went to the Diet, where he was greeted by Speaker Hosjima and Matsumo and the chairmen of the various committees.

From the Diet, the President broke off his itinerary and paid an unexpected visit to the downtown Philippine press headquarters set up to coordinate information on his state visit to Japan.

The President and Mrs. Garcia and their official party went from the Diet to the Nikkatsu Hotel to inspect the offices of the Reparations Mission.

From the Nikkatsu Hotel, the President attended the joint reception given by the governor of Tokyo and the president of the Philippine Society of Japan.

In the evening the President and the First Lady attended an imperial banquet and reception at the Imperial Palace.

December 3—PRESIDENT Garcia today went through the third day of his six-day state visit of Japan, drumming harder on his theme to “cast into oblivion” the rancor and hatred that has characterized the post-war relations between the peoples of the Philippines and Japan.

In the morning the President left for Yokohama, a city near Tokyo, to visit the Mitsubishi Dockyard.

Inspecting the shipyard, the President saw a vessel earmarked for the Philippines, under the reparations program being constructed.

He also visited a bamboo factory and talked to the workers and officials.

Jokingly, the President said in one of his light moments, that he hoped that the Japanese Government had revoked its order for his arrest.

The President, a guerrilla leader, had been hunted by Japanese forces in Leyte and Bohol.

He recalled that the Japanese Imperial Forces in the Philippines had placed a price of ₱10,000 on his head.

Although he was a guerrilla leader, the President said he did not demand official recognition to collect his backpay.

Reports reaching Manila said that while the President was kept busy by a tight schedule and went through the process of switching ties four times, the First Lady, Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, made the rounds of a Japanese department store where she admired Christmas gifts on display.

The First Lady also sampled the Japanese food, and saw a hospital and an orphanage.

Mrs. Garcia also addressed the nation on television—the first lady to make such a nation-wide speech on television.

The First Lady joined the President in seeking a more substantial reconciliation between the two peoples, saying that both nations should “live in peace and grieve no more because of war.”

President Garcia also addressed the Foreign Correspondents’ Club.

During the press conference, the President came out openly against devaluation and said the low dollar reserves do not show any indication of economic deterioration.

President Garcia also visited the Philippine embassy residence, where he was received by Ambassador and Mrs. Manuel A. Adeva.

An hour later, President Garcia attended a tea party given at the National Press Club of Japan.

IN the evening, the President and Mrs. Garcia honored Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nagako with a banquet.

After the reception, the President and Mrs. Garcia and the members of their party were scheduled to board a special presidential plane, leaving Tokyo at 11:20 p.m. for Kyoto, Nara, and Osaka.

The President and members of his party will spend the night in a sleeper train.

THE President, before leaving on his state visit to Japan, issued Proclamation No. 548, declaring the period from December 7 to 13, 1958, as Government Employees Week.

The Chief Executive issued the proclamation in order to focus attention on the invaluable services rendered by government employees and thereby encourage them to achieve greater efficiency in public service.

The President called upon all citizens and residents of the country as well as schools and civic organizations to turn their thoughts to the honest, loyal, and devoted government employees in grateful appreciation of their services,

The President said the week should be devoted to the attainment of maximum efficiency, harmony, and cooperation between the public and the employees.

THE CABINET this afternoon voted to adopt further retrenchment measures to avert an expected deficit of ₱73.8 million in the current budget.

Meeting without President Garcia, the Cabinet today adopted a four-point measure calculated to trim further the authorized expenditures of various government offices.

The Cabinet action was prompted by a report of Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona that the government collections from the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs have failed to reach the estimated income to cover up the authorized expenditures.

Aytona reported that this year's income showed a sharp reduction amounting to ₱73.8 million.

Malacañang sources said the Cabinet previously had agreed to adopt retrenchment measures, as the government was heading toward a huge overdraft amounting to ₱486 million.

However, in a previous meeting, the Cabinet authorized to freeze other projects in an effort to avert the expected deficit.

In the resolution unanimously adopted this evening, the Cabinet voted that:

- (1) All savings in the appropriations or balances of allotments of the various departments which have not been obligated as of November 30 this year should be frozen;
- (2) The secretary of finance, the budget commissioner, and the auditor general would constitute a committee to review the items of expenditures of the various departments to determine which items should be deferred, report of which to be submitted to the Cabinet with the fiscal officers of each previous consultation with each department;
- (3) A memorandum should be prepared jointly by the committee on the financial condition of the government for submission to members of Congress through the Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives, as well as to members of the Cabinet; and
- (4) The Tax Advisory Board under the chairmanship of the Secretary of Finance should be convened so that it can prepare recommended reforms in the tax system for submission to Congress in its next regular session.

Aytona submitted a two-page report of the "critical financial condition" of the government.

It was indicated that despite the retrenchment measures previously adopted to head off the expected deficit amounting to ₱486 million, the government was on the brink of another huge overdraft of ₱73.8 million.

This imbalance between the authorized expenditures and the income was disclosed in statistics submitted to the Cabinet by Aytona.

The budget commissioner said the government had expected a total collection of ₱806.4 million. However, latest reports indicated that the government might be able to collect only ₱732.6 million.

Aytona previously explained that the budget had authorized expenditures roughly amounting to ₱1.2 billion.

However, owing to the non-passage of the recommended tax measures in the last session of Congress, the Cabinet decided to freeze financing of new projects in an effort to make the government operate within its expected income of ₱806.4 million.

The budget commissioner reported to the Cabinet that figures reaching his office indicated that the expected income of ₱806 million may not be covered, thus forcing a vacuum of ₱73.8 million after the Cabinet had deferred authorized expenditures amounting to ₱486 million in its previous meeting.

Aytona said the customs collections registered the biggest drop in expected revenues and recorded a total of ₱68.4 million from its expected income.

He also said the BIR collections toppled from the expected figure of ₱411.7 million to ₱405.8 million, representing a decrease of ₱5.9 million.

At the meeting this afternoon, the Cabinet also agreed to release ₱118,028 from whatever savings the Defense Department might have made for the use of the intelligence unit of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas asked the Cabinet to authorize the release of five per cent of its reserves intended for the intelligence arm of the Army in an effort to strengthen the undercover work of the AFP.

Vargas pointed out that the failure of the Army to track down the activities of top Communist leaders is due to the lack of appropriations of the intelligence force of the Army.

He told a Cabinet member who had questioned the defense head on its apparently “weak” intelligence network “that if the AFP is given the recommended amount, it would now guarantee a strengthened and efficient intelligence work.

Vargas said “the Saulo case will not be repeated.”

At the same time, the Cabinet endorsed the disbursement of some ₱2.5 million from the reparations funds for the purchase of materials for the construction of prefabricated school building.

The Cabinet merely endorsed the bid of Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, chief of staff of the Armed Forces and concurrently chairman of a Cabinet committee to study ways and means of securing additional buildings to accommodate the expanding enrollment in the primary schools.

Arellano had recommended the release of ₱5 million from the reparations funds. The Cabinet, however, endorsed the release of only ₱2.5 million.

Malacañang explained that the Cabinet merely endorsed the release of the amount, as the final action of the disbursement of amounts from reparations rests with the reparations commission.

December 4—VISITING Philippine President Garcia today went on a sightseeing tour of southern Japan.

Taking a sleeper train from Tokyo last night, the President and the First Lady arrived in Kyoto at 9:30 o'clock this morning

Reports reaching Manila said that Kyoto gave the visiting Philippine Chief Executive a rousing welcome. An estimated 3,000 schoolchildren cheered and waved Japanese and Philippine paper flags when President Garcia arrived at the Kyoto station.

The President found the ancient Japanese city shrouded in a dense fog. The air was chilly.

Arriving at Kyoto, the President and members of his party toured three of the city's major sightseeing spots.

During the course of his tour, the President told newsmen: "I am propoundly impressed by these monuments of Japanese culture. They bespeak the old splendor and grandeur of ancient Japanese times. There is no parallel to this in the world," the President said.

President Garcia rested at the Miyako Hotel, and later boarded a special train en route to Nara.

At Nara the President viewed the famous park where deer were roaming freely.

The President also visited the Heian Shrine, a compound of brilliant orange-colored Shinto buildings in Kyoto.

In front of the altar, the President dug into his pockets for some coins and tossed them into a well. Commerce Secretary Pedro C. Hernaez gave the President some five 10-yen pieces.

After tossing the coins, President and Mrs. Garcia, true to the Japanese traditions, bowed slightly before the Shinto altar.

From Kyoto, the President boarded the special train at 12:57 p.m. and left for Nara. He arrived at Nara an hour later.

At Osaka the President gave a press conference to Japanese newspapermen and foreign correspondents.

IN the evening the President and the First Lady attended a reception given by the Osaka mayor and the president of the Chamber of Commerce at the New Osaka Hotel.

Later in the evening, the President attended an informal Japanese dinner given by the Philippine consul at the city.

President Garcia and the members of his party were scheduled to sleep at the New Osaka Hotel.

EXECUTIVE Secretary Juan C. Pajo administered the oath of office to Commissioner Amado del Rosario of the Bureau of Civil Service as member of the board of trustees of the Government Service Insurance System in a ceremony held today in Malacañang.

With the induction of Del Rosario, the membership of the GSIS board of trustees is now complete. Composing the board are Gregorio S. Licaros, chairman; Capt. Rodolfo P. Andal, vice-chairman; Col. Vicente O. Tiongson, Martin Aguilar, Jr., and Del Rosario, members.

Del Rosario takes over the position left vacant by Casimiro Dacanay whose term of office expired recently.

December 5—PRESIDENT Garcia formally ended his state visit to Japan this evening by attending a dinner given by Prime Minister and Mrs. Kishi at their residence in Tokyo. He is flying home tomorrow.

The social affair, which was climaxed by a communique, ended President Garcia's successful state visit to the former enemy country.

The President spent almost the whole day aboard the train which took him and the members of his party back to Tokyo from Osaka.

He boarded the special presidential plane at 8 o'clock this morning.

The President stayed overnight at the New Osaka Hotel, where he addressed the members of the chamber of commerce of the city this evening.

President Garcia and the members of his party had lunch aboard the special train.

He arrived at the Tokyo station at 4:07 p.m. and immediately plunged into a conference with Premier Kishi.

Reports said the Garcia-Kishi conference lasted for 40 minutes and discussed the possible cooperation of the two governments for the economic development of both countries.

Upon his arrival at Tokyo, reports said, "only a handful of Japanese and Philippine officials, plus a few policemen and railway workers, were on hand to greet the President."

However, an estimated 1,000 office workers and businessmen were said to have lined up outside the station to watch the President drive off in the Emperor's Rolls-Royce limousine,

When the maroon-colored Imperial train ground to a halt and the President debarked, a 13-year-old Japanese school girl named Seki Atsugi handed him a brocaded Japanese doll. Seki is the daughter of a Japanese official.

While the President was busy winding up his state visit in Japan, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, concurrently "caretaker" of the government, presided over the weekly Malacañang press conference.

December 6—PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon returned from a five-day state visit to Japan and was accorded an enthusiastic welcome at the Manila Domestic Terminal and along the route to Malacañang by people from Manila, Pasay and Quezon cities, and neighboring provinces.

The Chief Executive later at Malacañang said he was extremely grateful to the Emperor and the Empress of Japan, as well as the members of the Imperial household, high Japanese officials, and the Japanese people who went out of their way to make his visit successful.

In going out of their way, the Emperor and the Japanese people showed their desire to bring about the restoration of the old friendship and esteem between the Philippines and Japan, the President said.

Speaking about his state visit, the President also said that it has broken tradition. The Emperor and the Empress broke precedents when they welcomed the President, and the Japanese Diet also broke a precedent when it allowed the President to speak before its members.

The PAL Viscount bearing the President and his party arrived at the Manila Domestic Terminal at 4:30 p.m., escorted by a flight of PAF jet planes.

The President and Mrs. Garcia were immediately greeted by Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Acting Senate President Fernando Lopez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Chief Justice Ricardo Paras, and Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

After greeting the chiefs of diplomatic missions, members of the Cabinet and Congress, and provincial executives and city mayors, the President, escorted by Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, AFP chief of staff, proceeded to a platform to receive full military honors.

Then the President and Mrs. Garcia proceeded to a stage where the Most Reverend Hernando Antiporda, D. D., Auxiliary Bishop of Manila, sang a *Te Deum* assisted by the choir of the Christ the King Seminary.

After the *Te Deum*, President Garcia spoke before the welcoming crowd and expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome.

The President said he was happy to report to the Filipino people that in Japan there is incontestible evidence of the desire of the people and government to be fully reconciled with the Filipinos, and to forget what had happened in the past and face the future together.

The President also reported that the Japanese high officials have agreed to furnish the Philippines within the framework of the reparations agreement with facilities with which to construct the Marikina multipurpose project and a nationwide telephone system.

He concluded his short speech by saying that he was happy that in a modest way he had done something to promote goodwill and friendship between the two nations.

The President also thanked members of the diplomatic corps whose presence at the domestic terminal, he said, showed their interest in the promotion of international peace and goodwill.

After his speech, the President boarded an open car and, with the members of his party and the welcomers, headed a motorcade to Malacañang.

Thousands of people lined all along the route of the presidential motorcade from the airport to Malacañang. The President had to stand on the open car throughout the way to acknowledge the cheers of the people.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: December 7-13, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

December 7.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this morning received His Eminence Gregory Peter XV Cardinal Agagianian who will be their house guest in Malacañang for the duration of his stay in the Philippines.

The papal legate presented to the President a letter from His Holiness Pope John XXIII written in Latin announcing his election as Chief Shepherd of the Catholic Church and assuring that he will continue to show to the Filipinos the same benevolence and favor shown by his predecessor, the late Pope Pius XII.

During an informal conversation that followed shortly after his arrival at Malacañang, Cardinal Agagianian, who is representing the Holy Father at the inaugural rites of the newly rebuilt Manila Cathedral, told the Chief Executive and the First Lady that the Cathedral is worthy of a great Catholic nation like the Philippines.

Cardinal Agagianian arrived at Malacañang at exactly 11:30 a.m. accompanied by Mons. Egidio Vagnozzi, Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines, and members of his retinue.

After receiving and acknowledging military honors accorded him by elements from the Presidential Guard Battalion, the papal legate went up the Palace escorted by Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema; Col. Emilio Borromeo, senior presidential aide; and Manuel Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer.

They were met at the head of the stairs by President and Mrs. Garcia and Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

In the party of Cardinal Agagianian were Mons. Arthur Di Jorio, domestic prelate of the papal mission; Mons. Adonei Terzariol, master of ceremonies of the papal mission; Count Vajola Parisani, chamberlain of cape and sword of the Cardinal; Rev. John Manning, private secretary; and Commendatore Leopold Antonelli, personal valet.

Following a cordial 20-minute exchange of pleasantries, President Garcia showed the visiting church dignitary the room that he and his secretary will occupy at the Palace, the former bedroom of the late President Ramon Magsaysay. Then Mons. Vagnozzi and the other members of the cardinal's party took their leave.

President and Mrs. Garcia later had lunch with Cardinal Agagianian at the State dining room of Malacañang.

Others present at the luncheon were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora, and Rev. John Manning.

December 8—THE PRESIDENT said today that implementation of the policy of his administration for the upliftment of the rural areas had been further enhanced as a result of his state visit to Japan.

Speaking before the barrio lieutenants who had concluded their second annual convention in Manila, the President said he is studying ways and means to develop the local cottage industries. He stated that the bamboo industry of Japan could be established in the country to increase the income of the masses in the rural areas.

The President told the barrio lieutenants that the Mitsubishi companies had presented him with \$25,000 worth of tillers. This gift, plus 5,000 bags of fertilizer donated by the Marubeni Iida Company, will be distributed to the rural areas, the President said.

The President also made mention of the success of the Administration in boosting the rice and corn production of the country. The rice production this crop year is so bountiful that the Philippines will not import rice for the first time in many decades, he said, while the government is studying a proposal to export corn to Japan in view of a bumper corn crop.

He assured the barrio heads that, coming as he does from a barrio, he is determined to push through the plan to uplift the living conditions in rural areas.

The President also received Iwataro Uchiyama, governor of the Kanagawa prefecture, who headed a Japanese delegation to attend the consecration and inauguration of the Manila Metropolitan Cathedral.

Uchiyama, who was educated in Spain, conversed with the President in fluent Spanish. He was accompanied by Nobu Sato, president of the Kanagawa-Ken War Dead Families Association, Yosoe Ogimi, and H. Nakazawa.

The President also received a delegation of Tondo tenants led by Aurelio Briones, president of the “Pinagsamang Lakas Ng Tondo Tenants Federation,” who brought to his attention the problems of the tenants.

Briones complained that the Tondo tenants are being harassed by the landowners who are imposing very high rentals and ejecting them from the premises. He requested that the Land Tenure Administration be directed to fill expropriation proceedings with the courts to protect the interests of the tenants.

The President assured Briones that he would discuss the matter with LTA officials.

Earlier, President and Mrs. Garcia heard a pontifical mass and *Te Deum* at the Manila Cathedral on the occasion of the feast day of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, patroness of the Cathedral.

After mass, the President was greeted by the junior city government officials of Manila, led by “Mayor” Aurora Fajardo and Vice-Mayor” Angeles Morales, who came to Malacañang to pay their respects.

Then he had his breakfast at about 11 a.m., together with Mrs. Garcia and Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, who had returned to Malacañang with them from the cathedral.

The President did not receive any callers in the afternoon.

President Garcia today issued a call for a meeting of his Council of State for Tuesday, December 16, to discuss his recent five-day state visit in Japan.

The President said that he would create a committee to take charge of the distribution of 5,000 bags of fertilizers donated by the Marubeni Iida Company in Tokyo which had been presented to him during his state visit in Japan. He said he wanted to make sure that the fertilizers reached the rural areas, particularly small farmers.

Other donations received by the President and the First Lady during their sojourn in Japan included \$25,009 worth of tillers from the Mitsubishi companies and \$5,000 for the Malacañang Children’s Christmas Festival also from the same company.

The President this morning received from Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo the report of Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera on the administrative investigations of suspended Finance Undersecretary Jose P. Trinidad and Director Laureano Marquez of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

The report had been forwarded to Malacañang several days ago when the President was still in Japan. Secretary Pajo delivered it to the President this morning in an unopened, sealed envelope.

December 9.—THIS morning, His Eminence Gregory Peter XV Cardinal Agagianian offered a mass for President and Mrs. Garcia at the Malacañang chapel at 8 a.m.

Besides the President and Mrs. Garcia, members of the Cabinet and their ladies also heard the mass.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon received Vice-Admiral Frederic N. Kivette, commander of the U. S. Seventh Fleet, who called at Malacañang to pay his respects following his recent arrival in Manila.

Accompanied by Vice-Admiral Roland Smoot, commander of the Taiwan Defense Command, Admiral Kivette is visiting Manila for the first time since he assumed command of the Powerful U. S. Seventh Fleet recently

The two visiting admirals were accompanied to Malacañang by U. S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen; Rear Admiral Edgar Cruise, commander of the U. S. naval forces in the Philippines; and Captain John Myers, naval attache of the U. S. Embassy in Manila.

The President also received this afternoon Mons. Jose Ma. Cuenco, archbishop of Jaro, Iloilo, who presented him with a book entitled "South America as Seen By a Filipino Archbishop," The new book contains the bishop's observations during his recent trip to the South American countries.

Dedicated to President Garcia, the book which recently came off the press contains the following inscription: "To Carlos P. Garcia, President of the Philippine Republic, Illustrious Hispanista and Promoter of Goodwill Between Spain and Latin American Countries."

President and Mrs. Garcia honored visiting Papal Legate, Gregory Peter XV Cardinal Agagianian, with a formal dinner at 8:00 o'clock this evening at the Palace.

Acting Senate President Fernando Lopez, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, and Chief Justice Ricardo Paras of the Supreme Court headed high government officials and members of the diplomatic corps who attended the state dinner.

December 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia signed today several *ad interim* appointments at a conference held at Malacañang with Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique Quema.

The appointments: Dominador Padilla, assistant provincial fiscal, Negros Oriental; Basilio M. Toquero, assistant provincial fiscal, Nueva Vizcaya; Ambrosio Aggabao, clerk of court, Ilagan, Isabela.

As justices of the peace: Narciso Albano, Cabagan, Isabela; Manuel Letaba, Allen, Samar; Norberto Tizon, Jr., San Isidro, Samar; Napoleon Victoriano, Despujol, Romblon; Hilario Capotulan, Olutanga, Zamboanga del Sur; Vicente Rudas, Mahaplag, Leyte; Leovigildo Gotico, San Jose, Nueva Ecija; Juanito Panganiban, San Juan, Batangas.

As auxiliary justices of the peace: Marcelino Andrada, Sison, Pangasinan; David Concepcion, Pasig, Rizal.

Earlier, President and Mrs. Garcia heard the mass said at the Malacañang chapel by his Eminence Gregory Peter Cardinal Agagianian.

At the breakfast following the mass, President and Mrs. Garcia presented the visiting prelate with a piña set for the altar, a cane, and a box of cigars.

After breakfast, the President received C. V. Starr, president of the C. V. Starr Enterprises, who had just arrived in Manila in the course of a world tour. Starr was accompanied by Earl Carroll, PHILAMLIFE president; Felino Neri and C. A. Roche, president and board chairman of the American International Underwriters of the Philippines, respectively; and C. L. Seitz, vice-president of the American International Underwriters Overseas.

The President commended today Herman Nubia, former chief of the records section of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, for efficiency in the performance of his duties.

The President's commendation was disclosed in a letter addressed to Nubia by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who stated that Nubia had been singled out by PCAFE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo as the model supervisor

because of his “success in bringing about various material improvements in your section and your introduction of numerous technical innovations which account for the now efficient management of records in your office.”

PRESIDENT Garcia early this afternoon received Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, who just returned from a four-month world tour aboard the APL luxury liner, the *SS President Wilson*.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, representing President Garcia, and Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia were among those on hand to welcome the Rodriguezes. From Pier 9, the Senate President and Secretary Pajo led a motorcade to Malacañang. Among those who joined the motorcade and accompanied the returning couple to the Palace were Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, Sen. Fernando Lopez, members of both chambers of Congress, Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto, and others.

President Garcia waited for Rodriguezes in the study room of Malacañang, and when they entered the room, he got up to meet them and wish them a warm and hearty “welcome home!”

Senate President Rodriguez gave a brief summary of his observations during his trip abroad, and expressed to the Chief Executive a desire to work immediately on important party matters in order to clear the way for next year’s local elections.

After staying 15 minutes, the Rodriguezes left Malacañang to rest while President Garcia retired to his bedroom.

At four o’clock, President Garcia went to the Council of State room to preside over the regular Cabinet meeting.

THE PRESIDENT today instructed the Cabinet committee chairmanned by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez to spare the essential services of the government in its determination of items for expenditures that should be reduced in order to meet expected deficits in the general fund during the current fiscal year.

The President’s directive was given at the regular weekly Cabinet meeting this evening during which the committee tendered a progress report of its accomplishments since its constitution last December 3.

In the course of the report, Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, committee member, who spoke for the body, disclosed that of the government offices and agencies heard so far by the committee the Department of Education had been proposed for the biggest cut totalling ₱22,800,000.

Upon learning that this proposed reduction would mean the closing of some schools for as long as three months, the President told the committee that that was going beyond the philosophy of the reduction project.

The President pointed out that only items that could be dispensed and deferred should be reduced. He reminded the committee that under the constitution the education of the youth is one of the prime concerns of the government.

“To sacrifice our educational system to remedy our present economic difficulties would be the height of irresponsibility,” the President said.

Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, another member of the committee, informed the President that the figures being cited in the committee report were tentative and were, by no means final. The Budget Commissioner expressed certainty that, when the committee had heard all departments and agencies and ready to render a final report, the committee would come up with practical recommendations.

The Cabinet meeting was devoted mainly to discussions reviewing the country’s economic setup. Commissioner Aytona contended that the present difficulties were mainly due to the nation’s inability to introduce tax reforms that would fit our changing economy. The Budget Commissioner also expressed the need of adjusting our tax system which had been revised in 1935.

The President during the meeting encouraged members of his Cabinet to speak freely on their views on the economy. He said that he would perhaps spend the rest of the month studying economic remedies and reexamining our tax system with the view to finding measures that could be recommended for enactment during the next congressional session.

Others who actively participated in the discussions included Undersecretary of Natural Resources Amado Dalisay and Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez.

December 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning enlisted the aid of provincial and city executives in the implementation of the rice procurement program of the Administration at a conference held at his Quezon City residence. At a conference which President Garcia jointly presided with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, the provincial governors and city mayors were urged to help wage a campaign to inform the farmers of the efforts of the government to raise enough funds to buy palay direct from small farmers at government minimum prices.

The President stated that to meet the new situation posed by bumper crops in rice and corn which for the first time in nearly half a century will make the country self-sufficient in cereals, the government is trying to raise enough funds to enable the National Rice and Corn Corporation to purchase palay price stabilization purposes.

The Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration has been directed to help in the implementation of the rice procurement program and the amount of P3 million which it has available will be utilized for the purpose.

Dr. Francisco Sacay, ACCFA assistant administrator, said before the conferees that the government agency will raise an additional fund amounting to ₱12 million through the sale of its stock of 1.5 million cavans of palay.

During the conference, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo bared the difficulties of the NARIC to sell about P20 million worth of stocks on hand owing to the bumper crops.

He pointed out, however, that the NARIC has a balance of ₱14 million from the credit line extended by the PNB for the importation of rice which can be utilized for the procurement program, provided the Finance Secretary guarantees the payment of the loan.

President Garcia said that present plans of the Administration call for the improvement of the credit facilities to the small farmers and exert efforts to place the financing system of the rice and corn industries on the same footing as the sugar industry utilizing the services of the Philippine National Bank.

Naga City Mayor Monico Imperial proposed a drastic measure to eliminate the monopoly of alien merchants in the rice and corn industries by nationalizing both industries.

The Chief Executive counseled the provincial and city executives to go slow on this proposal which would cause serious consequences and international repercussions at a time when the Philippines is trying to boost its foreign trade.

After discussing the problem facing the rice and corn industries, the governors and city mayors, through Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, who is the chairman of the League of Provincial Governors and City Mayors, presented problems of their respective localities to President Garcia.

The conference which was held at the President's Bohol Avenue residence lasted from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. About 50 NP governors and city mayors were present. ,

THE PRESIDENT issued an executive order today for the reorganization of the Social Welfare Administration, which is expected to result in an estimated savings of ₱608,000 in relief funds to the government welfare agency.

The executive order authorizes the social welfare administrator to make such changes in the organization, definition of functions, and distribution of work among entities in the SWA as may be necessary to reflect changes in legislation, conditions, needs, or workloads.

The reorganization which will be implemented in accordance with a plan prepared by the Government Survey and Reorganization Commission as provided in R. A. 997, as amended by Republic Act 1241, is in line with the Administration's policy of providing more and better welfare services to the people at lower cost and with increased efficiency.

Among other things, it will put a stop to the present practice of paying salaries and wages from appropriations intended for relief purposes.

Under the reorganization plan, 528 new and permanent positions will be added to the 471 positions currently authorized, and employees at present paid from relief funds, numbering approximately 800, will be considered for appointment to them. The streamlining of the SWA will also involve the transfer of the SWA clinic to the Department of Health and the transfer of the school facilities at Welfareville to the Department of Education.

IN THE AFTERNOON, the President received Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency. Ocampo, together, with the PCAFE staff, briefed the President on the progress of its work.

The President also received the members of the Chinese goodwill mission who arrived here the other day. The mission was headed by Chang Tsekai. Other members were Lin Chi-yung, George Y. L. Wu, Sunyun-suan, Y. C. Ho, Jerome Sinnan-hu, Chi Shih-chi, Chu Yen-shou, Bunton Wu, Chang Shuin Shuwen, Chow Tai-ye, and Cheng Chua-shih. The group was accompanied by Ambassador Chen Chi-mai.

President Garcia likewise received Thomas P. Collier, director of the Motorola, Inc. Collier presented to the President a transistor radio as a gift of the Motorola president, Robert W. Galvin, to the Philippine Chief Executive.

IN THE EVENING, the President received at his Bohol Avenue residence the members of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank; namely, Gregorio Licaros, Eduardo Z. Romuladez, Gaudencio Antonino, and Roberto T Villanueva.

The Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency this evening reported that the country could maintain the stability of the peso, judging from the upward trend of the dollar reserves in the Central Bank.

The PCAFE headed by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo this evening submitted a bulky report to the President on the achievements of the Administration for the last six months.

Highlight of the report was the PCAFE finding that steady rise in production and employment augurs well for the strengthening of the country's economy and in the stability of the Philippine currency.

The PCAFE report virtually spiked the fears of some economists who had advocated the devaluation of the peso.

Ocampo, accompanied by Capt. Francisco H. Calinawan, PCAFE vice-chairman, submitted the progress report to the President this evening.

The report touched on the performance of various offices and hailed the "careful management of the Central Bank" which has resulted in the conservation of the foreign reserve, bringing about rise in production and employment.

The FCAFE officials also said "the real income is steadily going up." They pointed out that "gross national production increased by 62 per cent owing to expansion in major economic fields; employment increased from 89.3 per cent in 1949 to 112.4 per cent in 1958 owing to the new industries."

The Malacañang body also stressed that the price of rice had dropped from 100 per cent to 92.02 per cent.

December 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today conferred with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez to map out a legislative program for the coming session of Congress with a view to presenting a more realistic and balanced budget.

The conferees discussed in general the legislative program, and the details, especially the balanced budget, will be threshed out with members of the ways and means and appropriations committees of the House of Representatives and the finance committee of the Senate.

It was agreed that the proposed budget will take care only of the essential needs and services of the government.

The conference held behind closed doors at the President's Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, started about 9 a.m., and extended through lunch, until 3 p.m., with slight breaks to allow President Garcia to receive scheduled callers. Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo was present at the start of the conference but had to leave for his office later in the morning. After the conference, President Garcia announced that he had outlined to Senate President Rodriguez and Speaker Romualdez the salient points of the legislative measures that the Administration will propose to Congress in January.

The President also said that they reviewed the problems confronting the government, most of which have arisen during the absence of the Senate President, who returned recently from a round-the-world trip which lasted four months.

President Garcia likewise reviewed with the Senate President and the Speaker the achievements of the Administration during the current year and expressed satisfaction that the rice and corn production campaign had been a success.

Rodriguez gave his impressions of his world tour and reported that European nations were in favor of an expanded and reciprocal trade with the Philippines.

During a break in the conference, President Garcia received Sir Alexander Grantham, former governor of the Crown colony of Hongkong and now a top executive of the Shell company, and G. H. W. Churchill, local Shell manager.

The President also received Pascual Perez, world flyweight champion, and Filipino challenger Dommy Ursua, who will meet in a title bout on Monday night at the Rizal Memorial track-football stadium:

The boxers were accompanied by Lazaro Koci and Felipe Segura, manager and trainer of Perez; Stanley Freking, manager of Ursua; Promoter Estanislao Macaraeg; and Francis Yuseco.

Later in the afternoon, the President motored back to Malacañang for the presentation ceremony of the credentials of the new Burmese minister.

President Garcia formally accepted the letters of credence presented by Sithu U Ba Maung, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the Union of Burma, in a ceremony held this afternoon in the ceremonial hall of Malacañang.

In presenting his credentials, the new Burmese envoy said it will be his earnest endeavor to preserve and further strengthen the cordial relations already existing between his country and the Philippines.

In response, President Garcia said Burma and the Philippines are alike in that they are both newly freed Asian nations engrossed in the task of nation-building.

Minister U Ba Maung arrived at Malacañang at 4:30 p.m. accompanied by Col. Emilio Borromeo, senior presidential aide; Pablo R. Suarez, protocol officer of the foreign office; and U Ba Tay, third secretary of the Burmese mission.

A select platoon from the Presidential Guards Battalion stood at present arms in the lobby as the Burmese ministry passed and went up the Palace steps to the ceremonial hall.

After the ceremony, toasts were exchanged to the health of the President of the Union of Burma and to that of the President of the Philippines.

Among those who witnessed the presentation were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel G. Zamora, Pablo R. Suarez, protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs, and U Ba Tay, third secretary of the Burmese mission.

After the presentation ceremony, the President administered the oaths of office to the newly-elected officers of the U. P. Women Lawyers Circle (WILOCI).

Those who were sworn in included Mrs. Ameurfina Melencio-Herrera, president; Judge Corazon Juliano Agrava, vice-president; Mrs. Teresita Cruz-Lim, vice-president; Mrs. Ester S. Cruz, secretary; Miss Neliy Herrera, PRO; and Mrs. Gregoria Cruz Arnold, Mrs. Remedios M. Austria, Mrs. Soledad G. Rivera, Mrs. Socorro Tirona Liwag, and Vesta B. Banez, directors.

After the induction rites, President Garcia returned to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

December 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today called upon government-owned and controlled corporations to reduce their operation expenses in line with the austerity measures adopted by the Administration.

In a communication directed to chairmen of government firms this afternoon, the President also said that luncheon board meetings of these firms should be limited to only ₱5 per cover and not to exceed ₱60 per meeting.

He said that the maximum amount set should be sufficient since directors of government corporations do not usually exceed 11 members, including the chairman.

The President issued the directive on being informed that board meetings of these corporate bodies were usually held through luncheons so that the directors could spend that much time attending to other important work in their offices during office hours.

The Chief Executive had also been informed that luncheon board meetings usually were held once or twice a week and entailed meal expenses from ₱100 to ₱150 per meeting, irrespective of the number of the members of the board.

The President also issued today a directive to all department heads to submit annual reports pertaining to their respective offices. The President said he needed the data in the preparation of his yearly state-of-the-nation message which he would deliver to Congress when it re-convenes next month.

He gave the department secretaries until the end of next week as the deadline for the submission of the reports.

The Chief Executive did not receive any caller the whole day. He spent most of his time today at his private study in his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, clearing his desk of important pending papers which had accumulated during his recent six-day absence from the country.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: December 14-20, 1958

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

December 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia congratulated the air forces of five nations which participated in an air show held in connection with the opening of aviation week today saying that their splendid showing was a demonstration “not only of their air potential but also of their genuine interest in cooperative international unity.”

In brief remarks delivered this morning at the domestic airport where he formally opened the observance of Aviation Week under the auspices of the Civil Aeronautics Administration, the President said that the air show was more than a display of what the modern flying machines of the participating nations could do, as it was also a demonstration of the willingness of those nations to cooperate with one another.

“This annual celebration brings to the attention of the public the important role which civil aviation is playing in our national progress and security,” the President said. “It is therefore fitting that we give a measure of recognition to civil aviation as one of the most important vehicles of human progress,” he added.

President and Mrs. Garcia was at the airport for more than three hours this morning and watched with admiration the aeronautical skill displayed by Filipino, American, British, Australian, and New Zealander pilots as they put their fast, jet-powered planes into difficult and highly complicated aerial maneuvers.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia cut the ribbons which released two hundred balloons into the air, signalling the start of the air show. The First Lady was assisted by Mesdames Urbano Caldoza, wife of the CAA administrator, and Mrs. Victoria L. Araneta of the Feati Institute of Technology.

The air show consisted of precision mass formation flying, sonic boom demonstrations, supersonic passes over the airfield, aerial refueling, afterburner climbs, and dive-bombing demonstration.

Participating in the impressive display were F-100 Super Sabrejets, B-66 *Destroyers*, KB-50 *Tankers*, *Canberra* jet-bombers, F-86 *Sabre* all-weather jet fighters, *Avro Vulcan* delta-wing jet-bombers, B-57 *Light Bombers*, AD5N *Skyraiders*, A3D *Skywarriors*. F2H-3 *Banshees*, F-3H *Demons*, and FJ-4B *Furies*.

The crowd was particularly impressed by two peculiar-looking *Avro Vulcan* delta-wing jet bombers from the British Royal Air Force which started their maneuvers by flying low over the trees and which seemed to touch the roofs of the plane hangars in the airport.

The President and the First Lady arrived at the domestic airport about 8:20 a.m. for the ceremonies. The speech of the Chief Executive opening the observance of Aviation Week lasted only five minutes. He was introduced by CAA Administrator Urbano Caldoza.

The President also spent some time going around the field, inspecting various types of military aircrafts parked in the area.

ABOUT 11:30 a.m., the President and the First Lady left the airport and motored to Sta. Ana where they were guests of honor at the cornerstone-laying ceremonies of the ₱150,000 edifice which will house recreation halls for workers of the Marcelo Enterprises, which observed its 20th anniversary today.

IN THE EVENING, the President and the First Lady was at the Manila Hotel where they were again guests at an affair held under the auspices of the Woman Pharmaceutical Association of the Philippines and in which the First Lady was conferred an award.

December 15.—THIS MORNING President Garcia called upon the delegates to the five-day conference of Asian universities on cultural cooperation to “bring about a renaissance of learning in Asia and hasten the return of cultural preeminence to the Orient.”

Speaking at the conference’s opening session in the conference hall of the UP library building in Diliman, Quezon City, the Chief Executive reminded Asia’s leading educators that the training of leaders who can safely steer the Ship of State and who can be called upon for counsel and guidance in times of stress is one of the important functions of an institution of higher learning.

The President noted that most of the countries in Asia are still in the period of rapid growth and that it is essential that the reservoir of leadership be replenished at all times.

President Garcia said the heavy demands on the modern leader’s wisdom and resourcefulness require a well-balanced education involving all powers of the individual; namely, intellectual, physical, aesthetic, and spiritual. For this reason, he added, the training for leadership must make provision for culture.

The President said he favored a cultural exchange among Asian countries, as it will go a long way towards promoting mutual understanding, closer relations, and lasting friendship among them.

He stated that the conquest and colonization of most Asian countries in the past has resulted in the development of their respective cultures along different lines. This diversity, he said, will make the exchange of culture among Asian nations highly beneficial and fruitful because every country has something to give to the other.

Quoting H. G. Wells who characterized human history as a race between education and catastrophe, President Garcia concluded his address by charging the educators with the “responsibility of strengthening the cause of peace by spreading culture as a unifying force in building the defense of peace in the minds of men.”

On the President’s arrival at the university campus, a 21-gun salute was fired while a guard of honor composed of select UP ROTC cadets stood stiffly at attention in front of the UP administration building.

After acknowledging the honors, President Garcia and UP President Vicente G. Sinco proceeded towards the library building with the honor guard leading the way.

They were met at the entrance to the building by officials of the Department of Education headed by acting Education Secretary Daniel M. Salcedo, Undersecretary Benigno Aldana, and Director Jesus E. Perpiñan of the Bureau of Private Schools.

Also on hand were delegates to the conference, UP faculty members, and members of the diplomatic corps, among them, U. S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, Chinese Ambassador Chen Chi-mai, and Japanese Ambassador Morio Yukawa.

Diplomats who were not able to attend the opening session of the conference were represented by their cultural attaches.

From Diliman, President Garcia motored to Malacañang where he went over pending state papers until lunchtime.

EARLIER this morning, the President held a breakfast conference with members of the Ormoc Sugar Planters’ Association and the management of the Ormoc Sugar Central. They were accompanied by Rep. Dominador M. Tan of Leyte.

Present at the conference were Agapito Pungos, Dr. Hermenegildo Serafica, Iñaki Larizabal, Enrique Garcia, Melchor Larizabal, Benjamin Pungos, William A. Paradise, Jorge Tan, Jr., Dionisio Torrevillas, Jesus Lladoc,

secretary of the association, Tirso Revilla, manager of the Ormoc Sugar Central, and Gabriel Villanueva, legal counsel of the association.

Among the subjects discussed during the conference was their request for an increase in their sugar quota allocation in view of their increased production and their capacity to fill the quota assigned to them in the past.

THE President this afternoon launched this year's Philippine cancer fund drive by presenting a ₱1,000 check to Gerald Wilkinson, who represented Earl Carroll, chairman of the campaign sponsored by the Philippine Cancer Society.

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this evening motored to see the world flyweight title fight between champion Pascual Perez of Argentina and Dommy Ursua, Filipino challenger.

Malacañang said the President decided to attend the title fight to give his moral support to the Filipino challenger.

It was the first time the President went to the Rizal stadium to attend a sports event.

President Garcia mobilized today relief agencies of the government to extend immediate assistance to the passengers of the ill-fated *M.V. Hiawatha*, which sank off the coast of Surigao yesterday.

On instructions from the President, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo ordered the Navy near the scene of the disaster to rush to the area and help in the rescue operations of some 200 passengers.

The Social Welfare Administration and the Department of Health, which were likewise alerted, lost no time in dispatching relief workers and relief and medical supplies to the area.

Malacañang instructed the Navy to report on further progress of the rescue and relief operations.

December 16.—AT THE COUNCIL OF STATE meeting this noon, President Garcia reported on details of the loans obtained as a result of his state visit to the United States last June.

The President based his report on a summary prepared by Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, PNB President Eduardo Romualdez, and Gov. Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank. The trio had been left behind in the United States to work out the details of the loans.

President Garcia and the Council of State approved today the proposal to start talks on the working out of a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation between the Philippines and Japan.

The talks will be conducted on a bi-partisan basis on the part of the Philippine Government.

The approval of the talks came after President Garcia had rendered a report on his state visit to Japan at the meeting this noon of the Council of State.

In the course of his report, the President called attention to that part of the joint communique issued by the President and Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi that "as it seems desirable that both countries should endeavor to ultimately place their relations on a more stable basis, they agreed to consider, at the appropriate time, the possibility of working out a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation, and pending such treaty, they would endeavor to encourage greater trade and commerce between them by such measures as they may consider mutually beneficial to both countries."

The Council also:

- (1) Passed a resolution congratulating the President for his “signal success” on his visit to Japan;
- (2) Endorsed the loan from Japan to finance the Marikina River multipurpose project and the telecommunications expansion and improvement project within the framework of the Reparations Agreement;
- (3) Heard the final report of PNB President Eduardo Romualdez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, and Governor Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank, who had been left behind in the United States to work out details of the loans obtained by the President during his U.S. state visit; and
- (4) Heard Senate President Rordiguez report on his impressions during his recent trip abroad. While discussing his recent trip to Japan, the President emphasized that no commitment of any kind had been made in his dealings with Japanese officialdom and businessmen. He said he had expressed the desire of the Filipino people to resume their pre-war relations with Japan and that the Japanese people had responded enthusiastically.

The President explained that although his state visit was one of goodwill, some other matters had been taken up incidentally by the Japanese officials such as the financing of the Marikina River multi-purpose and the telecommunications projects. He said that Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno had been left behind in Tokyo to work out details of the negotiations and will report to the Council immediately after his return.

The President thanked members of the Council for passing the resolution congratulating him for the success of his trip. He expressed the hope that his “fruitful trip” would find expression in ever improving cultural, economic, and political relations between the Philippines and Japan.

The Chief Executive said that Japanese officials had welcomed his proposals for cultural exchanges between the two countries. He expressed the belief that the promotion of cultural relations would pave the way for better understanding and easier trade dealings between the Filipinos and the Japanese to the mutual benefit of both peoples.

The President convoked the council of state meeting shortly before 1 p.m., and it lasted up to 3:20 p.m. During the meeting, the President had Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano read the communique issued jointly by the President and Prime Minister Kishi in Japan.

Sen. Recto proposed that the declaration in the joint communique that the Philippine economy and the Japanese economy are complementary in character, should not be understood as making reference to the well known fact that Japan is a highly industrialized country, essentially a manufacturer of finished products, part of which is exported to the Philippines, importing at the same time from the latter a large quantity of raw material for her industries, while the Philippines is at present mainly an agricultural country, producing raw materials, agricultural products, and mineral which are exported in important quantities to Japan.

Not a single instance in history can be found, Sen. Recto added, where a trade arrangement between two nations, one industrial and supplier of processed goods, and the other, agricultural and supplier of raw materials, has benefited the latter, and inasmuch as the Philippines is determined to prosecute her industrialization program as fast as her means will permit, it is to be expected that her raw materials are primarily intended for her own industries. The words “complementary economy” appearing on the communique, should therefore be understood, Sen. Recto concluded, as meaning only that there are Japanese products that are, and can be sold, to the Philippines, and Philippine commodities, like sugar and coconut oil, that can be sold to Japan.

The President explained that such was the meaning intended in the communique, and the Council of State voted unanimously to approve and make of record Sen. Recto’s proposal.

EARLIER this morning, President Garcia conferred with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pa jo and Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, on the interpretation of certain provisions of the Reparations Agreement.

Later, President Garcia held a closed-door conference with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and CB Governor Cuaderno after which he proceeded to the State dining room for the Council of State meeting.

IN the afternoon, the President received John J. Nelley, vice-president of the Chase Manhattan Bank, New York.

The banker was accompanied by Eduardo Z. Romualdez, president of the Philippine National Bank. The President also received Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, Manolo Elizalde, and Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency.

December 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia received a continuous stream of congressional callers in Malacañang from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. today.

Sen. Domocao Alonto conferred with the President on political and economic matters and discussed with the Chief Executive the feasibility of entering into treaties of friendship and cultural cooperation with Asian and African countries.

Sen. Eulogio Balao and Rep. Felipe Garduque of Cagayan accompanied Mayor Lucilo Pascual of Lallo, Cagayan, who took his oath of affiliation as a Nacionalista before President Garcia in the study room of Malacañang.

Among those who witnessed the oath-taking were Mayors Jose Villegas of Alcala, president of the Nacionalista Party in Cagayan, and Venancio Morales of Amolong and Manager Peregrino R. Quinto, manager of the Philippine Tobacco Administration.

On representations by Rep. Ismael Veloso of Leyte, President Garcia directed Manager Eugenio Santos of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office to facilitate the release of ₱50,000 for the Leyte Provincial Hospital.

Rep. Apolinario Apacible of Batangas requested the President the allocation of several units of prefabricated school buildings for several towns in his district to replace those either damaged or destroyed by typhoons that had hit the province during the last few years.

Rep. Apacible was accompanied by Mayors Pedro Macalalag of Tuy and Luis Ramos of Balayan.

Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela asked the President to issue a proclamation for the recovery of a lot previously reserved for the Armed Forces and granting it to the municipality of Ilagan as the site of their new municipal building.

Other congressional callers of the President this morning were Sen. Reseller Lim and Reps. Ricardo Ladrido of Iloilo, Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, Alberto Q. Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, and Luis Hora of Mountain Province.

THE PRESIDENT acted today to beat the seasonal mail jam by releasing ₱200,000 to continue the service of wage employees of the Bureau of Posts in Manila and the provinces.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who released the amount by authority of the President, said this move will not only relieve the Christmas mail jam but also the anxiety of the wage-earners who face the bleak prospect of being laid off this Christmas.

The amount of ₱200,000 was released by the President on recommendation of Deputy Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, owing to the heavy volume of air mails arriving at the Bureau of Posts, which the regular employees are unable to tackle.

The amount released will be chargeable against the excess income of ₱590,355.60 over corresponding appropriation for the air mail services as of October 31, 1958.

AT THE CABINET meeting this afternoon, President Garcia reaffirmed the national policy enunciated by his administration of non-intercourse with communist countries, as he upheld the action taken by the Philippine Consulate General in Hongkong in refusing to issue a crew-list visa to the crew members of a Yugoslav vessel.

The matter was brought to the Cabinet meeting this afternoon when the Botelho Shipping Corporation, local agent of the Yugoslav ship, requested a reconsideration of the action taken by the Philippine Consulate General in Hongkong.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano alleged that as a matter of sound political and economic policy of the Philippine Government, his department holds the view that the government should not allow foreign vessels under the registry of communist countries to engage in any form of commercial transaction in the Philippines.

Serrano further alleged that the Yugoslav ship should not be allowed to be the carrier of Philippine products, as it will puncture the national policy of non-trade with communist countries. He further alleged that once punctured it will be taken advantage of by other communist countries.

In recommending that the request of the Botelho Shipping Corporation be denied, Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez also observed that shipping companies like the Botelho should know the Philippine policy of non-trade with communist countries.

Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, for his part, also recommended that the request be denied, alleging that for reasons of national security communist-registered vessels should not be allowed to call at Philippine ports.

The Yugoslav ship entered into contracts with two Filipino concerns for shipping 500 tons of copra to Europe and logs to Venice, Italy, but when the ship's agent applied for a crew-list visa for the crew members, the Philippine consulate general in Hongkong refused to act favorably on the application, saying that the Philippines has no diplomatic relations with Yugoslavia by reasons of the latter's non-recognition of the Independence of the Philippine Republic.

The ship was scheduled to leave Hongkong on December 13, 1958, and call at Cebu to load the copra and proceed to Surigao to load the logs, but the Bureau of Immigration was poised to fine the vessel in case it proceeded to the Philippines with a crew-list visa for its crew members.

The Cabinet restored the ₱22.8 million cut slashed by a three-man committee from the budget of the Department of Education to insure continuous classes in the public schools until March.

After restoring the slashed item, President Garcia authorized the release of ₱9 million from the reserves of the Department of Education to cover payment of the salaries of teachers up to the end of the school year.

The Cabinet reviewed the report of the three-man committee, headed by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, which slashed the budgets of the different government offices in an effort to avert a ₱74 million deficit this year.

Significantly, the Hernandez committee turned about in its report and recommended the restoration of the ₱22.8 million cut it had proposed from the Department of Education.

The Cabinet review of the committee recommendations, will be resumed at a special meeting which the President will call before the end of the current year.

The President and the Cabinet, at their discussions this afternoon, agreed to restore the huge cut from the education budget.

The Cabinet also agreed to slash only ₱7 million from the budget of the Department of National Defense. The Hernandez committee had previously sought to prune ₱30 million from the budget of the defense department.

Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas objected to the slash of ₱7 million and appealed to the Cabinet to reduce the amount to ₱5 million.

Vargas claimed he would be forced to demobilize some 24,000 officers and men in the event the budget is cut by ₱7 million.

The Hernandez committee submitted today its report, recommending only a total slash of ₱16,081,560 from the budgetary appropriations of the different government offices.

Although the committee had previously outlined a total slash of ₱73.4 million from the different appropriations of government offices, the body re-considered its decision and reduced the amount it proposed to slash from the budget.

Malacañang said the Hernandez committee recommended adoption of other measures to cover up the expected deficit of ₱58 million. The committee proposed that funds be taken from special levies to cover up the expected gap between the appropriation and income figures.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening called upon the press in the Philippines to maintain its freedom and fight the forces which threaten to enslave the newspapermen.

He was the principal speaker at the third annual award of the Manila Suburban Press Club held at the National Press Club's deck.

President Garcia said "we have in this country one of the freest and strongest press in the world today."

Turning to the provincial press, the President said the former has a grave responsibility, as the newspapermen should have the "highest integrity" in the exercise of their profession.

"By integrity," the President pointed out, "we mean the strict adherence to what is factual and true and the maintenance of a free and strong press. A news item slanted to serve the interest of one man, or an editorial designed to enhance the ambitions of an interested individual—compensated by political favors or promises of political opportunities are manifestations of servitude. Servitude is not freedom; it is a sign of weakness," he said.

President Garcia also paid tribute to the provincial press which, he said, is serving the greatest area in the country.

He called the provincial press as the backbone of public opinion. "Its collective strength," he said, "places it in a unique position as educator, informant, and guardian to millions of our people."

The President also pointed out that an "accurate report can serve not only your interest as reliable pressmen but what is more important the welfare of our people. An inaccuracy," he said, "can have disastrous effects to the country."

He urged the newspapermen to be fair and stressed that any "good journalist, true to his profession, knows that to report only one side of a story is not only being unfair to the individual concerned but he is guilty also of one-sided, biased, and prejudiced reporting."

President Garcia handed the certificate of award to 34 awardees.

December 18.— PRESIDENT Garcia conferred with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano this noon on the proposed start of talks preparatory to negotiations toward a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation between the Philippines and Japan.

The proposed talks had been approved at the Council of State meeting at Malacañang last Tuesday. It will be conducted in a bi-partisan basis.

Earlier this morning, the President received governors and mayors most of whom presented requests for financial aid for their respective provinces and municipalities.

Gov. Juan Triviño of Camarines Sur asked the Chief Executive to expedite the release of financial assistance for 10 towns in his province which were badly damaged by typhoon *Nancy* three months ago.

Gov. Leon Guinto, Sr., accompanied three mayors of Quezon province who likewise requested financial aid for the repair of damages wrought on their towns by typhoons. The mayors were Leon Ruidora of Gen. Nakar, Tomas R. Angara of Dingalan, and Edgardo Cabangon of Calawag.

Also with Gov. Guinto was ex-Rep. Tomas Morato of Quezon, who paid a courtesy call on the President.

Tarlac Gov. Arsenio Lugay requested President Garcia to direct the Land Tenure Administration to expedite payment of ₱324,000 for a 25 hectares of land belonging to the Hacienda Bautista-Sioco located in the poblacion of San. Manuel, Tarlac, for subdivision and distribution to tenants.

He also requested the release of ₱7,500 for the completion of the municipal building of San. Manuel and ₱10,000 for the town hall of San Clemente, Tarlac Gov. Lugay was accompanied by Mayor Amado Robles of San Clemente.

Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella briefed the President on the political situation in his province and the problems confronting the locality, particularly the acute lack of school buildings to replace those destroyed by typhoons.

Gov. Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental requested the appropriation of ₱20,000 from the President's contingent funds to finance the repair of school buildings in his province damaged by typhoons.

Gov. Jose Dinglasan of Capiz sought the Chief Executive's intervention in securing the release of ₱100,000 for the completion of the airport in Roxas City.

Mayors Getulio Calope of Balilihan and Salustiano Baura of Tubigon, Bohol, also requested assistance from the President for the repair of certain public works installations in their respective municipalities which were damaged by typhoon *Nancy*.

Mayor Lorenzo Belarmino of Sta. Cruz, Marinduque, sought the aid of President Garcia in the completion of a ₱124,000 irrigation project in his municipality, work on which had already been started.

The President received callers until 2 p.m. After the last caller, President Garcia proceeded to his bedroom, where he conferred with Secretary Serrano over a late lunch on the text of a joint Philippine-Japan communique on the agreement for the Marikina multi-purpose dam and a nation-wide telecommunications system.

THIS evening the President stressed the need for forging closer relations with free Asian countries for the economic, political, and military survival of the Philippines from communist enslavement.

Addressing the annual "President's Night" dinner of the Manila Overseas Press Club, the President justified the new emphasis in the country's foreign policy toward Asia.

He denied, however, that there has been any fundamental change in the country's foreign relations with other countries.

“Racially and geographically,” the President said, “we are an Asian people. If for no other reason we should be making this effort to reach out for closer cooperation, for better understanding, for the cultural exchange which is the very essence of man’s constantly broadening spiritual and intellectual horizons.”

He said that his recent visit to Japan was the “forward step” towards the new emphasis in the country’s foreign policy towards Asia.

“There is a growing awareness in Asia that the relentless drive of Communism for world domination,” he said, “is something that cannot be ignored by any free Asian.”

The President, however, said that it is difficult to say at time exactly what form of collective Asian defense against communist economic and political aggression should take.

“Among the members of the free Asian community,” he said, “there must develop a broad and sympathetic understanding of each other’s thinking problems and national objectives. Only with such understanding can we explore the common ground upon which a common economic, political, and a spiritual defense may be based and collective action undertaken. To achieve this understanding for ourselves and to encourage our neighbors to seek it is what motivates the current emphasis of our foreign policy,” he added.

endency to put greater emphasis on the country’s relations with Asian countries tries, “we are fulfilling our own concept of the role of each member of the free world community in its defense . . . Our sovereign dignity,” President Garcia said, “demands that we make every contribution within our competence to the arsenal of freedom.”

The President denied that there has been any change in the foreign policy of the country, although, he pointed out, there is at present a tendency to put greater emphasis on the country’s relations with Asian countries.

He warned that the very bedrock of the Asian way of life—the family— has been shattered by the communist doctrines. He said that in the place of the family “has been imposed a fantastic militarized social system in which men and women, husbands and wives, live in separate barracks and eat in segregate mess halls, while their children are raised in state institution. No feudal despot, no imperialist conqueror, has ever dared attempt as complete an enslavement of a people,” he warned.

President Garcia likewise recalled that the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization was conceived as the answer of Asian countries to “the challenge of naked military Red aggression against peoples and states.”

He stressed that the communist military aggressions have been held at bay by the organization of the SEATO. However, he said that the communists have shifted their campaign to a policy of attraction cloaking the “tactic of deceit” described by Lenin as an orthodox element of Red policy.

December 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia instructed the members of the Philippine delegation to the world’s basketball championship games in Chile to do their best and “bring home the bacon.”

The PI cagers, accompanied by officials of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation, called on the President in Malacañang this morning to pay their respects, say farewell, and receive instructions.

The President told them, “My instructions are for you to bring home the bacon. I wish you a fruitful trip and victory in your forthcoming games. Our people will be proud if our flag will be upheld in the field of sports. Congratulations for your victory in the last Asian Games. God bless you all.”

The members of the team who called on the President were Coach Virgilio Dalupan, Carlos Loyzaga, Loreto Carbonell, Emilio Achacoso, Geronimo Cruz, Constancio Ortiz, Ramon Manulat, Carlos Badion, Guillermo Baz, Edgardo Ocampo, Eduardo Lim, Kurt Bachmann, Mariano Tolentino, Roberto Yburan, and Alfonso Marquez.

Officials of the PAAF who accompanied the athletes were Antonio de las Alas, PAAF president, Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, Chito Calvo, Augusto Bautista, and Serafin Aquino, PAAF secretary-treasurer.

President Garcia presented the Philippine flag to Manuel B. Nolasco, assistant national boy scout commissioner and leader of the Philippine delegation to the 1959 Boy Scouts' Pan-Pacific Jamboree in Auckland, New Zealand.

Other members of the PI delegation to the jamboree are Ben Hur Lasam, scribe of Troop 21, Agusan Council, and Antonio Gonzales, junior assistant scoutmaster, Troop 310, Tarlac Council.

In presenting the flag to Nolasco, the President charged them with the duty of doing honor to it and wished them good luck in their mission.

Nolasco will go first to South Australia to undergo Wood Badge training, while the two scouts will remain in Melbourne where they will be the guests of the Australian boy scouts.

From Melbourne, the delegation will proceed to Auckland, New Zealand, to attend the 1959 Boy Scouts' Pan-Pacific Jamboree.

They are leaving tomorrow night and expect to be away 28 days.

Members of the Japanese Collegiate All-Stars basketball team that have been playing a series of benefit games here for the 10th Boy Scouts' World Jamboree fund campaign were among the President's callers this morning.

The members of the team are Setsuo Nara, Hideo Kanekawa, Reijiro Kawamoto, Fusao Yokoyama, Kumiyasu Oshima, Seiji Yamamoto, Sigeyoshi Kashara, Kaoru Wakabayashi, Sadao Sugawara, Atenosake Kimura, Shohei Uozemi and Shoji Kamata. They were accompanied by Seiichi Morisawa, head; Masami Kase, coach; and Michihiko Kunehiro, cultural attache of the Japanese Embassy.

The visiting team is returning to Japan tomorrow after playing a series of five games in Manila. They will make their final appearance tonight against the formidable NCAA selection.

Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez and Rep. Luciano Millan of Pangasinan were among the first callers of the President today. They took up with the Chief Executive matters pertaining to the functions and management of the Agricultural Tenancy Commission.

President Garcia also received Capt. and Mrs. Pat Bohling who were honored guests during the celebration of Philippine Aviation Week.

Capt. Bohling will be remembered as the intrepid flyer who established a world's record for a non-stop solo flight from Manila to Seattle aboard a light plane.

The American couple were accompanied by Col. Urbano Caldoza, CAA administrator, and Mike Campos, president of the Philippine Airmen's Association.

Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, PC chief, called on the President to submit a report on the peace and order situation in the country which he described as "very good."

Maj. Constantino C. Navarro, deputy chief of the CIS, accompanied Gen. in his call on President Garcia.

President Garcia's last callers this morning were members of the board of directors of the Philippine Homesite and Housing Corporation with whom he conferred until almost 2 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia approved in principle a proposal to sell certain properties of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation during a conference in Malacañang this morning with officials of the state housing firm.

The President's approval was given subject to the condition that the board submit a sound financing plan to insure the wise investment of the proceeds of the sales.

Present at the conference which was held in the President's study room were Manuel Leelin, Enrique J. L. Ruiz, Salud Parreño, Sergio Ortiz Luis, and Pedro Fernandez, members of the PHHC board of directors.

The sale of these properties was suggested as a means of enabling the PHHC to raise funds to finance the construction of low-cost houses for people in the low-income bracket in keeping with the Administration's program of social amelioration for the masses through shelter.

The PHHC officers told the President that a ranking official, without prior consultation with the board, had assured the employees of the government corporation that they would be given Christmas bonuses.

They said the board is not disposed to give bonuses this year because of the tight financial position of the PHHC. President Garcia backed their stand and cited a Cabinet resolution prohibiting losing government corporations from giving bonuses.

The President was also informed that they had stepped up their collections by holding project managers responsible for collecting the rentals of units in their respective areas.

They were told by the President to increase their earnings so that they could pay the amortization on their loan with the GSIS and secure the balance of their unreleased loan amounting to ₱11 million for the completion of their unfinished projects.

The PHHC directors suggested to the President that a reorganization of the firm be effected in order to cut down expenses and achieve maximum efficiency. They said the corporation is saddled with too many emergency employees resulting in an overlapping of duties and functions.

Director Ruiz showed President Garcia plans for a "core" house which he said would cost from ₱2,500 to ₱3,000 to build. It contains the minimum requirements for living and is designed to allow construction of additional rooms.

Ruiz also presented plans for a house built of local materials with an estimated construction cost of from ₱300 to ₱500 only. This type, Ruiz said, is easily within the reach of majority of the people, especially those in the rural areas.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon challenged his critics to come forward with evidence and substantiate charges of influence peddling contained in the "white paper." At his regular press conference—the last for the year—the President said he could not bet on charges which are based merely on "gossips and rumors."

He underscored his present campaign to weed out grafters when he launched his drive for a general "house-cleaning," but deplored the fact that those who raised charges could not present evidence to substantiate them.

Asked if Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., who authored the "white paper" had submitted any evidence to substantiate charges of influence peddling involving men close to Malacañang, the President said: "Amang (Rodriguez) said he based his report merely on gossips and rumors and he could not prove them."

At his press conference, the President:

1. Reiterated his new policy to give greater emphasis on the country's relations with her Asian neighbors;

2. Justified the present budgetary imbalance;
3. Predicted a sweeping victory for the Nacionalista Party candidates in the coming elections;
4. Branded as “speculative” reports of an impending reshuffle in his Cabinet;
5. Disclosed he is still studying the administrative cases of National Treasurer Vicente Gella, Undersecretary of Finance Jose P. Trinidad, and Director of Animal Industry Laureano Marquez; and
6. Indicated that Miguel Cuaderno will stay as governor of the Central Bank.

Before answering newsmen’s questions, the President said he was giving the last press conference for the year 1958, as he plans to go out of town next week.

He greeted the newsmen with a “Merry Christmas and a happy new year,” for he said he may not be able to extend the season’s wishes until after the next press conference next year.

He observed that the press has made it “hot for me during the year.” and expressed the hope that he would get a “better temperature next year.”

December 20.—THE President received members of the Presidential Fact-

Finding Committee at a breakfast conference held this morning in his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

This morning’s caucus marked the last day of existence of the Calinawan committee, as the President said he considered their work of going into the venalities in the Bureau of Customs as “finished.” He thanked them for a job “well done.”

Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino Calinawan, PFFC chairman, submitted a report of their achievements, findings, and recommendations and informed the President that each of them considered it an honor and a privilege to have been of service to the country.

He also pledged the “unstinted support and undying loyalty” of the members to the Administration and said he hoped that their efforts had contributed in some way to the realization of the Administration’s goal of a clean and honest government.

THIS NOON, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to Baesa, Quezon City, to inspect the Damara Poultry Farm on the invitation of Don Andres Soriano, owner and operator of the farm.

The farm has an area of four hectares and is equipped with the latest in gadgets for producing and raising better breeds of fowls. It is used as a research center and a pilot project of the San Miguel Brewery, Inc.

The President evinced interest in the Chicktester which determines the sex of day-old chicks and which is reportedly 99 per cent accurate. Another machine on the farm is used for differentiating fertilized eggs from sterile ones.

After going around the farm, President and Mrs. Garcia took lunch with Don Andres Soriano, executives of the San Miguel Brewery, Inc., and their wives. They motored back to their residence on Bohol Avenue after resting a while in a model barrio home built within the compound of the farm.

IN THE EVENING, the President received Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, Armed Forces chief of staff, who called to press for the approval of his retirement. Gen. Arellano also took up with the President plans for the reorganization of the AFP general staff as a result of his retirement.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Official Week in Review: December 21 – December 27, 1958

December 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia appealed today to farmers to report cases of rice-buying by NARIC and ACCFA agents from traders under the rice procurement program of the Administration.

The President said he had directed the NARIC and the ACCFA to buy direct from farmers for whose benefit the program had been launched. He expressed his desire to have this directive strictly complied with and warned that violations would be dealt with accordingly.

Pointing out that the sum made available for the rice procurement program up to March next year was P15 million, the President said he would like to see this amount spread over among as many farmers as possible and encourage them to continue increasing their production in line with his policy of achieving self-sufficiency in this staple commodity.

The Chief Executive reiterated that for the first time in history, this country had produced more than it needed owing to improved methods of planting. He said that this was a new experience for the Philippines and that he hoped the financing system of the price support program would eventually be perfected.

The President had issued the directive for the NARIC and the ACCFA to purchase direct from farmers on receiving reports that government agents often obtain their stocks from traders. The President said that in such cases it was the middlemen who profited instead of the farmers.

The Chief Executive ordered NARIC and ACCFA officials to enforce his directive strictly. He also circularized all governors and mayors to cooperate in the enforcement of the order. The ACCFA will take care of the procurement of palay in places throughout the country where there are FACOMAs organized, in conjunction with the procurement effort of the NARIC.

The President spent the day at his Bohol Avenue residence working on some state papers and sorting various reports of department secretaries on the accomplishments and needs of their respective departments.

The President needs this data in the preparation of his state-of-the-nation message which he will deliver before a joint session of Congress when it convenes next month.

The Chief Executive started the day by hearing mass. With him at the mass were Mrs. Garcia, Lt. Melchor Fronda, and members of the household.

After breakfast with Mrs. Garcia and Fr. Tugade, the President spent some time reading the Sunday morning newspapers. He also took a brief stroll in the lawn where he watched a gardener put decorations on a small Christmas tree.

The President did not receive any caller the whole day.

December 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today advocated the formation of an anti-graft court to try cases filed against government officials and employees in connection with the performance of their official duties.

The President this morning conferred with Sen. Quintin Paredes, chairman of the Senate Committee on justice, and Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera on the practicability of setting up such a court which would specialize on graft and corruption cases.

The Chief Executive instructed Secretary Barrera to prepare the draft of a bill providing for the creation of an anti-graft court which he will recommend for enactment in the next congressional session. The court, as planned, will be under the judiciary branch of the government.

The President today also:

(1) Convoked a special meeting of his Cabinet at 4 p.m. tomorrow to resume consideration of the fiscal committee report on proposed budget slashes as well as the rice and corn price support program; and

(2) Summoned Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Chairman Rodolfo Maslog of the Reparations Commission and Jose Laurel III at a breakfast conference tomorrow morning to discuss the financing of the Marikina River multipurpose project and the Telecommunications expansion project.

The fiscal committee which had been formed by the Cabinet to recommend reductions in the budgets of various offices in the executive department in order to meet expected deficits in the general fund during the current fiscal year, submitted its reports and recommendations at the Cabinet meeting last week.

The Cabinet did not finish consideration of the report owing to lack of time. The President then decided to call a special meeting to resume discussions on the matter. Last week's meeting was to have been the last of the Cabinet during the year.

Secretary Moreno and Laurel III had just arrived from Tokyo, where they followed up negotiations with Japanese officials for the financing of the Marikina multi-purpose and Telecom projects. Assistance by the Japanese Government for these two projects were among those promised to President Garcia during his state visit in Japan early this month.

The President also received Gov. Manuel Barretto and Rep. Genaro Magsaysay of Zambales.

In the afternoon, the President received Sen. Oscar Ledesma, who paid a call on the Chief Executive after his return from official missions abroad.

Last caller of the President today was Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol. No details were released by Malacañang on the Garcia-Cabangbang conference.

December 23.—THIS morning the President received the verbal report of a three-man group which stayed in Japan after his State visit to negotiate with a Japanese panel the terms and conditions of the loan for the construction of the Marikina multipurpose project and the nationwide telecommunication network.

The conference, held at the Quezon City residence of President Garcia, started about 8 a.m. and lasted until about noon. Present were Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Reparations Commission Chairman Rodolfo Maslog, and Jose Laurel III. Also at the conference were Public Works Director Julian Buendia and Jose Alfonso of Telecommunications.

The President instructed the group to prepare a formal report to be presented to the Council of State at its next meeting.

The President discussed with the group the terms of agreement of the deferred payment formula, including the rate of interest of not more than the rate charged by the World Bank, which does not exceed 5.75 per cent per annum.

Regarding the *modus operandi*, Moreno, as head of the Marikina Committee, shall determine the goods and services required, and the Reparations Commission, through Maslog and Lanuza, shall take charge of the procurement in accordance with the Reparations Act. Evaluation of bids received shall be made by the Moreno committee, in behalf of the end-user agencies, before final terms and conditions of procurement are to be agreed upon by the Reparations Mission in Japan, and the Japanese suppliers or contractors. The loan agreement on the *yen* value of the procurement under the deferred repayment formula shall be signed by both Moreno and Maslog on behalf of their respective agencies.

The telecommunications project will provide extensive and modern telephone, telegraph, and radio facilities to the people of the Philippines as well as enhance the overall economic and industrial development of the country.

The expanded telecommunications system envisions the extension of technical aid by the Bureau of Telecommunications to all *bona fide* telephone franchise holders, especially the small Filipino privately owned telephone systems, in order to improve and expand their services in towns and provinces and to interconnect them with each other through the government's interprovincial transmission facilities.

The President also conferred with American Ambassador Charles Bohlen; Paul Summers, local ICA head; and Benjamin Baker Fogler, management consultant detailed with ACCFA who suggested the enactment of a law to improve the effectiveness of the work of the ACCFA in extending financial aid to small farmers.

President Garcia informed the American officials that he will consider the suggestion.

The President also received Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and Rep. Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte.

Shortly before noon, the President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the residence of Don Ramon Fernandez to express personally their condolence for the death of Mrs. Fernandez.

President Garcia today proclaimed Wednesday, December 31, a special public holiday "in order to enable the people to enjoy an uninterrupted New Year's holiday, without prejudicing public interests."

Rizal Day, December 30, falls on Tuesday, while New Year, January 1, 1959, falls on Thursday, the days immediately preceding and following the proclaimed special public holiday.

The President also signed today Proclamation No. 551, extending further the period for the fund-raising campaign of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines for the Tenth World Jamboree up to June 30 next year.

In extending the period which expires on December 31 this year, the Chief Executive pointed out that the fund raising organization of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines needed additional time to raise sufficient funds for the successful holding of the jamboree.

The fund-raising campaign was originally set for July 1 to August 15 and was later extended up to December 31 this year by the President.

Meanwhile, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo this morning received Boy Scouts officials at his office, who called to thresh out details for the holding of the Tenth Boy Scouts World Jamboree.

The BSP officials also presented to the executive secretary, who is a member of the National Executive Board of the BSP and chairman of the finance committee of the Tenth Boy Scouts World Jamboree, the "National Council Flag" of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines.

The Tenth Boy Scouts World Jamboree will be held at the Makiling National Park, Los Bafios, Laguna, from July 17 to 26, 1959. Some 12,000 boy scouts representing 70 countries from all over the world are expected to attend the jamboree.

Those who called on Secretary Pajo were Antonio C. Delgado, executive vice-chairman, Tenth World Jamboree; Francisco "Koko" Trinidad, member, program committee; Jose A. Panlilio, national scout director, BSP; and Gregorio I. Estonanto, PRO-PRESIDENT Garcia awarded the Philippine Legion of Honor, degree of Commander, to Gen. Thomas D. White, chief of staff of the United States Air Force, in a ceremony held this afternoon in the ceremonial hall of Malacañang.

The award was given to Gen. White for “eminently meritorious and distinguished services rendered to the Republic of the Philippines while serving as deputy commander of the 13th US Air Force in the South Pacific theater of Operations.”

The visiting chief of the US air force was accorded full military honors upon his arrival at Malacañang by an honor guard composed of elements from the Presidential Guards Battalion.

After acknowledging the honors, Gen. White went up the Palace accompanied by US Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen; Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Moorman, Jr., 13th Air Force commanding general; Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, vice-chief of staff, AFP; Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, PAF chief; and Lt. Col. Emilio O. Borromeo, senior presidential aide.

President Garcia received Gen. White, Ambassador Bohlen, and Gen. Moorman in the music room and together they proceeded to the ceremonial hall where the presentation of the award was made.

Among those who witnessed the ceremonies were National Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas; Lt. Col. L. S. Nickodem, air attache of the US Embassy; T. I. Ahern, aide to Gen. White; Capt. J. O. O’Neal, assistant air attache of the US Embassy; and Mrs. T. D. White, Mrs. L. S. Nickodem, Mrs. T. J. Moorman, Jr., and Mrs. T. O. O’Neal.

In the evening, the President presided over the last meeting of the Cabinet for the year.

President Garcia called a special meeting of the Cabinet to take up the budgetary deficit brought about by the unexpected reduction in the revenue collections this year.

The President and the First Lady also attended the Christmas party of Malacañang employees held at social hall of the Palace this evening after the Cabinet meeting.

Troubled by a deficit of \$16 million this fiscal year, the Cabinet at its four-hour meeting, last of the year, adopted at its meeting today. 11 alternative measures to wipe out the deficit.

With these measures, the Garcia administration expects to prevent layoffs next year and to continue with all the services as provided for in the original appropriations act.

During the year-end meeting, the Cabinet also:

1. Approved in principle the application of Batjak, Inc., an industrial firm with 80 per cent Filipino capitalization, to barter Philippine copra with five German oil mills to be set up in five different places in the Philippines. A condition calls for the shipment of 150,000 tons of copra a month, for 10 months, to cover the cost of the mills. The mills offered will be verified by the Philippine mission in Bonn, West Germany, and the shipment of copra will be subject to certain speculations set up by the government.

The incorporators of Batjak, Inc., are Tereso Dumon of Cebu, Cesar Seballos, James Keister, Alejandro Beltran, and Renato Bejar. Twenty per cent of the capital stocks are owned by Americans.

2. Mapped out the details of the support program for rice and com producers. President Garcia warned NARIC and ACCFA officials to keep their agents buying the cereals, at the price support schedule, directly from farmers and producers.

3. Passed a resolution expressing their best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to President and Mrs. Garcia, and their thanks for the privilege of serving the Administration.

In addition to the restoration of the Department of Education appropriation, the fiscal committee of the Cabinet, headed by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, also restored the originally proposed slash of P183,000 from the labor department budget.

The defense budget slash was thinned out from P30 million to only P7 million.

The cuts were urged in order to stave off the expected deficit of P73,896,560 this fiscal year ending June 30, 1959. Because of some protest and consternation from officials as well as private sectors, much of the original slashes amounting to P73 million, or the equivalent of the expected deficit, had been restored in the course of the protected series of studies by the Cabinet's fiscal committee.

As of this day, there was still a deficit of about P16 million.

The 11-point recommendation of the fiscal committee (composed of Hernandez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, and Auditor Pedro Gimenez), containing alternative measures to provide funds, was approved by the President and the Cabinet.

President Garcia last evening told the Malacañang employees that Christmas is an occasion not only for mercy-making but also a day of thanksgiving and prayer to the Good Lord that the many things He has bestowed upon the people shall continue to the end of the ensuing year, 1959.

The President said the people have a lot to be thankful for. He said the country has attained self-sufficiency in food, and will soon be self-sufficient in clothing. He pointed out that the nations' yearly importation of textiles had dropped from P300 million to about P100 million.

The President also told the Malacañang employees that the Philippines has the third largest iron deposit in the world, and that, once tapped and exploited, these deposits in Surigao, as well as the others in Sibuguey and Camarines, would be exporting finished iron products' instead of importing construction materials which this country can very well produce.

The President and the First Lady took their time out of a tight official schedule to enjoy a few moments of relaxation with their official family at the traditional annual Christmas party for some 1,000 Malacañang employees, held at the Malacañang social hall from 3 to 9:30 p.m.

The six-hour long Christmas program was full of suspense and excitement, not only because of the raffle which gave away 120 prizes to lucky ticket holders, but also because of participation of the Presidential Guard Battalion which contributed good and entertaining members.

The President and the First Lady awarded surprise gift packages. The First Lady's gift package went to Mariano while the Presidential prize went to Javier Aquino.

But the greatest and most welcome gift from the President was his message to the temporary employees that all those who had received notice of termination of service on December 31 will not be laid off.

The message was brought to the employees by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who took advantage of a brief recess in the Cabinet meeting to go downstairs and join his employees, not only to wish them a very merry Christmas but, more important, to bring the President's message.

The President and his lady also delighted the employees with the kuracha, their favorite dance, which they dance together only on very special occasions.

December 24.—THIS morning, the President went over the pardon papers of several prisoners and signed the conditional release of 50 inmates of the insular penitentiary.

The President likewise wrote his Christmas message to the nation key-noted on a nation-wide prayer for “World peace and universal brotherhood.”

“I wish to give thanks to Our Lord,” the President wrote, “for having guided us through the year.”

The President likewise conferred with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo on pending state papers.

President Garcia this morning laid down the basis for the creation of a graft court free from pressure and independent from the executive and legislative branches of the government.

In a conference with House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer and Rep. Pedro Trono of Iloilo at Malacañang this morning, the President said the projected graft court will be the answer to the opposition’s charges of graft and corruption.

To assure the court’s independence, the President said, he will press for appointments of members of the judiciary and pattern the body after those in the appellate courts where the justices have definite tenure of offices, thereby eliminating all possibilities of political pressure.

The President said that if the opposition has complaints against any government official, including the Chief Executive, they will have an independent body to turn to. He said he does not intend to cover up for anyone no matter who he may be.

Stating that he wants a body that cannot be interfered with by anybody, the President added that the projected court, being in the judicial branch of the government, will foil any attempt at “whitewash”.

The President today authorized the release of a total of P150,000 for the establishment of three breeding stations by the Bureau of Animal Industry.

The amount of P150,000 was made in three separate releases as follows: P50,000, authorized under Republic Act No. 1995, for a breeding station in Gamu, Isabela; P50,000, authorized under Republic Act No. 1981 for another breeding station in Himamaylan, Negros Occidental; and P50,000 authorized under Republic Act No. 1960 for a third breeding station in Bobon, Samar.

These breeding stations will serve as demonstration centers for practical and scientific livestock and poultry production in these regions.

The President this day accepted the retirement of Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, effective December 31, 1958.

At the same time, President Garcia extended an *ad interim* appointment to Maj. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal as AFP chief of staff and promoted him to the rank of lieutenant-general.

To take the place vacated by the newly-appointed AFP head, President Garcia appointed Brig. Gen. Pelagio A. Cruz, who was also promoted to the rank of major-general.

Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, commanding general of the 2nd military area, was appointed chief of the Philippine Constabulary.

The appointments of Cruz and Campo are both *ad interim* in nature.

President Garcia today appointed Capt. Francisco H. Calinawan, presidential performance officer and concurrently vice-chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE), as assistant general manager of the Manila Railroad Company effective January 1.

Calinawan's appointment was favorably endorsed to the President by the board of directors of the MRR in their resolution dated December 11, 1958, and is in line with the Administration's policy of rewarding public servants for meritorious services rendered to the government.

As presidential performance officer and vice-chairman of the PCAPE, Calinawan was awarded the Presidential Gold Medal for Leadership "in recognition of his distinguished and admirable record in the field of leadership and public administration."

The new railroad executive, who holds the rank of captain in the Corps of Engineers, AFP, has tendered his resignation from the Armed Forces to accept his new position. He lacks one more year to qualify him for optional retirement.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening spent his second Christmas eve in Malacañang and his first in his new private residence in Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

President Garcia and Mrs. Garcia heard midnight mass at the Malacañang chapel.

Earlier, the President and the First Lady entertained their close friends and relatives at a Christmas Eve dinner at their private residence in Quezon City.

A spokesman said the presidential family had a simple Christmas Eve affair.

From Bohol Avenue, the President and the First Lady motored to Malacañang chapel at 11:30 this evening for the midnight mass.

December 25.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia spent their second Christmas Day in Malacañang quietly.

They observed Christmas Eve with the traditional midnight mass at Malacañang and stayed at the Palace to receive new visitors, close relatives, and intimate friends.

Although they stayed up very late on Christmas eve, the President and the First Lady woke up early this morning to be able to greet their daughter, Linda, and their son-in-law, Fernando Campos, who are in the United States.

At 9 o'clock, the President placed an overseas phone call to his daughter and son-in-law, whom they located in New York City. The Camposes have decided to spend Christmas and New Year in New York City.

The President and Mrs. Garcia alternated at the phone in exchanging greetings with their only daughter and son-in-law. The phone call lasted for ten minutes.

After a late breakfast, the President received Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, whose retirement as chief of staff of the Armed Forces was accepted by President Garcia effective December 31, of this year.

The retiring chief of staff called on the President to express his gratitude for the approval of his retirement. Gen. Arellano had thrice applied for retirement although his tour of duty will expire next year.

Earlier this morning, Maj. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, vice-chief of staff and incoming chief of staff of the AFP, joined the President and Mrs. Garcia at a midnight mass at the Malacañang chapel. Cabal is scheduled to be promoted in rank. He will get his third star upon his assumption of office as chief of staff of the Armed Forces.

December 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia and his party arrived in Baguio this afternoon after an almost five-hour uneventful trip from Manila.

The Chief Executive will be guest speaker at the conference of writers belonging to the Philippine Center of the P.E.N. tomorrow morning at Pines Hotel here.

The President, with Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio C. Quimson, left his private residence on Bohol Avenue at 8:30 a.m.

Traveling at moderate speed, the party stopped twice on the way, first at Tarlac town for a five-minute break, and at Sison, Pangasinan, for refueling.

President Garcia was met at Sison by officials of the Baguio City police department, headed by Maj. Federico M. Mandapat, acting police chief, Lt. Vicente Crisologo, and Lt. Eusebio Bembo, who escorted the party up to Baguio.

The President had his lunch at 1:30 p.m. after a ten-minute rest, after which he gave a short press conference.

Later in the afternoon, after a brief rest, the President closetted himself in the Guest House and went over the reports submitted by the various department secretaries containing data which he may be able to use in his state-of-the-nation address before Congress when it convenes next month.

He did not receive any callers.

The President sent today the following message to Manila Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson on the occasion of the latter's birthday anniversary:

MRS. GARCIA JOINS ME IN WISHING YOU MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY. KINDEST REGARDS.

PRESIDENT GARCIA

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the National Rice and Corn Corporation and the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration to buy rice direct from farmers, and not from middlemen.

The directive of the President was made known to provincial governors and city mayors in a circular sent to them by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo. Secretary Pajo enjoined all local officials to extend their cooperation to the NARIC and the ACCFA in the enforcement of the directive. He also requested the provincial governors and city mayors to transmit the contents of the circular to all local officials.

The President, at the same time, appealed to farmers to report cases of rice-buying by government agents from middlemen so that the guilty parties can be dealt with accordingly.

The President issued the directive upon receiving reports that NARIC and ACCFA agents often obtain their stocks from traders who buy the palay from the farmers at a much lower price. The President pointed out that the government program sought to benefit the farmers and not the middlemen.

The President pointed out that he had made available for the rice procurement program up to March next year the sum of P15 million and would like to see this amount spread as widely as possible to encourage the farmers to increase their production in line with the self-sufficiency program in rice.

The President pointed out that for the first time in its entire history, the Philippines will be producing more than it needs as a result of improved methods of planting. He said this is a novel experience for the country, and expressed hope that the price support program would eventually be perfected.

The President urged all provincial governors and city mayors as well as local officials, to extend their full cooperation to the NARIC and the ACCFA in the enforcement of his directive.

December 27.—THIS morning, the Chief Executive had for breakfast guests Mayor Alfonso Tabora and Augusto Espiritu, director of the Central Bank.

After breakfast, President Garcia received officers of the Philippine Military Academy headed by Brig. Gen. Manuel Flores, superintendent, who paid a courtesy call on their commander-in-chief.

The PMA officers invited the Chief Executive to be the guest speaker during the academy's commencement exercises on April 19 next, year.

Gen. Flores was accompanied by Col. Horacio Farolan, Col. Bias Alexandre, Lt. Col. Federico Calma, Major Angel Navarro, Capt. Raymundo Lerma, and Lt. Filemon Valencerina.

President Garcia addressed this morning the opening of the National Writers Conference sponsored by the Philippine center of International PEN (poets, essayists, novelists).

The conference, which will last for three days, is being held at the Pines Hotel. Theme of the meet is "The Filipino Writer and National Growth."

The President was introduced by Alfredo T. Morales, chairman of the organization. Raul Ingles, conference coordinator, delivered the welcome address.

After the opening session of the conference, the President met local and foreign delegates to the meet and later posed for pictures with them.

On the invitation of Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora, the Chief Executive went on a short drive around the city and stopped at the city market which, according to Tabora, is the cleanest in the country. President Garcia visited the meat and fish sections of the market, stopping at various stalls to shake hands and talk with vendors.

He was accompanied in the market tour by Tabora, Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, and Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson.

From the Market, the President returned to the Pines Hotel where he was guest at a luncheon given by the PEN conference delegates. He listened to Dr. Encarnacion Alzona's post-luncheon lecture on "The Tradition of Freedom in Filipino Writing."

IN the afternoon, the Chief Executive received Rep. Ramon P. Mitra of Mountain Province, Gov. Bado Dangwa, Vice-Mayor Bienvenido Yandoc, and Councilor Filomeno Biscocho, who paid their respects to the President.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1958). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 54(38), dxxxix-dxli.

President's Week in Review: December 28- January 3, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

December 28.— PRESIDENT Garcia, in an extemporaneous speech in Laoag, Ilocos Norte, this morning gave the green light to Ilocano farmers to plant and produce more tobacco when he said the possibility of opening markets abroad for surplus Virginia tobacco is now under study.

The President flew from Baguio to Laoag where he attended the inauguration of the new provincial capitol and the Second Regional (Northern Luzon) Conference on Tourism.

The President was introduced by Rep. Ferdinand Marcos, House minority floor leader and executive vice-president of the Liberal Party. Marcos called on the people to unite and work in harmony for the common good regardless of differences in politics.

As minority floor leader of the House, Marcos said he had vigorously opposed proposed legislation which he feels would not be of benefit to the people. However, he added, when a bill is presented to Congress and he believes that it would redound to the benefit of the people, he fought for its passage regardless of whether it was sponsored by a Liberal or a Nacionalista.

Rep. Antonio Raquiza of the first district of Ilocos Norte, also a Liberal, praised the President for his concern for the welfare of the Ilocanos, particularly the tobacco farmers, which was proven when he rejected the proposed importation of 2,000,000 kilos of tobacco. He also credited the President for bringing prosperity and progress to the Ilocos region.

President Garcia heard mass at the guest house early this morning. After breakfast, the President and his party took off from the Loakan airfield, in Baguio, for Laoag and arrived there after an hour's trip. He was met at the airport by Gov. Toribio L. Peralta, Reps. Marcos and Raquiza, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, Mrs. Teresa L. Peralta, all the mayors of the province and governors of the Ilocos provinces and Batanes, and government officials and civic groups.

After delivering his speech, President Garcia led other guests in making a round of the new Capitol building and visited exhibits of handicraft arts made by students of the Ilocos Norte School of Arts and Trade.

Mrs. Alejo Mabanag and Mrs. Teresa Peralta cut the ceremonial ribbon symbolizing the inauguration of the Capitol building followed by the blessing of the capitol by Most Rev. Juan C. Sison, Archbishop of Nueva Segovia. The master of ceremonies at the program was Jose E. Evangelista, member of the provincial board.

Upon arrival of the President and his party at Laoag, they proceeded to the St. Williams parish church where a *Te Deum* was sung for the President's honor. President Garcia and his party were honored at the banquet held at St. Williams College auditorium.

After luncheon, President Garcia and his party returned to Baguio, arriving at 3:00 p.m.

Work on the reconstruction of the Capitol building was started during the incumbency of Rep. Raquiza as governor of the province and completed after one and a half years. The building was designed by Aniceto T. Cajigal, Bureau of Public Works architect, while the construction was undertaken by Ricarte Puruganan.

After a brief rest this afternoon, President Garcia returned to his work on the preparation of his state-of-the-nation message to Congress. He did not receive any callers and after supper he returned to his bedroom where he worked until late in the evening.

December 29.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia received their Christmas presents from newspaper reporters covering Malacañang in an outdoor ceremony held in the terrace of the Guest House.

Artemio Garlit, president of the Malacañang Newsmen Association, presented the gifts which consisted of books for the President and handkerchiefs for the First Lady.

President Garcia thanked the reporters for the presents and said he and Mrs. Garcia appreciated greatly their thoughtfulness.

After the gift presentation this morning, the President gave an impromptu press conference.

Earlier, the Chief Executive received Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and conferred with him on changes on the AFP command resulting from the retirement of Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, outgoing chief of staff.

It was agreed at this conference that Col. Dionisio Ojeda, Fort McKinley command, will be appointed to succeed Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, II MA commander who was recently chosen to replace Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz as PC chief.

Baguio Mayor Alfonso Tabora and PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo called on the President this morning, accompanied by some members of the PCAPE staff; namely, Maj. Fred Salcedo, Mario Valonizado, and Apolonio Villanueva.

Justice Ocampo submitted to the President the findings and recommendations of his office on an allegedly questionable sale of government lots in Baguio to private parties.

Other presidential callers were NDC General Manager Jose Panganiban and Board Chairman Jose Rodriguez, who reported on the progress of negotiations with Japanese shipbuilders on the purchase by the Philippine Government of several ocean-going vessels.

President Garcia had his lunch with Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Mayor Tabora, and the newspapermen covering the President.

In the afternoon, the President received Education Secretary Manuel Lim, who returned recently from abroad. Lim pressed the President to accept his resignation from the Cabinet which was accepted effective upon the submission of the secretary's annual report of his department.

After supper, President Garcia retired to his room to work on his message to Congress.

December 30.—THIS morning, the President warned student leaders attending the CONDA meet in Baguio against dangers of communism which first destroys the spiritual moorings of the people and then effects mastery over individual through fear, intimidation, and deceit.

He cited the experience of Japan with Red China as an example and said the Japanese have now learned the lesson and refuse to deal further with the mainland of China.

The Philippines, the President said, is determined not to have any diplomatic or trade relations with the communist countries.

The Chief Executive met the heads of student delegations to the CONDA meet at the Guest House this morning; namely, Lino Illera, Manuel Lara, Gene Darvin, Jose Alger, Delfin Dalipe, Rolando Conlu, Rudy Golez, Moises Mercado, Sonny Osmeña, Gerry Mayo, Jr., Titong Imperial, Jun Valdez, Cesar Ibaya, Mike Paala, Bert Javier, and Napoleon Lechoco, head of the Consultative Council of Students.

Earlier, the President and Mrs. Garcia received members of the Ladies Circle of Baguio who paid a courtesy call on the First Couple of the country. The Ladies Circle is composed of representative elements from various socio-civic groups of the Pines City. The group was led by Mrs. Ramon P. Mitra and Mrs. Alfonso Tabora.

The members of the NASSCO board of directors conferred with the President regarding matters pertaining to the government steel firm. Among those present at the conference were Directors Maximino Calalang, Ramon T. Jimenez, Aniceto Crisostomo, and Eligio Herrera, Auditor Graciano Rapatan, and acting Board Secretary Nieves Dizer.

Other morning callers were Juan J. Carlos, chairman of the MRR board of directors, and Capt. Hilarion Benedicto.

After a late lunch the President gave a press conference and then retired to his room for a brief rest.

In the afternoon, U.S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen and former President Sergio Osmeña paid separate courtesy calls on President Garcia.

The Chief Executive studied pardon papers of prisoners recommended for pardon and release on New Year, January 1, until late in the evening.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon doused anew a congressional move to devalue the Philippine peso to strengthen the local currency in line with the monetary reforms instituted recently in Europe.

Reacting strongly to news reports that a group of lawmakers is sponsoring a resolution urging the peso devaluation, President Garcia said: "They will not get my consent."

The Chief Executive recalled that Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, in reporting on his observations in Europe, had disclosed that the currency devaluation has not helped solve financial and monetary problems in France and Great Britain.

The devaluation move was led by fiscal and economic experts of both chambers of Commerce who advocated the readjustment of the country's monetary policies in the face of the devaluation of the French franc and the partial convertibility of the English pound.

However, the President lauded the present monetary reforms in Europe as paving the way for the proposed adoption of the multiple currency reserve system.

In a brief press interview after lunch at the Guest House, President Garcia:

1. Directed the National Rice and Corn Corporation to look into the report of Sen. M. Jesus Cuenco that the price of corn had skyrocketed in view of a barter permit granted to Cebu businessmen. The President denied having received Cuenco's wire but he indicated that he will look into that report further.

2. Disclaimed knowledge of a report from Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong on the waning prestige of the Philippine delegation in the United Nations, saying he had not received reports from Solon returning from the world body sessions.

When asked by newsmen on the Solon's move to force him to devalue the peso, the President perked up and said, "They will not get my consent."

President Garcia had taken a strong stand against devaluation despite a clamor from bankers and economists to depreciate the value of the peso.

Asked to comment on news reports regarding Cuenco's protest against the corn baiter, the President replied that he had not received the telegram. But he said he will direct the NARIC to look into the price situation of corn in Cebu.

Sen. Cuenco said the price of corn in Cebu City has gone up from ₱5.50 a cavan to ₱7.50.

The President stated that the ideal price of corn would be ₱6.80 a cavan, adding that ₱7.50 is exorbitant for the cereal.

December 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia, looking hale and refreshed, returned to Manila at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. The President was accompanied by the First Lady, who joined him in the Pines City last Sunday.

The President motored to Baguio last Friday and addressed the P.E.N. conference the following morning.

The President left Baguio at 9:30 o'clock this morning, after breakfast and mass at the Guest House.

Upon arrival in Manila, the President proceeded to his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

At 5 o'clock, the President motored to Malacañang where he inducted the newly-promoted generals of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The President swore in Maj. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal as lieutenant general. Cabal will take over as chief of staff, vice Lt. Gen. Alfonso Arellano, who retired.

President Garcia likewise added another star to Brig. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, who is the new AFP vice-chief of staff. The other general inducted was Brig. Gen. Dionisio Ojeda, who will take over the second PC Zone command, vice Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, new chief of the Constabulary.

The President granted the traditional New Year's Day pardon to eight prisoners upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, Malacañang announced today.

The President also granted conditional pardon to 39 other prisoners, and commuted the sentence of eight convicts.

January 1.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia were "at home" today to government officials, the diplomatic corps, members of different organizations, and other well-wishers who called at Malacañang the whole day to greet the First Couple of the land and wish them "A happy and prosperous New Year."

Early this morning, the President, the First Lady, relatives, and close friends heard mass said by Mons. Rufino Santos, Archbishop of Manila, in the Malacañang chapel. After the mass, breakfast was served in the family dining room.

Earliest well-wishers at the Palace this morning were Don Manolo Elizalde and Capt. Hilarion Benedicto, who were received in the anteroom of the President's bedroom.

At exactly 10 o'clock, President and Mrs. Garcia went out to the reception hall to receive their scheduled callers.

First to go up the Palace stairs to greet the President and the First Lady were Vice-President and Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal and their children.

Mons. Egidio Vagnozzi, Papal nuncio, led the diplomatic corps in extending their best wishes to President and Mrs. Garcia.

The most picturesque among this morning's well-wishers were the wives of staff members of the Japanese and Indonesian embassies who came in their colorful native costumes.

After receiving the diplomatic corps, the President and the First Lady went to the state dining room for the traditional exchange of toasts.

Mons. Vagnozzi, dean of the local diplomatic corps, expressed the gratitude of the members for President Garcia's efforts to make their stay more pleasant.

He also wished the health and success of the President and the Filipino people in the coming year.

In his response the Chief Executive thanked the members of the diplomatic corps for their cooperation, conveyed his greetings to their government and people, and wished the continued health and happiness of the heads of state represented in the corps.

After the ceremony, President and Mrs. Garcia returned to the reception hall and continued receiving well-wishers until 12 noon.

About 12:30 p.m., President Garcia phoned his greetings to Mrs. Trinidad Roxas, widow of the late President Roxas, who was giving a luncheon at the old Selecta Restaurant to about 200 persons who remembered the 67th birth anniversary of Roxas.

After a late lunch, the First Couple rested. At 4 p.m. they went to the ceremonial hall to receive the general public until 5 o'clock. After receiving all the well-wishers, President and Mrs. Garcia rested until suppertime.

January 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia approved the purchase of 12 ocean-going vessels from Japan by the National Development Company after consultations with his economic advisers and top officials of the NDC in Malacañang today.

The purchase of these ships is in line with the Administration's aim to build up the country's maritime fleet in order to conserve our dollar resources and encourage the expansion of our foreign trade.

A further study of minor details of the contract will be made during the regular Cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

Under the terms of the contract, Japanese shipbuilders will build 12 ships of 11,500 tons each and with a speed of 18 knots an hour. The vessels will cost \$293 per dead weight ton to build or a total of \$3,600,000 each.

Payment for the vessels will be made on a seven-year installment plan and delivery will be made one year after the signing of the contract.

Present at the closed-door conference were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez; Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera; Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo; Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona; CB Deputy Governor Andres Castillo; Jose S. Rodriguez, chairman of the NDC board of directors; Jose H. Panganiban, NDC general manager; Simeon Gopengco, NDC auditor; and Jose R. Platon, technical assistant to the board.

Today being the first Friday of the year, President and Mrs. Garcia received Holy Communion during an early morning, mass in the Malacañang chapel.

After the mass President Garcia had a breakfast conference with Secretary Pajo on pending matters. His subsequent meeting with economic advisers and NDC officials lasted from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia disclosed this afternoon he was considering Sen. Alejo Mabanag and Dean Feliciano Jover Ledesma of the San Beda College of Law for appointment to the Cabinet.

He made this disclosure at his first press conference of the new year during which he deplored "defeatism and negative thinking" and appealed to the press to help him fight this gloomy outlook.

A Malacañang spokesman explained that the “defeatism and negative thinking” mentioned by the President referred to the pessimism in some quarters over the Administration’s efforts to salvage the country from its economic and financial difficulties.

At his press conference, President Garcia also:

1. Said he will confer with US Ambassador Charles Bohlen today on the Laurel-Langley agreement;
2. Defended his plan to organize by legislation an anti-graft tribunal;
3. Minimized the political effect of the defection of former Secretary of Labor Eleuterio Adevosio from the Progressive Party to the Liberal party; and
4. Called the flight of Cuban President Fulgencio Batista from Havana to the Dominican Republic as the “inevitable end of all dictators.”

The President opened his press conference by greeting newspapermen.

He expressed the hope that the press will cooperate with the Administration by reporting the achievements that will be achieved in his second year in Malacañang.

“I hope you will help the Administration,” he said, “in fighting the defeatism and negative thinking in the country.”

The President said he expects more optimism and would try to cope up with the problem that will confront his administration.

At the same time, the President said he was scheduled to confer with Bohlen today to take up the controversial points in the implementation of the Laurel-Langley Agreement.

Bohlen visited the President early this week in Baguio and sought clarification on some controversial points in the implementation of the agreement.

The President also admitted plans of reorganizing his Cabinet.

He made the admission when asked by a newsman as to whether or not he is considering Sen. Mabanag for the position of secretary of justice.

He likewise admitted that Dean Ledesma is among those mentioned for the position of secretary of education vice Manuel Lim, who resigned from the Cabinet effective sometime this month.

In confirming reports that he is considering Mabanag for secretary of justice, the President admitted that he had conferred with the senator in Baguio early this week. Secretary Jesus Barrera, Malacañang sources said, is groomed for appointment to the Supreme Court to fill up the vacancy left by Justice Alfonso Felix, who retired last year.

The President told newsmen he had finished studying the reports of Secretary Barrera on the administrative cases of Under-secretary of Finance Jose P. Trinidad and Director Laureano G. Marquez of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

He said he has made up his mind on these cases and will start writing his decision shortly.

President Garcia minimized the “political importance” of Adevosio’s decision to join the Liberal Party.

President Garcia recalled that Adevosos lost in his own town, Paranaque, Rizal, in the last senatorial elections. Adevosos was then one of the senatorial candidates of the Progressive Party in the Philippines.

The President defended anew his plan to create by legislation an anti-graft court.

He said that the tribunal will be under the Department of Justice and will have judicial functions.

Asked if he could not just fire erring government officials, the President said he has to do his "house-cleaning" work in accordance with the "due process clause" of the Constitution.

He pointed out that a judicial investigation of graft cases will preclude charges the Administration would "whitewash" the complaints against government officials.

The President also said he is studying recommending anew to Congress the adoption of price control measures in view of the upsurge of prices of prime commodities.

It was hinted that the upward trend in the prices of essential goods was spurred by the application of the new high tariff rates since January 1 in the implementation of the Laurel-Langley agreement.

January 3.— THIS MORNING, the President had breakfast with close friends who came to greet him a belated "Happy New Year."

Present at the breakfast held at the President's private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, were Alfonso Calalang, president of the Bankers Association of the Philippines; Alfredo Montelibano, president of the Chamber of Agriculture and Natural Resources; Virginia Yaptinchay, head of the import division of the Central Bank; Juan C. Carlos, board chairman of the Manila Railroad Company; Conrado Sevilla, vice-president of the Philippine National Bank; Rodolfo Andal of the Government Service Insurance System; German Neri, board member of the National Marketing Corporation; Geminiano Yabut, president of La Mallorca Pambusco Transportation Company; Alfonso Ponce Enrile; Col. Ramon Zosa; and Major Teofilo Zosa.

PRESIDENT Garcia was invested with Malaya's most distinguished award, "Darjah Utama Seri Mahkota Negara" (The Most Exalted Order of the Crown), by visiting Prime Minister Yang Teramat Mulia Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra of the Federation of Malaya in a ceremony held in the ceremonial hall of Malacca today.

The Chief Executive received the award temporarily pending legislative concurrence for him to accept formally the decoration.

President Garcia said he considered the Prime Minister's visit to the Philippines and the honor bestowed on him as "unmistakable signs of the desire of our peoples to build permanent and lasting bases for friendship, understanding, and cooperation between our two countries."

Prime Minister Rahman presented the award on behalf of His Majesty, the Paramount Ruler of the Federation of Malaya, "in recognition of President Garcia's championing the struggle for freedom during both war and peace and for his efforts towards the extension of international goodwill and cooperation."

Riding in an apple-green 1958 Cadillac convertible bearing plate number "1" and preceded by an escort of motorcycle cops, the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary Felixberto Serrano entered the gates of Malacca at 12: 55 p.m., one hour after his arrival at the Manila International Airport.

An honor guard from the Presidential Guard Battalion rendered full military honors to the visiting dignitary.

After receiving and acknowledging the honors, Prime Minister Rahman and his wife, Puan Sharifah Rosiah, met and shook hands with President and Mrs. Garcia, who met the visitors in the lobby of the Palace front door.

In the ceremonial hall, the Prime Minister and his entourage met members of the Cabinet and their ladies.

During the investiture ceremony, Prime Minister Rahman read a letter addressed to President Garcia from His Majesty, the Paramount Ruler of the Federation of Malaya. After the ceremony, President and Mrs. Garcia and Prime Minister and Mrs. Rahman proceeded to the state dining room where they had their lunch in private.

IN the evening, the visiting dignitary and his lady were formally honored with a state dinner given by the President and the First Lady at the social hall of Malacañang.

The formal dinner was followed by the presentation of the decoration, “Raja of the Order Sikatuna,” on Prime Minister Rahman by the President.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: January 4-10, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

January 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent the day quietly at his Bohol avenue residence in Quezon City going over annual reports submitted by members of his Cabinet, from which he expects to get data for his yearly state-of-the-nation message to be delivered before a joint session of Congress on January 26.

The President woke up early this morning at Malacañang following the state dinner he gave last night in honor of visiting Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra of the Federation of Malaya.

The President and the First Lady heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. Also at the mass was Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, new PC chief, with whom the President conferred briefly before breakfast.

About 9:30 a.m., the President boarded his car and motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He was accompanied by Lit. Melchor Fronda, naval aide.

The Chief Executive spent most of the day closeted at his private study in his residence going over a pile of papers. He did not receive any caller.

PRESIDENT Garcia, through Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, upheld the City Mayor of Manila in two separate decisions, one dismissing from service an employee for grave insubordination, and another transferring a health officer from one division to another without change in salary.

In the first case, Mayor Lacson had found Vito Navales, time-keeper, department of engineering and public works of the City of Manila, guilty of insubordination and dismissed him from service for cause. Navales then appealed the order claiming it to be too severe and not commensurate with his crime.

In the other decision, Mayor Lacson had transferred Nazario A. Cantor, assistant administrative officer, from the administrative division to the division of veterinary service of the city health department. Cantor resented the Mayor's action and appealed it, claiming the order to be illegal and equivalent to removal from office without cause.

The President, however, said he saw no abuse on the part of the Mayor, adding that the Mayor's order in effect merely transferred him (Cantor) from one division to another, in the same department and without any change in salary.

The President said this power is expressly provided by sec. 11 (e) of Republic Act No. 409.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Juan C. Pajo sustained the decision of the commissioner of civil service holding that the mayor of Cebu City does not have the power to appoint officials and employees of the Osmeña Waterworks System.

On September 26, 1956, then Mayor Sergio Osmeña, Jr., relying merely on the opinion of the city fiscal that he had the sole power to appoint employees of the Osmeña Waterworks System and on the declaration by the Cebu court of first instance that Republic Act No. 1383, creating the NAWASA, was unconstitutional, extended the appointments of all but four employees of the said water system.

The services of the four employees, the superintendent, the general foreman, and two other permanent employees, all with a clean record of long service with the company, were considered terminated, their appointments not having been extended along with the rest by the City Mayor.

On December 20, 1956, the civil service commissioner issued a decision invalidating the appointments extended by Mayor Osmeña in the Osmeña Waterworks System on the ground that such power to appoint was not vested in the city executive but in the secretary of public works and communications, or the NAWASA.

Mayor Osmeña, in appealing the civil service ruling, contended that his power to appoint the men was provided for by Sec. 21 of the Charter of Cebu City, which states that “subject to the provisions of the Civil Service Law, the Mayor shall appoint all other officers and employees of the city whose appointments are not otherwise provided for by law.”

Secretary Pajo in upholding the ruling of the commissioner of civil service, said that Republic Act No. 1383 vested the ownership and control of the Osmeña Waterworks System in the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority, of which it has become part. Thus, Secretary Pajo said, the personnel of the Osmeña Waterworks System ceased to be city personnel and became personnel of the NAWASA.

The Executive Secretary concluded that any vacancy in the said waterworks system is a vacancy that shall be filled by the Secretary of Public Works and Communications upon recommendation of the NAWASA, in accordance with Sec. 79 (d) of the Revised Administrative Code.

January 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia received today members of the Philippine delegation who are leaving tomorrow to attend the conference of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East which will start Thursday and wind up on January 19.

The President gave last-minute instructions to the Philippine delegation and urged them to find ways and means to improve trade relations of the Philippines with member countries of the ECAFE.

Members of the PI delegation leaving tomorrow are Undersecretary of Commerce Perfecto Laguio, chairman; Fernando E. V. Sison, vice-chairman; and A. B. Isip, Anastacio Bartolome, Gaudencio Antonino, E. V. Mendoza, Mrs. Inocencia Mendoza, and Roberto Garcia, members.

The President told the delegation to explore at the same time markets for Philippine products. He said that the members, while espousing the Philippine views on economics, should likewise plot ways to find markets for PI products.

The President also received Rep. Antonio Raquiza, who discussed with the Chief Executive plans to export surplus Virginia leaf tobacco.

Raquiza had recently lauded the President for his rejection of a proposal to import additional Virginia leaf tobacco to fill up an alleged shortage in the local tobacco stocks.

The President also conferred with Commodore Jose Francisco, commander of the Philippine Navy. President Garcia gave final instructions to the Navy commander prior to his departure for Australia.

In the afternoon, the President worked on pending state papers.

MALACANANG released today the names of 70 additional prisoners granted executive clemency by President Garcia on New Year's Day.

This brings to 125 the total number of prisoners pardoned by the President with the advent, of 1959. The names of 55 pardoned prisoners were announced by Malacañang last January 1.

January 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia conferred today with Congressional leaders and top fiscal advisers at his Quezon City residence for three hours and made a general review of the economic problems facing the country with the view to formulating remedial measures to be recommended for enactment in the forthcoming regular session of Congress.

The Chief Executive said after the conference that no conclusions have as yet been made but added that he has scheduled two or three more conferences with the same group, after which he expects that concrete decisions would be arrived at.

In this connection, the President said that the group will meet next Friday to speed up the work.

The conference started at about 9 a.m., after breakfast and broke up at 1:30 p.m. Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez did not attend the conference, as he was in Leyte.

Congressional leaders present were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Sr., House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Gil J. Puyat, Senate Banks Committee Chairman Pedro Sabido, and House Appropriations Vice-Chairman Ramon Mitra.

The fiscal advisers were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, National Economic Council Chairman Jose Locsin, Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Philippine National Bank President Eduardo Z. Romualdez, and Development Bank Chairman Gregorio Licaros.

Earlier, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass at the Malacañang chappel on the occasion of the Feast of the Three Kings. After mass, the President motored to his Quezon City residence to preside over the conference.

The President approved today five scholarship grants in the University of the Philippines for students from the Republic of Malaya.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the five fields of education to be offered by the State University are public administration, economics, Asian studies, statistics, and labor education.

The decision of President Garcia was transmitted to Vicente G. Sinco, president of the University of the Philippines, for implementation. An appropriation of about ₱3,500.00 per student will be earmarked for this purpose. This amount will provide for tuition expenses, books, and board and lodging during one academic year.

In approving the scholarship grants, President Garcia said that the courses offered by the University in these particular fields are on a level comparable to the programs of some of the best universities abroad.

The President's action on the scholarship grant may be interpreted as a positive step in furthering the pronouncements made in the Joint Communique which was issued simultaneously earlier today.

January 7.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia had breakfast with Malayan Prime Minister and Mrs. Tunku Abdul Rahman, Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Felixberto Serrano, and members of the official entourage of the visiting dignitary.

After breakfast, President and Mrs. Garcia exchanged gifts with Prime Minister Rahman and his wife, Puan Sharifah Roziah. After a few pleasantries, President and Mrs. Garcia accompanied the distinguished visitors to the Malacañang stairs to say goodbye and wish them a safe journey home.

The Malayan Prime Minister and members of his entourage left Malacañang at 8:45 a.m. and motored to the Manila International Airport. They departed at 9:30 a.m. on board a chartered Malayan Airways plane after a five-day state visit.

After the departure of the visitors, President Garcia had a closed door conference with Col. Nicanor Jimenez, NICA chief, and then received U. S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen at the Malacañang music room.

The President conferred with Ambassador Bohlen on the implementation of a special import tax on American goods.

The President informed the U. S. Ambassador that one of the measures aimed at stabilizing the Philippine peso calls for a 17 per cent special import tax.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said that the Philippine view would be transmitted to Washington by Ambassador Bohlen. Another meeting between the President and the Ambassador will be held immediately after word is received from Washington, Nable said.

The conference which lasted for 20 minutes was held in a cordial atmosphere.

NARRA general manager Mrs. Remedios Fortich, and Directors Valeriano Plantilla and Rafael Hilao saw President Garcia to ask for the early release of funds for the government agency

Other callers this morning were Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Rep. Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Reparations Commissioner Juan Alberto, and SSS Director Danny Gaviola.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening told the members of his Cabinet he would seek public participation in the formation of a private corporation to operate the 12 ocean-going vessels which the National Development Company intends to buy from Japan.

President Garcia made the announcement after the Cabinet had ratified the NDC plan to acquire 12 ocean-going vessels from Japan.

He told the Cabinet he would like the public to share in the formation of a private corporation to operate these vessels, as the government would not want to enter into business as long as private capital is willing to handle the business.

At the Cabinet meeting this afternoon, the President and his advisory body authorized the NDC manager to enter into negotiations with Japanese shipbuilders for the acquisition of the 12 ocean-going vessels.

In authorizing the NDC manager, the Cabinet imposed the following conditions:

1. That the price of the vessels should not be more than \$313 per dead weight ton each;
2. That the price of each vessels should not exceed \$3.6 million;
3. That the weight of each vessel should not be less than 11,500 dead weight ton each;
4. That speed requirement must be determined for the purpose of trial and service;
5. That in the event of a dispute, arbitration should be undertaken by a three-man committee to be composed of one representative each on behalf of the Philippine and Japanese governments and the third member to be determined by these two panel members;
6. That a final test must be made before delivery is made to the Philippines; and
7. That the President be asked to review the contract before it is finally signed by the parties.

The Cabinet approved the acquisition of the vessels and the conditions for their purchase after listening to representatives of the private shipping companies.

Generoso Tanseco, of the General Shipping Company and president of the Philippine Shipping Association, and Roberto Ho, of the Magsaysay Shipping Company and vice-president of the PSA, said that the prices proposed by the NDC were reasonable.

The Cabinet also reviewed the draft of a preliminary contract. It was explained that the contract proper will be prepared shortly to embody the conditions listed by the Cabinet.

President Garcia had previously approved the NDC plan to acquire 12 ocean-going vessels to serve as the nucleus of the Philippine merchant fleet. These vessels will be bigger than the *Doña* boats owned by the NDC and operated by the National Lines. The *Doña* vessels are 10,000 dead weight ton each.

In another move, President Garcia and the Cabinet disapproved a request of Jose Corominas for lowering the price of Rhodesian corn and directed the NARIC to hold another public bidding.

At the same time, the President directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, to investigate the bidding.

The President specifically directed Ocampo to inquire why the contract between the NARIC management and Corominas was different from the conditions announced during the public bidding.

The Cabinet was told that Corominas won the public bid at P186 per metric ton of Rhodesian corn but subsequently refused to go through with the purchase for certain reasons. Ocampo was asked to look into this.

The President expressed impatience and was angered when he received the preliminary report on the matter. NARIC Chairman Chioco was present during the meeting.

January 8.—THIS morning, the President had a breakfast conference with Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, chairman of the Senate committee on social justice, community development, and welfare, on means to update the social justice program of the Administration. Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo was present at the meeting.

Sen. Gonzalez submitted to President Garcia a report on the survey made by her group which contained the following recommendations:

- (1) More emphasis should be put by the government on the social justice projects which are the cornerstone of the Administration's economic development program.
- (2) Red tape and other unnecessary delays in satisfying the wants of people in community development and social projects should be minimized if not eliminated.
- (3) Centralization of the local cottage industries in one comprehensive agency of the government, should be effected unlike at present where several government offices are doing the same undertaking.
- (4) Emphasis should be given on more improved coordination among personnel of different government agencies working on social justice projects.
- (5) Construction of more feeder roads and setting up of more community projects should be undertaken.
- (6) There should be an increase of rural health units and community welfare projects.
- (7) Personalized service to the people should be extended. President Garcia today sat down with officials of the Social Security

System to map out a program of expanded social services aimed at giving SSS members a better deal.

During the conference held at Malacañang, President Garcia expressed his determination to have the state firm embark on a low cost housing project to afford the lowliest daily wage earner a decent place to live in and at a range within his means.

The SSS officials were directed to gear their program of activities for the next fiscal year to the achievement of the project.

Officials of the state firm who conferred with President Garcia were Board Chairman Gonzalo Gonzalez, Administrator Emeterio Roa, and the following board members: Labor Secretary Angel Castano, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Ramon Gaviola, Jr., GSIS General Manager Rodolfo Andal, and Ildefonso Remolona.

Earlier, President Garcia received former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., who paid him a courtesy call.

The President also signed the appointment of Nicanor A. Roxas as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the Netherlands.

The President also had a conference with Chairman Rodolfo Maslog and Commissioners Juan Alberto and Alejo Santos of the Reparations Commission on routine matters.

IN the afternoon, President and Mrs. Garcia received members of the Le Theatre D'Art Du Ballet troupe who paid a 10-minute courtesy call at Malacañang accompanied by Alfredo Lozano, impresario.

The President and the First Lady thanked them for coming to the Philippines and told the members of the dance group that they were looking forward with pleasure to watching them perform at their gala premiere tonight at the University Theater, U.P., Diliman, Quezon City.

Rep. Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur called on President Garcia to inform him about the serious infestation problem in his province. Not much remains to be salvaged of the bumper crop that was originally expected in Zamboanga del Sur, Enerio said.

The Mindanao solon requested financial aid from the President's contingent funds for the purchase of chemicals to be used in killing the rodents with the help of the different agencies of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Another presidential caller this afternoon was Rep. Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, who asked President Garcia to expedite the release of money from the contingent funds to repair the damage to public works caused by the typhoons that hit Misamis Oriental late last year. He also informed the President of the present political situation in the province.

Rep. Dugenio was accompanied by Major Tommy Chavez, Major Gerardo Roa of Salay of Misamis Oriental, and Dr. Florencio Du, representing the Florencio Reyes and Co., hardware importers.

President Garcia also received NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin and members of the Philippine Sugar Planters Association headed by Jose Mapa Gomez, association president, who briefed the President on the reported unrest among the sugar workers in Negros Occidental.

THIS evening President Garcia directed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to go to Negros Occidental to investigate personally the cause of rampant burning of sugar cane fields in the province.

In dispatching the executive secretary, the President expressed concern over the effect of such rampant destruction of canefields on the sugar industry, one of the nation's main dollar-earning industries.

He said that this being the harvest season, it is important that the burning be stopped right away. He expressed fear that the cane destruction, if continued, might have adverse effects on the economy.

President Garcia's instructions to Secretary Pajo followed a briefing on the labor unrest, situation in Negros Occidental during a conference this evening with members of the Philippine Sugar Planters Association headed by Jose Mapa Gomez, association president.

Secretary Pajo will fly to Bacolod first hour tomorrow morning aboard a Philippine Air Force plane.

President Garcia accepted today the resignation of Socorro Ke. Ladrera as chairman of the board of directors of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said that the President will announce soon the successor to Ladrera. He said that President Garcia received Ladrera's letter of resignation late this afternoon and immediately instructed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to write the note of acceptance.

Secretary Nable spiked reports appearing in some metropolitan newspapers that Ladrera was being groomed for another government post. "There is absolutely no truth to this report," he stated.

THIS evening President and Mrs. Garcia motored to Diliman, Quezon City, to attend the Gala performance of the Le Theatre D'Art Du Ballet in the U.P. theater.

January 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning conferred with members of the Council of Leaders and economic advisers at his Quezon City residence and made a few conclusions which will be incorporated in his message to Congress when it convenes on the last Monday of this month.

The agreements, the President said after the conference, are aimed at strengthening the fiscal position of the government and improving the different social services already undertaken by the Administration.

These services, the President added, are low-cost housing projects, community development projects in rural areas, distribution of public lands for landless people in projects of the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration, and other similar services.

In connection with the low-cost housing project of the Administration, it will be recalled that President Garcia last Thursday conferred with officials of the Social Security System and directed them to gear the program of the system for the coming fiscal year to the achievement of the project.

The President said that he had agreed with congressional leaders and his economic advisers on the following points:

- (1) The repeal of Republic Act No. 1410;
- (2) Reexamination of the Reparations Act in order to correct the present defects in legislation; and
- (3) Reexamination of the tax exemption law.

The conference started about 8 a.m., continued during lunch, and finally broke up about 3:20 p.m.

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano

Primicias, House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, Sens. Gil J. Puyat and Pedro Sabido, Reps. Tobias Fornier and Jose Roy, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, National Economic Council Chairman Jose Locsin, Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Philippine National Bank President Eduardo Z. Romualdez, and Development Bank Chairman Gregorio Licaros.

Feeling very tired after some seven hours conference with the Council of Leaders, the President cancelled his regular press conference in the afternoon.

January 10.—THE Chief Executive resumed going over voluminous reports from his department secretaries at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City today. He closeted himself in his study where he worked on the outline of his state-of-the-nation message to congress on January 26.

About 10 a.m., the President took time out of his work to receive Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, and Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, PC chief. He conferred with the two generals for about an hour.

The Chief Executive did not receive any other caller the whole day.

Meanwhile, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable announced today that President Garcia will recommend to Congress the approval of a measure which will extend more responsibility and more autonomy to local governments.

The President's plan is in keeping with the clamour of provincial and city executive who had been agitating during the last years for more independence from the national government, Secretary Nable said.

The President feels that present laws regulating the relations of local governments to the Chief Executive are no longer responsive to the needs of the present age. He said that while he had all the intention to do so much for the localities, he could only do so on a limited scale.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Official Week in Review: January 11 – January 17, 1959

January 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia devoted most of his time today working on his state-of-the-nation message which he will deliver before a joint session of Congress when it convenes on January 26.

Early this morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass before an improvised altar in their Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

After breakfast, the President went over the Sunday newspapers and then studied the recommendations contained in the reports submitted to him by the different department secretaries for possible inclusion in his message to Congress.

The Chief Executive took a brief rest after lunch and then resumed his study of the recommendations submitted for his consideration, pausing only to take a light *merienda*.

After an early supper, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to Malacañang to attend the belated Christmas party they were giving to officers and members of the Presidential Security Unit and their families in the social hall of the Palace.

From the party, President Garcia retired to his antechamber and worked until late in the evening on the preliminary draft of his report on the state of the nation.

The President reiterated today that he would push through this year a more vigorous implementation of his program of developing cottage industries as a means of increasing the earning capacity of the people in the rural areas and improving their living standards.

The President is considering the creation of an agency to coordinate all government entities concerned with the implementation to avoid duplication of efforts and to effect a more systematic planning of the project.

The institution of training program among the masses and the standardization of products are among the things being studied by the President to insure the success of the undertaking. He said he would recommend to Congress the enactment of some measures designed to promote certain aspects of the project including their financing.

In a report submitted to Malacañang, Salvador L. Pacis, a technical assistant who had made some studies on the subject, recommended the use by government offices of products of the cottage industries like bamboo baskets, saguran curtains, and other locally produced supplies for the Army and the schools.

The report pointed out that the Philippines imports millions of pesos worth of ceramic articles and that this importation could be radically reduced by the establishment of a ceramic processing plant to process clay which is abundant in this country.

The report also recommended the inclusion of nationalism in the curriculum of schools to encourage the use of homemade products.

January 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning expressed his desire to strengthen some of the country's laws and to seek the passage of certain revenue measures designed to remedy the present tight economic condition of the nation.

This was revealed at a breakfast conference with members of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines held in the grand porch of Malacañang.

The President said he will recommend to Congress the amendment of the reparations law, particularly the provision granting beneficiaries of the law two years leeway before they start paying the regular amortizations on the goods

obtained through reparations and the section requiring a 100 per cent capitalization for industries desiring to take advantage of the law.

He disclosed that during his conferences with the Council of Leaders and his economic advisers they devised a special tax whose proceeds will be used to put the school system of the country on a sound financial footing.

To supplement new revenue measures that will be presented for enactment when Congress convenes late this month, the Chief Executive told the women civic leaders that he will seek the elimination of all exceptions to the imposition of the 17 per cent special import tax and the imposition of an additional tax on luxury items like expensive cars.

At the conference, President Garcia was commended by the CAWP for initiating and supporting the following movements: (1) Filipino-first policy; (2) program of bringing about closer ties between the Philippines and Asia; (3) bi-partisan membership of important delegations abroad; (4) interest in and financial support given to cultural projects; and (5) interest in and financial support given to the National Family Life Workshop and the First Asian Seminar on Mental Health and Family Life.

The President also received from Miss Helen Z. Benitez, CAWP president, assurances of the unstinted support and cooperation, through individual and collective action, of the 41 member organizations affiliated with the CAWP.

Explaining the proposed amendments to the reparations law, President Garcia said that at present there is danger that users of reparations items may return them to the government before the expiration of the two-year leeway on the payment of amortizations and leave the government holding the bag.

He also said he is seeking a liberalization of the 100 per cent Filipino capitalization required by the law in order to entitle a corporation to reparations goods. This is to hasten the exploitation and development of the country's vast natural resources.

Others present at this morning's conference were Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, ex-Sen. Geronima T. Pecson, Mrs. Concepcion R. Gonzalez (CAWP 1st vice-president), Mrs. Josefina P. Ambrosio (secretary), Mrs. Leticia P. de Guzman (PRO), and Dr. Constancia Dumlao.

The President accepted today the invitation extended to him by General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras and Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez to be the principal speaker at the opening of a seminar on the economic development of Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan on January 31.

The seminar, which will be held in Cagayan de Oro City, will be under the joint sponsorship of the Mindanao-Sulu-Palawan Association and Xavier University.

The President was also invited by Sen. Eulogio Balao and Rep. Benjamin Ligot of the second district of Cagayan to visit their province on January 18 and 19.

Rep. Maximino Garcia accompanied Mayor Agaton Bertumin of Guindulman, Bohol, who presented to the Chief Executive a petition from the veterans of his town requesting the release of virgin forest lands in Agusan province for homestead purposes.

President Garcia also received ex-Senator and Mrs. Charles A. Sink of Michigan, who came to pay a courtesy call.

Another courtesy caller at Malacañang was Al Tegen, president of the General Public Utilities, parent company of the MERALCO. He was accompanied by Jose Carpio of the Philippine Association.

THE President today received the credentials of Bagner Smedslund as first envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Finland to the Philippines in a ceremony held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

In accepting the accreditation papers of the first Finnish diplomatic representative to the Philippines, President Garcia said that the occasion marks a “great step forward in our mutual efforts to strengthen the bonds of understanding and friendship between our two peoples, especially because we are aware of the courage and tenacity with which you have fought for your liberty and for human dignity.”

The new Finnish minister, in presenting his credentials, said that he “spare no effort in order to promote the understanding and friendship between our two peoples, which although far away from each other, are inspired by the same ideals of liberty and justice.”

Upon arrival at Malacañang, the new Finnish minister received full military honors from a unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion. He was escorted by Lt. Col. Emilio O. Borromeo, senior aide-de-camp of the President.

Smedslund is also the accredited resident minister of Finland to Japan. He is accredited to the Philippine Government as Finnish non-resident minister.

Present at the ceremonies were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, and other high government officials.

PRESIDENT Garcia has recognized the Cuban government headed by President Manuel Urrutia. In a wire sent this afternoon to President Urrutia, President Garcia likewise conveyed the wishes of the Filipino people for the happiness and progress of the Cuban nation.

The decision to recognize the government headed by President Urrutia was made at a conference President Garcia had with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano at Malacañang, after the presentation of credentials of the new Finnish minister.

January 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia and the Council of Leaders discussed the synchronization of elections and other proposed amendments to the Constitution at a breakfast conference this morning at the President’s Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

The proposed amendments sought to be introduced in the Constitution are those believed to receive general support, including the redistribution of senators by districts.

The special congressional committee on constitutional amendments headed by Sen. Arturo Tolentino and Rep. Dominador Tan, will draft the bills on the proposed changes for enactment by Congress when it convenes late this month.

The conferees first heard the report of the committee based on recommendations received and testimonies gathered in the course of several public hearings called by the committee.

Present at this morning’s conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Sen. Arturo Tolentino, Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castaneda, House Majority Floorleader Jose Aldeguer, and Rep. Ramon Mitra.

After the conference broke up at 1:30 p.m., President Garcia received Emiliano Melgazo, provincial board member of Leyte, and Dr. Gil F. Gadi of Kidapawan, Cotabato.

In the afternoon, the President received Gil Garcia of Cebu and then retired to his room where he worked until late in the evening on the preliminary draft of his state-of-the-nation message to Congress.

January 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia reviewed the *sacada* problem in Negros Occidental with Reps. Agustin Gatuslao, Vicente Gustilo, and Inocencio Ferrer of that province at a conference early this morning at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

The solons laid the blame for the current labor unrest among the sugar plantation workers on the *contratistas*, or labor recruiters, who allegedly exploit these seasonal laborers.

They informed the President that the best way to solve this recurring problem is to correct it at its source, that is, in Antique where the great majority of the *sacadas* are recruited.

The three congressmen decried the practice among sugar planters of hiring laborers through the *contratistas* instead of dealing directly with the workers.

Rep. Ferrer told the Chief Executive that they were preparing a bill to be presented during the coming regular session of Congress to regulate the activities of these *contratistas* so that the laborers will receive a fair share of what is due them.

President Garcia agreed to the need for protecting the *sacadas* from the alleged exploitation by the *contratistas*. He said he had sent Labor Secretary Angel Castaño to Negros Occidental to look into the case and to find out how the government could assist the workers.

The Negros Occidental congressmen called on the President to convey their belated wishes and those of their constituents for a “Happy and Fruitful New Year” and to reiterate their expression of loyalty to him and to his administration.

They also briefed the President on the latest political developments in their province.

Jose S. Zafra and Zosimo Falcon, CEPOC board chairman and production manager, respectively, briefed President Garcia on the strike at the cement plant in Cebu called by employees belonging to the Cement Workers Union, an affiliate of the Associated Labor Unions (ALU).

The strike was called last January 7 after the CEPOC management refused to grant the union’s demand for the ouster of Carlos Lopez, plant manager, for allegedly unfair labor practices.

Zafra and Falcon informed the President that they went to Cebu to conduct an on-the-spot investigation of the charge filed by the union against Lopez and found the accusation without basis and justification.

They assured President Garcia that they were doing their best to resolve the strike and expressed the belief that the CEPOC management and the union would reach an agreement soon and that the strikers would return to work in a day or two.

Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela also called on the President to inform him of an allegedly anomalous sale in his province by the board of liquidators of materials they had classified as “scrap iron.”

The winning bid, Rep. Albano said, was P2,000 and the “scrap iron,” which turned out to be iron sheet piles, was easily worth \$500,000. Furthermore, he told the President, the subject of the sale belonged to the province of Isabela and the board of liquidators had no right to dispose of it.

President Garcia requested the solon to file a case in court to invalidate the sale.

President Garcia also received Ernest Hoberecht, vice-president and general manager for Asia of United Press International, who paid him a courtesy call and interviewed him for 15 minutes. Hoberecht was accompanied by William P. Miller, manager of the UPI Manila bureau.

After receiving callers continuously from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the President ate his lunch alone and then retired to his room.

THE President was informed today by Labor Secretary Angel Castaño that the labor, unrest which gripped several parts of the country during the past days has considerably eased.

Secretary Castaño reported that the strike of the laborers and employees of the Cebu Portland Cement Company in Cebu City was settled this noon and that all CEPOC strikers returned to work.

President Garcia was also informed that two other impending strikes were averted following the signing of collective bargaining contracts by representatives of management and labor.

Secretary Castafio mentioned the strike by the Puyat Steel Mill scheduled for tomorrow and that by the General Steel Mill as being called off owing to successful conciliation efforts by his department.

A sympathy strike by Iloilo farmers in connection with the labor strikes on sugarcane plantations in Negros Occidental was averted also by the labor department.

Secretary Castaño also said he will enplane this morning to look personally into the strike declared by workers of the Ormoc City (in Leyte) sugar central which flared into a shooting affray yesterday, resulting in five persons being killed and eight others seriously wounded.

The labor secretary will then proceed to Negros Occidental to look into the labor situation in that province.

The President stayed in his private residence in Quezon City the whole day today.

In the afternoon, the President motored to Malacañang where he presided over the weekly meeting of the Cabinet.

The Cabinet meeting started at five o'clock and broke up late in the evening.

THE CABINET this evening suspended the barter privileges of Sulu copra producers in a move to stop abuses which had resulted in the considerable reduction of the volume of copra exportation from the southern islands.

In suspending the barter privileges of the Sulu producers, the Cabinet, however, allowed them to export their products in accordance with established rules of overseas trade.

At the same time, the Cabinet:

1. Closed three sub-ports which had become gateways for smuggling of copra and other products in the South;
2. Approved a proposal of the National Economic Council to allow the Bataan Pulp and Paper Mills, Inc., to put up a pulp and paper mill in Bataan; and
3. Deferred action on the plan of Jose Lobrin to barter redried Virginia leaf tobacco with capital goods.

Malacañang said tonight the Cabinet decided to suspend the barter privileges of the Sulu producers after receiving reports of abuses and smuggling of copra from other regions to the Jolo ports.

These barter privileges were authorized in Executive Order No. 529, allowing Sulu producers to barter their copra with household necessities amounting to not more than P1,000.

The executive order was promulgated by the late President Quirino on September 5, 1952, in an effort to provide the producers in the southernmost island additional incentives to raise coconuts.

It was further explained that the late President Quirino issued the executive order to give the producers a decent price for their products.

However, the Cabinet was informed that the copra being bartered by the Sulu producers came from other provinces resulting in the drop in the volume of copra trade from Zamboanga by almost half a million dollars since May, 1958.

It was believed the copra from other Mindanao provinces were smuggled to Jolo in a move to take advantage of the benefits given by the executive order to the Sulu producers.

Malacañang said Commissioner on Integration Madki Alonto favored the suspension of the barter privileges after he was appraised of the abuses committed by unscrupulous traders.

Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas this evening opposed a move to cancel the barter privileges of the Sulu producers. He said the action would give rise to banditry and lawlessness in that province.

The Cabinet allowed the Sulu producers to export their product in accordance with regulations set up by the Administration.

The Cabinet also closed the sub-ports of Sitangkay and Taganak in Tawi-tawi and Cagayan de Sulu.

These supports were opened by the late President Quirino in 1952 to facilitate the exportation of copra and other products from, these far-flung islands.

However, the Cabinet allowed the two other sub-ports of Bongao in Tawi-tawi and Balabac, Palawan, to continue operations.

In closing the three sub-ports, the Cabinet said the government could exercise closer supervision over trading through these points and arrest rampant smuggling which have been carried in these places.

The Cabinet likewise approved a proposal to set up the Bataan Pulp and Paper Mill, Inc., in Bataan. The plan had been endorsed by the NEC.

The Cabinet, however, deferred action on the proposal of Jose Lobrin to barter redried Virginia leaf tobacco with capital goods.

January 15.—DR. Charles S. Rhyne, president of the American Bar Association and Chairman of the committee on international and comparative law of the association paid a courtesy call on President Garcia this morning.

The American barrister is here in the course of a Far East tour after attending the recently-concluded conference of the International Commission of Jurists held in New Delhi.

Dr. Rhyne was accompanied by Dr. Alberto R. de Joya of the Philippine Lawyers' Association; Julio D. Enriquez, president of the Batangas Lawyers' Association; Mrs. Amor Melencio Herrera and Judge Corazon Juliano Agrava, president and past president of the WILOCI; and Dr. Tomas B. Barnes, director of the Philippine Lawyers' Association.

President Garcia administered the oath of office to Maj. Teofilo A. Zosa, who had been recently appointed acting member of the board of directors of the Manila Railroad Company, vice Francisco H. Calinawan who is now assistant general manager of the MRR.

The simple ceremony, which was held in the music room of Malacañang, was attended by, among others, Rep. Manuel A. Zosa and Gil Garcia of Cebu.

Gregorio Abad, executive secretary of the Reparations Commission, called on President Garcia to explain further amendments to be proposed for the repair and reconstruction of public works in his district either destroyed or damaged by typhoons late last year.

Santiago Ramirez of Bansalan, Davao, called on the President to express his gratitude for ordering the mercy airlift of his wife, Teodora P. Ramirez, a public school teacher for more than 28 years.

Ramirez told the President that doctors at the Philippine General Hospital where she was taken for treatment, diagnosed her ailment as cirrhosis of the liver and pronounced her case as "hopeless."

President Garcia received his first visitor, NASSCO Director Ramon T. Jimenez, at 9 a.m. and continued receiving callers until two o'clock p.m. Jimenez conferred with the President on routine matters of the NASSCO. The President this noon denied the request of Rep. Dominador M. Tan of Leyte for the lifting of the Constabulary control over Ormoc City until he received the report of Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, PC Chief, on the peace and order situation there.

The Chief Executive told Rep. Tan that he expected Gen. Campo to arrive from Ormoc City sometime today and report to him immediately on the results of his on-the-spot investigation of the outbreak of violence in that city resulting in the death of five persons and the wounding of eight others.

President Garcia told Tan that he had issued the order yesterday putting Ormoc City under Constabulary control to prevent the further deterioration of the peace and order situation there. He expressed the fear that Tuesday's shooting incident might lead to a more bloody one unless the disturbance is stopped at once.

The President impressed upon Rep. Tan the importance of first restoring peace in the place before a formal investigation of the incident could be undertaken to give the strikers a chance to air their grievances.

He told Tan he was not taking sides in the conflict and added that if the Constabulary soldiers were at fault, he would order them court-martialed. However, he said, if the strikers were to blame, then they will have their day in court.

Tan went to Malacañang this noon to protest the order placing Ormoc City under PC control saying that the pickets were behaving peacefully until a PC-escorted truck of the Ormoc Sugar Company arrived and tried to break through the picket lines.

He claimed that the pickets had no guns and that the shooting was started by PC troops who opened fire on them in order to break the human roadblock and create an opening so that the truck could enter the company compound.

He also requested President Garcia to send a team of NBI agents to Ormoc City to investigate the shooting incident and alleged that the Constabulary troops there were partial to the management of the sugar central.

PRESIDENT Garcia issued two proclamations today, one Proclamation No. 552, declaring the third Sunday of January of every year as Children's Day, and the other Proclamation No. 553, declaring January 20, this year, as a special public holiday in all municipalities and municipal districts throughout the country.

In declaring the third Sunday of January of every year, which falls on January 18 this year, as Children's Day, the President said a day should be dedicated to children so as to arouse greater concern for their welfare.

The President pointed out that the future of the nation demands that children be given utmost care and attention to make good and useful citizens.

He said the people should be vitally interested in the well-being of their children to keep them from straying away from the “straight and narrow path.”

In declaring January 20 a special public holiday in all municipalities and municipal districts, President Garcia said that in line with the Administration’s policy of giving greater autonomy to local governments, it was necessary that the barrio people be given full opportunity to participate in the elections.

January 20 was set for the holding of elections for barrio councils throughout the country, under Republic Act No. 1408.

January 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today said he would do away with the NAMARCO if the establishment of the proposed Philippine National Cooperative Bank will enable retailers to stand on their feet.

This statement which received an extended ovation was made in his preliminary remarks before addressing the first assembly of the Philippine National Cooperative Bank this morning at the Youth Center building of the YMCA.

The proposed bank is a joint project of the Philippine Government and the International Labor Organization under the United Nations expanded technical assistant program.

The President started the day early this morning when a Korean solon and officials of Korean agricultural banks paid a courtesy call on President Garcia at 8 a.m. in his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

The visitors have completed their two-week observation of the operations of the ACCFA, FACOMAs, and rural banks and are returning to their country tomorrow.

They were accompanied by Korean Ambassador Lincoln Hoon Kim and Moon Chong Yul, embassy secretary.

Those who called on the President were Congressman Kim Byung Soon, Im Cha Joo, Yoon Yong Koo, Park Chang Wha, Cho Jung Ho, Kim Kyo Chul, Kim Hong Bom, Park Seung Heng, and Choi Hung Shik.

After receiving the Koreans, President Garcia held a conference with members of the committee on exchange premiums composed of Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera, PNB President Eduardo Z. Romualdez, and CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno. Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano was also present at the conference.

At 10 o’clock, President Garcia interrupted the deliberations and motored to the Youth Center building of the YMCA to open the first assembly of the Philippine National Cooperative Bank.

After delivering his speech, the President returned to Bohol Avenue and resumed the conference with the committee on exchange premiums until 1:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon scored Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco for choosing to be “spectacular” in threatening to expose during the coming Senate session the “influence peddlers” listed in the “white paper.”

At his regular press conference, the President said the Cebu solon wanted to be spectacular if he would expose names of alleged influence peddlers under parliamentary immunity.

President Garcia recalled that Sen. Cuenco was summoned by Secretary of Justice Jesus G. Barrera, Malacañang prober, but the solon failed to present evidence to substantiate the charges contained in the “white paper.”

The President said Barrera is winding up his inquiry into the cases of influence peddling and will submit his report to Malacañang sometime next week.

At the press conference, the President:

1. Upheld the right of the Central Bank to regulate the allocation of foreign exchange;
2. Reiterated his stand against the devaluation of the peso;
3. Claimed that the expose of a “food scandal” appearing in a news magazine as “rather exaggerated;”
4. Said he was standing pat on his decision to place the Ormoc City police under Constabulary control as a precautionary measure to prevent violence in the strike-bound hacienda of the Ormoc Sugar Central;
5. Gave his personal comments on the mass hearings and executions under the new Cuban regime; and
6. Refused to announce the decision he had reached with government fiscal advisers on the plan to restore the 25 per cent “premium fees” in the purchase of foreign exchange from the Central Bank.

Asked to comment on Sen. Cuenco’s dare the other day for announcing his plan to divulge the names of “influence peddlers” allegedly close to Malacañang, the President said the senator had not been cooperative in the inquiry conducted by Secretary Barrera.

Barrera was asked by President Garcia to investigate the cases of influence peddlers who had allegedly brought down the prestige of the Administration and the Nacionalista Party.

He said Sen. Cuenco, when called by Barrera to shed light into the cases of influence peddling, refused to present evidence.

President Garcia also upheld the authority of the Central Bank to regulate allocation of foreign exchange. He was commenting on reports that the CB had cut down the allocations of non-Filipino and non-American businessmen by 50 per cent for the current year.

He, however, said he will soon confer with businessmen to discuss the wisdom of the CB resolution.

“Whether wise or unwise,” the President said, “the Central Bank has that authority.”

The President pointed out that if the CB resolution was irregular, he would take steps to remedy the situation.

The President reiterated he is against the devaluation of the peso.

“I am not devaluating the peso if the decision rest with me alone,” the President told the newsmen.

Asked to comment on a magazine story on the “worst food scandal in the Philippines,” the President said the account was “rather exaggerated.”

He said Rhodesian corn which was imported to fill up the shortage of the local stocks arrived after a three-month delay and during the harvest of a bumper corn.

Informed that Gov. Juan O. Chioco has said that corn would have been secured from the United States to avert the delay in the delivery of the needed stocks, the President perked up and said:

“Why did he (Chioco) not suggest it then? he asked.

“I believe that is his second or third thought,” President Garcia added.

The President likewise said he was standing pat on his order placing Ormoc City police under Constabulary control. He said the chief of police of the city was related to some of the union men.

He said he had ordered the placing of the city police under the PC as a precautionary measure. The President had conferred with Eng. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, who had reported on his survey of the strike-bound hacienda in Leyte.

The President also gave his "personal comments" on the mass execution of followers of ex-President Fulgencio Batista in Cuba.

He said the execution of Batista followers were made in accordance with the decisions of the military courts.

However, the President said he wished the new regime would try the Batista followers before the regular courts.

"This is, however, my personal opinion," President Garcia said. "I do not want to be charged with meddling in the internal affairs of the new Cuban government."

The President said he had conferred with four of his fiscal advisers. He refused to disclose the decision reached at the meeting. Present at the meeting were Secretary of Finance Jaime Hernandez, Secretary of Justice Jesus G. Barrera, Governor Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank, and PNB President Eduardo Z. Romualdez.

The President admitted he discussed with his advisers the plan to restore the tax in the purchase of foreign exchange from the Central Bank.

President Garcia acting through Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo today directed the immediate release of P500,000 for PACD grants-in-aid projects throughout the country out of foreign PACD funds.

At the same time, the President directed the budget commissioner to study the possibility of transferring the P7.5 million appropriation of the Bureau of Public Highways for stocking, to the Department of Public Works and Communication so that the department's P8 million appropriation for stocking can be used for more important projects.

At the conference held with Highways Commissioner Nicolas Cuenca and Presidential Assistant on Community Development Ramon Binamira in Malacañang yesterday morning, Secretary Pajo told the conferees that the situation called for positive thinking on the part of the officials.

He pointed out that he had seen during his recent trips to Ilocos Sur, Pangasinan, and Samar, the pressing need of the barrio people for roads through which they could bring their produce to market.

Binamira told Secretary Pajo that the PACD budget of P1,000,000 for last year had been frozen by the General Auditing Office, and that its budget for the current year had been pending approval for over nine months.

Secretary Pajo told Commissioner Cuenca to send one bulldozer and one truck each to Capiz and Samar, for barrio road building projects, the labor to be furnished by the people free.

He also told Commissioner Cuenca to furnish Binamira with a list of idle road-building equipment as a result of stoppage of bond issue projects so that the latter could utilize them for PACD projects.

Secretary Pajo detailed Engineer Segundo Gracia of the PHHC to work with the PACD so that the programming of barrio roads can be expedited.

January 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia had breakfast early this morning with officials of Caltex, Inc., who paid a courtesy call at his residence in Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

Executives of the oil company who called on the Chief Executive were W. E. Murray, general manager, Far East division of Caltex, Inc.; W. E. Menefee, general manager of Caltex (Phil.) Inc.; R. J. Monical, vice-president; R. R. Tollitson, and J. P. Roxas, chief of the Caltex public relations division.

After the visitors had left, President, and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Funeraria Paz on Misericordia Street to condole with Capt. Filomeno Gonzales, Malacañang performance officer, whose wife died early this morning.

President Garcia returned to Bohol Avenue after a 20-minute stay in the funeral parlor and worked on pending state papers until lunchtime.

Five thousand bags of fertilizer donated by the Marubeni-Iida Company, Inc., of Japan were turned over to the Philippine Government in a simple ceremony at Pier 9 today.

The fertilizer was presented by Ryoza Marofushi, general manager of the donor company, to Ramon P. Binamira, presidential assistant on community development, who represented the government. The PACD will distribute the fertilizer to barrio farmers.

The 5,000 bags of fertilizer were presented to President Garcia during his recent state visit to Japan when he met officials of the Marubeni-Iida Co., Inc., headed by S. Ichikawa, president; N. Mori, executive vice-president; and I. Kibodera, executive director. The last two officials of the company had been long residents of Cebu and Manila before World War II.

Among those present at the turnover ceremony were Chancellor of the Japanese Embassy Mayasuki Harigai, Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas, MRR Chairman Juan J. Carlos, Manila Port Terminal Service General Manager Francisco Medrano, Juan Planas of the PCAPE, Customs Security Director James H. Keefe, and others.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

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January 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia got a rousing welcome today from the people of Cagayan Valley upon his arrival in Tuguegarao, Cagayan, this morning on an inspection trip.

This is the Chief Executive's first visit there since the 1957 elections.

The President is on an inspection trip of the second district of Cagayan where he will inaugurate the P8,000 Solana municipal building, and break the ground for the proposed P250,000 Rizal–Lasam–Allacapan highway.

On hand at Tuguegarao airport to meet the Chief Executive were Gov. Marcelo Adduru, Rep. Benjamin Ligot, Tuguegarao Mayor Mateo Natividad, Brig. Gen. Oscar Rialp, 1st MA commanding general, national provincial, and municipal officials of the province, and friends and sympathizers of President Garcia in Cagayan.

With the presidential party were Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Sr., Sens. Eulogio Balao and Quintin Paredes, and Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda.

At the reception ceremonies President Garcia received from Mayor Natividad the symbolic key to Tuguegarao and was accorded full military honors by a unit of the Constabulary troops in the province.

The presidential plane landed 40 minutes behind schedule because of overcast above Tuguegarao. Pilots of three PAF planes had difficulty in finding a break in the clouds in order to land.

After the ceremonies at the airport the President led a motorcade to the Tuguegarao cathedral, where *Te Deum* was sung by Bishop Teodulfo Domingo.

All along the route, from the airport to the cathedral, the streets were lined by ROTC and PMT cadets and school children waving paper flags and cheering the President as he passed.

From the cathedral the motorcade proceeded to Solana for the inauguration of the municipal building, and crossed the wide Cagayan River on board a ferry.

The President cut the ceremonial ribbon assisted by Mrs. Pilar Caronan, wife of Solana Mayor Justo Cesar Caronan.

After the ribbon cutting ceremony, the building was blessed by Rev. Felicisimo Herrera.

In a brief speech following the inauguration, the President promised the people of Solana that the bridge spanning the Cagayan River, will be given top priority as soon as the loan from the U.S. Development Loan Fund is received, amounting to P50 million.

From Solana, the presidential party motored to Cagayan Valley Agricultural School for lunch. After a brief rest at Piat, the President visited the miraculous image of *Nuestra Señora de Piat* in the town church.

The President later continued the trip to Rizal town, 70 kilometers from Tuguegarao, for the ground-breaking ceremony of the Rizal–Lasam–Allacapan highway.

After addressing a public meeting in Rizal town, President Garcia returned to Tuguegarao arriving at about 8:50 p.m.

In a mammoth rally at the Arranz Memorial Stadium later in the evening, the Chief Executive thanked the people of Cagayan Valley for supporting his administration's drive for increase food production.

After breakfast early tomorrow morning with national, provincial, and municipal officials, the President and party will return by plane to Manila.

January 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up early this morning despite the heavy schedule of activities yesterday which was capped by a back-breaking 140-kilometer roundtrip over rough roads for the ground-breaking ceremony of a proposed P250,000 road connecting the remote towns of Rizal, Lasam, and Allacapan, and opening vast tracts of virgin lands in the Cagayan Valley.

During yesterday's overland journey from Tuguegarao to Rizal, Cagayan, the Chief Executive inaugurated a recently-completed P8,000 municipal building in the town of Solana, made a pilgrimage to the shrine of the miraculous image of Our Lady of Piat, and crossed three rivers by ferry.

The President was warmly received in all the towns he visited. Barefoot farmers and members of their families lined the presidential route and cheered him as he passed. They thanked him for having taken the trouble of visiting their God-forsaken localities and personally looking into their problems. The rural folks said it was the first time a President of the Philippines had ever set foot on those parts.

After hearing mass at the Tuguegarao cathedral this morning, the President went to the residence of Cagayan Gov. Marcelo Adduru, where he and members of his party were honored at breakfast.

Before going to the airport, President Garcia made an unscheduled sidetrip to the St. Paul's College in Tuguegarao, where he talked informally before students, members of the faculty, and townspeople who flocked to the school upon learning of his presence there.

A huge crowd followed the presidential motorcade to the airport where full military honors were accorded to the Chief Executive before he boarded the PAF C-47 *Quezon* on the return trip to Manila.

The plane took off from the Tuguegarao airport at 10:40 a.m. and landed at the PAF Base Operations in Nichols Field shortly after 12 noon.

From Nichols Field, President Garcia proceeded to Malacañang.

Upon his arrival in Manila, the President, though a little disappointed from the defeat and elimination of the Philippine team in the world basketball championship series in Chile, addressed a cable to Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, head of the PI team, and congratulated him and the players for their splendid showing.

Later in the evening, the President conferred with Press Secretary Jose C. Nable and other advisers to discuss the final draft of his state-of-the-nation message which he will deliver before Congress on January. 26.

January 20.—AT a breakfast conference this morning, President Garcia was assured by House leaders of a bi-partisan support for the proposed constitutional amendments, particularly the synchronization of elections.

The President was informed at the conference held this morning in his Quezon City residence with members of the Council of Leaders of a favorable reaction in the House of Representatives for all proposed constitutional amendments.

Liberal members of the House have openly come out in favor of the proposed constitutional amendments, according to House officers.

They recalled that Rep. Ferdinand Marcos of Ilocos Norte, House minority floor leader, said the other day that the opposition party stood in favor of (1) synchronizing elections, (2) creating senatorial districts, and (3) creating a more powerful and independent general auditing office.

During the meeting which lasted from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., the President was further informed that the sentiment in the Senate for constitutional amendments was not yet clearly defined.

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, and Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Sr.

Congressional leaders also reiterated their support to the proposal of President Garcia to create a graft court.

THE President today branded as absolutely baseless a news item that appeared in a metropolitan paper to the effect that Commissioner of Immigration Emilio Galang will be relieved of his position.

The Chief Executive stated that since 1957 he had not seen Mr. Julio de la Cruz, son of former Immigration Commissioner Vicente de la Cruz of Leyte who allegedly would replace Galang.

The story about the relief of Galang broke into print when De la Cruz himself reportedly announced to a reporter his designation as immigration commissioner before holding a conference with Galang at the immigration office.

THE President this day ordered the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency to investigate and institute the necessary court action against one Medrino M. Cruz, who had reportedly been advertising himself as promoter and chairman of an amusement group for a double stage show program supposedly under the sponsorship of Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia and tabbed as a "Malacañang Benefit."

In a memorandum sent this evening to the PCAPE, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo disclosed that he had been informed by both the President and the First Lady that they had not given any authority to Cruz to stage the benefit which has been advertised to be held on January 27 for indigent children.

Posters being circulated to advertise the supposed benefit show include an executive committee composed of Secretary Pajo as honorary chairman, Cruz himself as prompter and chairman of the amusement group, Mrs. Constancia C. Tolentino as chairman on invitations of a women's group, Genaro Visarra as chairman on invitations of government officials, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño as chairman on invitations for officials of government and private corporations, and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable as chairman on press and radio.

Press Secretary Nable had previously issued an announcement denying participation in the promotion of the supposed benefit show. In his announcement, Nable also recalled that Secretary Pajo had issued a similar denial. Secretary Nable said that his signature on a resolution to promote the show had been obtained on false representation, believing it really had the authorization of the First Lady for the Malacañang Children's Christmas Festival.

Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta today wrote Cruz informing him that the latter's request for endorsement of the benefit had been disapproved by the First Lady. Logarta also transmitted the desire of Mrs. Garcia that Cruz desisted from continuing with the unauthorized use of her name and the Malacañang Christmas Festival committee for Cruz' own personal purpose.

"Your unauthorized use of a facsimile of the Malacañang committee stationery wherein your name appears as promoter and chairman of the amusement group is highly misleading and irregular considering the fact that you have not been appointed as such by the committee, much less by the First Lady," Secretary Logarta said in his letter to Cruz. "You know fully well that you have never been connected with the Malacañang committee by virtue of any appointment nor authority from any member of the committee to act in their behalf," he added.

PRESIDENT Garcia called officers of the Philippine Air Lines Employees Association (PALEA) and representatives of management to a conference this afternoon in his residence in Quezon City to avert an imminent strike threatening the company.

Spokesman for the union was Roberto Oca, president of the Philippine Transport Workers Organization (PTWO), parent organization of (PALEA), while the management of PAL was represented by Daniel Me. Gomez, PAL executive vice-president, and Leonardo Siguion Reyna, PAL legal counsel.

The President expressed his desire to both parties that they thresh out their differences over a conference table and hoped that they would reach an agreement in order not to interrupt the service to the detriment of the riding public.

The Chief Executive assured Oca that labor would be given a proportionate share of the profits of PAL but at the same time requested the union to take into account that the air line would soon resume its international flights.

This fact, President Garcia said, will necessarily mean additional expenses since PAL will have to keep up with the latest developments in aviation.

Officers of the PALE A who attended the conference were Emilio F. Sanio, president; Miguel Blando, vice-president; Isidro Chavez, treasurer; Gregorio Cagilonia, secretary; and Pedro Nazareno, Prospero Miciano, Agustin Buco, and Ben Garcia, directors.

Jose Espinas, legal counsel of the: PTWO, was also present.

January 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia this day separated from the service Dr. Cristobal Santiago, member of the Board of Directors of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority, for having utilized government time, labor, and equipment in the repair and cleaning of the artesian well of his father-in-law in Suklain, Arayat, Pampanga.

In pursuing his house-cleaning job, President Garcia said that “this is a clear case of an official taking advantage of his position for private ends.”

An administrative order signed at a conference with Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio C. Quimson also provides that the resignation of Dr. Santiago is without prejudice to the collection from him of the money value of the government labor and equipment utilized in the repairs and cleaning of the well of his father-in-law.

The President also signed another administrative order exonerating fiscal Gregorio S. de la Peña of Basilan City from several administrative charges, as recommended by Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera.

The President also signed the following appointments: Fidencio S. Raz, first assistant provincial fiscal of Capiz; Vicente Abalagon, second assistant provincial fiscal of Capiz; Roberto Madrid, assistant provincial fiscal of Iloilo; Luis Lagdameo, chairman of the Board of Assessment Appeals of Quezon Province; and Ciceron Guerrero, Demetrio C. Castillo, Regino Aro, and Diosdado Amado, members of the said board.

Earlier, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the St. Francis Church near the provincial capitol of Pasig, Rizal, to hear mass said on the occasion of the birthday of Senate President Rodriguez.

After the mass, President and Mrs. Garcia gave the Senate head a birthday gift and then proceeded to the provincial capitol for breakfast. Then they returned to their Quezon City residence.

In the afternoon, the President presided over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

THE CABINET approved this evening the establishment of a \$22 million petroleum refinery to be set up by the Philippine Investments and Management Association. The Cabinet decision was spurred by a resolution of the National Economic Council recommending approval of the plan.

At the Cabinet meeting, the President also:

1. Ordered the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources to send men to look into reports of locust infestation in Panada and Malalag, Davao; and
2. Directed the Reparations Commission to allocate P9,540,873.66 from the special economic development fund (50 per cent) to the Development Bank of the Philippines and P2.5 million to prefabricated houses fund, P1 million to the rural banks, and P1.2 million to the Land Tenure Administration for the other 50 per cent.

The refinery is expected to produce from 10,000 to 17,000 barrels of kerosene a day.

The Cabinet, however, deferred action on the plan to float P100,000,000 worth of bond issues to finance the purchase of 12 ocean-going vessels from Japan.

It shelved the proposal after the President counseled the Cabinet members to refer the plan again to the NEC for further study.

However, the Cabinet approved the PHIMA proposal upon the representation made by Ramon V. del Rosario, a local businessman, who appraised the President's advisory body of his business plan.

Del Rosario told members of the Cabinet that the PHIMA is capitalized at \$22 million, 70 per cent of which is subscribed by Filipinos. He said \$6 million would be subscribed by aliens mainly from the Gulf Oil Company of the United States.

In approving the PHIMA petroleum refinery, the Cabinet imposed the following conditions:

1. That the corporation should have at least 60 per cent Filipino capitalization;
2. Executive control of the firm must always be in the hands of Filipinos;
3. Foreign technicians, which would be employed at the start of the enterprise, should be replaced as soon as possible by Filipinos;
4. Dollar salaries of the foreign technicians should not be made out of the foreign exchange of the Central Bank;
5. That there should not be recurrent remittance in foreign exchange; and
6. That the initial \$5 million requirement should be spread in three years.

Informed of the Ozamiz City fire, the President ordered the release of P50,000 from his contingent fund.

He ordered the release of the sum after hearing the report of Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, who had just returned from a flying trip to the scene of the fire.

January 22.—LABOR leaders and sugarcane planters arrived at an agreement on certain fundamental issues at a conference called by President Garcia today at Malacañang to solve the labor dispute in Negros Occidental.

As proposed by President Garcia, both parties laid the foundation for the elimination of so-called *contratistas* (labor contractors).

“Consent” elections will be held in *haciendas* where FFF officials claim to have a majority of the workers as members in order to decide if the labor union will be the one to enter into a collective bargaining contract with plantation owners in case of a favorable return.

Both parties also agreed on one election for both the migrant workers or *sacadas* and permanent plantation workers in *haciendas* where FFF officials claim the majority of the workers are affiliated to their union.

In other *haciendas* where the FFF has no majority, its officials proposed an election for migrant workers, to which proposition the sugarcane planters present objected vigorously.

It was also agreed upon that only workers included in the payroll of last December 18, when notices to strike were sent to 77 *haciendas*, will vote in the "consent" election, disallowing voting by proxy.

The "consent" elections will be conducted by the Department of Labor with the help of the Constabulary, whose sole function will be the preservation of peace and order during the occasion.

The farmers' federation will submit to the Department of Labor the list of plantations where they would like "consent" elections to be held.

The planters stated that they were for union recognition in their plantations and said that they pay the minimum wage to their agricultural laborers, as provided for by law.

However, even labor leaders acknowledged that labor contractors get a big cut in the workers' wages.

Secretary Castaño disclosed plans of his office to devise a method whereby plantation owners will pay directly to the migrant workers and thus eliminate labor contractors.

Both parties agreed to continue further talks to be presided by Secretary Castaño to iron out a few remaining kinks.

Senator Gonzalez, chairman of the Senate Social Justice Committee, appealed to the planters to provide better housing facilities to their migrant workers.

Present at the conference were Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Rep. Inocencio Ferrer of Negros Occidental, Gov. Josue Cadio of Antique, Jose Ma. Gomez, president of the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters; plantation owners Ciro Locsin, Roberto Llantada, and Ramon Nolan; Fr. Hector Mauri, S. J., Jeremias Montemayor, Jesus V. Ramos, and Tito Angudong, Jr., representing the Free Farmers Federation (FFF).

The President also conferred with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez on undisclosed matters. Other callers were former Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, Carlos Nivera, John Keesing, John Keljikan, Joseph Keenan, vice-president, AFL-CIO of the United States, and J. Kaukonen, labor attache of the American Embassy in Manila.

Dr. Urbano Zafra, minister counselor of economic affairs of the Washington embassy of the Philippines, called on President Garcia to get final instructions before leaving for his post after a two-month home leave.

PRESIDENT Garcia honored Japanese Ambassador Morio Yukawa at a formal dinner this evening at Malacañang

At the dinner the President expressed his appreciation to the Japanese government and people for the warm reception accorded him and the members of his party during his recent state visit to Japan last December.

Chiefs of diplomatic missions, high government officials, and members of the presidential party to Japan were among the invited guests.

January 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent the whole day aboard the RPS *Sta. Maria*, working on his state-of-the-nation message which he will deliver before a joint session of Congress on Monday.

After informing Maj. Jose Estrella, a military aide, he was not receiving any caller, the President closeted himself in his cabin and proceeded to dictate page after page of draft copy to a Palace stenographer, Conrado Montales.

Pulling out of the Navy headquarters, landing about 9:30 a.m., the *Sta. Maria* cruised slowly for about four hours taking a zigzag course from Manila to Corregidor and back. The President, with the aid of a small table lamp in his cabin, worked uninterrupted on his speech.

About 12:30 p.m., the President took time out from his work to have a light lunch. He had it served in his cabin. Then he continued with his dictation again.

On its way back from Corregidor to Manila, the *Sta. Maria* was overtaken by an incoming U.S. aircraft carrier escorted by three destroyers. Apparently, recognizing the presidential ship a large formation of white-clad sailors turned out on the huge carrier's deck and smartly saluted as they passed about half a mile away.

Helicopters launched from the carrier hovered for some time close to the *Sta. Maria* and took pictures of the presidential ship and its escort.

The *Sta. Maria* was back in Manila about 1:30 p.m. It anchored at its permanent moorings a few hundred yards from the Independent Grandstand on the Luneta. The President kept working until late in the night.

THE President ordered today the suspension of a commodity loan agreement recently approved by the Monetary Board of the Central Bank permitting what appeared to be an indiscriminate barter of the nation's dollar-producing exports and the indiscriminate entry of Japanese goods to the detriment of the country's infant industries.

In a message dispatched this evening from aboard the RPS *Sta. Maria* anchored in Manila Bay, the President instructed Governor Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank to hold in abeyance the implementation of the agreement between the FIMCO of the Philippines and the Nippon Trading Co., Ltd., of Japan whereby Japanese goods would be imported to the Philippines in exchange with Philippine products, including copra.

The Chief Executive ordered the suspension of the agreement, pending determination of its legality and propriety so that a public hearing might be conducted on the question in which local industrialists and other citizens should be heard.

"Hold in abeyance the execution of this agreement until all concerned have had a chance to study the same," the President said in his court order to Governor Cuaderno.

The projected barter was brought to the attention of the President by Rep. Joaquin Roces of Manila, chairman of the House committee on good government, who had expressed serious doubts as to the legality of the act of the Monetary Board in approving the transaction.

According to Rep. Roces, all no-dollar remittance importations were supposed to be governed by Republic Act No. 1410; hence, under the administration of the Department of Commerce. He pointed out that if the Central Bank could authorize barter, its abolition through the scrapping of R.A. 1410 would be of little use since the Central Bank would still be able to grant it.

In a letter sent over to the presidential yacht, Rep. Roces also informed the President that the agreement practically constituted a "monopolistic privilege" in favor of the FIMCO and the companies owned and operated by the E. M. Ramos Development Company, but added that should similar companies be granted identical privileges, "it would open the way for indiscriminate barter of our dollar-producing exports and at the same time opening the flood gates for the indiscriminate entry of Japanese goods to the ruin of our local infant industries."

"Entry of Japanese textiles may well ruin our textile industry for which we poured much of our dollars during these last few years," the President said.

January 24.—THE PRESIDENT ordered the preparation of a number of welfare measures designed to improve the living conditions of the nation's workers for recommendation to Congress when it convenes in regular session on Monday, it was announced by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable today.

The proposed measures include:

- (1) Means of further reducing unemployment;
- (2) Extension of social security benefits to agricultural workers;
- (3) Intensification of the Administration's resettlement program;
- (4) Stepping up the government's low-cost housing projects for workers; and
- (5) Promotion of cottage industries.

The President said that although the rate of unemployment had gone down owing largely to the opening of new industries, ways should be found to further increase work opportunities in order to keep up with the increasing labor force. He instructed Labor Secretary Angel M. Castaño to draft a bill embodying his plans for employment.

The Chief Executive also pointed out that workers in government and private firms were already receiving social security benefits through the Government Service Insurance System and the Social Security System. Some such benefit should be extended to the agricultural laborers who constitute about 65 per cent of the nation's workers, he said.

Regarding the intensification of the Administration's resettlement program, the President stressed the advisability of relocating idle manpower in underdeveloped areas not only as a means of helping ease unemployment but also of increasing the nation's productivity.

In connection with his plan of facilitating the implementation of the government's low-cost housing projects all over the country, the President expressed his desire for a coordinated program aimed at providing homes only to deserving applicants and on an easy installment plan for a period of as long as 30 years.

The President is also considering the creation of an agency to coordinate all government entities concerned with the promotion of cottage industries as a means of increasing the earning capacity of the people in the rural areas and of improving their living standards.

Meanwhile, President Garcia remained aboard the RPS *Sta. Maria* the whole day today, polishing his state-of-the-nation message to Congress. He did not receive any caller.

Waking up early this morning, the President started his second day aboard the yacht by calling for a stenographer to whom he dictated some notes he had scribbled the night before for inclusion in the speech.

After a light breakfast, the Chief Executive continued with the tedious task of writing and re-writing portions of his message in the quiet seclusion of the presidential yacht, which remained at anchor in Manila Bay a few hundred yards off the Independence Grandstand on the Luneta.

The Chief Executive hopes to finish his message by tomorrow morning.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(4), xxxv-xlii.

President's Month in Review: January 25-31, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

January 25—EARLY morning, the President and the First Lady heard mass at the presidential yacht *Santa Maria*.

At 8 a.m., the President left the yacht which was anchored just off the Manila Bay breakwater and proceeded to an undisclosed place to complete the draft of his annual message to Congress.

The President finally okeyed the draft of his speech about 2 p.m., by which time he ordered that it be taken to the Bureau of Printing to be set into print.

President Garcia then motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City at 5 p.m. He spent the night there.

THE President will recommend to Congress the further simplification of judicial procedures with the view to rendering more effective and expeditious the administration of justice, it was announced by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable today.

The President said that the nation's judicial processes, characterized by century-old formalistic rituals, often brought about interminable, delays in the settlement of litigations and the resultant clogging of court dockets.

The Chief Executive expressed desire to have unessential formalities dispensed with so that the presiding magistrate might get to the issues involved as soon as possible and effect prompt adjudication of controversies.

Noting the marked increase in the rate at which cases had been disposed by the courts during the past year, the President nevertheless saw the need for devising ways of insuring swift disposition of cases because of the steady Acreage in population and the proportionate increase in the number of litigations expected to be brought before the courts of justice.

He said that everyone seeking it should be given his day in court and accorded his right to a fair and speedy trial.

The President will also recommend to Congress the enactment of remedial measures to improve conditions obtaining in penal institutions and to put a stop to the apparent uneasiness among inmates of the state penitentiaries.

January 26.—THIS morning, the President received members of the joint committee from the Senate and the House of Representatives, who called on him at Malacañang to inform him that this year's session of Congress had been formally opened.

Composing the joint legislative committee were Sens. Lorenzo M. Tañada, Emmanuel Pelaez, and Pacita M. Gonzalez, and Reps. Ramon Bagatsing, Justiniano S. Montano, and Valeriano Yancha.

The legislators were ushered to the music room of Malacañang by Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, Assistant Executive Secretary, Enrique C. Quema, and Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, senior presidential aide.

President Garcia reviewed with his callers his pet administration bills which he wanted enacted during this session, particularly those on the synchronization of elections, habeas corpus, multiple currency reserve system, and revenue measures.

The President's first caller was Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, who reported briefly to the Chief Executive. No details were released by Malacañang on the subjects taken up by Romulo with the President.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon delivered his state-of-the-nation message before a joint session of Congress, formally marking the opening of the regular session of the Congress.

The President was warmly applauded 12 times by the senators and congressmen, who listened intently to his recommendations for legislative implementation.

The First Lady accompanied the President to the session hall of the House of Representatives.

The President started reading his message promptly at 5 o'clock this afternoon and finished with it after an hour and thirty two minutes. As the President and the First Lady entered the session hall, the senators and the congressmen and the people who packed the galleries gave the First Couple a standing ovation.

From Congress, the President and the First Lady returned to Malacañang.

THE President today issued Proclamation No. 554, declaring the period from February 1 to 7 1959 as "Aid to the Blind and the Handicapped Week."

The President set aside the first week of February as an annual fund raising week for the benefit of the blind and the handicapped to be conducted by the Social Welfare Administration. The moneys to be raised during the week will be called the "Blind and Handicapped Fund" and will be controlled and administered by the Social Welfare Administrator.

In order to insure the success of the fund drive, the President called upon all citizens and residents and all civic-spirited organizations and associations to lend their support to the campaign.

January 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia this Morning congratulated executives of the Development Bank of the Philippines for having implemented one of the most important objectives of his administration; namely, helping the small farmers.

The Chief Executive was the principal speaker at the opening session of the three-day intra-agency conference of DBP officials, branch managers, agency heads, and agricultural appraisers held in the social hall of Malacañang.

Other speakers were DBP Chairman Gregorio S. Licaros, who outlined the bank's ₱50 million agricultural loan program for 1959 to help bolster the productive potential, of the rural areas, and NEC Chairman Jose C Locsin, who talked on the NEC-sponsored three-year socio-economic program for the masses.

In a 30-minute off-the-cuff speech, the President emphasized that the establishment of a sound agricultural economy was a requisite for the success of any country's program of industrialization.

He told the conferees that Congress and the Administration were aware that the success of this country's Agricultural development program rested principally upon the small farmers who comprised approximately 65 per cent of the population of the Philippines.

The-successful implementation of the new financial assistance program of the DBP specially geared for the small farmers will answer a long-felt need, he added.

He called oh bank officials to help the farmers by minimizing red tape in the processing of loan applications so that the farmers will receive the money when they need it most.

President Garcia also traced the evolution of the DBP from its predecessor, the Rehabilitation Finance Corporation, which, he said, had already accomplished its mission of helping the nation recover from the ravages of World War II.

The Development Bank, of the Philippines, lie said, is now charged with helping in the exploitation and development of the country's vast agricultural and industrial potential. For this reason, Congress has seen fit to provide the DBP with sufficient funds to carry out this objective namely, 50 per cent of the proceeds from the sale of reparations items accumulated through a period of 20 years.

DBP Chairman Licaros enumerated the objectives of the joint NEC-DBP overall economic development program as follows:

- (1) To accelerate development in agriculture through extension of readily available and adequate credit facilities to farmers;
- (2) To provide increased job opportunities in the provinces and thus prevent the influx of additional unemployed to urban centers of the country; and
- (3) To maximize the social and economic benefits accruing from every peso invested in this type of loans.

THE PRESIDENT received officials of the International Harvester Company and the Merck Sharp and Dohme International, who paid separate courtesy balls at Malacañang this morning.

Hugh A. Davies, vice-president of the International Harvester Export Company of Chicago, called on the President accompanied by Paul Wood, president of the IH Company of the Philippines.

Davies had helped in the preparation for the reception of President and Mrs. Garcia in Chicago during their state visit to the United States last year.

President Garcia received a standing invitation from Davies and Wood to view the display of IH farm equipment at the company's office on Marques de Comillas Street.

He was also informed of their appreciation for the cooperation of Philippine Machine Shop operators who turn out parts for IH equipment.

The President was told that the company had successfully tried this program in other underdeveloped countries of the world.

Antonie T. Knoppers, Huskel E. Kaireb, and Walter Peyer, president, vice-president, and director, respectively, of the Merck, Sharp, and Dohme International, well-known drug manufacturers, also paid a courtesy call on the President.

They were accompanied by Yao Shiong Shio, president of the drug laboratory bearing his initials and distributor in the Philippines of Merck Sharp, and Dohme products.

Minister Nicanor Roxas former Philippine consul general to San Francisco received final instructions from President Garcia prior to his departure for the Hague to assume his new post as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the Netherlands.

President Garcia, also received Cebu Reps. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., and Isidro C. Kintanar with whom he had an exchange of views on the economic problems of the country.

Other presidential callers this morning were Don Manolo Elizalde and Carl Landegger, and Provincial Board Member Lino R. Azicate of Catanduanes and Salvador Madarang of Zambales, who requested the Chief Executive to set aside a date for the officers of the League of Provincial Board Members of the Philippines to call on him.

PRESIDENT Garcia directed Commerce Secretary Pedro C. Hemae today to shelve all applications for barter allowed under Republic Act 1410, better known as the no-dollar import law.

The presidential directive was handed down less than 24 hours after his state-of-the-nation address was delivered before a joint session of Congress in which he strongly recommended the immediate repeal of the law. The presidential directive came a few hours after the Senate had unanimously voted to repeal the law in its session today.

The directive to freeze all applications for barter was made to strengthen. President Garcia's bid to save government revenues which dropped by about \$80 million as a result of the implementation of the law last year.

The President took occasion to reiterate that the importation duty-free of personal effects by returning residents had not only deprived the government of substantial revenue but had also resulted in the commission of abuses and frauds.

This temptation to graft and corruption must be eliminated, the President said.

President Garcia underscored the importance of repealing the law when he said that its implementation had given, rise to over-shipment downgrading and under-pricing of exports, and overpricing of imports.

This procedure President Garcia said enabled the salting away of millions of dollars in foreign countries which should have gone to the government to boost its dollar reserves.

The repeal of Republic Act 1410 is one of 14 recommendations submitted by the President to Congress for congressional approval during its session which opened yesterday.

THE President certified today to the Court of Industrial Relations the labor dispute between the Philippine Air Lines management and the employees and workers affiliated with the Philippine Air Lines Employees Association (PALEA)

In certifying the dispute, the Chief Executive requested the CIR to take immediate steps under the law in order to effect a solution mutually beneficial to both the management and the employees.

The President pointed out that the existing strike with the attendant picketing is jeopardizing the national interest because the service of the Philippine Air Lines is indispensable to the postal service of the country, national defense, air transportation of passengers and cargo, including newspaper and general merchandise.

The Chief Executive stressed that the Philippine Air Lines was the only scheduled air carrier and the only carrier of air mail throughout the country.

The President also took cognizance of the role PAL plays in furnishing maintenance work, ground handling, food service for foreign carriers like Pan American World Airways, Scandinavian Airways System, KLM, Garuda Indonesian Airways, Air de France, and Vicil Air Transport, saying stoppage of work would seriously disrupt, if not paralyze, international transportation.

The President said the strike would, greatly handicap the country's defense potential since PAL also maintains and overhauls aircraft of the Philippine Air Force, the U. S. Air Force, and the U. S. Navy.

January 28.—MONSIGNOR Egidio Vagnozzi, Papal Nuncio to the Philippines, paid a farewell call this morning on the President at his residence on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City.

Msgr. Vagnozzi presented as his farewell gift to the President a priceless antique vase dating back to around 2 or 3 B.C. which had been found in the excavations near Foggia, Polie, Italy.

The apostolic nuncio is scheduled to leave Friday on board the S.S. *Cambridge* for Rome for consultation and to receive final instructions before proceeding to his new assignment in Washington, D. C. He served in the Philippines for almost ten years, having arrived in this country in 1949 as papal legate.

President Garcia will honor the departing dean of the local diplomatic corps with a despedida state dinner this evening at Malacañang on the eve of his departure.

Meanwhile, a five-man team from the Filipino Shipowners' Association called on President Garcia this morning to receive further instruction before leaving for Japan sometime this week to assist Chairman Jose Rodriguez and General Manager Jose Panganiban of the National Development Company in the preparation of specifications for the final contract to purchase 12 ocean-going vessels from Japan. The vessels will be the nucleus of the Philippines' merchant marine fleet, which is intended to boost local industries.

Members of the FSA team going to Japan are Col. Generoso Tanseco of the General Shipping Co., FSA president; Roberto Ho of the Magsaysay Lines, FSA vice-president; Mariano Acuña of the Ace Lines; Leocadio de Asis of Delgado Bros; and A. A. R. Botelho of the Botelho Shipping Co.

Shigeo Horie, president of the Bank of Tokyo, also paid a courtesy call on President Garcia. He was accompanied by Y. Yamane, manager of the Bank of Tokyo branch in Manila; M. Hashimoto, manager of the Bank of Tokyo branch in Hongkong; and S. Yokoyama, member of the board of directors of the Bank of Tokyo.

Other callers of the President were Nicolas Laude, Antonio Araneta, and DBP Chairman Gregorio S. Licaros.

THE CABINET approved this afternoon the sale of the ₱14 million Maria Cristina Fertilizer Plant in Lanao at a public bidding in line with the Administration's policy of withdrawing from competitive business when private capital is willing to take over.

Malacañang said the plant was assessed at ₱14,643,955.48.

The Maria Cristina Fertilizer Plant will be the third government corporation to be disposed or placed in the market by the government.

The first corporation sold by the government was the Bacnotan Cement Plant, a subsidiary of the Cebu Portland Cement Company, and the government shares in the Philippine Electrical Manufacturing Company.

In approving the sale of the fertilizer plant in Lanao, the Cabinet-imposed the following conditions:

1. Sale must be made at a public bidding;
2. Only Filipinos and Americans or Filipino or American-controlled corporations can participate in the public bidding;
3. The successful bidder must enter into a contract with the National Power Corporation to purchase power and energy from the NPC at specified rates; and
4. Ordinary workers of the plant must be absorbed by the new owner. The Cabinet members said that in the sale of government corporations, the plight of the workers must be taken into account.

When asked to comment on the charges filed in court against Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, President Carlos P. Garcia said that he will study the matter in consultation with Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera.

THIS EVENING President Garcia directed the Department of Justice to study the possibility of suspending Secretary of Finance Jaime Hernandez following his induction in the Manila court of first instance for "possession of prohibited interest by a public officer."

Secretary Barrera conferred with President Garcia this evening on the prosecution of Secretary Hernandez before the Manila court of first instance.

In that conference, Barrera was instructed to study the case further and submit his recommendations on what action the President would take on the case

The President asked Barrera to study the legal aspects of the Hernandez case which is said to be the first of its kind to be filed with the Philippine courts

January 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia conferred with Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera about noon today regarding the case filed against Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez with the Manila Court of First Instance by City Fiscal Hermogenes Concepcion, Jr.

After the conference, President Garcia said he consulted with Secretary Barrera on certain aspects of the case and that he had called for mere facts in order to be in a position to determine the proper course of action he would take

Earlier, the Chief Executive received governors and congressmen from the Bicol provinces. Through Gov. Juan Trivino of Camarines Sur who acted as their spokesman, they expressed the faith and confidence of their group and of the people they represented in the integrity of Secretary Hernandez.

Gov Triviño said they did not wish to exert pressure on anybody but only wanted that the ordinary procedures in the administration of justice be respected, such as the customary raffle in the assignment of cases to judges.

The President was informed that they had no question regarding the choice of Judge Arsenio Solidum to try the case nor of Fiscal Concepcion who will handle the prosecution.

They said however, that there seemed to have been some-undue haste in the filing of the case inasmuch as ordinarily it took a week or two of preliminary investigations before, a case reached the court.

Composing the Bicol group that called on President Garcia at Malacañang this morning were Triviño; Reps. Agaton Ursua and Felix A. Fuentebella of Camarines, Sur, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Emilio Espinosa of Masbate, Vicente Peralta and Salvador, Encinas of Sorsogon; Sens. Pedro A. Sabido and Pacita M. Gonzalez; Reparations Commissioner Juan Alberto; and: Gov. Juan G. Frivaldo of Sorsogon.

Several other provincial delegations from Sulu and Davao also went to Malacañang to present Resolutions requesting financial assistance, for the construction or reconstruction of public, works projects in their respective provinces.

The Davao delegation was accompanied by General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, Rep. Gavino Sepulveda, and Gov. Vicente Duterte. Among the members were Davao City Councilor Elias Lopez and Mayors Nonito Lianas, Felix Bandanas, Oswaldo-Barol, and Nestorio Cumabig. Aside from submitting requests for financial aid, the Davaweños also briefed the President on the political situation in the province and the city.

The delegation from Sulu was led by Sen. Domocao Alonto and Rep. Sahpada Pendatun of Cotabato and was composed of Abraham Rasul, Alawi Abubakar, Singh Abubakar, Hadji Nur, Miguel Ycaza, F. Sindayen, and H. Jayari.

Rep. Pendatun, who acted as spokesman, conveyed the gratitude of the people of Sulu for the temporary lifting of the ban on the special trade between Sulu and Borneo.

The ban was recently imposed following discovery that some Muslim traders and *Kumpit* owners had abused their privilege by acting as dummies of aliens and that their activities had caused the government a loss of thousands of pesos in revenues.

President Garcia was informed that the ban had caused hardships to majority of the people in Sulu, most of whom were dependent on the special trade for their livelihood.

Pendatun explained that because of the unstable peace and order situation in this southernmost province, many had abandoned their farms to engage in bartering locally produced copra for other goods available in Borneo.

He praised the government for taking the necessary steps to apprehend and recommend the prosecution to the fullest extent of the law of those unscrupulous traders who are dummies of alien businessmen.

The President also received from Abraham Rasul, representing the Mindanao Jaycees, a resolution passed during the third conference of different Mindanao chapter of the organization endorsing the Chief Executive's decision to lift temporarily the suspension of the special trade between Sulu and Borneo.

President Garcia told them he would direct that the Muslim traders be represented in the special committee organized to screen participants in the special trade in the Sulu ports of Jolo and Bongao to weed out undesirables.

He said he would study further the feasibility of appointing a Muslim representative to the Presidential Law Enforcement Unit in the Southern Philippines (PLEUSP)

The Chief Executive also received from 12 provincial governors and one city mayor checks totalling ₱25,672,00 representing funds they had raised in response to the government's peace and amelioration fund drive.

Among those who turned in their contributions were Cotabato Gov. Datu Udtog Matalan (represented by Rep. Pendatun), Govs. Josue Cadio of Antique, Amado Q. Aleta of Nueva Ecija, Tomas S. Martin of Bulacan, Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan, Bienvenido A. Ebarle of Zambanga del Sur, Marcos Resiña of Bukidnon, Feliciano Leviste of Batangas, Bernardino O. Almeda of Surigao, Esteban Bernido of Bohol, Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Oriental, Miguel Manguera of Marinduque, and Mayor Teves of Negros Oriental and Mayor Cipriano B. Colago of San Pablo City.

Officials of the Peace and Amelioration Fund Commission who attended the turn-over ceremonies were Manuel Elizalde, PAFC chairman; Col. Basilio Hernandez, executive officer; Oscar Mabilog, liaison officer; and Rodrigo Feria, PRO.

IN THE AFTERNOON, the President was the guest speaker at convocation in the Far Eastern University marking the start of celebrations commemorating the school's Silver Jubilee.

Nicanor Reyes, Jr., FEU vice-president, who delivered the opening remarks at the convocation, placed the resources of the university at the disposal of President Garcia in seeking solution of the country's "interminable problems."

LATER in the evening, the President honored Moris Egidio Vagnozzi, outgoing papal nuncio to the Philippines, at a despedida state dinner in Malacañang.

During the affair, the President conferred the decoration "Lakan" of the Order of Sikatuna on the apostolic nuncio for "extraordinary services" rendered in cementing the existing ties of friendship between the Holy See and the Republic of the Philippines and for his outstanding work in the development of a more cohesive and positive Catholic citizenry in the Philippines."

January 30.—SOME 200 students from the U.P. College of Agriculture in Los Baños, Laguna, marched today to Malacañang, to request the retention of Agriculture Secretary Juan de Rodriguez in the Cabinet.

Lt. Melchor Fronda, who had been sent by the President to meet the students, said President Garcia was busy preparing his budget and his message to Congress.

Fronda said he will transmit their sentiments to the President.

The delegation was headed by Prof. Andres Aglibot and Gudy Calleja and Ceciho Anda, president and vice-president, respectively, of the student body.

After the press conference, the President received Samar officials headed by Sen. Decoroso Rosales. With the group were Gov. Fernando Velos, Eladio Balite, and Felipe Abrigo. Rep Marcelino Veloso of Leyte was also with the delegation.

President Garcia then received a delegation of officials from Negros Oriental. The group was composed of Gov. Serafin Teves and Reps. Lorenzo Teves and Lamberto Macias.

President Garcia this afternoon said that the existing Philippine-American relations have been shaken by "irritants" and singled out the *Time* magazine as having "done more damage" the ties binding the two countries.

At his regular press conference, the President said that Philippine-American relations have not yet deteriorated but stressed he was seeking to "smoke out" the irritants" which had plagued the affinity of the two countries.

The President also unburdened himself against the weekly US news magazine which had twice, riled him and his administration.

"Bell is '*persona non grata*' to many 'Filipinos,'" the President said. However, he underscored his policy of giving foreign newsmen free entry into the country.

In answer to questions fired by newsmen, the President said that *Time* would do well, if "it would change its correspondent in the Philippines."

Asked if he would favor the grant of a visa to Bell, the President-Waved aside the question saying the issue is before Consul General Eduardo Rosal in Hongkong.

Rosal had denied Bell entry visa to the Philippines and the newsman appealed to higher government authorities.

He would not comment on a scheduled anti-Bell rally this evening at Plaza Miranda.

At the press conference, the President:

1. Said that Philippine foreign policy with regard to the United States remains the hanged although the country has shifted its program towards mere Asian consciousness;
2. Reiterates his stand against accepting from Communist countries.
3. Stated that he will wait for the resolution of the Manila court of first instance on the motion quashing against Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez before acting on the Hernandez case;
4. Indicated he would present a balanced budget to Congress before the deadline next February 9; and
5. Clarified his stand on the repeal of the barter trade law

Asked if he ran a pro-American candidate in the last election, the President said he launched his candidacy under the Nacionalista Party and won mainly on the basis of his stand on purely domestic issues.

He debunked the U. S. magazine article's insinuation that a pro-American candidate would easily win an election in the Philippines, and observed that Filipino electors vote mainly on the basis of domestic issues.

He said it is not incompatible for the Philippines to maintain present relations with the United States and at the same time promote closer relations with Asian countries.

Moreover, the President said, he has not yet gone over the report of Secretary of Justice Jesus G. Barrera on his inquiry into the so-called "White Paper." He said he did not have time to go over the Barrera report.

The President said he will wait until the Manila court has resolved, the Cabinet member's motion to quash his case before he would take action on the Secretary of Finance.

As for the new national budget, he explained it would consist of two category which he listed as "A" and "B."

He said that the "A" budget would contain merely the operational expenditures of the government to be supported by present revenue measures.

The "B" budget will be outlays for economic and social services.

On his alleged interference in legislative matters regarding the repeal of Republic Act No. 1410, otherwise known as the barter trade law, the President said that his view had been asked by the Senate-House conference committee.

He denied he had sought to salvage some barter applications being processed by the no-dollar import office of the Department of Commerce.

He said that while he was in favor of scrapping the barter law, he reminded the solons that legislative action towards the abrogation of the law would not affect adversely "perfected contracts."

He did not want to expose the government, he added, to several damage suits which may arise from the impairment of already-established contracts.

January 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon delivered the keynote address at the opening ceremonies of the seminar on socio-economic development of Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan.

The three-day seminar is sponsored jointly by the Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan Association and the Xavier University.

Leaving early this morning by plane, the President stopped by Ozamis City to inspect the damage caused by the recent fire which razed eleven blocks in the slum and business sections of Ozamis.

The Chief Executive expressed satisfaction in the prompt distribution of relief supplies to fire victims at an impromptu rally held in the middle of the burned area. He also presented a check for ₱50,000 to City Mayor Angel Medina in payment of cash advance used in the purchase of badly needed construction materials for homeless, residents.

Considered the worst fire to hit Mindanao, it rendered 824 families homeless, caused damage amounting to hundreds of thousands of pesos, and resulted in loss of one life.

Accompanying the President in his walk through the burned area were Mayor Medina, Vice-Mayor Rafael Gurbuxani, Gov. Diego Ty Deling, Reps. Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte and Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato and Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, Sen. Domocao Alonto, Brig. Gen. Ramon Aguirre, 4th MA commanding general, NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin, General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, DANR Under Secretary Amando Dalisay, Highways Commissioner Nicolas Cuenca, and Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio C. Quimson.

After lunch at the residence of Vice-Mayor Gurbuxani of Ozamis City, President Garcia and party took off for Cagayan de Oro City arriving there about 3: 30 p.m.

The President was met at the airport by city officials headed by Mayor Justiniano Borja and provincial officials led by Gov. Vicente de Lara.

After acknowledging military honors accorded him by an honor guard, the President led the motorcade to Xavier University where the seminar was held.

Chairman of the seminar is Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez, president of MINSUPALA Association.

After the seminar, President Garcia held a conference and open forum with national, provincial, city, and municipal officials at the City Hall conference room.

The President and members of the party were honored at the presidential “banquet given by the City government at Casino Social Hall.

After the banquet President Garcia motored to Del Monte where he spent the night.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: February 1-7, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

February 1.— EARLY morning, the President heard mass at the Camp Philipps chapel in Del Monte, Bukidnon.

He and his party had breakfast in the camp at 8:30 a.m. At 9:00a.m. they took off for the return trip to Manila, arriving here at noon. At the Del Monte airport, the President talked to a group of pineapple planters who, upon seeing the Chief Executive, flocked to him. The President gave them a brief pep talk on the need for increased production.

In the evening he addressed the award affair of the Philippine Council of Industrial Editors held at the National Press Club.

The council is composed of press relations men and house organ editors of a number of government and private firms, including some whose executives are among the awardees of the council.

President Garcia in his speech expressed confidence that greater Filipino interest will boost the current economic emancipation movement in the country.

The President predicted that the United States' success in wresting her economy from alien control after political independence "will also happen here"

The Chief Executive said there is a crying need for greater Filipino participation in the improvement of the country's economic structure.

He expressed hope that, with greater Filipino participation, the 400 years of foreign domination of the country's economy will be turned over to local interests "on a wisely graduated scale."

However President Garcia urged patience in achieving this economic emancipation program saying that the country which had achieved independence from foreign domination could change right away its economic structure from that of the former ruler."

The President recalled that the US was able to wrest its economy from alien control only after many years following political independence. He added that such a pattern "will also happen here."

The Chief Executive also assailed what he called the prophets of disaster for painting bleak picture of the future of the country.

He lauded the leaders of industry here who, he said, with faith and confidence in themselves and in their government, did not listen to discouraging talks but instead forged ahead to help the economy of the country get on its feet.

The President pointed out that he was not very happy with the present situation where the country's minerals, such as iron ores, are being exported abroad for processing.

He said that this situation cannot and must not be allowed to continue. "We will have to process ore here and thus give birth to subsidiary industries," he said.

February 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia received today members of the Draper committee and gave them the green light to meet officials of the Departments of Foreign Affairs and National Defense.

Receiving the members during a breakfast Conference in his, Quezon City residence, the President, said that the meeting was more of a personal call.

He said that the technical phases will be discussed by technical men in the Departments of Foreign Affairs and National Defense.

The Draper committee, composed of Dillon Anderson; Gen. J. Lawton Collins, retired U.S. chief of staff; Charles Wolf, Jr., of the Rand Corp; and Cols. Victor Alden and Ed Lansdale, arrived last Friday. They are on a survey of U.S. military assistance in the Far East. The committee was named by President Eisenhower.

The President granted executive clemency today to six blind prisoners in connection with the observance of the "Aid to the Blind and Other Physically Handicapped Week."

The prisoners were turned over to the vocational rehabilitation office of the Social Welfare Administration for vocational training. They are all completely blind and had served minimum sentences.

The Aid to the Blind and Other Physically Handicapped Week had been proclaimed by the President to last from February 1 to 7, this year, within which to raise a trust fund for the handicapped. He had urged all citizens and residents of this country to support the fund drive.

PRESIDENT Garcia today tackled the proposed budget which he intends to send to Congress before the constitutional deadline on February 9.

Present at the conference were Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, and Chairman Jose C. Locsin of the National Economic Council.

A Malacañang spokesman said the conference started about 9 o'clock and broke up at lunchtime. The conference was resumed after lunch.

From his conference with his fiscal advisers, the President presided over the special meeting of his Cabinet, and took up anew his proposed budget.

THE CABINET in a special meeting this evening, approved a ₱973 million budget for the next fiscal year, including a "reduced" appropriation of ₱738 million for the current operating expenses of the government.

President Garcia will submit his budget proposal to Congress on or before Monday next week.

The President explained at his press conference last Friday that the proposed budget for the next fiscal year will carry two phases; namely, the "A" budget and the "B" budget.

The "A" budget will be financed by the present revenue laws while the proposed "B" budget of 235 million will be supported by the new tax bills which Malacañang will endorse to Congress as complementary legislation.

Significantly, the Cabinet increased the Army budget from the current ₱175 million appropriation to ₱179 million.

The new figure carries an allocation of ₱171 million from the "A" budget and ₱8 million from the "B" budget.

Malacañang explained that the appropriations under the "B" budget are contingent upon the approval of tax measures which will be endorsed to Congress.

The Department of Education registered the biggest leap in figures with an increase of ₱22 million.

The increase in the appropriation for the Department of Education was made because of the opening of 3,000 new classes. The increased appropriation will prevent the recurrence of a school crisis every opening of the academic year.

The Department of Foreign Affairs was also given a ₱1 million increase from its present ₱7 million appropriation.

The President's contingent fund was increased from ₱5 million to ₱8 million.

The Department of Health, however, recorded a reduction of ₱4 million from its present appropriation of ₱54 million, while the Department of Labor was given a raise of ₱1 million over its present allocations of ₱1 million.

The Department of Justice and Congress were given allocations of ₱22 million and ₱12 million, respectively, while the Department of Finance got a big increase from ₱73 million to ₱162 million.

The finance appropriation was broken, however, into ₱59 million in the "A" budget and ₱102 million in the "B" budget.

The office of the Vice-President's appropriation was given a ₱2 million raise while the office of the President has an identical item of ₱24 million.

President Garcia and the Cabinet passed two separate resolutions one condoling with the family of the late Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Juan Alcazaren, and the other condoling with the family of the late Martin Aguilar, one time undersecretary of education.

February 3. — PRESIDENT Carlos P. Garcia received a warm indorsement today from the Council of State for a state visit to South Vietnam sometime next April.

The President's forthcoming trip, the second of its kind in Asia, was described as consistent with President Garcia's pronouncements to develop closer ties with Asian nations.

Congress leaders, led by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, and majority floor leader Senator Cipriano Primicias, spoke warmly in favor of the proposed state visit of the President.

Former President Sergio Osmeña, Sen. Claro M. Recto and Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano took turns in indorsing the state visit describing the trip as worthwhile and in reciprocation of the state visit made to the Philippines last April by President Ngo Dinh Diem.

The Council of State also discussed freely the possibility of President Garcia visiting other Asian and Southeast Asian nations in the very near future.

They underscored the importance of developing educational, cultural, political and economic ties with Asian nations.

The invitation to visit South Vietnam was personally extended to President Garcia during President Diem's visit to the Philippines last year. It was reiterated in an official communication from Ambassador Trinidad Legarda to the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The exact date of the state visit will be decided by President Garcia. The council of State gave the President a vote of confidence in selecting the appropriate date of his departure. The trip may last only about five days.

The Council of State also approved the floatation of ₱100 million worth of bonds spread over a period of nine years to finance the acquisition of 12 ocean-going vessels which will form the nucleus of a Philippine merchant marine in connection with the implementation of the overseas shipping act.

In an unprecedented four-hour meeting at Malacañang this afternoon the Council of State also approved:

- (1) The request of the Civil Aeronautics Administration for the release of ₱250,000 to pay obligations in connection with the acquisition of privately-owned lands within the Lahug airport in Cebu;
- (2) The financing of the Marikina multi-purpose project and the improvement and expansion of the telecommunications system; and
- (3) The request of the Department of Education for the release of ₱2,350,000 for the current fiscal year for projects of the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission.

In approving the acquisition of 12 ocean-going vessels, the President and the Council of the State agreed to the advisability of having an overseas shipping fleet so that this country could have at least a share in the freight charges of its imports and exports. It was pointed out that at present Philippine bottoms carry less than three per cent of the nation's exports and imports and the acquisition of these vessels from Japan would enable the country to handle about ten per cent of its shipping requirements.

The acquisition of the vessels involved the floatation of bonds worth ₱100 million over a period of nine years broken down as follows: 1959—₱6,480,00; 1960—₱12,052,000; 1961—₱13,357,000; 1962—₱13,348,800; 1963—₱12,830,400; 1964—₱12,312,000; 1965—₱11,793,600; 1966—₱11,275,200; and 1967—₱6,551,000.

The Marikina multi-purpose project is recognized to be vital to the economic development of the country. Among the benefits cited at the Council meeting were that:

- (1) It would generate 68,600 kw of power and 141,000,000 kwh of energy, for Luzon;
- (2) It would supply Manila and environs with an additional 270,000,000 cubic meters of water annually which will solve the recurrent water shortage problem;
- (3) It would provide sufficient water for the irrigation, of 6,200 hectares of productive agricultural lands on a year-round basis; and
- (4) It would solve Manila's flood problem attributed to the overflow of the Pasig River.

For this project, the government will secure \$32 million credit line from the Export-Import Bank of Japan with which to pay for the necessary machinery, equipment, supplies, and materials. Repayment will be made after, a grace period of three years from the commencement of the project, extending through a period of 10 years thereafter, with reparations payments earmarked as guarantee.

Financing for the expansion and improvement of the telecommunications system will be under the same deferred payment formula and will involve the amount of \$12, million. The Japanese Government will extend credit to Japanese firms which will supply goods and services by facilitating loans to Japanese firms to the extent of 80 per cent from the Export-Import Bank of Japan and 20 per cent from local banks.

The Council meeting lasted from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. with a detailed report rendered by Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno on the history of negotiations undertaken, with the Japanese Government on the Marikina and telecom projects taking a considerable portion of the time. During the meeting, the public works secretary was subjected to searching questions propounded by Sens. Recto and Primicias as well as by Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal and Rep. Cornelio Villareal on various aspects of the project.

The Vice-President abstained from voting on the proposed acquisition of 12 vessels from Japan and the Marikina multi-purpose project and the telecom expansion and improvement project. Among the reasons Macapagal advanced for his abstention was that the proposed floatation of bonds would contribute to inflationary pressure already affecting the nation's economy.

Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, however, explained that this would not be so, as the proceeds from the bonds would be utilized for the repayment of loans in Japan.

Former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., endorsed the proposals for the benefits it would give to the national economy.

AFTER the Council of State meeting, the President received members of the Tax Advisory Board and took up with them the proposed tax measures which Malacañang will endorse to Congress to support the "B" budget in the fiscal plan of the year 1959-1960.

Present at the conference were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Acting Internal Revenue Commissioner Melecio R. Domingo, BIR Board Secretary Elias E. Vega, Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Customs Legal Counsel Casimiro G. Caluag, Alfonso Calalang, and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno.

In the morning, the President received members of the House of Representatives with whom he discussed the need to amend certain provisions, of the Reparations Act.

He reiterated his recommendation to Congress in his state-of-the-nation message, last, January 26 that the reparations law should be amended

The President said people engaged in the mining industry had complained that their enterprises could not benefit from the reparations, as some-alien investors had bought shares from the stock exchange.

The President explained to the solons that under the present set up as long as foreigners buy even a single stock of a Filipino enterprise, it is automatically excluded from the benefits of the Reparations Act which specifically provides that "entitles wholly owned by Filipino citizens" could apply for reparations.

The solons who saw the President were Reps. Tobias Fornier, Nicanor Yñiguez, Ramon Bagatsing, Manuel Zosa, Jacobo Gonzales, Delfin Albano, Lucas Parades, Vicente Gustilo, Apolinario Apacible, and Wenceslao Rancap Lagumbay

February 4.— THIS morning, the President did not receive any caller.

Before presiding over the weekly Cabinet meeting this afternoon, the President received the officials of the Philippine Base Metals Association who appraised him of the problems facing the mining industry.

They reported that they have always been set back with the problems of securing dollars to pay the transportation of their ores to other countries. They lauded the President's interest in developing the mining industry. Those who saw the President were Jesus Cabarrus, David Weinstein, Conrado Benitez, Sebastian Ugarte, Henry A. Brimo, Jose Robles, and H. G. Cawile.

THE CABINET this evening voted to restore the seventh grade in public schools in June and immediately created a five-man committee to tap sources of revenue to finance the seventh grade classes.

President Garcia named Education Secretary Manuel Lim as head of the committee, which will also study the establishment of an educational trust fund.

The seventh grade was abolished under the Educational Act of 1940. The grade was suppressed in the 1941 school year.

The grade was restored by legislation passed by Congress after the war, but its implementation by public schools has been deferred because of lack of funds for the additional classes, teachers, and teaching equipment required.

Some private schools, however, have already restored the seventh grade.

President Garcia favored the restoration of the seventh grade in an effort to improve the standard of education in public schools and raise the quality of their graduates.

Other members of the committee are Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Secretary of Public Works Florencio Moreno, and National Economic Council Chairman Jose Locsin

Secretary Lim recommended the restoration of the seventh grade in one of measures he presented at the Cabinet meeting to improve the quality of the graduates and students in public institutions.

He pointed out that some private institutions had already implemented the law.

Lim also recommended the giving of uniform examinations to public school teachers by the Department of Education. He said this system of examination, will raise the standard of instruction in the public schools.

At the same time, Lim sought the allocation of ₱600 million for the budget of the Department of Education.

He said that the department has only 56 staffers although classes have increased and the curricula of public schools have become more complicated.

He said the department needs additional funds to increase its personnel.

Malacañang said the Cabinet studied the possibility of creating the educational trust fund as a source of money to finance public schools.

This fund will draw money from government revenues by increasing taxes on the residence, real estate, inheritance, and gift and documentary taxes.

It was learned that proposals were made to increase the rates of these various levies and channel the margin of collection to the educational trust fund.

President Garcia told the committee, members to have the proposed measure ready by the last week of the month in order that it would be submitted to Congress as early as possible.

President Garcia wants the restoration of the seventh grade to be effected at the opening of the academic year in June.

Lim also sought the early release of the 20 per cent of the proceeds from the reparations payments to finance the construction of more school buildings.

The education secretary said that although his department is allocated 20 percent of the proceeds from reparations payments he could not have the money available until five years.

He sought Cabinet authority to draw the amounts in advance in order that the school buildings could be constructed

Lim underscored the need of constructing durable buildings unlike the pre-fabricated schoolhouses which have been set up by Army engineers.

THIS EVENING, the President supported the decision of Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano denying the issuance of a visa to James Bell, *Time* magazine correspondent for the Far East.

The President emphasised that freedom of the press is not being curtailed in this country, as *Time* magazine is free to send to the Philippines any other correspondent.

In receiving the Serrano report, President Garcia took Occasion to reiterate that he will not tolerate such articles marring Philippine-American relations.

A Malacañang spokesman said the articles filed by Mr. Bell have followed a systematic pattern of character assassination, such articles being highly colored, biased, and one-sided.

Secretary Serrano imposed a perpetual bar on the entry into the country of Bell.

Serrano upheld a decision of Minister Eduardo L. Rosal, chief of the Philippine consulate general in Hongkong, denying Bell a PI visa because he was "*persona, non grata*" here.

The secretary informed all Philippine diplomatic and consular establishments abroad of his action, and directed them, in effect, to refuse Bell a PI visa wherever he applies.

February 5.—THE President this day moved to expedite, the exchange of notes between the governments of the Philippines and Japan regarding the construction of the Marikina multi-purpose project and the expansion of the telecommunications system when he discussed with his advisers on the final instructions to Minister Cesar Lanuza, head of the Reparations Mission in Japan.

The instructions will be relayed to Lanuza by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who was called by the President to the conference which lasted four hours at Malacañang today. The conference broke up at 2 p.m.

Also present at the conference were Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Reparations Commissioners Rodolfo Maslog and Alejo Santos, Public Works Director Julian Buendia, General Manager Filemon Zablan, the National Power Corporation, Executive Director Gregorio G. Abad of the Reparations Commission, and Pedro Afafe of the Department of Public Works.

Before the conference which started at 10 a.m., President Garcia conferred with Malacañang aides and Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio C. Quimson.

President Garcia ordered today a closer scrutiny of all contracts involving ₱10,000 or more entered into between offices of the national government and other parties by requiring that they be submitted to the auditor general for examination and review before they are consummated or perfected.

This step was taken to protect the interests of the government and is expected to prevent collusion between unscrupulous officials and shady contractors.

The new requirement, contained in Administrative Order No. 290, signed by the Chief Executive, covers all bureaus and offices, agencies and instrumentalities, of the government, including government owned and/or controlled corporations.

The immigration case of Mrs. Elizabeth Cameron-Laguatan was elevated to Malacañang as President Garcia, instructed today Judge Salvador Esguerra, legal adviser, to study the case for comment and recommendation.

The President's directive was given following receipt of a letter from Immigration Commissioner Emilio L. Galang, who pleaded the case of the Australian woman who had been admitted into the country as a temporary visitor and subsequently married to a Filipino.

Galang recommended to the Chief Executive two alternatives, namely, that the President exercise his discretion to set aside the requirement of reciprocity in immigration, as this was more a matter of policy than a legal requirement, and grant Mrs Laguatan permission to reside here as a non-quota immigrant, or that he admit Mrs. Laguatan for an indefinite residence in the Philippines as an alien as long as her marriage lasts.

Judge Esguerra is expected to submit his report tomorrow.

February 6.— PRESIDENT Garcia said today that American capital is most welcomed in the Philippines. He made the statement before a group of American businessmen who are surveying new opportunities for American investments here.

He added that American capital is specially needed in the exploitation of Philippine mineral resources

The American businessmen were James Crafts, president of the Firemen's Fund Insurance Company of New York, James Nichols, president of the American Foreign Insurance Association; and Victor Bello, Far East supervisor of the American Foreign Insurance Association. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Vicencio Richards and Ramon L Abad, local businessmen.

The President also received Edward Michaelsen, vice-president of the Phelps Dodge Copper Products Corporation who was accompanied by Sebastian Ugarte, vice-president of the Soriano y Compañía, Lee Telesco, and Timothy Golden.

Clarence Sturm, first vice-president of the Lions International, paid a courtesy call on President Garcia accompanied by Eugenio Eusebio, director of the Lions International, Eulalio Legaspi, governor of District 301, George Barrenengoa, local representative of the Lions International and Antonio Abaya.

Other presidential callers were Rep Emilio Cortez, Dr Gil Gaddi, and Commodore Jose Francisco, Philippine Navy chief.

Earlier, the President had a breakfast conference with Secretary of Foreign, Affairs Felixberto Serrano. The conference was held at the President's Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

The Chief Executive motored to Malacañang about 10 a.m. where he received scheduled callers up to 1:00 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia today justified the ban on the entry here of James Bell, *Time-Life* correspondent, saying that even the United States has barred Filipinos from entering the American mainland for "lesser causes."

He issued the statement after inducting the new officers of the Business Writers Association of the Philippines, shortly after his regular press conference in Malacañang today.

The President said Philippine rejection of a visa to, Bell did not infringe the constitutional provision of the freedom of the press.

"The *Time* magazine," President Garcia told newsmen, "can send another reporter to cover the Philippines."

The President deplored the Commerce Secretary Pedro C. Hernaez is taking "wildly" against the scrapping of the barter law.

He recalled Secretary Hernaez was present and offered no objection during a Cabinet meeting when the plan seeking the repeal of Republic Act No. 1410, otherwise known as the No-Dollar Import Law, was brought up.

At the press conference, the President:

1. Said he is still waiting for Judge Salvador Esguerra's report on the case of Mrs. Elizabeth Cameron-Laguatan, an Australian temporary visitor who married a Filipino businessman.
2. Said that Rep. Manuel Cases of La Union missed the point in charging the Nacionalista Party with "ingratitude" for allegedly generating anti-American sentiment in the Philippines;
3. Said the Administration has endeavored and expressed optimism that it would be able to eliminate the "irritants" which had strained Philippine-American relations;
4. Admitted there are plans of reinstating the Jose Aranas as commissioner of internal revenue, although no formal order has been issued yet to that effect;
5. Appealed to the country against the "defeatist" attitude of some Filipinos in painting a bleak future of the nation's economy; and
6. Said he has not yet taken action on the administrative cases of National Treasurer Vicente Gella and Undersecretary of Finance Jose P. Trinidad.

The President stressed the Bell's writings have done much damage to Philippine-American relations, and that the "higher interest of the country is above the personal interest of the *Time* correspondent."

President Garcia said it had been ascertained that Bell wrote and was responsible for the two critical articles appearing in two separate issues of the *Time* magazine.

Asked to comment on reports that Bell would cover President's visit to South Vietnam, the President reported: "That is not for the government to decide."

However, he said he did not want Philippine-American relations to be "disturbed by articles like those appearing in the *Time* magazine."

When asked to comment on the possibility that Bell's successor would, write in the same vein as Bell's articles in the U.S. magazine, the President said: "We will make the decision later on."

The President said that although Philippine laws punish libel and derogatory articles, he said he did not want to sue the correspondent, but merely ban him from entering the country to spare him the efforts of getting prosecuted before Philippine courts.

In his talks with business writers, the President and even the United States government had banned Filipinos from entering the mainland for "lesser causes."

On the case of Hernaez, the President said the commerce secretary did not offer any objection as his opposition "would not have changed my message to Congress any way."

"I am not supposed to consult the members of my Cabinet," the President said. "However," he added, "I informed them of the contents of my state-of-the-nation message to Congress. Hernaez was present at that meeting."

Commenting on the charges aired by Rep. Cases that the Administration was generating anti-American sentiments to derail public opinion against the Nacionalista officials, the President said:

“We have been trying our best to improve the relations between the Philippines and the United States by seeking to eliminate the various irritants which had strained the ties between the two countries.”

He said there had been talks conducted between Philippine and U.S. representatives along many lines, in an effort to find a common ground of agreement and improve the Philippine-American relations.

President Garcia expressed optimism that the various issues which had stood on the way of Philippine-American relations could, be threshed out in a spirit of friendship.

He said his conference with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano this morning dealt greatly on ways of stabilizing Philippine-American relations.

He said one of the subjects he discussed with the foreign affairs secretary was the Bell case. He said he also took up with Serrano reassignments and administrative matters, but excepted Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo from among the diplomatic officials who are up for reassignment.

In expressing his optimism on the successful conclusion of various negotiations to eliminate the “irritants” which had strained Philippine-American relations, President Garcia said, “I would like to think that even the United States government is desirous of improving the ties between the two countries.”

February 7.—EARLY this morning, the President discussed with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona the proposed budget, including the presidential message which will accompany his fiscal plan to Congress.

President Garcia then conferred with the Council of Leaders and took up his proposed budget for the next fiscal year.

During the four-hour conference at his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, the President explained his proposed budget which is composed of two items; namely, the “A” budget and the “B” budget.

He urged Congress leaders to support his tax measures which he proposes to submit to Congress tomorrow as complementary legislations of the budget.

The tax measures would support the “B” budget in an effort to avert deficit in the next fiscal year.

Malacañang said the President “discussed various measures with Congress leaders to insure congressional approval of pet administration bills.”

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda, and Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano P. Primicias.

IN THE AFTERNOON, the President had merienda with publishers and editors of the various Manila newspapers and magazines.

It was learned the President took up the controversial case of James Bell, *Time* magazine correspondent who was banned from entering the country.

President Garcia, it was learned took up the Bell case because of the petitions being received from foreign correspondents in Tokyo and Manila seeking a reconsideration of the Bell case.

The President stressed during his talks with the publishers and editors that the decision of the secretary of foreign affairs supporting the denial of Bell's visa by Consul General Eduardo Rosal in Hongkong, did not violate the constitutional guarantee of the freedom of the press.

In the evening, the President went over the final draft of his budget message.

The President authorized today the release of ₱99,000 from his contingent funds to the Bureau of Plant Industry to intensify the current campaign against rat infestation in Lanao.

In a letter to the President requesting the release of funds, Plant Industry Director Eugenio E. Cruz stressed the urgent need for immediate action to save the rice crop in Lanao and to check the spread of the rodents to neighboring areas.

Director Cruz said more than 10 per cent of the total land area planted to rice has been attacked by rats.

Of the amount released, Cruz said ₱66,000 will be used for the purchase of chemicals and ₱33,000 for the payment of wages of laborers.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Official Week in Review: February 8 – February 14, 1959

February 8.—AFTER breakfast at his Bohol Avenue residence where he spent the night and heard mass this morning, the President read the Sunday papers.

Shortly before noon, he and the First Lady motored to the residence of Sen. Claro M. Recto on España extension to felicitate the “Father of the Constitution” on the occasion of his 69th birthday anniversary.

PRESIDENT Garcia directed today Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to release P50,000 from his discretionary funds for the printing and publication of the records and pertinent papers of the constitutional convention of 1934–35.

The printing and editing of said materials will be undertaken by a committee composed of Sen. Claro M. Recto, chairman; and Dr. Jose P. Laurel, Manuel I. Abella, Camilo Osias, Jose M. Aruego, and Miguel Cuaderno, members.

The presidential directive was signed at a get-together given by the Chief Executive this afternoon in the ceremonial hall of Malacañang in honor of delegates to the convention on the occasion of the 24th anniversary of the promulgation of the Constitution.

In a brief extemporaneous speech before the delegates, the President solicited their support in affecting important amendments to the Constitution, particularly with regard to the synchronization of elections.

Stressing the importance and need of synchronizing elections, he said that elections every four years will give politicians financial and political respite and will enable them to carry out and realize the goals of their administration.

President Garcia also told them that the selection of senators should be readjusted so that they will be elected by districts and half of the body will be up for reelection every four years.

He requested the delegates to study the proposed amendments to the Constitution so that they can recommend the changes they believed necessary.

Dr. Jose P. Laurel, who spoke on behalf of the delegates, said the delegates knew at that time that the instrument they were preparing was not perfect and that amendments would be necessary to keep it up-to-date as the years passed.

He expressed satisfaction that their work had contributed much to the realization of the ideals of the people and to the government for which it stood.

Dr. Laurel also dwelt on the need for the publication of the proceedings of the Constitutional convention for posterity and as a help to lawyers and bar reviewers.

Dr. Manuel I. Abella, one of the delegates, acted as master of ceremonies at the impromptu program during the party.

February 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia gives five reasons to justify increased expenditures in the proposed budget for the fiscal year 1959–1960.

The proposed budget will be submitted to him tomorrow by Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and transmitted to Congress on the same day.

President Garcia, in his message to Congress, advances the following reasons to justify the rise in government expenditures:

- (1) Increasing demands of rapidly growing population for more and improved public services;
- (2) Requirements of accelerated economic and social development;
- (3) Need for maintaining the Armed Forces to safeguard the democratic institutions;
- (4) Cost of general government operations; and
- (5) Fund requirements for servicing past and current debts.

The President is also expected to underscore the fact that the Administration is pledged to a policy of economy and that government expenditures always return to the people in terms of expanded services.

President Garcia cancelled all his appointments scheduled for this morning so that he could devote his time to his budget message which he will deliver to Congress tomorrow.

Immediately after breakfast in his Bohol Avenue residence, the President was closeted with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and they reviewed the P1.15 billion budget which the President will present to Congress along with proposed revenue measures to support it.

Based on existing laws and tax measures, P738,024,256 has been recommended for operating expenses and capital outlays in the 1960 "A" budget. This amount is less by P56,009,107 than the sum appropriated last year.

Premised on the passage and enactment of proposed revenue bills to be recommended to Congress, a supplementary, or "B" budget, has also been prepared totalling P235,426,754.

The lesson learned from last year, when Congress approved the P1.26 billion budget presented by the President but failed to act on the accompanying proposed tax measures designed to finance it, led to the preparation of the "B" budget proposed for the next fiscal year.

In the proposed 1960 budget, the Department of Finance is given the biggest increase in appropriations amounting to P88,447,402. The sum of P162,041,588 is set aside for the department in the 1960 budget while the appropriation for 1959 was P73,594,186.

The principal reason for this, finance officials explained, is the necessity for strengthening the collection arm of the government in order to insure a wider coverage of revenue sources and to increase the national government's income.

On the other hand, the Department of Health suffers the biggest cut in the new budget totalling P3,504,479. Appropriations for 1959 amounted to P54,440,929 while in the 1960 budget it is given only P50,636,450.

After Commissioner Aytona had left to take the finished draft to the Bureau of Printing for publication, President Garcia received Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas.

The Chief Executive was informed by Secretary Vargas of the plight of walking soldier-patients with service-connected wounds and ailments who are facing discharge from the V. Luna General Hospital for lack of funds.

The defense secretary requested the President to authorize the release of P1 million from the P2 million which was slashed from the Defense Department's appropriations to help offset an impending deficit of P72 million in the national government's budget for 1959.

Shortly before noon, the President motored to Malacañang where he continued working on his budget message the rest of the day.

THE PRESIDENT granted today the application of Mrs. Elizabeth Cameron-Laguatan for admission into the country as a non-quota immigrant provided she left the country and obtain the corresponding visa from a Philippine consular office as required by law.

The President's decision was recommended by Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera and Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, to whom the Chief Executive had transmitted the case for study.

In a memorandum submitted to the President today, Judge Esguerra explained that the case of Mrs. Laguatan, who had come to this country as a temporary visitor and later got married to a Filipino posed two problems; namely, whether she could be considered a Filipino citizen or whether she could seek permanent residence under the non-quota provision of the immigration law as the wife of a Filipino citizen.

As for the first question, Judge Esguerra agreed with a previous opinion issued by Immigration Commissioner Emilio Galang that Mrs. Laguatan might not be admitted permanently in this country as a Filipino citizen as she did not become such by virtue simply of her marriage to a Filipino. Esguerra pointed out that marriage to a Filipino did not automatically confer citizenship upon an alien woman unless she herself might be lawfully naturalized and Mrs. Laguatan could not be lawfully naturalized as the laws of Australia do not permit Filipinos to be naturalized as Australian citizens.

The Malacañang legal adviser, however, pointed out that the Philippine immigration act contains no provision that only citizens or subjects of countries which admit Filipinos as quota or non-quota immigrants might be admitted to the Philippines as such. This is only a matter of policy that has been observed by the government as a guiding principle in the admission of aliens as immigrants and, according to Esguerra, the President may waive this policy in the case of Mrs. Laguatan.

Judge Esguerra concluded that as Mrs. Laguatan had entered the country as a temporary visitor, she could not change her status to immigrant or permanent resident unless she left for a foreign country and applied for a visa as such with a Philippine consular officer there. This is required under existing Philippine immigration laws, he said.

February 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia submitted his proposed budget to Congress today after almost two weeks of going over the figures in his fiscal plan and revising his budget message which accompanied his budgetary program for the next fiscal year.

He handed the proposed budget to Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona after a four-hour conference with Nacionalista congressmen at Malacañang this noon.

He signed the budget and the accompanying message in the presence of the NP solons, who had earlier voiced their "enthusiastic support" to the proposed fiscal program.

IN the afternoon, the President received Frank Metcalfe, president of the Columbia Rope Company of New York, accompanied by Merle Robie, vice-president of the same company in the Philippines. The two businessmen were joined by Antonio Floriendo of Davao.

President Garcia discussed the abaca industry with his guests.

Other callers were Robert O. Philips, an executive of the American Legion, Philippine department, and Inocentes Dineros of the Department of National Defense.

The President's last caller was Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo. It was believed that Romulo briefed the President on the conflicting reports on the fate of the Philippine "omnibus" claim of \$900 million with the United States Government.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening recommended to Congress ten new tax measures intended to meet a P241.6 million general fund deficiency for the Administration's (B) budget for fiscal year 1960.

The tax proposals were contained in the President's budget message which was read to members of the House of Representatives during the session this evening. They were measures:

1. Requiring tax-exempt industries to pay normal income taxes;
2. Increasing specific tax on gasoline by two centavos;
3. Eliminating exemptions to the special import tax;
4. Updating rates of berthing, port service fees, and tonnage dues which were fixed in the administrative code many years before the war;
5. Granting partial amnesty on past tax delinquencies;
6. Increasing personal income and corporate taxes;
7. Increasing the rates of taxes on firecrackers;
8. Restoration of the 1950 specific tax rates on distilled spirits, wine, and fermented liquor;
9. Improving customs and revenue administration to effect efficient enforcement of customs and revenue laws; and
10. Creating a tax on "wealth" which would complement the existing residence taxes in order to adjust proportionately the taxation on income and property holding of taxpayers.

In urging the enactment of these new measures, the President stressed that of the total P980.3 million general fund needs, only P738 million will be covered by existing taxes, leaving a deficiency of P241.6 million.

Expenditures to be financed from these additional revenue sources were contained in "B" budget in order to facilitate elimination of certain government activities in the event these additional revenues are not realized.

The President anticipated that with the elimination of exemptions to the special import tax, the government would be able to raise P68 million.

He also estimated an additional income of P17 million from the measure inquiring tax-exempt industries to pay normal income taxes and another P2 million from the proposed specific tax on gasoline.

February 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia received three officials of the Assembly of Captive European Nations (ACEN) who are here in the course of a friendship and goodwill tour of Asian countries and who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang this morning.

The callers were Stefan Korbonski, ACEN chairman; Joseph Kovago, vice-chairman; and Dr. Vilis Masens, former chairman of the Assembly of Captive European Nations, the "Voice of the Silenced Peoples."

Kovago was mayor of Budapest when the Communists took over control of his country in 1947 and he held the same position when the Hungarians rose up in arms against the Soviet invaders late in 1956.

Dr. Masens took an active part in national Latvian resistance groups during the occupation of Latvia from 1941 to 1944. In exile since 1944, Dr. Masens has always played an important role in the activities of exile organizations.

Korbonski participated in the organization of the Polish anti-German underground and in 1944 was appointed secretary of the interior of the Polish provisional government after the Warsaw uprising.

Dr. Masens conveyed to President Garcia the best wishes and admiration of the captive peoples for the Philippines and considered the Filipinos as comrades-in-arms because of the stiff resistance they put up against the Japanese from 1942 to 1945.

The tour of Masens, Kovago, and Korbonski is being sponsored by the ACEN. Their purpose is to enlist the support of the free peoples of the world for the restoration of freedom and independence in the nations belonging to the organization.

Member nations are Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Romania.

Other callers of President Garcia this morning were Sen. Roseller Lim, Rep. Salipada Pendatun, and Mrs. Jose de Vera, Dr. Jose Perez, and Mrs. Azucena Vera-Perez.

At 11:45 a.m., President and Mrs. Garcia left Malacañang to attend a solemn high mass said by Mons. Rufino Santos, archbishop of Manila, in the Lourdes church. After the mass, at 1 p.m., President and Mrs. Garcia returned to Malacañang.

THE PRESIDENT approved today the recommendation of Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera to retain in office Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez during the pendency of the criminal case recently filed against the finance chief in the Manila court of first instance.

In a five-page opinion submitted to the President this evening Secretary Barrera advanced several reasons, both from the legal and the economic standpoints to support his recommendation for retention. Among the reasons were:

- (1) That the President's power to remove at will a department head does not carry with it the authority to suspend;
- (2) That there was little likelihood that the accused, if retained in office, could obstruct the normal course of the judicial investigation of his case;
- (3) That the act of removal is penal in character and to remove Secretary Hernandez simply because of the pendency of criminal charges against him would amount to a pre-judgment of his case and an impairment, in effect, of his right to be presumed innocent until, by due process of law, a competent tribunal pronounces otherwise; and
- (4) That in view of the present vacancy in the office of the undersecretary of finance, it; would indeed adversely affect public service if an executive department would be left without a head familiar with its affairs.

The President had previously announced that he would act on the case after a motion to quash, which was to be filed by Secretary Hernandez, was resolved by the court. However, lawyers of the finance secretary subsequently filed a motion for a bill of particulars instead of a motion to quash.

THE CABINET this evening approved the establishment of a P20 million paper and pulp plant either in Bataan or in Negros Occidental as a joint enterprise of two well-known firms. The move is aimed to help stop the drain of the country's foreign exchange in the importation of newsprint and other paper materials.

Malacañang said the Cabinet's action was spurred by a recommendation of the National Economic Council urging approval of the proposal of the Elizalde & Co. and the Parsons & Whittemore to put up a paper and pulp plant.

The two firms are planning to set up the plant either in Bataan or in Bago, Occidental Negros. The plant will use bagase and boho as raw materials.

In approving the establishment of this plant, the Cabinet imposed the following conditions;

1. That the corporation will not be allocated dollars beyond the ten per cent requirement imposed by the Central Bank;
2. That the salt and China clay requirements will be purchased locally; and
3. That payment for the machinery and other equipment will be paid on a deferred payment basis for ten years and under conditions acceptable by the Central Bank.

Malacañang said the owners of the plan will be allocated \$137,000 annually for the purchase of alum and resins abroad.

In the establishment of this plant, the investors said they would bring in \$1.6 million in dollar capital which will be subject to Central Bank regulations.

Malacañang said the Cabinet approved the establishment of this paper plant in line with the Administration's program of industrialization.

It was pointed out the plant will absorb a number of the unemployed and would help save some \$35 million dollars which are allocated for the acquisition of newsprint and paper materials annually.

February 12.—THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady left Tutuban MRR station on board the presidential coach at 9 a.m. today for Damortis La Union, bound for Baguio City.

With the President were Capiz Gov. Jose Dinglasan, MRR Board Chairman Juan J. Carlos, Maj. Teofilo Zosa, board member, MRR General Manager F. F. Santiago, and Gapt. Francisco H. Calinawan, assistant general manager. The presidential train stopped at San Fernando, Pampanga, to pick up SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor.

The party arrived in Damortis at 12:45 p.m., transferred to cars, and arrived in Baguio shortly after 2:00 o'clock.

Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora and Zambales Gov. Manuel Barretto were among the government officials who met President Garcia and his party at Damortis.

At the outskirts of the city, the presidential entourage was met by officers of the Baguio City Rotary Club and Rotary Anns.

Upon arrival, President Garcia proceeded to the Guest House where he gave a press conference to newsmen with the party. After the conference, he retired to his room.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening defended his administration against charges of inaction and of allegedly dragging the country to extreme deterioration.

“The Administration,” he said, “has endeavored to give the people a fair share by allowing them the conveniences of modern living.”

The President branded as defeatism the charges of his opponents that the country is being faced with a low dollar reserves. He stressed that these dollar reserves are being used to finance the various industries of the country.

President Garcia said that as a result of the austerity measures adopted at the early state of his administration, the country suffered a drop in its dollar reserves of only \$63 million while those of other countries declined by \$1.1 billion.

Discarding a speech prepared for delivery before the Rotary International Convention in Baguio, President Garcia cited figures to emphasize the achievements of his government in economic and social development.

He claimed that in 1953, there were only 135 new industries, but that as of last year, this figure has risen to 1,000 new industries.

He also said that under his administration, the national income rose to 13.5 per cent in 1958 over the level in 1956, and the per capita income increased by P68 over that of 1953.

President Garcia justified the proposed increase in the budget, saying that the Administration has embarked on sound social and economic programs.

The President also cited increases in agricultural and industrial production, and stated that a great number of unemployed persons had been absorbed by 800 newly established industries.

According to the Chief Executive, industrial production increased by two per cent while the agricultural output soared 19.4 per cent over that of 1954. He stressed that exports had also increased by P96 million over the 1950 figures.

Turning to education, the President said his administration was doing more for the nation in this field than previous administrations.

He likewise justified the increase in the budget of the Department of Education by citing that this is needed to fight the literacy problem of the country.

“Ignorance is the father of poverty,” President Garcia stated. We should not begrudge the increase in the education budgetary appropriations because of a big annual growth in the school population,” the President stressed.

He disclosed that the number of schoolchildren increases by 690,000 every year. He said that the hike in the school appropriations is intended to meet the increase in the school population this year.

February 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia held a four-hour conference this morning in the Guest House with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong and Rep. Ramon Mitra, chairmen of the Senate and the House committees on foreign affairs, respectively, and Counsellor Manuel Collantes of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

They discussed the omnibus claims of the Philippines against the United States at the conference which started at 10 a.m. and lasted until past 2 p.m.

In a communique issued after the conference, it was agreed that the Philippine Government should prosecute its claims against the U.S. with the end in view of obtaining early and conclusive settlement.

Earlier this morning the President and the First Lady heard mass celebrated at the chapel in the Guest House, today being first Friday of Lent.

Among the guests of the President at breakfast were Reparations Commissioner Alejo Santos, Capiz Gov. Jose Dinglasan, Zambales Gov. Manuel Barretto, and Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora.

After breakfast, the Chief Executive signed papers presented by Gov. Barretto authorizing the release of P30,000 for the completion of the Cadmang irrigation project in Cabangan, Zambales, and P40,000 for the construction of the municipal building of San Felipe, Zambales.

The President this morning designated the RPS Lapu-Lapu as flagship of the Philippine Navy and at the same time ordered that it be made available for use by the proper authorities for mercy mission and humanitarian purposes.

The designation was contained in an executive order signed this morning by the President upon recommendation by the Secretary of National Defense.

The order also provided that the ship may be used for mercy missions, such as for sending aid and relief to areas in the Philippines stricken by disaster, public calamities, and other fortuitous events causing widespread damage to property and life and injuries to human life.

It was further provided that it could be utilized for humanitarian purposes like transporting needy settlers to their place of resettlement.

In the afternoon President Garcia received the following: Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Sen. Domocao Alonto, and former Secretary of Labor Primitivo Lovina.

February 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning held a four-hour conference with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Dr. John Van Genhoven, representative of a group of New York investment bankers, former Labor Secretary Primitivo Lovina, and Sen. Domocao Alonto.

No details were released on the subjects discussed except that they talked about further measures that could be adopted for peso stabilization.

The conference started at 8:30 a.m. at breakfast, interrupted an hour later to allow the President to receive callers, and then resumed at 10:30 ending at 1:30 p.m.

Before the breakfast conference with Hernandez and others, the President went to Mrs. Garcia in the dining room and presented to her his valentine present, a brooch locket accompanied by the following note: "Inday Dear, please accept this little token of undying love which I dedicate to you on this day of love. With warm kisses as in our younger days when our romance was in flower, Carlos."

After the presentation, male members of the presidential party including newsmen offered small bouquets to the First Lady as a symbol of affection.

Everybody in the Guest House, including some callers, had pinned on their shirts and dresses small red hearts cut out from cartolina in observance of Saint Valentine's day.

The presidential callers this morning included members of Cabanatuan City delegation to the Rotary district conference led by Mayor Leopoldo Cucio and Gaudencio Antonino; Robert A. Ross, management engineer from New York who paid a courtesy call; William Dunkum and George Merton, executives of Reynolds Aluminum, Inc.; and Ramon Dedel, J. T. Quiambao, and M. Montenegro.

General Services Secretary Almendras also conferred with the Chief Executive regarding disposition of government properties in Manila.

President Garcia agreed in principle to his proposal that such properties should be sold and the proceeds used to finance construction in Quezon City of buildings to house various departments and offices.

Almendras explained that the government is now spending much for rent of private buildings in Manila occupied by government offices.

He also informed the President of the need for revoking the lease of the Pines Hotel to the Manila Hotel, Inc., for one peso a year.

The lease followed a verbal order issued by the late President Quirino.

After lunch, President Garcia gave a press conference to newsmen with the presidential party and then retired to his room to go over state papers.

Later in the afternoon, the party watched a colorful presentation of Philippine folk dances performed by students of the Baguio Colleges at the Guest House. The Baguio Colleges glee club under the direction of Mrs. Nenita Rico rendered several songs.

President Garcia retired to his room after partaking of light supper and continued working on important papers until late in the evening.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(7), lxix-lxxvi.

Official Week in Review: February 22 – February 28, 1959

February 22.—BEFORE a mammoth, crowd today President Garcia promised his support to the proposal to give greater financial aid to the physical education and athletic program of the country's schools. The President was principal speaker at the opening ceremonies this afternoon of the Bureau of Public Schools Interscholastic Athletic Association meet in the Ramon Magsaysay Stadium in Lingayen, Pangasinan. The President and the First Lady, provincial governors, and city mayors left Tutuban MRR station on board a special train at 9:30 a.m. for Dagupan to attend the opening of the BPSIAA meet.

Arriving at the Tutuban station 20 minutes before departure time, the Chief Executive was taken on tour of MRR offices and shown around by Board Chairman Juan J. Carlos, Director Teofilo Zosa, General Manager F. F. Santiago, Assistant General Manager Francisco Calinawan, and MRR Chief Engineer Juan de Castro.

The President was shown plans for the proposed expansion of the railroad company, including those for a new P3 million terminal building.

Board Chairman Carlos also showed President Garcia the design of the proposed vehicular overpass along Moriones Street with several railroad tracks underneath which, if constructed, will relieve traffic congestion on Azcarraga.

After an early lunch on board the train, the President gave a press conference to newsmen which lasted until the train reached Dagupan City shortly before 1 p.m.

The conference was interrupted briefly by a three-minute stopover in San Carlos, hometown of the late Speaker Eugenio Perez, where the President was greeted by a large delegation of townsfolk led by Mayor Agripino Padua. The President and party received a rousing welcome upon arrival at Dagupan, where they were met by provincial officials headed by Gov. Conrado Estrella.

Waving to people that lined the streets of Dagupan, President Garcia proceeded to the Catholic church where he heard a *Te Deum*.

From the church, the presidential party motored to Lingayen for the opening ceremonies of the BPSIAA meet.

Earlier this morning, the President and the First Lady heard mass in their private residence. After breakfast they motored to Tutuban station to board the train for Lingayen.

February 23.—THIS morning President Garcia cited figures and statistics in recounting the achievements of the government since 1953 and the great gains made by the country in the industrial and economic fields.

Addressing the closing session of the three-day convention of the League of Governors and City Mayors in the Sison Auditorium in Lingayen, the President dared his critics to dispute the figures and show him proof of the country's alleged deteriorating economy.

Leaving the Sison Auditorium shortly after 12 noon, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to Dagupan City, where they boarded the special train for the return trip to Manila.

On board the train, the President, assisted by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, studied important papers that needed his consideration.

Upon arrival at the Tutuban Station at 4 p.m., the Chief Executive motored to his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City. After a brief rest, he resumed work on state papers until late in the evening.

February 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia was briefed by Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, AFP chief of staff on the over-all peace and order situation in the country at a breakfast conference early this morning in his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

Gen. Cabal also took up with the President plans for the reorganization of the present system of designating military areas and Constabulary zones. During the conference, the Chief Executive accepted an invitation extended by Col. Apolinar Fajardo, ROTC superintendent, who was present at the conference, to be the guest of honor during the ROTC field day activities to be held on the Luneta on March 8.

After the briefing, President Garcia motored to Malacañang to keep his 10 a.m. schedule for receiving congressional callers.

First to see the President was Rep. Francisco Ortega of La Union, chairman of the House Committee on Reparations. They discussed the need of looking for new markets for surplus Philippine tobacco in anticipation of the good harvest expected in the tobacco-growing provinces of the north.

President Garcia and Ortega also exchanged views on the proposed amendments to the reparations law, particularly the proposed cancellation of the 24-month grace period granted beneficiaries of the law before amortizations become due.

Following representations made by Rep. Alberto Aguja of Leyte, President Garcia ordered the indefinite suspension of the implementation of Executive Order No. 185 issued by the late President Ramon Magsaysay, transferring several barrios of Barogo town to the municipality of San Miguel.

Aguja was accompanied by Barogo Mayor Mariano Delgado, Vice-Mayor Mariano Cañeda, and Councilor Emilio Astorga.

The suspension order was issued in order to give the Chief Executive ample time to study thoroughly the issues involved in the dispute which were described to be “more a question of politics than of jurisdiction.”

The potentialities in copper and zinc of the Babacay Mine in Samar was fully explained to the President by Jesus Cabarrus, a ranking executive of the Acoje, Mining Co., operators of Babacay Mine. Cabarrus was accompanied to Malacanang by Rep. Ramon Bagatsing of Manila.

Rep. Manuel Enverga of Quezon presented requests for financial assistance from the President’s contingent funds for the repair of typhoon damage to public works installations and school buildings in the towns of Maria Aurora and Balers. With Enverga were Mayor Brigido Ecollado of Maria Aurora and Baler Mayor David Valenzuela.

Other callers were Reps. Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Rogaciano, Mercado of Bulacan, Maximino Garcia of Bohol, Ramon P. Mitra of Mt. Province, Manuel A. Zosa of Cebu, Natalio P. Castillo of Bohol, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte, and Dominador Tan of Leyte.

President Garcia received callers until 1:30 p.m. and then retired to his room for a late lunch.

The President today came to the help of a hopeless six-year old girl who is suffering from pedal deformity.

Responding to an article entitled “Who Will Help Albina?” in the February 21 issue of the *Philippines Free Press*, the President ordered the chief of the “provincial hospital of Davao to look into the possibility of operating on; six-year old Albina Cabal to cure her of pedal deformity.

The President’s directive to the chief of the provincial hospital was contained in a wire sent by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

The President also sent, a wire to *tuba* gatherer Rufino Cabal, father of Albina, informing him that the chief of the Davao provincial hospital had been directed to look into her daughter's case.

The President responded to the appeal upon reading that the father of Albina *tuba* gatherer with many children to support.

February 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia conferred with Samar political leaders on the political situation in that province at a breakfast conference this morning in Malacañang which started, at 8:13 and broke up at 12:45 p.m.

Present at the conference were Sen. Decoroso Rosales, Rep. Felipe Abrigo, Rep. Eladio T. Balite, and Mayor Jose A. Roño of Calbayog City.

After a late lunch, President Garcia retired to his room and went over State papers in preparation for this afternoon's regular weekly Cabinet meeting.

President and Mrs. Garcia today sent a bouquet to ailing General Emilio Aguinaldo "at the De Ocampo Memorial Clinic with a brief-note expressing their wish for the General's immediate and complete recovery. The President said he was sure he was expressing the wish of all his countrymen.

A letter of gratitude was received by President Garcia today from Conrado T. Laguatan, husband of Mrs. Elizabeth Cameron-Laguatan, the Australian woman whose application for admission into the country as a non-quota immigrant had been granted by the Chief Executive.

Writing on behalf of his wife, Laguatan told the President: "It is most difficult for us to express our gratitude either in words or action but if our own knowledge that no person can exist in this world without help from others at one time or another during his lifetime, will help you understand how we feel, then we are truly satisfied in thanking you."

The President had granted the application of Mrs. Laguatan provided she left the country and obtain the corresponding visa from a Philippine consular office as provided by law. The case had attracted nation-wide attention and was settled when the President stepped in with his decision

THE CABINET this evening endorsed a proposal to give greater participation to local executives in the implementation of government programs in their respective localities.

The Cabinet action was prompted by a resolution improved recently by the League of Provincial Governors and City Mayors which was referred to the President for his decision

He invited the five-man committee organized by the governors and mayors' league to attend the Cabinet meeting today in order that the local executives' resolution could be followed in the higher echelon of the government.

The President approved the governors and mayors' request for greater participation in the implementation of government programs in their respective localities, pointing out that the governors and mayors know the requirements better.

In implementing the Cabinet decision, the President directed Secretary of Public Works Florencio Moreno to consult the governors and mayors before starting a public works construction in a locality.

The five-man committee of local executives was headed by Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, chairman of the League of Provincial Governors and City Mayors. Other members were Govs. Fernando Veloso of Samar and Esmeraldo Eco of Camarines Norte and Mayors Jacinto Borja of Cagayan de Oro and Leroy S. Brown of Basilan City.

The committee also presented resolutions requesting:

1. The national government to relax in the collection of obligations of the government;
2. The President and the Cabinet to reconsider the decision transferring P26 million from the highway special fund to the general fund;
3. The Philippine National Bank to rescind its resolution increasing by one per cent the interest charged on loans of over P2,000;
4. The Development Bank of the-Philippines to establish more branches; and
5. The Administration to allow the League of Provincial Governors and City Mayors to participate in the formulation of an economic program.

The Cabinet assured the local executives that the national government would relax its collectible on statutory obligations but pointed out that “contractual indebtedness” could not be deferred.

The President explained that contractual obligations must be paid on the date they are collectible, as their non-collection would imperil other indebtedness incurred by other agencies.

The President said the National Power Corporation has to press its obligation in order that it could pay the amortization, of loans it had secured to finance other power projects.

February 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia had a busy morning today with many local officials bringing their problems to him for solution.

Early this morning; the President met newspapermen covering the Senate and the House of Representatives at a breakfast held in the state dining room of Malacañang.

Some 20 Senate and House reporters attended the affair which started at 8:35 and lasted until 9:45 am.

First caller this morning was Cebu Gov. Jose A. Briones, who apprised the President on the present political situation in his province.

Rep. Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental accompanied ex-Gov. Pedro Baculio, Vicente Marababol, and Mariano Avanceña to see the President about the release of funds for the maintenance and repair of the Lumbia airport in Cagayan de Oro and for other public works projects in the province.

Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez and Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental called on the President this morning to brief him on the latest political developments in the province.

General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras and Rep. Gabino R. Sepulveda of Davao accompanied two mayors who requested financial assistance for their respective municipalities.

Mayor Gonzalo Palomas of Hagonoy, Davao, sought aid amounting to P55,000, while Digos Mayor Nonito Llonas placed a request for P40,000 financial assistance for the repair of various public works projects and school buildings.

Bukidnon Gov. Marcos Resiña turned over to the President partial collections of his province for the peace and amelioration fund amounting to P2,000.

Officials of the Manila Railroad Company, headed by General Manager Feliciano F. Santiago and Assistant General Manager Francisco H. Calinawan, also turned over their collections totalling P5,000 to the Chief Executive this morning.

Other MRR executives with the group were Jose Dimaculangan, Ambrosio Banawa, Dr. Fausto J. Galauran, Zacarias Nocum, and Teotimo Buhain.

Members of the Philippine delegation to the ECAFE conference to be held in Broad Beach, Queensland, Australia, called on President Garcia to receive their final instructions. The delegation will leave the Philippines on March 6 and will be away for 25 days.

Composing the delegation are Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto E. Laguio, chairman, and CB Gov. Andres Castillo, Pampanga Gov. Rafael Lazatin, Consul Anastacio Bartolome, and A. B. Isip, as members.

Other callers were Gov. Bienvenido Ebarle and Rep. Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur; Leyte Gov. Ildefonso Cinco with Board Members Emiliano Melgazo and Enrique Granados; and Mayors Juanito Almosa, Gio Japson, Santiago Paladin, and Vicente Flandes.

IN THE EVENING, the President received officials of the Bishop Bank of Hawaii; namely, Karl Hanson and Herbert Taylor, president and vice-president, respectively, of the banking institution. They were accompanied by Deputy Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo.

The Hawaiian bankers offered to sell Philippine bonds in Hawaii.

Officials of the League of Provincial Board Members who are in Manila on a two-day convention called on the President and pledged anew their loyalty, and support to the Administration.

Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera also called and conferred with the Chief Executive, on an undisclosed subject.

Other evening callers were Sen. Domocao Alonto, Integration Commissioner Madki Alonto, and Rep. Laurentino Badilles of Lanao.

February 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia advocated mutual economic assistance among Asian neighbors and friends as a means of solving their problems-during the call of a six-man group from the Republic of Korea currently on a three-week observation tour of community development projects in the Philippines.

When he learned that Korea imports \$7 million worth of sugar annually, the Chief -Executive expressed hope to members of the delegation that their country would look to the Philippines as a new and important source of this essential commodity.

Governor Choi Hun Kil of Kyungki province, head of the group, promised the President that he will transmit the desire of the Philippines to sell sugar to Korea to the proper authorities when they return to their native land next week.

President Garcia also received a Korean doll in behalf of Mrs. Garcia from Mrs. Yon Kap Soon, chief of the living improvement section of the Korean ministry of social welfare and member of the delegation. The doll, Mrs. Yon, informed the President, is a gift to the First Lady from the war widows of Korea.

Other members of the group who are here on an ICA-sponsored travel grant are Congressman Kim Jack Joon; Governor Keel Sung Woon of Chegu province; Coi Ung Bock, director of local administration in the Ministry of Internal Affairs; and Reigh Dung Hyuk, an official in the Ministry of Reconstruction and Economic Planning.

They were accompanied to Malacañang by Korean Ambassador Lincoln Hon Kim and Roh Jo, private secretary and vice-consul of the Korean Embassy, respectively.

President Garcia also received Dr. Tom Gill, one of the foremost authorities on forest policy and land uses, who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang this morning.

Dr. Gill is here under the auspices of the ICA upon the invitation of the Philippine Government. He will conduct a two-month survey of Philippine forest conditions. He is executive director of the Charles Lathrop Park Forestry Foundation in the United States and has represented that country in various forestry committees and conferences of the UN.

Dr. Gill expressed the hope that local authorities will implement a program to prevent further denuding of the country's extensive forest resources. While here, he will draw up a set of recommendations which he hopes will solve major forest and land problems here.

Dr. Gill was accompanied by Antonio de las Alas, president, of the Lumber Producers Association; Carlos Fernandez, vice-president; Pacifico de Leon, secretary; Florencio Tamesis, director; and Baldomero T. Olivera, PNS general manager.

Today President Garcia was invited to be the guest speaker at two conventions scheduled for March 16 and 18, respectively; the first, sponsored by the sugar planters, and the second, under the auspices of the Philippine Chamber of Agriculture;

The invitation of the sugar planters was extended by Jose Mapa Gomez and the other by former Economic Coordinator Alfredo Montelibano.

With Gomez and Montelibano were House Majority Floorleader Jose M. Aldeguez, Ramon Nolan, Mario Moreno, Gerry Rodriguez, and Governor Roberto Benedicto of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

The President received callers up to well past two o'clock this afternoon. Among those who saw the Chief Executive were Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Francis Florence and George H. Wegwitz of the Corn Products Company of New York, and ex-Senator Olegario Clarin.

PRESIDENT Garcia received former organizers and coordinators of the MPM, PPP, and NYP who called at Malacañang late this evening to pledge their wholehearted support and assistance to the Administration's program for the amelioration of the rural areas.

Headed by Mohammad de Venancio, former MPM director of organization and member of the executive body of the PPP, these civic and youth leaders, met at the Crystal Bowl of the Avenue Hotel this evening and organized the National Progress Movement.

After their adjournment, the former MPM members led by de Venancio, unanimously decided to pay a courtesy call on President Garcia. They were accompanied by Guillermo Jurado, a lawyer.

President Garcia assured the members of the newly-formed organization that the government will concentrate its efforts on extending immediate relief and assistance to the rural areas.

The President cited as examples the P50 million loan program of the Development Bank of the Philippines which will enlarge its credit facilities to small farmers, the P25 million loan fund for cottage industries, the stepped-up drive for local autonomy, and the expansion of rural health facilities.

The body unanimously endorsed a resolution to form a committee to draft the declaration of principles of the organization. Fourteen members were named to the committee representing the following regions: Ilocos, Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Western Luzon, Southern Tagalog, Manila, Bicol, East and West Visayas, Northern and Southern Mindanao, and Quezon.

Raoul Inocentes, former MPM secretary-general, was elected acting secretary-general of the NPM. Several standing committees were also formed during the meeting.

Among those who attended the organization meeting of the National Progress Movement were Mohammad de Venancio, Cesar R. Borromeo, Arthur de Leon, Rodolfo Molina, Col. Vicente Novales, Raoul Inocentes, Rufino Mozo, Nicasio Mascenon, Maj. Domingo Bermudez, Benjamin Corez, Maj. Cayetano de la Cruz; Capt. Eusebio Lantoria, Dr. Casiano Plaza, Cesar Ramos, Frank Malicsi, Col. Roger Moskaira, Amado Alinea, Maj. Salvador Blancaflor, Alberto Gomez, Fernando Santos, Jose Lim, Ambrosio Ballores, Jaime Flores;

Col. Faustino Antiporda, Esmeraldo Cudal, Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino Calinawan, Johnny Planas, Blas Ople, Capt. Marcelo Espiritu, Demetrio Nepomuceno, Guy Nicorreda, Ernsto Bondon, Crisologo Ramirez, Casiano Aluyon, Luis Cristobal, Fred Magdangal, Councilor Pedro Evangelista, Apolinario Atienza, Felipe Lubaton, Julius Willis, Crisanto Blaquera, Lt. Quirino, Hipol, Soliman Avelino, Oscar Trinidad, Jose Cuevas, Jose de Asis, Luis Samorista, Conrada Pinza, and Socrates de Leon.

THIS afternoon the President endorsed the Filipino First movement and pledged his administration to implement this program of giving priorities and larger opportunities to the country's citizens

At his press conference, the President said "there is no quarrel" on the Filipino First movement, saying that as a Filipino he was fully behind it.

The President said he had ordered the Monetary Board members to review their resolution slashing considerably the dollar allocations of non-American alien importers.

Asked to comment on the reports that the MB members, were not disposed to reconsider their stand, the President said the Monetary Board has agreed to conduct public hearings.

He said it would be inconsistent with the MB members' stand to hear the cross-section of the business community if they do not have an "open mind" on the controversial resolution.

However, the President said he was fully supporting the Filipino First movement. He said that even alien traders should not begrudge the movement.

The President pointed out that alien traders had protested mainly the implementation of the policy.

The Filipino First policy was first enunciated by the National Economic Council and was later on implemented by the Monetary Board in its recent resolution slashing by 50 per cent the dollar quotas of non-American alien importers.

Meanwhile, the Commission on Asian and Far Eastern Affairs of the International Chamber of Commerce today led other national groups in endorsing fully the current Filipino First movement.

Mounting support for the movement continued as the MB today announced its schedule of meetings with the first batch of foreign firms on the question of reduction of dollar quotas of non-American alien importers.

Virginia Yaptinchay, head of the Central Bank's import department, announced that the meetings will be held at the Monetary Board's conference room.

Among the national groups which endorsed today the Filipino First movement was the Philippine Association of Battery Manufacturers.

February 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia met with members of the Council of Leaders this morning at a breakfast conference in his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City to find means of expediting the passage of revenue measures pending in Congress.

Present at the closed-door conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano Primicias, and House Majority Floorleader Jose M. Aldeguer.

President Garcia disclosed after the meeting that they also took up the subject of the repeal of R.A. 1410, otherwise known as the Barter Law.

The three-hour conference, which started at 9 a.m. and broke up at 1:45 p.m., was interrupted briefly by a courtesy call paid on President Garcia by the Golden Gate quartet. They were accompanied by Lewis Mattison, deputy public affairs officer of the United States Information Service.

The Negro singing stars performed before the Chief Executive and sang old negro spirituals, American folksongs, and popular tunes.

President Garcia was informed that bringing the artistry of the famous quartet to the peoples of the world was an offering of the US State Department. During their week's stay in the Philippines, the group had held concerts in modern contemporary songs before students of the UP, UST, FEU, Siliman University in Dumaguete City, and San Carlos University in Cebu City.

After a 30-minute musical interlude, President Garcia and the members of the Council of Leaders resumed their conference. They were later joined by Senators Claro M. Recto and Eulogio Balao.

Senator Balao submitted to the President for his consideration a proposal received by the Manila Railroad Company from a Filipino engineering firm which would like to undertake the construction of the projected P4 million MRR extension from San Jose, Nueva Ecija, to the Cagayan Valley.

The members of the Council of Leaders left the Bohol Avenue workshop at 2:15 p.m. after having their lunch with the President.

In the evening, the President was guest speaker at the NEPA Jubilee held at the garden court of the Manila Hotel. He was accompanied to the affairs by the First Lady.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(9), xciii-xcix.

Official Week in Review: March 8 – March 14, 1959

March 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed gratification over the role played by the Japanese reparations fire engines in the Administration's efforts to minimize fire losses in the country.

In a report submitted to Malacañang today, it was disclosed that within two years after the arrival of the Japanese reparations fire-fighting equipment, around P13 million worth of property and a considerable number of lives were saved.

The report was based on the results of a nation-wide survey conducted by the Reparations Commission to determine the effects of the 300 fire-fighting units which had been distributed by the National Civil Defense Administration to different towns in the country.

The report was made on the occasion of the conclusion of the Fire Prevention Week celebration this year.

While this trend of fire losses was considered remarkable, both the Reparations Commission and NCDA officials, however, believe that "there still exists a great need for at least 900 additional units in order to bring about an adequate fire-fighting force all over the country.

The report stated that with the present strength of around 500 fire-fighting units all over the country taking care of 22 million Filipinos, safety index could be boiled down to 44,000 citizens for every fire-fighting unit.

A comparison of these figures with Japan would show that the country must be equipped with around 23,000 fire-fighting units. Japan has a safety index of 978 persons for every unit.

It was also pointed out that fire units, aside from fighting fires, also provide employment to thousands of fire-fighting men. The addition of 900 units would mean that around 5,000 persons would be trained as crews for these units.

The President spent a quiet day today at his Bohol Avenue residence. He went over important state papers, particularly the recommendations contained in the three-year economic and social development plan recently submitted to him by the national economic council.

Earlier this morning, the President and the First Lady heard mass.

After partaking of a simple breakfast, he read the Sunday newspapers. Then he retired to his study where he worked on pending papers of state until past noon.

The President took a short nap after lunch and then devoted the rest of the afternoon to reading at his private study.

Later in the evening, the President motored to the Mandaluyong residence of former Senator Jose P. Laurel to greet the latter on the eve of his birthday.

From Mandaluyong, President Garcia returned to his Bohol Avenue workshop and spent the night there.

March 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia assured representatives of sugar planters that the Government would extend all possible assistance in the procurement of badly-needed fertilizer at a 1 1/2 hour conference this morning at his Bohol Avenue residence.

The President discussed with them the problems affecting the leading export product of the Philippines and promised them his support in overcoming these difficulties at the conference which broke up a little after nine a.m.

Present were House Majority Floorleader Jose M. Aldeguer, Rep. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte, Dr. Trino Montinola, Alfredo Montelibano, president of the Chamber of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and Ramon Nolan, Jr.

Col. Apolinar Fajardo, ROTC superintendent, also saw the President at Bohol Avenue and presented to him a copy of the ROTC souvenir brochure and program in connection with the coming ROTC field day parade and review in honor of the Commander-in-Chief on Sunday, March 15, with all units participating.

Col. Arcadio Lozada, Cebu City chief of police, called and reported to the President on his observations of modern police methods and organization during his seven-month tour of 21 cities in the United States and Canada.

The President instructed Col. Lozada to coordinate with customs authorities and representatives of other law-enforcing agencies in Cebu City to stamp out rampant smuggling in that major port of entry in the South.

LATER at Malacañang, President Garcia received the newly-elected officers of the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ACCP).

The President took occasion to deny charges of “anti-Americanism” and of “veering away from the West” during a courtesy call paid by newly-elected officers of the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines this morning at Malacañang.

The President recalled that in his speech before a joint session of the American Congress during his state visit in the U.S. last year, he had expressed his desire that the Philippines achieve closer relations with other Asian countries so that the U.S. would be better understood in this part of the world.

The best way to achieve this end, according to the President, is to make friends first with Asian neighbors of the Philippines.

He said the Filipinos are an amalgam of the Malay, Latin, and Anglo-American cultures and that they could very well act as the bridge for the promotion of closer ties and understanding between the countries of the East and the West.

In turn, he added, the Filipinos could also interpret Asia to the West by virtue of their unique position.

This observation was accepted by the American business executives who said that American businessmen are fast learning that Filipinos could better impart ideas to other Asians.

Paul Wood, president of the International Harvester Company (Phil.) and of the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, informed President Garcia that the American business community is advocating increased trade participation by Filipinos.

He said there was a definite program for the rapid Filipinization of American business organizations in this country and that many positions of responsibility had already been turned over to Filipinos under this program.

Other officers of the ACCP who went to Malacañang this morning were Richard Henry, branch manager of the First National City Bank of New York, vice-president; Stanley Fisher, executive vice-president; Merle Robie of the Columbian Rope. Co., treasurer; and the following directors: Richard Pockmire of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., John Oppenheimer of Pan American Airways, James Boots of General Electric (PI), John Cotton of Meralco, Allison Gibbs of Gibbs and Ozaeta Law Offices, and Harold Carl of US Lines.

President Garcia also received this morning officers of the Liberty Wells Association, headed by Director Paul D. Summers of the International Cooperation Administration, who called at Malacañang to submit a report of their accomplishments for the calendar year 1958.

“The report stated that as of January 31, 1959, a total of 560 liberty wells had been constructed in different barrios all over the Philippines as compared to 318 as of March 31, 1957, or an overall increase of 242 wells.

A statement of the association’s favorable cash position was also contained in the report which declared total cash assets in the amount of P178,795.12.

The association started in 1958 with P165,615.76 broken down as follows: P108,088.43 current account with the China Banking Corporation; and P57,527.33 savings account with the China Banking Corporation.

During the year the association received donations from various sources in the Philippines amounting to P11,434.05. This sum plus P13,179.36, representing the interest earned on their savings deposit, add up to P178,795.12.

Of this amount, P119,522.48 is in their current account; with the China Banking Corporation and P59,272.64 in their savings account with the same institution.

ICA Director Summers was accompanied by other officers of the association, among them, Albino Sycip, Health Undersecretary Damaso Samonte, Roberto Laperal, Ernest Tan Chi, Mrs. Elsie Gaches, Vicente Y. Orosa, Macario Navia. Arsenio Luz, and NAWASA Chairman Susano R. Negado.

The President then received Fr. Mariano G. Gaviola, executive secretary of the Catholic Welfare Organization.

A delegation from the Federation of Filipino Distributors also saw President Garcia and requested the reorganization of the NAMARCO management. They asked that they be given at least one seat in the board of directors of the state marketing agency.

Members of the delegation included Jose R. L. Orosa, Sinforoso Pascual, Vicente Camiglao, N. A. Morales, and Mrs. Consolacion Syquia.

Other presidential callers this morning were Dr. Claro Robles, Dr. Godofredo Montecillo, Dr. Feliciano Cadiz, Elias Desambrana, who appraised the President of the political situation in Quezon province, Antonio Botelho of the Botelho Shipping Co., and Abelardo Cordero.

March 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received members of the House of Representatives majority of whom presented requests for release of funds from the presidential contingent funds for the repair and reconstruction of school buildings and public works projects damaged by typhoons and other natural calamities.

First to call was Rep. Natalio Castillo of Bohol, who requested the release of additional funds amounting to P65,000 for the completion of the wharf in Catagbacan, Loon, Bohol.

Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna accompanied Gov. Dominador Chipeco and Paete Mayor Manuel Agbada who reiterated requests for financial aid to the fire victims of Paete which recently suffered a loss estimated at P400,000.

Rep. Marcelino Veloso of Leyte requested President Garcia to approve the requisition of the Department of Public Works and Communications for the purchase of 50,000 tons of rock asphalt from the Villaba Asphalt Mines of Villaba, Leyte, for use in the country’s roads.

Another request for the release of P50,000 for the TB pavilion in Sorsogon, Sorsogon, was presented to the President by Rep. Vicente Peralta, who took up with the Chief Executive the extension of the MRR line to Matnog, Sorsogon.

Reps. Godofredo Reyes and Faustino Tobia, both of Ilocos Sur, brought before the President the matter of the ambush-slaying of Ruperto Paredes, a school-teacher and proposed NP candidate for mayor of Sta. Cruz this coming elections.

Rep. Reyes also made representations for the release of P9,000 from the presidential contingent funds for the repair of school buildings and other public works projects.

Rep. Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan requested the release of funds for the construction of the Solana and Abulog bridges, estimated to cost around P2.5 million, from the \$75 million loan with the Development Loan Fund which was approved recently by the United States Government.

Financial aid for the construction of roads and the purchase of additional lots for veterans settlers of Calinog and Lambunao, Iloilo, was sought by Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo.

Reps. Rogaciano Mercado, Francisco Sumulong, and Jose Laurel IV, representing the Tagalog-speaking members of Congress, invited the President to be their guest at a luncheon meeting of their group at the Club Filipino on Friday, March 13.

Other solons who called on the President were Reps. Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan, Manuel Enverga of Quezon, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Manuel A. Zosa of Cebu, Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte, Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, and Canuto Enerio of Misamis Oriental.

Special caller this morning was Rep. Alfredo Ching of Guam, who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang.

The President sent today to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation the nominations of 14 provincial, city, and municipal officials.

The nominations were those of three provincial treasurers, two city treasurers, one assistant city treasurer, four justices of the peace, and three councilors. The list of officials nominated follows:

Ambrosio G. Canivel, provincial treasurer, Pampanga; Marcial Lianko, provincial treasurer, Isabela; Ciriaco Escasa; provincial treasurer, Catanduanes; Julio Amores, city treasurer, Calbayog; Demetrio Dichoso, city treasurer, Marawi; Placido H. Bandonill, assistant city treasurer, Manila; Pantaleon Jurado, justice of the peace, Calayan, Cagayan; Anicero Lirios, justice of the peace, Marabut, Samar; Abdul-Hamid Lukman, justice of the peace, Tandubas, Sulu; Alejo Lumasag, councilor, Oroquieta, Misamis Occidental; Mariano Villarin, councilor, Plaridel, Misamis Occidental; Temosticles Morales, councilor, Tangub, Misamis Occidental; Anselmo Mabuti, auxiliary justice of the peace, Dingras, Ilocos Norte; and Mrs. Mericia B. Palma, justice of the peace, Ocampo, Camarines Sur.

PRESIDENT Garcia thanked the Japanese Government for the movie films taken of his state visit in Japan last December which were presented to him by Japanese Ambassador Morio Yukawa this evening "as a token of the appreciation and affection of the Japanese people."

The visit of President Garcia had been filmed and produced by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

In presenting the film to President Garcia, Ambassador Yukawa read a letter which stressed that the state visit of the former had made "a deep impression on the entire Japanese people, whose ardent wish for closer friendly ties with the Filipino people found great encouragement in your personal presence in their land."

"These films," Ambassador Yukawa added, "are hoped to serve as a lasting memento of the amicable link between your people and my fellow countrymen, the link you and Mrs. Garcia so successfully strengthened. Likewise, they will be a reminder to the Filipinos of the present and future generations that you have done so much in enhancing the cordial relations between our two countries."

After the presentation ceremonies President Garcia invited the Japanese Ambassador to attend the showing of the film at the Malacañang dining hall. Mrs. Garcia also viewed the film.

Others who saw the film included Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, Second Secretary Satoshi Kinase of the Japanese Embassy, Third Secretary Hiromu Fukada, and the secretary to the Japanese Ambassador, Michihiko Kunihiro.

March 11.—THIS morning, President Garcia conferred with Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, on amendments sought to be introduced in the special trade arrangement allowing Moro copra producers to barter their products directly in Borneo.

No details of the conference which was held in the President's workshop in Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, were available.

Capt. Pastor Viado, PN, incoming chairman of the Presidential Law Enforcement unit in the southern Philippines, called on the Chief Executive to receive last-minute instructions before proceeding to Jolo to assume his new position.

Capt. Viado, former commander of Task Force 11 in Jolo, will replace Col. Vicente O. Luna, outgoing PLEUSP chairman.

The President reviewed the accomplishments of the PLEUSP in anti-smuggling campaign of copra in southern Mindanao and said he was very much pleased with the results of the drive.

It had been reported to the Chief Executive that the exportation of copra from the mainland of Mindanao and from the Visayas has been reduced to a minimum and limited to natives of Jolo who are enjoying special trade privileges.

The President also received General Manager Bernardo Abrera of the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation, who reported to the President upon his return early this morning from a nine months' stay in Europe and the United States.

In the U.S. Abrera represented the Philippine Government in negotiations for the acquisition of an integrated steel plant which is proposed to be established in Iligan City.

The President said Abrera's recall was necessary, as his technical knowledge was essential to enable the Cabinet to deliberate on the proposed steel project of the government.

After his meeting with Abrera broke tip at 12:30 p.m., the President motored to the Manila Hotel to open the second Philippine-British Trade Show.

PRESIDENT Garcia showed great interest in the products of English industries now on display in the second Philippine-British Trade Show which he formally opened early this afternoon.

The PI-British Trade Exhibit is sponsored by the Manila Lions Club in cooperation with the British Embassy. It will be open to the public from March 11 to 17. It features the different British products carried by the British firms in the country.

The President was also attracted by the display of rare English coins representing the reigns of all the British monarchs from Elizabeth I to Elizabeth II.

The President delivered a brief message on the significance of the exhibit at the regular luncheon meeting of the Manila Lions Club. He was introduced by MLC President Leony P. Lopez.

The other speaker at the meeting was British Ambassador George L. Glutton who was introduced by Ted Stewart.

From the Manila Hotel, President Garcia proceeded to Malacañang for the regular meeting of the Cabinet this afternoon.

AT THE WEEKLY meeting of the Cabinet today President Garcia deferred action on the proposed sale of the government-owned textile mills in view of a petition presented by more than 3,000 employees of those mills.

The proposed sale of the textile mills of the National Development Company as proposed by the NDC management is premised on the ground that the government should withdraw from this enterprise, as private parties have shown their willingness to invest heavily in the textile industry.

While he reiterated the policy of the government to withdraw from the fields where private capital is willing to enter, President Garcia decided to defer action on the proposed sale of the NDC textile mills in order to study ways and means to insure that the workers be employed by prospective buyers, retaining the present wages which are higher than those paid by private mills.

Officials of the National Textile Workers' Union, led by their president, Leovigildo de Castro, were allowed by President Garcia to read the resolution during the Cabinet meeting as well as to present their views.

The NTWU officials headed a big delegation which invaded Malacañang grounds to protest the sale of the NDC textile mills. The delegation claimed to be part of the 3,000 workers who face separation from the service in case the sale of the mills materializes.

Other union officials who accompanied De Castro were Eulogio Gozon, Bonifacio R. de Luna, Luciano Jimenez, Francisco Gregorio, Fortunato Nicolas, Ester Tolentino, and Vicente Abueg, Jr.

The President today proclaimed the period from March 16 to 22 this year, as Lions Week.

In his proclamation, the Chief Executive lauded the efforts of the Lions Organization for its civic work in making the community a better place to live in.

The week coincides with the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Lions Organization in the Philippines which falls in the third week of March.

President Garcia, through Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, authorized today the purchase by the Civil Aeronautics Administration of P154,535.90 worth of plane spare parts, equipment, and supplies.

Approval of the purchase which will be made through the U. S. Civil Aeronautics Administration and the International Cooperation Administration, was recommended by the Departments of Public Works, General Services, and Justice, and by the auditor general.

In their recommendations, the department secretaries and the auditor general pointed out that the purchase, without public bidding, may be allowed because of the urgent necessity for the materials, and because the purchase will not be made through private parties but through agencies of the U. S. Government.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, by order of President Garcia, today directed the release of P133,000 as additional contribution for the maintenance of the Laguna provincial hospital.

The release was authorized under Republic Act No. 2080, and was made through the request of Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay.

Other releases made were: (1) P10,000 for feeder roads in Tagcauayan, Quezon; (2) P12,000 for the Sabit causeway in San Narciso, Quezon; and (3) P21,000 for feeder roads for the towns of Maayon, Panitan, and Pilar, Capiz.

The President, through Secretary Pajo, also directed the Philippine Coconut Administration (PHILCOA) to set aside P100,000 out of its collection of P.10 per 100 kilos of copra exported, for the organization of cooperatives in the coconut-producing provinces.

The organization of cooperatives was proposed by some congressmen in the coconut regions, led by Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon.

Later in the morning, Secretary Pajo administered the oath of office to Lucio Libarnes, as chief of police of Zamboanga City.

The ceremony which took place at Malacañang was witnessed by Sen. and Mrs. Roseller T. Lim, Rep. and Mrs. Canuto Enerio, Fr. Hilario Lim, Mrs. Lucio Libarnes, and friends of the inductee.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening justified his plan to restore “premium fee” on foreign exchange as his remedy to save the peso from any possible devaluation.

The President was the principal speaker at the dinner of the Management Association of the Philippines held last night at the Manila Hotel.

The occasion was the formal induction of Andres Soriano, Sr., and Manuel Elizalde as honorary life members of the MAP. The two businessmen were cited as the only business and industrial management leaders who were voted for the honorary distinction by the MAP board this year.

In analyzing the economic problems of the country, the President recalled that “we knocked off the fiscal props too early. We allowed the 17 per cent foreign exchange tax, the higher rates of income and excise taxes, and the control committee on expenditures to lapse too soon,” he added.

After junking these revenue measures, the President observed that “we mounted massive public and private expenditures on a scale and at a rate disproportionately beyond the capacity of internal savings alone to finance.”

He likewise said the country embarked on an extensive social amelioration program without creating the sources of revenue with which to pay the bill.

“In short,” he pointed out, “we over-reached ourselves in our desire to do more, to grow faster and to spread the benefits of our newly found prosperity wider and sooner.”

He said that the economic situation was the fruit not of stagnation but by over-extended action.

He said the solution to the problem is “either to provide more real resources immediately, or to encourage a temporary slowing down in the use of what is available until the supply builds up again or both.”

March 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia honored three out-going members of the diplomatic corps at a breakfast this morning in the family dining room of Malacañang.

The honorees were Ambassador Keith Charles Owen Shann of Australia, Ambassador Mahindra Singh Chopra of India, and Minister Jens H. P. A. Mailing of Sweden. They are returning to their respective countries for reassignment following the termination of their tours of duty here.

Present at the breakfast were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano and British Ambassador George Lisle Clutton, dean of the local diplomatic corps.

President Garcia presented a box of Philippine cigars to each of the honorees as a token of his friendship and high esteem for them before they left the Palace.

Dr. Paul Bernecker, president of the International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO) and high commissioner of tourism of Austria, paid a call on the Chief Executive at Malacañang this morning. He was accompanied by Tourism Commissioner Modesto Farolan.

Dr. Bernecker informed the President that he is in Manila to check on the facilities and preparatory arrangements for the coming World Tourist Conference here from November 17 to 24.

President Garcia was informed that the IUOTO is composed of 67 member countries and is one of the largest international organizations operating as a consultative organ under the United Nations.

This conference, according to Dr. Bernecker, has been held outside of Europe only three times and only once in the Americas. This is the first time it will be held in the Pacific area and the Orient, and it will effectively focus world travel attention on the Philippines and its tourist potentials.

Commissioner Farolan assured President Garcia that the Board of Tourist and Travel Industry and the Philippine Tourist and Travel Association are already well advanced in their preparations for the coming conference.

Later this morning, President Garcia received provincial governors and mayors most of whom presented requests for release of funds for the construction and repair of irrigation projects, school buildings, roads, and other public works projects.

Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales requested the release of P50,000 for the construction of an irrigation system for the municipality of San Antonio. He was accompanied by Mayor Mariano Evangelista of San Antonio, Federico Yambao, former assistant general manager of the NARIC, and Carlos Ysmael.

Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora submitted a statement of accounts receive against the Office of the President amounting to over P10,000 for advances made by the city in connection with repairs made in the Mansion House and the Guest House.

He also requested a follow-up of the results of the investigation by the PCAPE on alleged irregular sale of two public lots situated in the market area in Baguio City.

Another caller was Sen. Quintin Paredes, chairman of the Senate Committee on Justice, who took up with the President two bills now pending in Congress; namely, the creation of the Court of Public Functions or the so-called "anti-graft" court, and the proposed reorganization of the judiciary. No details were available on the outcome of their conference.

Mayor Esteban Dorwello of Pigkawayan, Cotabato, presented a request for the release of P47,000 for the construction of roads and municipal building.

Mayor Federico Muli of Dinalupihan, Bataan, sought the release of P50,000 to be used in the rehabilitation of that town's dilapidated central school building.

The League of Mayors of Misamis Oriental, represented by their president, Mayor Felicisimo E. Aguilar of Medina, submitted a request for the allocation of a defibering machine and a bamboo-splitting machine from Japanese reparations in order to increase the earning capacity of the people in this coconut producing province.

They also requested that a bulldozer and a grader be allocated to every three towns in the province, their maintenance and cost of operation to be borne by the municipalities concerned.

General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras accompanied a delegation of mayors from Davao who asked for financial assistance for their respective municipalities and for their locust campaign.

Members of the delegation included Mayors Daguman of Babak, Simplicio Obinza of Peñaplata, Ramon de los Cientos of Bansalan, Gregorio Dujale of Panabao, Gonzales Palamos of Hagonoy, and Nonito Llanos of Digos, and Remedios Ponfirada, president of the Leyte-Samar Association in Davao.

Gov. Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Oriental sought the release of P100,000 for the completion of irrigation projects in the towns of Pinamalayan and Calapan.

President Garcia received callers until well past 1:30 p.m. after which he retired for a late lunch.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, upon instructions of President Garcia, directed Public Highways Commissioner Nicolas Cuenca today, to divert some airport building equipment to Samar.

The Executive Secretary gave his directive to Cuenca upon appeal of Samar Gov. Fernando Veloso, who had informed him that the Marinduque Mining Company promised to build an airport at Pikit, Samar, without cost to the government provided heavy equipment such as turnapulls were made available to them.

The mining company is interested in building the airport because it has a mill in Sibuguey and the airport would greatly improve transportation facilities in the locality.

Commissioner Cuenca informed Secretary Pajo that some turnapulls were available in Mindanao but are at present being used for road-building purposes.

THIS evening President Garcia stated that any amendment to the reorganization act as it pertains to the Department of Health must be designed to enable the department to expand and improve its services to the people.

The Chief Executive made this remark at a conference with Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia and five bureau directors of the department who sought his support to the proposed amendment.

The bureau directors vigorously objected to the reorganization plans of the Department of Health which converts the bureaus under it into mere consultative bodies without line authority over operating entities.

The bureau directors pointed out that the expanded health services has extended to all municipalities, barrios, and sitios of the entire country, leading private practitioners to believe that the government is leading towards socialized medicine.

The reorganization plan of the Department of Health aims to decentralize operations to field offices, thereby bringing public services as close as possible to the people.

However, the bureau directors objected to the elimination of line authority from them and placing it under eight regional directors, as recommended by the Government Survey and Reorganization Commission.

The bureau directors were Pedro Mayuga of medical services, who acted as the group spokesman, Jose N. Rodriguez of disease control, Jesus A. Nolasco of health services, Jesus Azurin of quarantine, and Wilfredo de Leon of research and laboratories.

The President also received officials of the Philippine Overseas Line who presented for the consideration of government authorities the contract for the purchase of 12 fast ocean-going cargo vessels from Holland and France in line with the policy of the Administration to augment the Philippine merchant marine.

The vessels will cost more than \$43 million with top speeds ranging between 17.3 to 20 knots per hour, which the group said is comparable to vessels built in Japanese shipyards.

POL officials who saw the President were Antonio de las Alas, Elpidio O. Isip, Segundo Esguerra, Santiago de la Cruz, and Mrs. Salud Brown.

March 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia received the assurance of Senate and House leaders today for the early enactment of revenue measures supporting the Chief Executive's stabilization program.

Meeting with President Garcia were Sen. Gil J. Puyat, chairman of the Senate finance committee; Rep. Jose J. Roy, chairman of the House committee on ways and means; Sen. Pedro Sabido, and Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta. The breakfast conference lasted almost three hours.

The President certified as urgent four revenue bills upon the suggestion of Rep. Roy and the indorsement of Sen. Puyat. The bills sent to Congress with the President's stamp of urgency were: (a) H.B. No. 2844, increasing registration fees of private automobiles; (b) H.B. No. 2004, removing exemptions from the payment of tariff duties on personal and household effects; (c) H.B. No. 2544, increasing specific taxes on cigars and cigarettes; and (d) H.B. No. 2771, forestalling abuses by returning alien residents to the Philippines under the guise of tourists to avoid payment of corresponding taxes.

The conferees took occasion to discuss all the revenue bills pending action in Congress. These bills were mentioned by the President in his budget message to Congress in connection with his stabilization and fiscal program.

Sen. Puyat and Rep. Roy gave their assurances to the President of expediting action on the revenue measures in their respective committees.

H. F. Frioleau, president of the Standard Vacuum Oil Company of America, paid a courtesy call on the President. He was accompanied by J. V. Pickering, director and regional vice-president in charge of the Far East, and C. A. Larsen, general manager of the Stanvac (Philippines).

President Garcia likewise received Dr. Direck Jayanama, SEATO exchange lecturer from Thailand, who paid his respects to the Chief Executive. Dr. Jayanama has lectured in Manila and will deliver lectures in Cebu, Tarlac, and Baguio on Thai laws, customs, culture, and history.

The Thai savant was accompanied by Thai Ambassador Rangsikorn Aphakorn and Dr. Rafaelita Hilario Soriano of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

President Garcia also received Malcolm Goldie, a representative of the Baker Rendering Co., who is here to survey investment possibilities. Goldie was accompanied by Dominador Cepeda.

Another presidential caller was Frank Glenn, founder of the Harry Truman Library in the former US President's native state of Missouri. Ray Higgins and Dr. Walter Oder accompanied Glenn during his courtesy call on the Chief Executive.

Other callers were Cipriano Luna and Florentino Cadigal, Potenciano Ilusorio and Fred Hagedorn, ex-Rep. Fernando Fajarillo, and ex-Rep. Luis Cabarroguis.

THE President postponed all his afternoon and evening engagements today including a meeting with Senate and House leaders, owing to a slight rise in temperature.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said that Palace doctors kept the President in bed after finding him with a temperature of 37.5 late this afternoon, caused by “a heavy cold.”

Palace physicians said they expected the President to be up and well during the weekend.

March 14.—THE President cancelled all his scheduled morning appointments to be able to continue resting.

He wanted to become more fit for his afternoon schedule, an address before the graduating students of the Ateneo de Manila at Loyola Heights.

Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President’s personal physician, said the Chief Executive’s temperature was down to normal this morning. However, the President was bothered by occasional coughs and a bad cold.

Mrs. Garcia substituted for the President at the 51st anniversary celebration of the Philippine Manufacturing Company held at the PMC compound this morning. She was accompanied by Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor and Senator Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez.

After a light breakfast, the President went over the morning papers and then worked on the final draft of the speech he was to deliver in the afternoon at the Ateneo de Manila.

President Garcia slept in the afternoon and then at 5 o’clock motored to Loyola Heights to address this year’s graduates of the Jesuit college.

From the Ateneo, the President proceeded to his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, to spend the night there and prepare for the start of his annual two-week Lenten fasting tomorrow.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(11), cxiii-cxxii.

Official Week in Review: March 22 — March 28, 1965

March 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia observed Palm Sunday today by hearing an early morning mass at his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

With him were the First Lady and some intimate friends and Palace aides.

This day is the beginning of his second week of his Lenten fasting. President Garcia started taking orange juice today. He had spent the first week of his fasting by taking water with sugar.

The President stayed the whole day in his private residence going over pending papers.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the President wanted to clear his desk of backlogs of state papers before enplaning tomorrow for Baguio City where he will spend the Holy Week.

President Garcia did not receive any caller at his residence the whole day.

March 23.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia arrived this afternoon in Baguio to spend the Holy Week there. With the President were Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Palace aides, and a group of newspapermen.

The party left Tutuban station at 9 a.m. and arrived in Damortis at 1 p.m. On board the train were MRR General Manager Feliciano F. Santiago and Assistant General Manager Francisco Calinawan. Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora with police escort met the presidential party at Damortis and accompanied them to the Mansion House where the President and the First Lady rested.

After lunch the President gave a press conference and then chatted with the newsmen until the train arrived at Damortis. He disclosed that he will prepare his speeches for his coming state visit to Vietnam during his stay in Baguio.

In his conference with newsmen President Garcia threw his supports behind a Senate resolution upholding Philippine sovereignty in United States military bases.

He said that Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano has to take into account the Senate resolution in his exploratory talks with U.S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen on the question of jurisdiction.

President Garcia, however, refused to comment further and excused himself by saying he does not prefer to discuss the bases questions while secret talks are still underway.

The President expressed optimism that the jurisdiction question will be successfully hurdled in the Serrano-Bohlen talks.

Asked to appraise the current Serrano-Bohlen talks, President Garcia said: "They are gaining headway."

March 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received at the Mansion House Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who asked for instructions concerning the SEATO Ministerial Conference to be held in New Zealand next month. Secretary Serrano, who is scheduled to attend the conference, was accompanied by Manuel Collantes of the Department of Foreign Affairs. He conferred with the President for more than one hour.

The President also received Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson and signed several appointments of minor officials. He also received Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Logarta and discussed with him several pending state matters.

His physician, Antonio Guytingco, examined the President this morning and found him in good health. Dr. Guytingco said the President's blood pressure was normal.

President Garcia lost six pounds after fasting for one week. Yesterday was the last day he took orange juice and today he started taking milk.

In the afternoon the President relaxed. He read the Bible and in the evening he studied several pending state matters.

March 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received U. S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, who reported on the progress of his talks with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano on the bases issue. The American diplomat reported earlier than planned because he had to go down to Manila to meet an old friend.

The President also received the members of the Philippine delegation to the SEATO military advisors meeting scheduled to open in Wellington, New Zealand, on April 2-4. The Filipino delegates led by Lieut. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, were Brig. Gen. Marcos Soliman and Cols. Jonas Victoria, Rigoberto Atienza, Florentino Cardenas, and Dominador Garcia. Gen. Cabal and his companions are leaving on Saturday.

President Garcia conferred briefly with Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta and vetoed three bills: (1) transferring the barrio of Sta. Monica from San Policarpio to Oras, Samar; (2) transferring the barrio of Catumsan from Lapinig to Arteche, Samar; and (3) creating the municipal district of Real in Quezon province.

Main reason for the veto was financial, as the separation of the barrios and the segregation of seven barrios from Infanta to create the town of Real would reduce the income of San Policarpio, Lapinig, and Infanta and render them unable to finance essential public services according to the recommendation of Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez.

The President has up to March 27 to act on 33 other bills of similar nature. Logarta was told by the President that he would allow them to lapse.

Other unscheduled callers were Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella, who discussed with the President the rice price support and procurement program of the Naric as well as the problems of the farmers of Pangasinan, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Rep. Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, and Ben. Salvosa.

March 26.—THIS morning President Garcia issued an executive order fixing the office hours in all government offices during the summer season from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. during the period from April 1 to June 15.

The five-hour office hours from Monday to Friday will apply to all departments, bureaus, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the government, including provincial, city, and municipal governments and all corporations owned or controlled by the government. The executive order, does not apply to the government offices in the city of Baguio.

It was also specified in the executive order that the head of any department, bureau, or office is not obliged to reduce the office hours as provided, but is given the discretion subject to the requirements of the service and provided that the usual volume of work is not diminished by the reduction of office hours.

Important matters broke up President Garcia's Maundy Thursday meditation.

After breakfast, the President summoned Press Secretary Jose C. Nable and dictated a wire to Speaker Sam Rayburn of the United States House of Representatives expressing the gratitude of the Filipino people and his own for the approval by the U.S. Lower House of the gold devaluation payment bill.

The President then received Ramon Gaviola and went over a list of prisoners recommended by the Board of Pardons and Parole for pardon.

George Peabody, public relations officer of the Philippine Association, also called on the President.

The President today took a glass of milk every two hours. Tomorrow he will start taking one glass of milk every hour and half.

The President was elated upon reading the speech made on the floor of the United States House of Representatives by Congresswoman Rogers in support of her resolution seeking the creation of the Veterans' Commission for the settlement of Filipino veterans claims.

March 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent most of Good Friday in meditation on the suffering of Jesus Christ on Calvary and recalled the agony and death of the Man-God by reading a book on the "Seven Last Words."

When he woke up this morning, the President drank a glass of milk and waited for Mrs. Garcia, who was then having her breakfast, to invite her for a stroll around the garden of the Mansion House to look at and enjoy the beautiful sight of the flowers that are now in full bloom.

In the garden, Segundo Gaila, Mansion House caretaker, proudly pointed out to the Chief Executive and the First Lady a certain species of the begonia family which he had recently developed and named after them. President and Mrs. Garcia were accompanied by Malacañang aides and newspapermen during their walk around the garden.

After their stroll, the group went to the Mansion House where vacationists and sightseers had a field day taking pictures of the President and the First Lady and posing with them for souvenir pictures.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, President and Mrs. Garcia went to the Holy Ghost Hill chapel where they attended Good Friday Services.

Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician, gave the Chief Executive a physical checkup and found his bodily functions normal, including his blood pressure.

Despite having lost nine pounds since he started his annual Lenten fast thirteen days ago, President Garcia walked briskly during the garden stroll this morning to the amazement of newspapermen who had a hard time keeping up with the President.

March 28.—LOOKING hale and hearty despite almost two weeks of fasting, President Garcia presided over the cabinet meeting held today in the international conference room of the Mansion House in Baguio City.

The meeting is the first of its kind to be held outside Manila during the administration of President Garcia.

Starting at 9:45 a.m., the Cabinet members heard Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez report on his recent trip to Jakarta and other parts of Indonesia upon the invitation of the Indonesian Government.

Barring a short break for lunch at noon-time, the meeting has been going on continuously with Bernardo Abrera, general manger of the NASSCO, taking the floor after Sen. Pelaez, to explain the comparative merits of the Von Roll and the L-D (Lintz-Donnowitz) processes in the manufacture of steel in connection with the Philippine Government's plan to establish an integrated steel mill in the country.

After taking a glass of milk for breakfast earlier this morning, President Garcia held a closed-door conference with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo. No detail of the conference was immediately available.

From his conference with Secretary Pajo, the President proceeded to the Mansion House to preside over this week's session of the Cabinet.

The Cabinet meeting broke up at 6:35 p.m. after which President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Baguio Cathedral to hear a pontifical mass. They were accompanied by other members of the presidential party and newspapermen.

President Garcia had a good night's rest last night, according to Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician. After the daily physical checkup this morning, Dr. Guytingco reported that the President was in very good health.

Tonight, the President had chicken broth, or *pospas*, as he gradually starts to break his fast.

The Cabinet today passed a resolution inviting Rep. Ocampo and other oppositors to appear before the body at its next meeting on April 1 to air their charges against NDC officials who had negotiated with the Japanese firms.

At the nine-hour Cabinet meeting held today in the international conference hall of the Mansion House, the President also created a committee composed of General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, chairman, and Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera and Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, members, to draft rules and regulations governing the purchase of government supplies, materials, and equipment.

In creating the special committee, President Garcia instructed that the rules should be drafted in such a way that responsibility for the purchases could be determined and pinpointed.

The Chief Executive also expressed the desire to arrest reports of collusion between government purchases and suppliers which had caused overpricing and losses to the government.

It was hoped that relations between the Department of General Services and the various procurement agencies of the government would be crystalized with the adoption of the set of rules and regulations to be prepared by the committee.

During today's Cabinet meeting, which was considered the third longest under the present administration, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño clarified that the President's certification to the Court of Industrial Relations on labor disputes in Negros Occidental had been based on his (Castaño's) recommendation involving 70 unions which had been on strike at that time or had already given notice to strike.

President Garcia this morning rescinded the Malacañang endorsement of the payment of P16,000 in back salaries to Rosauro "Rosie" Cruz following the latter's reinstatement by Manila Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson to his City Hall position.

President Garcia's action was made in a conference with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo during a recess of the Cabinet meeting in the Mansion House this noon.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(13), cxxxiii-cxxxvi.

Official Week in Review: April 5 – April 11, 1959

April 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia is considering the creation of an industrial promotions bureau to coordinate the activities of all government agencies charged with the promotion of locally-made goods and with indoctrinating the people into patronizing local industries.

Organization of the new bureau is aimed principally at the encouragement of cottage industries with the view to providing the people, particularly those in the rural areas, sources of income and improving their standards of living.

The President said he would confer shortly with Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez on the organizational details of the bureau whose creation is authorized under the Reorganization Plan No. 27–A of the Department of Commerce and Industry.

Salvador L. Pacis, Malacañang assistant who made studies on the subject, previously rendered a report to the President on steps to be taken to increase production in cottage industries and provide more income to the rural earners.

Pacis who conferred with the President this evening had presented the need for more promotions activities on the part of the government to encourage absorption of more locally-made goods in the country and to help guide the flow of home-made articles from areas of production to areas of consumption.

He pointed out that the activities of the NAMARCO, the NDC, and the Bureau of Public Schools on home industries should be synchronized. The AFP and the public schools should set the example by starting to utilize locally-made towels, blankets, mosquito nets, and other such products, he said.

The President spent a quiet Sunday at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He did not receive any caller.

The President started the day by hearing mass at the living room of his residence. After the mass, the President spent some time reading the Sunday morning papers. Then he went over a pile of pending papers he had brought over from Malacañang.

The President spent a great part of the day in his private study at his residence working on state papers.

April 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia went to an undisclosed “hideout” today where he conferred with Malacañang officials.

The President received at his “hideout” Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta with whom he discussed the progress of his legislative agenda in Congress.

The President was informed that some tax measures had been “pigeon-holed” prompting him to call several House leaders to a breakfast conference tomorrow morning.

President Garcia likewise received Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, who brought pending state papers for presidential action.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable also saw the President and helped him in the preparation of speeches which he will deliver before the University of the Philippines tomorrow afternoon and before the National Assembly of South Vietnam when he visits Saigon late this month.

April 7.—THIS morning President Garcia emphasized before Congress members the importance of balancing the budget by approving administration tax measures.

In a breakfast conference on board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* with 11 House members led by Speaker Romualdez, the President reiterated his stabilization program which is based on nine tax bills.

He was informed that seven tax measures were approved by the lower chamber of Congress and two others were pending. Among those approved by the House and pending action in the Senate are:

(1) The proposed amendment to the income tax law increasing the tax rate on the higher income tax bracket and easing the load on the salaried employees; and

(2) The elimination of the exemptions on new and necessary industries.

Discussion of the conferees centered around the two pending tax measures in the Lower House. These are (1) the proposed imposition of berthing fees, and (2) the proposed increase on registration fees on motor vehicles, the costlier cars to bear a heavier tax rate.

All tax measures must originate from the House of Representatives.

Present in the conference were Speaker Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Reps. Justiniano Montano, Ramon Mitra, Jose Roy, Vicente Peralta, Lamberto Macias, Domitilo Abordo, Natalio Castillo, Lucas Paredes, Jose Nuguid, and Jose Leido. Legislative Secretary Logarta was also present.

The President last night worked late on state papers, provincial and city appointments, and speeches to be delivered in the course of his four-day state visit to South Vietnam.

From the *Lapu-Lapu*, the President returned to Malacañang in the afternoon to meet his appointment as guest speaker at the University of the Philippines.

Arriving at the University of the Philippines' campus at 4:30 p.m., the President was met by UP President Vicente G. Sinco; Lt. Col. Hernando Castillo, UP ROTC commandant; and Jose C. Campos, Jr., UP budget director and brother of the President's son-in-law.

President Garcia was conferred the honorary degree of doctor of laws. Education Secretary Manuel Lim placed the hood for the doctorate degree assisted by Sen. Decoroso Rosales, chairman of the Senate committee on education and member of the UP board of regents. Lim is the chairman of the UP board of regents.

A reception for the President and the First Lady followed the commencement exercises at President Sinco's residence.

April 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia this day continued conferring with Congress leaders on the speedy enactment of tax measures aimed at stabilizing the national economy.

In his Quezon City residence the President conferred with Sen. Pedro Sabido and Reps. Jose J. Roy of Tarlac and Dominador Tan of Leyte for over three hours and obtained their support for the approval of the tax measures recommended by the Administration.

Sens. Gil J. Puyat, chairman of the Senate finance committee, and Cipriano Primicias, majority floor leader, were invited to the conference but excused themselves after informing the President that the tax measures to be taken up were reported out by Puyat and were calendared for floor discussion.

The tax measures reported out by Puyat were the 17 per cent special import tax and the specific tax from which sources the government expects to collect a yearly levy of from P100 to P160 million.

The President also received Sen. Domocao Alonto, Rep. Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, and Gregorio Licaros, chairman of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

In the afternoon the President motored to Malacañang, where he signed into law House Bill No. 330, creating the sub-province of Biliran in Leyte in a brief ceremony held in the reception hall.

Present at the signing were Rep. Marcelino Veloso of the 1st district of Leyte, author of the bill, and prominent residents of the new sub-province of Biliran.

President Garcia also took time out to accept from Inocencio Gallemnit, sculptor from Dapitan, Zamboanga del Norte, a relief done in plaster of paris of the historic "Blood Compact" between Chief Sikatuna and Legaspi.

The relief was presented as a personal gift to the Chief Executive from the people of Dapitan and Zamboanga del Norte. Accompanying Gallemnit were Rep. Alberto Ubay and Mrs. Candelaria Gallemnit.

After these early afternoon appointments, President Garcia proceeded to the Council of State room where he presided over the regular meeting of the Cabinet.

THE CABINET this afternoon approved the controversial purchase of 12 ocean-going vessels from Japan to expand the Philippine maritime fleet.

Malacañang said the deal would cost the Philippines \$45 million. The first ship would be delivered one year after the signing of the contract.

Cabinet approval of the deal was made after the House committee on good government had endorsed the plan of the National Development Company to purchase the vessels from Japan.

The vessels will be purchased from the proceeds of government bonds which will be floated shortly.

Acquisition of these ships is authorized by the Overseas Shipping Act and by Republic Act No. 100, otherwise known as the law authorizing the Chief Executive to float bonds for public works improvement and for the purchase of maritime craft.

In approving the purchase, the Cabinet, however, directed Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera to go over the draft of the contract which will be signed shortly by the shipbuilders and representatives of the NDC. The Cabinet approved the purchase of the ships at \$3.6 million each.

Rep. Joaquin R. Rocas, chairman of the House committee on good government, appeared today before the Cabinet meeting and said that his group failed to secure evidence to substantiate charges that the vessels had been overpriced.

"It would be quite unfair for the committee to make conclusions based on nothing more than loose talks and gossips," Rocas said.

Rep. Felicisimo Ocampo, member of the House committee, was expected to shed further light on his charges that similar bids had been offered lower prices. However, Ocampo failed to appear before the Cabinet. He sent a letter to the Cabinet saying "it is regrettable that one week proved inadequate to complete our inquiry into the matter."

The Nueva Ecija solon testified before the Cabinet meeting last week and brought out a letter purporting to show that a Japanese firm was willing to construct the vessels at a price lower than that recommended by the NDC.

President Garcia this evening congratulated Rep. Roces for endorsing the purchase of the 12 ocean-going vessels after his committee had failed to secure evidence to substantiate charges which the solon said had been based from "loose talks and gossips."

The Cabinet, at its meeting last week, decided to postpone action on the deal to give one-week time to Rep. Ocampo to prove his charges that the boats were overpriced.

President Garcia, in approving the postponement of the Cabinet action last week, said he wanted the deal to be fully scrutinized before it was acted upon by the body. He, however, warned that the contract with the Japanese shipbuilders had to be signed on or before April 14.

April 9.—THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady today observed Bataan Day by hearing mass at the Malacañang chapel.

Shortly after the mass, the President ordered wreaths sent to the cemetery in Mt. Samat; *Libingan ng mga Bayani* in Fort William McKinley; the cemetery in Camp O'Donnell, Capas, Tarlac; and the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Fort Santiago.

The President also conferred with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable. President Garcia discussed with them the daily tirades launched by Sen. Arturo M. Tolentino against the acquisition of the new presidential yacht, *Lapu-Lapu*.

Secretary Pajo immediately issued a statement answering point by point Tolentino's charges.

After his conference with the two Malacañang officials, the President motored to his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City. At his residence, the President was reported to have gone over the draft of his speeches which he will deliver in South Vietnam.

The President also cabled a war widow in Chicago, Mrs. Marjorie Gibson, informing her that a Philippine Air Force helicopter flew over the former battlefields of Bataan and sprayed the ashes of her late husband, Lt. Emmet Gibson.

"The millions of Filipinos who paid homage to the heroes," the President wrote, "should comfort you."

This evening the President felicitated Crown Prince Akihito on the eve of his wedding.

The Japanese crown prince will marry Michiko Shoda tomorrow at a royal wedding in Tokyo.

President Garcia expressed gratification over the readiness of private investors to accept the challenge of establishing an integrated steel industry in the Philippines.

A special Cabinet committee, created by the President to interest private sector to participate or take over the NASSCO integrated steel plant project, reported today that the response of individual financiers as well as investors in the present rolling mill industry has been very encouraging.

The committee is composed of NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin, as chairman; and Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, and Economic Coordinator Pablo Cruz, members.

President Garcia was also informed that representatives of private financiers and investors have formed a committee among themselves to draft the organization papers, estimate the minimum capitalization required, and study and select the most suitable steel plant and other relevant matters.

At a formal conference called recently to determine the reaction of private enterprise to the proposal that they take over the task of putting up an integrated steel plant in the country, Chairman Locsin made known that the government is willing to withdraw completely and turn over the venture to private firms.

If private enterprise so desires, he said, the government is willing to carry on a joint venture basis with private enterprise as a minority.

The private sector may purchase at a negotiated price the existing facilities of the NASSCO, but should total private resources be inadequate the value of such facilities will be credited to the government's participation in the project.

Reasonable support by the government was assured the conferees, particularly in the way of guaranteeing the needed dollars for importation of capital goods and other necessary equipment.

Chairman Locsin further told them that all technical studies now in the hands of the government will be made available to the private group for their reference.

At the meeting of the Cabinet last April 4, discussion was resumed on the projected establishment of an integrated steel mill to implement the President's policy of achieving self-sufficiency in shelter. Among the questions the Cabinet sought to resolve were: (1) whether the government should adopt the Von Roll process or continue with the oxygen-blown or conservative process; or (2) whether the plan of organizing the industry with the government as center should be continued or the venture be entirely to private enterprises.

April 10.—THIS morning the President directed ACCFA officials to submit to his office the measures or safeguards instituted by the management to preclude the commission of irregularities, especially in the weighing and grading of Virginia tobacco.

The President said that if it becomes necessary, he will direct the National Bureau of Investigation and the Constabulary to detail men in vulnerable areas of the ACCFA to further strengthen the measures adopted by the government agency.

At the same time, President Garcia directed that the program of financing the price support of Virginia leaf tobacco during this crop year out of Central Bank funds be also submitted to his office, as well as the detailed mechanics of the buying operation from the farmer levels up to the stage when tobacco becomes ready for allocation and withdrawal by the cigarette factories.

The President issued the directives at a conference with PCAPE officials led by Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo and Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren.

PCAPE officials drew a picture of the problems facing the ACCFA and pointed out that it faces a bigger problem this crop year in the purchase of Virginia tobacco in view of an expected surplus of 12 million kilos.

Earlier, the President received provincial and city treasurers and assessors who are in Manila for their annual convention and enlisted their help in the sale of government bonds.

In reply to the appeal of the President, Rizal Provincial Treasurer Pedro Coronel, president of the group, pledged the help of his colleagues in the sale of bonds.

The President, in the afternoon, held his regular weekly press conference.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon justified his acquisition of the P5 million yacht *Lapu-Lapu* as "needed in the performance of essential public services."

At his regular press conference, the President said his action in the procurement of the yacht was based on the Reparations Agreement and the Reparations Act, otherwise known as Republic Act 1789.

The President's defense was in reply to the charges aired recently on the floor of the Senate by Sen. Arturo M. Tolentino, who questioned the legality of the Philippine acquisition of the yacht under the reparations terms.

He said the President of the Philippines can acquire goods from Japan under the reparations whether or not they are in the schedule by making a request directly with the Japanese Government.

Quoting a provision of Article 3, paragraph 2, of the Reparations Agreement, the President read: "The products to be supplied by way of reparations shall be capital goods. However, products other than capital goods may, by agreement between the two governments, be supplied by Japan at the request of the government of the Republic of the Philippines."

He stressed that the "President can request any product or goods even if they are not listed as procureable in the annex of the Reparations Agreement.

Lapu-Lapu was requested from the Japanese Government on the second-year of the Reparations Agreement.

During the press conference, the President:

1. Branded as a "novel idea," Vice-President Macapagal's claim that the President should be responsible for the venalities committed under his administration. "No President will escape getting jailed if we have to follow that theory," the President remarked.

2. Said he was organizing the fact-finding committee to look into the charges and counter-charges filed with the President against each other by the manager and governors of the ACCFA;

3. Expressed optimism that the greater number of the Filipinos will not accept the "Godless ideology of the communist;"

4. Commented that the Tibetan disorders is a typical example that the communists preach co-existence but do the other things; and

5. Announced the members who will compose the presidential party leaving for a five-day state visit to South Vietnam on April 22. They are Mrs. Garcia, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Sen. Lorenzo M. Sumulong, Rep. Ramon P. Mitra, Pablo Suarez, Mayor Alfonso Tabora of Baguio, and Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, presidential aide.

Asked to comment on Macapagal's observation that democracy is losing out to the communists in the latter's parliamentary struggle, the President remarked that the "democratic way of life is so deeply engrained in the national soul" and expressed optimism that the greater majority of the Filipinos will not "accept this Godless ideology."

The President, however, said there are a few Filipinos who had been misguided by communist propaganda.

Commenting on the Tibetan disorders, the President said "it is another example where the communists after preaching the principle of co-existence and brotherhood, do other things."

April 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia signed today the appointments of 20 local officials at his study in his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. The appointments were sent to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation.

Of the 20 appointments signed, seven were provincial treasurers, two city treasurers, one provincial fiscal, one provincial assessor, one first assistant provincial fiscal, six members of the board of assessment appeals, one justice of the peace, and one auxiliary judge of a city municipal court.

Provincial treasurers appointed were Esteban Andres for Abra, vice Andres Z. Serrano; Paulino Ganda for Occidental Mindoro, vice Esteban Andres; Matias M. Reyes for Ilocos Norte; Manuel P. de la Serna for Agusan, vice Felix G. Martinez; Demetrio V. Sanariz for Bukidnon; Tomas Velarde for Sulu; and Francisco Mendiola for Oriental Mindoro.

The new city treasurers are Crisanto Amores for Davao, vice Manuel P. de la Serna; and Luis R. Llander for Iligan.

Other appointments were those of Leon Gajo as provincial fiscal of Aklan; Jose L. Coscolluela as first assistant provincial fiscal for Sulu; Joseph F. Lim as justice of the peace of Lapinig, Samar; Serafin S. Abad as auxiliary judge of the municipal court of Naga City; Jacinto V. Morales as provincial assessor of Ilocos Norte; and the following members of the board of assessment appeals: Gil C. Lerias for Agusan, vice Felix Codilla; and Dionisio Madola as chairman, Robustiano Padayhag, Luciano Alejo, Jorge O. Sheker and Manuel Celdran, members, all for Naga City.

The President spent the whole day at his Quezon City residence going over a pile of pending papers which he had brought over from Malacañang. He did not receive any caller. He expressed his desire to clear his desk of all important pending matters prior to his departure for a five-day state visit to Vietnam.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable today released the names of 35 prisoners granted executive clemency by President Garcia last Thursday, Bataan Day. Nable said that the conditional pardon of all 35 prisoners had been recommended by the Board of Pardons and Parole.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(15), cxlix-cliv.

Official Week in Review: April 12 – April 18, 1959

April 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet day today in his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, working on state papers and going over the drafts of the speeches he will deliver in Vietnam when he goes there for a state visit late this month.

The President and Mrs. Garcia heard an early morning mass at their private residence. After a hearty breakfast, the Chief Executive pored over the morning newspapers. Then he retired to his room to work on pending state papers and clear his desk before he leaves for Vietnam.

He interrupted his work to receive Minister Daniel Lewin of Israel, who paid a courtesy call on the President. Minister Lewin was accompanied by Ernest Simke and David Golan.

After lunch, President Garcia continued his work on state papers and later called for the drafts of his Vietnam speeches.

As part of the regular exercise prescribed for him by Dr. Antonio Guytingco, his personal physician, the Chief Executive went down to the garden for a short brisk stroll.

Later in the evening, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Fisher Avenue residence of Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez to extend their personal greeting on the latter's natal day.

PRESIDENT Garcia is considering a move to place the National Rice and Corn Corporation (NARIC) and the Agriculture Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration (ACCFA) under the supervision of one department, either the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources or the Office of Economic Coordination.

This was one of the recommendations made after a study of the activities of the NARIC for the fiscal year 1958 which was contained in a report submitted to the President today by acting Economic Coordinator Pablo Cruz.

Closer coordination between the NARIC, the ACCFA, and the NAMARCO was suggested, particularly as regards the production, milling, and distribution of rice and corn and their by-products to prevent over-lapping of functions and conflicts among them and for effective attainment of national policies and government objectives. Greater coordination of the distribution or marketing activities of these three agencies will contribute to the stabilization of prices, it was reported.

At present these three agencies are under separate offices: the NARIC is under the OEC, the ACCFA is under the Office of the President, while the NAMARCO is under the Department of Commerce and Industry.

Closer coordination among all government agencies concerned was also recommended by the OEC Head to the end that their efforts will be concentrated towards increasing production of rice and corn at reduced costs.

April 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia discussed with C. Douglas Dillon, U.S. under-secretary of state for economic affairs, subjects of common interest to the people of the Philippines and the United States when the latter paid a courtesy call at Malacañang this morning.

Undersecretary Dillon was accompanied by Mrs. Dillon, J. Frederick Reinhardt, newly designated assistant secretary of state for far eastern affairs, US Ambassador and Mrs. Charles E. Bohlen, and Counsellor James Graham Parsons.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia helped receive the President's distinguished visitors by receiving Mrs. Dillon and Mrs. Bohlen in the music room of Malacañang, while the Chief Executive exchanged amenities with the four American diplomats in the study room.

After receiving the envoys President Garcia administered the oaths of office to the officers of the newly-formed Pulp and Paper Manufacturers Association headed by James L. Chiongbian, president.

The President urged the members of the Pulp and Paper Manufacturers Association of the Philippines to direct their efforts to the manufacture of newsprint in order to stop a big drain in the dollar reserves of the country.

The President made the appeal after the induction of the newly elected officers of the association this morning.

Chiongbian informed President Garcia that the group, representing 14 pulp and paper manufacturers, is now supplying one-third of the needs of the country. He further informed the President that in the foreseeable future the association members can supply all the needs of the Philippines and export part of their production to foreign markets.

The other officers of the organization are Salvador T. Villa, 1st vice-president; Lim Se Keng, 2nd vice-president; Ty Liang Kue, treasurer; Leon Cuunjieng, secretary; Pedro T. Gozun, executive secretary; Peter Cong Hocho, assistant executive secretary; and Amando Clemente, Ramon Lopez, Alexander A. Adamson, Carlos J. Valdez, Jose Santos, Marcelo Nubia, Quirino Gregorio, Vicente Clemente, and Godofredo del Rosario, directors.

National officers of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines and key men of the 10th BS World Jamboree committee called on the Chief Executive and invited him to unveil the Jamboree marker in Makiling Park, Los Baños, on May 9 and open the 10th Boy Scouts World Jamboree on July 18.

Those who came to extend the two invitations to the President were Jorge B. Vargas, BSP president and chief scout; Prudencio Langcauan, chairman of the 10th BS World Jamboree committee, H. B. Reyes, international scout commissioner; William H. Quasha, chairman of the international liaison committee; Jose A. Panlilio, national scout director; Guillermo R. Padolina, executive commissioner; Gabriel A. Daza, vice-president and treasurer; and Ralph G. Hawkins, chairman of the Jamboree promotions and public relations committee.

President Garcia was also invited by the officers of the newly-organized Confederation of Government Employees to be the guest speaker at the CGE assembly on May 30.

The confederation is composed of 40 member organizations and is dedicated to the promotion of the welfare of government employees and the improvement of the government's public relations.

Officers of the organization who called at Malacañang were Salvador Pacis, president; Dr. Emiliano C. Ramirez, 1st vice-president; Pacifico Velilla, 2nd vice-president; Regino Oyco, secretary; Mrs. Rosario Capistrano, treasurer; and Roman Lorenzo, Pablo Garcia, Arturo Soriano, Mario Reyes, Jose del Castillo, and Esmeraldo de Leon, directors.

Graduates of the Second Executive Development Program for Management Trainers conducted by the IDC Industrial Training staff also saw the Chief Executive this morning to express their appreciation for making possible the IDC management training program. They were accompanied by IDC Directors Faustino Lozada.

Among those who called on the President were Pio U. Dehesa, Manuel Roxas de Jesus, Fidel S. Felipe, Jesus V. Jazmin, Samuel D. Paler, and Fernando Ricafort.

Members of the Philippine panel which conferred with a US Development Loan Fund team that visited Manila recently submitted a report to President Garcia this morning on the results of a series of conferences with the DLF team. No details of the report was immediately available.

The Philippine panel is composed of CB Deputy Governor Andres Castillo, IDC Director Faustino Lozada, and Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista. Another member of the group, NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, is at present out of the country on an ICA-sponsored tour of other Asian nations.

Other presidential callers this morning were Tommy Quirino, Don Alfonso Ponce Enrile, Manuel Montecillo, Emeterio Rellosa with Alejandro and Ting Rellosa, and Mrs. M. C. Briones of Cebu City.

April 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia took up political problems of Mindanao at a breakfast conference early this morning in Malacañang with Sens. Emmanuel Pelaez and Roseller Lim.

No detail of the conference was given out but the President said he will refer the problems they discussed to the Nacionalista Party executive committee.

From the breakfast conference with the Mindanao solons, the Chief Executive proceeded to his study room to receive his callers.

First on the list of his congressional visitors was Sen. Quintin Paredes, who accompanied ex-Senator Enrique Magalona of Negros Occidental.

The former senator extended the invitation to the President to be the guest of honor at the inauguration of the new municipal building in his hometown of Sarabia. The inauguration rites will coincide with the centennial anniversary of that municipality.

Reps. Godofredo Reyes and Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur saw the President to ask him to place the town of Sta. Cruz, Ilocos Sur, under Constabulary control to avert further violent incidents arising as a result of the ambush-slaying of a prospective candidate for mayor of that town.

They also requested the President to order the expeditious release of more funds to enable the ACCFA to continue its tobacco-purchasing operations.

Rep. Ricardo Yap Ladrido accompanied Cezar L. Legayada, president of the PAL Supervisors' Association (PALSA), who invited President Garcia to be the guest of honor at the organization's convention on Sunday, April 19.

President Garcia expressed his regrets in view of a previous commitment to be the commencement speaker at the graduation exercises of the Philippine Military Academy in Baguio.

The President, however, said he would ask Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to be his personal representative at the PALSA convention.

Rep. Jose M. Laurel IV requested the Chief Executive to authorize the Land Tenure Administration to purchase a certain property in Tanauan, Batangas, his hometown, and resell it to the tenants in order to abort an impending agrarian problem.

Other congressional callers this morning who made requests for financial assistance, mostly from the President's contingent funds, to be used for the repair, construction, and maintenance of various public works projects and school buildings were Reps. Domitilo Abordo, Gaudencio Abordo, Dominador Tan, Agaton A. Ursua, Luis Hora, Wenceslao Rancap Lagumbay, Jacobo Z. Gonzales, Jose D. Moreno, Natalio P. Castillo, Laurentino H. Badellos, Lucas Paredes, Antonio V. Raquiza, Luciano Millan, and Manuel S. Enverga.

April 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia led the nation in commemorating the 11th death anniversary of the late President Manuel Roxas today.

This morning, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Manila North Cemetery to lay a wreath at the tomb of the late Chief Executive. The President ordered another wreath to be placed at the San Miguel church, where a special mass will be said in memory of the departed leader.

Last evening the President dispatched an order to Col. Romeo Honasan, commander of Presidential Guards, to detail honor guards at the tomb of President Roxas from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. this day.

On hand to meet the President at the North Cemetery were the following relatives of the late President: Rep. Gerardo Roxas, Mrs. Ines P. Gatmaitan, Mrs. Ana Bellosillo, Luis de Leon, and Leopoldo Picazo.

Mrs. Trinidad de Leon-Roxas, widow of the late President, was not around as she was hearing a requiem mass for her late husband which was being celebrated at that time in the San Miguel church.

Others present at the tomb of President Roxas were former Sen. Geronima T. Pecson, ex-Finance Secretary Pio Pedrosa, Col. Jose Razon, and other close friends of the family.

After laying a wreath at the tomb, President Garcia led those present in offering a one-minute silent prayer for the eternal repose of the great Filipino leader. He chatted for a while with members of the family and friends of the late Chief Executive and exchanged reminiscences about President Roxas.

At a little after 10 a.m., President Garcia left the North Cemetery to fulfill a speaking engagement at the opening session of the PPSTA annual representative assembly.

After delivering his speech, the President returned to Malacañang where he spent the rest of the day preparing his commencement speech for the graduation exercises of the Philippine Military Academy on Sunday, April 19, and studied pending papers.

Later in the afternoon, President Garcia presided at the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

President Garcia this morning defined nationalism as “love of country, the kind of love which makes one willing to sacrifice one’s self in the defense of its rights and its integrity.”

Addressing the opening session of the 11th annual representative assembly of the Philippine Public School Teachers’ Association (PPSTA) at the P. Gomez Elementary School, the President differentiated the kind of nationalism which ennoble the history, traditions, and culture of one’s race from the kind of nationalism which fosters hatred toward other peoples and races.

He said the latter should be avoided so as not to sow the seeds of prejudice and increase the tensions that plague the world today.

The Chief Executive said the school is a convenient place for the inculcation of sane nationalism and advised the teachers to look inward, examine the Filipino soul, and search for the mainsprings of Philippine culture from which to draw the materials to be taught to their students.

In their zeal to provide conditions favorable to the development of nationalism, President Garcia warned the teachers against the banning of all foreign material from the schools because “knowledge is universal and knows no boundaries.”

President Garcia, after consultation with his Cabinet, approved the establishment of three additional flour mills in order to boost local production and at the same time cover the needs of the people for this commodity.

One of the projected flour mills will be set up in Eastern Visayas, another in Western Visayas, and a third in Mindanao. No flour mill has been approved for Luzon, as the two mills already operating in this island are considered adequate to meet the Luzon requirements.

The President instructed the National Economic Council to screen about seven firms which had applied for permits to establish the mills and determine their capability to undertake the enterprise. The NEC was authorized to make the awards to deserving companies.

As reported to the Cabinet, the applicants are the Progressive Flour Mills, the General Milling Corporation, the Republic Flour Mills, the G. Puyat & Sons, the Liberty Mills, the Aboitiz & Co., and the Universal Corn Products, Inc.

The President at tonight's Cabinet meeting, also:

(1) Postponed consideration of the proposed rules and regulations governing the proposal of Filipinos residing in the United States to invest in the economic development program of the Philippines until after action in Congress has been ascertained on the projected repeal of Republic Act No. 1410, the Barter Law; and

(2) Instructed Labor Secretary Angel M. Castaño to take up with the Court of Industrial Relations the strike at the Batangas-Tayabas transportation company.

The President disclosed he had received reports that the strikers were armed and that representations had been made to him to certify the dispute with the Court of Industrial Relations to avoid possible bloodshed.

Castaño, however, informed the President that the CIR would first decide whether this strike is an extension of the strike started about six months ago in the same firm and which had already been certified to by the President. Castaño said he would confer with CIR officials tomorrow and ask them to decide on this question.

April 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia administered the oath of office to Ambassador to Korea Eduardo Quintero in a ceremony held this morning in the President's study room in Malacañang.

The appointment of Ambassador Quintero as envoy extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of Korea was recently confirmed by the Commission on Appointments.

Among those who witnessed the oath-taking were Mrs. Tarcila Quintero, Mrs. Paz S. Quintero, Rep. and Mrs. Lucas Paredes, ex-Mayor Vicente Quintero of Tacloban City, Dr. Francisco Quintero, Carmelo Quintero, Col. Vicente O. Tionson, Capt. Alberto San Agustin, Edilberto Gallares, and other friends and relatives of the ambassador.

The President also received Rep. Emilio Espinosa, Jr., and Gov. Jesus Almero of Masbate, who presented requests for financial aid totalling P59,000 for the repair of schools and various public works projects in the province. They also briefed the Chief Executive on the proposed creation of the new municipality of Esperanza in their province. With them was Mayor Ricardo Sese of Batuan, Masbate.

Mayor Leroy S. Brown of Basilan City saw the President to request aid amounting to P50,000 from the presidential contingent funds to finish the reconstruction of the Basilan City wharf.

Tarlac Gov. Arsenio Lugay requested President Garcia to order the expeditious release of funds amounting to P15,000 for the repair and construction of schools damaged by storms and for the construction of more feeder roads in the barrios of Tarlac.

Several town mayors of Davao also called on President Garcia to request the release of funds for the repair of school buildings in the province. Among them were Mayors Solomon Esterino of Mabini, Florencio Gonzales of Bagangga, Ricardo Pichon of Carraza, Santiago Silverio of Catiil, and Hermenegildo Baluyo of Tagum. They were accompanied by General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras.

Municipal executives of Misamis Oriental likewise saw the President and presented requests for financial assistance for their respective towns. They also conferred with him on local political problems.

Among those in the group were Mayors Emerito R. Acain of Union, Gerardo Orcullo of Talisayan, Francisco Abarientos of Jasaan, Roman Jardin of Medina, Felicisimo Aguilar of Gingoog, Carlos Macapayap of El Salvador, and Tomas Estrobo of Mahinog, Camiguin.

Other presidential callers this morning were Mrs. Natividad Villaflores of Davao and Gov. Bernardino Almeda of Surigao.

President and Mrs. Garcia motored this evening to the Manila Sanitarium and Hospital in Pasay City to express their condolence to Mrs. Rosario Mendoza-Jornado, whose husband Abner Jornado, a male nurse, died in the early hours yesterday in Laos, while serving with Operations Brotherhood.

President Garcia directed the Department of Foreign Affairs to bring home immediately the body of Jornado. He also directed other government agencies to extend help to the family of Jornado.

The President was informed of the tragic death of Jornado by Oscar Arellano, chairman of Operations Brotherhood, and he cancelled all his appointments this afternoon in order to visit Mrs. Jornado.

The OB male nurse, a native of Sibalom, Antique, died according to sketchy reports received by Arellano when strong winds tumbled the building which served as the OB office, about 45 miles from the Red China border.

Another nurse, Raquel Tolentino, suffered head wounds according to the sketchy reports. Arellano informed President Garcia that OB field administrator Mel Granada went this morning to the scene of the tragic accident.

The Jornados have two children, Adele, 14 years, and Abner, 11.

April 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia tonight interrupted his trip to Baguio to attend to the needs of 36 persons injured in Malasiqui, Pangasinan, owing to the derailment of the *Ilocos Express* train.

Accompanied by Mrs. Garcia, the Chief Executive alighted from the special train which carried him and his party from Manila, and proceeded to San Carlos where the 36 accident victims were being treated.

The President directed local officials to provide the victims with the needed medical aid, while Mrs. Garcia gave each of the injured persons money for his subsistence while recovering.

President Garcia was on his way to Baguio to fulfill engagements there when the special train carrying him and his party was blocked in Malasiqui by the derailed *Ilocos Express*.

The President was informed at the station that one was killed and 36 others were injured, five seriously, on account of the derailment of the train which was on its way to Manila.

It took station hands and volunteer helpers two hours to clear the path of the presidential train.

When the President was informed that the injured victims of the accident were hospitalized in San Carlos town, he directed train engineers to stop the vehicle at Dagupan so that he could be with the victims. He took a car to San Carlos with Mrs. Garcia.

The President returned to Dagupan City tonight to resume his interrupted trip to the Pines City.

President Garcia is scheduled to address the graduation exercises of the Philippine Military Academy on Sunday. He will be back in Manila Monday noon.

April 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia today instructed Manila Railroad Company Board Chairman Juan J. Carlos to create a committee to investigate the train disaster in Malasiqui, Pangasinan, yesterday with a view to pinpointing responsibility and avoiding recurrence of the tragedy. The President expressed concern over the condition of injured persons and at the same time signified his desire to maintain the faith of the people in the safety of railroad travel. Yesterday's mishap is considered one of the worst in six years.

Chairman Carlos formed a committee composed of Maj. Teofilo Zosa, MRR board member, as chairman; and MRR General Manager F. F. Santiago and Vidal Mata, MRR chief engineer, as members. Carlos transmitted to the committee the instructions of the President. He also instructed them to submit their findings as soon as possible.

The President meanwhile received few callers at the Guest House today.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano reported on his recent trip as well as his talks with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State C. Douglas Dillon.

Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez called to receive instructions prior to his departure on a Far East tour as the personal representative of the President with the Philippine Floating Exposition aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

Other callers at the Guest House this noon were Brig. Gen. Oscar Rialp, PCAPE group headed by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, and Rep. Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna.

In the afternoon, the President devoted his time writing his commencement speech at the Philippine Military Academy graduation exercises tomorrow which will be broadcast over nationwide hook-up through Station DZFM.

The President today wished officials and members of the Philippine Floating Exposition a successful mission in their economic and cultural trip to South East Asian countries.

Describing the Exposition's personnel as "the people's ambassadors of goodwill," the President underscored the importance of such a trip which is being held for the first time.

His statement, released prior to the departure of the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, and addressed to the Exposition's officials and members follows in full:

"For the first time, a Philippine Floating Exposition will be held in South East Asian countries. The sailing tonight of the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* is a significant milestone in our nation's march towards progress. With this trip, the government has once again shown its deep interest in boosting foreign trade with her neighbors.

"It is my ardent hope that the exposition will improve further the close ties existing between our country and other nations in this part of the world.

"I therefore wish the officials and members of the Exposition—who are leaving the Philippines as their people's ambassadors of goodwill—good sailing and all the success in this important mission."

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(16), clvii-clxiii.

President's Week in Review: April 19-25, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

April 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning plugged anew for the development of national discipline among all sectors of the population to enhance the progress of the country.

The Chief Executive pointed out that national discipline is “not only for us who have been charged with running the affairs of the government, but also for various groups and for all without exception.”

President Garcia spoke at the graduation exercises of the Philippine Military Academy in Fort Del Pilar, Baguio City. He was introduced by Brig. Gen. Manuel Flores, PMA superintendent. In calling for the fostering of national discipline, the President stressed that PMA graduates could very well fit in the attainment of this goal because of the training they have had in the academy.

He said, “In the fostering of this form of discipline (national) you as members of the military establishment, steeped as you are in an even more exacting form of discipline, play a very important role.”

President Garcia explained that “national discipline is the price of progress, and considering our present state of development, the strengthening of our national economy will, indeed, call for the highest form of discipline among our people.”

The President said that, while one of the tenets of democracy is that the government should be a government of laws and not of men, the enhancement of national discipline calls for “model or exemplary lives” such as PMA graduates can provide.

“So at this juncture of our national development we need less of laws and more of men—men of principles, men of moral courage, loyal, upright, God-fearing, and faith-inspired men to enforce the laws of this Republic and perpetuate the institutions of government of the people, by the people, and for the people,” he said.

At the same time, the President exhorted the PMA graduates to “fight unrelentingly the influences of legislative thinking” and fill their minds with positive thinking.

President Garcia explained that he wants the PMA graduates to be faith-inspired “because in these materialistic terms the faith of the youth is being undermined every day in the press, radio, and television by negative thinking.”

The Chief Executive also urged the PMA graduates to dedicate themselves to the cause of perpetuating democracy and the defense of it against all threats of godless ideology.

“Let our national institutions build up ramparts against an ideology which cancels the human liberties and the inalienable rights of citizens and which convert them into herded peons of a totalitarian state,” the President urged.

As his special message to the graduates, the President called on the PMA to bear in mind that as future Armed Forces leaders “you have to accept a higher form of loyalty” than the mere loyalty to instructors or school.

LATER in the afternoon, the President signed an executive order granting the Baguio Press Club a lot for the site of proposed BPC building. The signing were witnessed by Manila newspapermen and members of BPC.

The Chief Executive also was briefed on the findings of the PCAPE regarding controversy between the ACCFA board of governors and the management.

Among recommendations submitted to the President by Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo were acceptance of all resignations and amendment of ACCFA charter to define the powers and authority of board and management.

THE President this evening expressed grave concern over problems facing the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration, particularly the collection of ₱120 million in loans which he described as lagging into uncollectible accounts.

The Chief Executive met with officials of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency on the bitter controversy which had rocked the ACCFA management and board of governors.

Those who conferred with the President were Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, FCAPE chairman, and Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren.

They took up the proposed overhaul of the ACCFA to prevent discords that would shake the efficiency of the farmers' agency and drive it into bankruptcy.

President Garcia also:

- (1) Disclosed he had no plans of replacing Commissioner Jose Arañas of the Bureau of Internal Revenue;
- (2) Pointed out he will meet with leaders of the Senate to expedite enactment of the measure scrapping the no-dollar import law, otherwise known as the barter trade law; and
- (3) Underscored his five-day state visit to Vietnam as purely a goodwill tour in return to the visit here of President Ngo Dinh Diem.

The President said he will order shortly the formal investigation of charges and counter-charges filed against the ACCFA administrator and governors.

He said the PCAPE officials merely constituted a fact-finding body to gather facts and report their findings.

Before meeting with the officials, President Garcia had asked all the governors to resign and give him a free hand in conducting the inquiry into the ACCFA mess.

He also said there was nothing new in the diplomatic talks over United States bases here.

However, he said the conferences between Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano and US Ambassador Charles Bohlen were exploratory.

He said he will shortly meet with Senate leaders on the passage of the barter trade law.

He likewise scotched reports he was relieving Arañas. "I have no plans to retire him," he said.

Commenting on his forthcoming state visit to Vietnam, President Garcia said he merely would return Diem's call.

April 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Manila by train early this afternoon after a two-day stay in Baguio City during which he was guest speaker at the commencement exercises of the Philippine Military Academy at Fort Del Pilar.

The presidential party left the Mansion House at 8 a.m. for Damortis, La Union, where he boarded a special train for Manila.

On board the train, the Chief Executive held conferences with Commissioner Madki Alonto of National Integration; officials of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE); and board members and other officials of the Manila Railroad Company.

Commissioner Alonto reported to the President on the living conditions among the non-Christian Filipinos in Bontoc which he had just visited on a routine inspection trip.

He requested President Garcia to direct the speedy release of funds appropriated for his office so that it will be able to assist in elevating the standard of living of the Filipino minorities.

The President discussed with PCAPE officials possible solutions to problems confronting the ACCFA which were brought to his attention during an extensive four-hour briefing yesterday afternoon at the Guest House.

Those who sat in on the ACCFA discussions were PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo, Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren, Francisco Salvador, statistical researcher; and Alfredo Flores.

President Garcia also received a preliminary report from the committee he had created to look into the causes of, and pinpoint responsibility for, the *Ilocos Express* derailment last Friday afternoon resulting in the death of one and injuries to many others.

The committee members were unanimous in their conclusion that the accident was caused by "human error" as a result of overspeeding as the train entered the Malasiqui station.

They vigorously denied that it was due to rotten ties which caused the tracks to give way when the *Ilocos Express* turned into the side-tracks, a theory presented by Lt. Col. Eladio S. Isleta, Pangasinan PC provincial commander.

The committee formed by MRR Board Chairman Juan J. Carlos is composed of Maj. Teofilo Zosa, MRR board member, as chairman; and MRR General Manager Feliciano F. Santiago and Vidal Mata, MRR chief engineer, as members.

At 9: 50 a.m., the special train carrying the President slowed down as it passed by the scene of the disaster at Malasiqui to pick up Capt. Francisco H. Calinawan, MRR assistant general manager, who was supervising the work of clearing the tracks of the wrecked coaches and scattered parts.

As of this morning, four out of the seven coaches derailed had been set upright. Work on clearing the tracks was delayed as MRR engineers had to wait for the arrival of heavy equipment sent for from as far south as Sipocot, Camarines Sur.

Upon arrival at Tutuban Station in Manila, President Garcia proceeded to Malacañang where he spent the day putting the finishing touches on his speeches for Vietnam.

THE President through Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, directed Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to facilitate the payment of some 2,628 disabled veterans from the reserve fund of the Armed Forces.

A big delegation accompanied by Dominador Realon, technical assistant on veterans' affairs, and headed by officials of the United Disabled Veterans Association of the Philippines sought the aid of the President in the payment of the balance of their pensions from June, 1958.

Secretary Pajo, upon instructions of the President, immediately directed the Budget Commission to use the reserve fund of the AFP for the purpose.

The pensioners claim that ₱650,000 will be needed to pay all pensions due up to June, 1959, under Republic Act No. 610. The average pensioner gets a monthly pension of ₱100 under the act.

The delegation was headed by Silvino G. Matias, president of the board; Alejandro Costales, vice-chairman; and Wilfredo Montano, PRO of the United Disabled Veterans Association of the Philippines.

April 21.—THE President today presided over a special meeting of his Cabinet at the Council of State room.

He called a special meeting of the Cabinet to take up the long-drawn fishing controversy in the Bulacan shorelines.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo invited Gov. Tomas Martin of Bulacan and Lt. Col. Felizardo Tanabe, provincial commander of the province, to help shed light on the controversy which had heightened tension between the contending groups of fishermen in the area.

At 12:30 o'clock, the President suspended the Cabinet meeting and motored to the Palm Grove, formerly the Aristocrat Beach Resort, in Las Piñas, Rizal, to attend the 14th anniversary luncheon of the *Manila Chronicle*.

The President chatted with senators who were present at the luncheon.

He then addressed the crowd and lauded the *Manila Chronicle* on its 14th anniversary. He recalled that the newspaper "is one of the frontiersmen of the freedom of the press and of nationalism."

"I can say that the Filipinos rejoice with the publishers, editors, and personnel of the *Chronicle* for having achieved its 14th anniversary with flying colors," the President said.

He pointed out that a democratic Philippines "welcomes the existence of a paper that will speak out its minds on national and public issues fearlessly and frankly, for it is only when we speak thus that the leaders of the government can choose their course of action in the task of leadership."

The President disclosed he devotes an hour every morning reading the metropolitan newspapers.

He said his daily reading of the newspapers is prompted by his desire to know the pulse of the public opinion, and added that he has been guided by the newspapers in the formulation of his policies.

In hailing the *Chronicle*, the President said that it is "one of those newspapers that contribute to the formulation of plans and help chart the course of government action."

After his speech, the President motored immediately to Malacañang to resume the special Cabinet meeting which wound up at 7 o'clock this evening.

President Garcia and his Cabinet today ordered the demolition of illegally constructed dikes and fishpond levees in Bulacan, Bulacan. The Cabinet action settles a controversy which has raged for years, and which many times in the past threatened to explode into violence.

President Garcia, on the advice of his Cabinet, decided to approve the report of the PCAPE which recommended modifications in boundary lines. The President decided to provide 200 small fishermen sufficient communal fishing grounds to help them in their livelihood.

It has been recognized that certain private parties have introduced certain improvements on the lots they have applied for. But it has also been found that the lots they applied for are part of the sea and therefore are not subject to the commerce of man.

Some of the fishpond constructions are encroaching on public streams and coastal waters.

The presidential decision will, in effect, result in:

1. The restoration of some 3,000 hectares of communal fishing grounds to the poor fisherfolk along the shores of Bulacan who depend on shallow-water fishing for their sole means of livelihood; and
2. The removal of illegal fishpond works at present obstructing traffic in the mouth of the Maycapiz River.

The President conferred this afternoon with officials of the People's HomeSite and Housing Corporation headed by ex-Governor Bernardo Torres, PHHC general manager and chairman of the board of directors.

The President discussed with the housing officials ways and means of improving the finances of the government agency.

This evening President Garcia and the First Lady received some 80 Nacionalista congressmen who trooped to Malacañang to greet the Chief Executive and Mrs. Garcia on the eve of their departure tomorrow morning for a five-day state visit to South Vietnam.

The President and the First Lady chatted with their guests and well-wishers. The President and the solons did not discuss official matters but exchanged views lightly.

The group was organized by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez to wish the President and the First Lady "bon voyage."

April 22.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia and eight members of his official entourage took off from the Manila International Airport at exactly 7 o'clock this morning for Vietnam.

He was cheered by a fair crowd which woke up early in the morning to give him a rousing send-off.

The ceremonies were cut short, and President Garcia failed to deliver a prepared speech. The speech, however, was circulated among the newsmen to be able to spread the President's message before his scheduled departure for a five-day state visit to South Vietnam.

Before taking off, the President conferred with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who was designated as government "caretaker" during President Garcia's absence from the country.

With the official entourage of the President were the First Lady, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, Rep. Ramon P. Mitra, Pablo Suarez, and Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, presidential aide.

The chartered PAL plane also bore other members who decided to join the President to South Vietnam.

Before motoring to the airport, the President and Mrs. Garcia and other members of the official entourage heard an early morning mass at the Malacañang chapel.

President and Mrs. Garcia landed at the Tan Son Nhut airport near Saigon at 10 o'clock this morning and waded through elaborate welcome ceremonies, believed to be the warmest accorded a visiting chief of state in South Vietnam.

The President was welcomed by South Vietnam President Ngo Dinh Diem, Philippine Ambassador Trinidad Legarda, and high government dignitaries of the host country.

President Garcia and President Diem exchanged brief speeches dwelling on a common theme of mutual crusade against communism.

The President said he was looking forward to four days of fruitful meetings with President Diem.

President Garcia's five-day visit to South Vietnam was in return to President Diem's visit to this country last year.

The Philippine President said that the Vietnamese Chief Executive has progressive leadership.

President Garcia was presented the key to the city by Saigon Mayor Nguyen Phu Hai. The President reviewed an honor guard of Vietnamese troops before driving three miles to the Gia Long Palace.

At noon time the President had a private luncheon with Philippine Ambassador Trinidad Legarda at the latter's official residence in Saigon.

In the afternoon the President made a formal call on President Diem at the latter's palace.

In the evening the President and the First Lady attended a state dinner given in their honor by President Diem at the Independence Palace.

April 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today, on the second day of his five-day state visit to South Vietnam, addressed the Vietnamese National Assembly and debunked the communists' propaganda of peaceful coexistence in the light of developments in Tibet.

Reports reaching Manila said the President was given a standing ovation and was interrupted by several applause as he ploughed through his prepared speech.

The President started his second day in Saigon by visiting the headquarters of the South Vietnam armed forces where he was honored with a colorful military parade and review.

In the afternoon, the President was conferred with the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws at the University of Saigon.

Addressing the student body and the faculty of the institution, the President urged cultural cooperation among the Asian nations so that they "may be heard in the councils of free nations."

Earlier, the President addressed the Jaycees of South Vietnam who honored the Philippine Chief Executive at a luncheon.

In his address at the occasion, the President said, aside from cultural collaboration among Southeast Asian countries, there should be closer cooperation in the fields of economics.

President Garcia and members of his official party also visited the presidential yacht *Lapu-Lapu* which is in Saigon bearing the Philippine floating exposition.

The President was impressed with the various Philippine-made goods exhibited aboard the yacht.

In the evening, the President lauded the leadership of President Ngo Dinh Diem at a state dinner given by the latter in honor of the Philippine Chief Executive.

Capping his speech, the President invited all those present to offer a toast for the health of the South Vietnam President.

The state dinner was held at the Gia Long Palace in Saigon.

April 24.—ON the third day of his state visit to South Vietnam, President Garcia toured Vietnam's seat of ancient culture at the historic royal tombs at Hue. It was his first trip out of Saigon. The President toured the area and went through the development center. He had dinner in Hue.

In the evening President Garcia and President Ngo Dinh Diem went aboard the presidential yacht *Lapu-Lapu* where they were treated to a command performance of the Barangay dance troupe. They were reported to have enjoyed the command performance of the young Filipino dancers.

The dance troupe is touring aboard the presidential yacht which is bearing Philippine-made products.

Even in Saigon where he is busy following a crowded five-day schedule during the course of his state visit to South Vietnam, President Garcia today took occasion to assail Vice-President Macapagal, president of the opposition Liberal Party.

President Garcia was apparently perturbed by reports that the United States had "sat down" on the Philippine claim for \$23 million resulting from the U.S. devaluation of gold in 1934.

The President asked his press secretary, Jose C. Nable, to issue a statement expressing the belief that the U.S. Senate would not be influenced by an "unfortunate statement by Vice-President Macapagal."

The Vice-President had allegedly said that the United States Government has been lukewarm in granting the Philippine claims because of the rampant graft and corruption here.

In the absence of President Garcia, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo this morning swore into office Ex-Governor Perfecto Fayon of Ilocos Sur as member of the board of directors of the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration.

The new NARRA director was mayor of Vigan for ten years and governor of Ilocos Sur for six years. At present he is technical assistant to the President.

Later in the morning, Secretary Pajo received a Mindanao legation accompanied by Secretary Alejandro Almendras of General Services and Governors Vicente Duterte of Davao and Salvador Lluch of Lanao.

Among those in the delegation were Davao City Mayor Carmelo L. Porras, and Mayors Florencio Gonzalez of Baganga, H. Boloya of Tagum, P. Dijale of Panabo, A. Interino of Mabini, Ricardo Ipong of Maquilala L. Sajulia of Governor Generoso, M. Pichon of Caraga, and Angel Rodriguez, president of the Nacionalista Party chapter in Davao.

The delegation came to request the release of sums of money from the contingent fund for feeder roads, irrigation projects, schools, and artesian wells.

In the afternoon, Secretary Pajo presided over the regular weekly press conference, in the absence of the President.

April 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia concluded his five-day state visit to South Vietnam this day with the signing of a treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation between the representatives of both countries.

The President and members of his party are returning this afternoon after a "successful" five-day state visit to South Vietnam.

The President had gone to South Vietnam on a purely good-will visit. He toured three key cities in a move to forge closer ties between the peoples of the Philippines and Vietnam.

The President returned this morning to Saigon from a day's trip to Hue, the seat of South Vietnam's ancient culture. Hue is on the northernmost part of the country bordering Communist North Vietnam.

After resting for a few hours in Saigon, the President again flew to Dalat where he received honors at the famed Dalat University. He also visited Bien Hoa, about 30 miles north of Saigon during the day.

This evening the President gave a press conference in Saigon and capped the day with dinner at the Gia Long Palace.

He stayed at the Gia Long Palace for the night.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: April 26 – May 2, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

April 26.—IN a short speech at the Manila International Airport delivered a few minutes after he stepped down this afternoon from a Philippine Air Lines Viscount plane that brought him home from a successful-four-day state visit to the Republic of Vietnam, President Garcia urged the development of Southeast Asia into a bastion of peace, freedom, and prosperity by the forging of the free countries in the region through closer social, cultural, and economic ties. He said this would be a means of insuring a life of continuing peace and freedom for the peoples of Asia.

As early as two o'clock in the afternoon throngs of welcomers started streaming into the MIA to greet the returning Chief Executive and the First Lady.

Among the welcomers were members of the diplomatic corps headed by British Ambassador George Lisle Glutton, members of Congress led by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Cabinet members and their ladies, ranking members of the judiciary headed by Chief Justice Ricardo Paras, top government executives, and ranking officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The Plane bearing the President and his party was first sighted over Manila Bay at 3:05 p.m., escorted by four F-86 Sabrejet fighters of the Philippine Air Force and an SA-16 Albatross amphibian plane of the PAF air-sea Rescue Center.

A few minutes before the scheduled time of arrival, the presidential plane swung into the runway of the domestic terminal and taxied towards the eagerly waiting crowd of welcomers on its inboard engines followed closely by several fire trucks of the Civil Aeronautics Administration.

First to emerge from the plane was President Garcia, who was Welcomed with shouts of *Mabuhay* from the people. He was followed by Mrs. Garcia, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, and Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, and Reps. Ramon Mitra, chairman, of the Senate and House committees on foreign affairs, respectively.

The Chief Executive then received and acknowledged military honors, including a 21-gun salute accorded him by an honor guard battalion consisting of elements from the different services of the Armed Forces.

A *Te Deum* for the safe arrival of President and Mrs. Garcia and party was sung by Col. Nicolas Ortega, chief of the AFP chaplain corps, assisted by members of the corps before an improvised altar upon an elevated platform in the airport apron.

After he was presented to the public by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, the President gave a brief report on the outcome of his four-day, state visit to the Republic of Vietnam.

Riding in an apple-green Biarritz Cadillac open convertible, President Garcia and Mrs. Garcia led a long motorcade from the MIA terminal to Malacañang passing through Quirino Avenue, Taft Avenue, Ayala Boulevard, Gral. Solano, and Aviles.

At Malacañang the President and the First Lady chatted briefly with close friends and relatives before retiring to their respective rooms to rest. Later, the President motored to his private home on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, where he spent the night.

PRESS Secretary Jose C. Nable this morning released a statement issued by President Garcia on the occasion of the merging into one unified labor center of major labor, federations and leading industrial unions in the Philippines.

Nable said that newly elected officers of this labor center would be inducted in a ceremony to be held in Manila tomorrow.

The full text of the Philippine President's statement as released by his press secretary was as follows:

"I wish to congratulate our country's major labor unions in their determined efforts to forge a unified group intended to work for the betterment of our masses. May their chosen leaders continue to work unselfishly for the welfare of their members and thereby foster harmonious labor management relations."

The statement was released this morning shortly before the Philippine Chief Executive boarded a Philippine Air Lines Viscount plane for the return trip to Manila at the conclusion of his four-day state visit in the Republic of South Vietnam.

April 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today asked the law-enforcing agencies of four provinces and four cities to exert more efforts to improve their record in the solution of case and the enforcement of peace, and order in their respective jurisdictions.

The President at the same time commended the provincial governors and city mayors that showed a rating of 90 per cent or more in the solution of crimes committed in their localities.

In a consolidated report on the activities of police agencies all over the country, submitted today by Col. Crisanto Alba, Malacañang adviser on police matters, 33 out of 53 provinces and 15 out of 29 chartered cities scored a percentage rating of 90 per cent or over in the number of cases solved.

Provinces and cities whose ratings fell below 80 per cent are: Baguio, 67 per cent; Quezon City, 75 per cent; San Pablo City, 75 per cent; Tagaytay City, 50 per cent; Albay, 74 per cent; Cayite province, 67 per cent; and Sulu, 55 per cent.

The President, meanwhile, spent the day quietly at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He did not receive any caller.

He spent the day working on some papers which had piled up during his absence. He also rested from the grueling schedule he had followed during his five-day hectic state visit to South Vietnam.

Among the papers signed by the President today was a proclamation declaring April 30 this year as Women's Rights Day. He said the proclamation was in recognition and in appreciation of the important role being played by the women in the economic, social, and political progress of the nation.

President Garcia rested the whole day and did not receive any callers. He received only Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who briefed the Chief Executive on the problems which have cropped up during the latter's absence.

Feeling tired from the grueling five-day state visit which he just had completed in South Vietnam, the President stayed in Malacañang where he went over pending state papers to clear his desk of the backlog of pending state papers which had piled up during his absence.

April 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia resumed his normal schedule of activities today by receiving congressional callers this morning.

Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay saw the Chief Executive to request five hectares of public land in the barrio of Callos, Sta. Cruz, Laguna, be reserved for a school site.

Rep. Lagumbay was accompanied by Laguna Gov. Dominador Chipeco and Agriculture Undersecretary Jose Trinidad.

President Garcia also received Roberto Oca, newly-elected president of the *Katipunang Manggagawang Filipino*, a national labor organization composed of 13 major labor federations and industrial unions.

Oca went to Malacañang to pay his respects to the President. He was accompanied by Rep. Augusto Francisco of Manila. At the request of Oca, the Chief Executive agreed to meet KMP officers at a breakfast conference in Malacañang tomorrow morning.

President Garcia expressed satisfaction that the labor front was comparatively quiet in 1958. The industrial peace that prevailed last year, the President told Oca, contributed much to the great progress made by the country in the economic field.

The President reiterated his firm conviction that, in the nation's struggle towards economic development, no administration can be progressive unless there is harmony between labor and management.

Explaining his sympathetic attitude towards labor, the Chief Executive said, "Labor is occupying a major part of my time because I believe it is a very important factor in our march towards economic and industrial development. Besides, I came from that class."

Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon presented a resolution signed by 40 congressmen from coconut-producing provinces asking the President to direct the Philippine Coconut Administration (PHILCOA) to provide funds for the organization of cooperatives to wrest control of the copra trade from alien middlemen.

With Rep. Leon Guinto, vice-president for Luzon of the Phil. Coconut Producers Federation, Inc., were Gov. Juan F. Trivino of Camarines Sur, president of the federation; Rep. Manuel Zosa, vice-president for the Visayas; and Reps. Alberto Aguja, Salvador Enemas, Eladib Balite, Maximino Noel, Felipe Abrigo, Valeriano Yancha, Agaton Ursua, Gaudencio Abordo, and Mayor Felipe M. Mabilangan of Tagkawayan, Quezon.

President Garcia tentatively accepted an invitation extended by Rep. Francisco Sumulong of Rizal to be the guest of honor at a conference of vice-mayors and councilors of the province to be held in Taytay on May 16.

In his Bohol Avenue residence earlier this morning, the President received Commissioner Ramon Gaviola, Jr., of the Social Security Commission who took up with the Chief Executive matters pertaining to the SSS.

The President also received Reps. Godofredo Reyes, Canuto Enerio, and Dominador Tan.

April. 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia expressed admiration for the close cooperation and coordination between the sea-air forces after viewing a display of striking power aboard the 60,000-ton aircraft carrier *USS Ranger* during a Leader's Cruise around Manila Bay this morning.

Other ranking Philippine government officials who Witnessed the exhibition of the powerful potential of the latest in fast carrier striking forces were Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Sens. Eulogio Balao and Emmanuel Pelaez, Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Reps. Bartolome Cabangbang and Ramon P. Mitra, Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, Maj. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, Commodore Jose Francisco, and Capt. Heracleo Alano, PN.

President Garcia arrived at the US. Embassy landing at 9 a.m. where he was, met by US Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen; Adm. Edgar Cruise, commander of US naval forces in the Philippines; Vice-Admiral Frederick N. Kivette, commander of the 7th Fleet; and Rear Adm. Howard Caldwell, commander of Carrier Division One.

Full military honors, including a 21-gun salute, was accorded President Garcia on the hangar deck of the carrier by an honor guard of marines shortly after he was piped aboard the ship.

The air demonstration was opened with a series of sonic booms by four F8U Crusaders flying at supersonic speeds over the carrier. Other aircraft that participated in the show were 16 FJ Furies, six A30 Skywarriors, four F4D Skyrays, and 13 AD Skyraiders.

Except for the AD Skyraider which is propeller-driven, all the planes aboard the *USS Ranger* are jet-propelled. Among the most thrilling events of the show was the low-level in-flight jet refueling conducted by an F8U Crusader, an AD tanker, an FJ Fury, and an FJ tanker.

But the visitors were impressed most by the accuracy of the Sidewinder guided-missile fired by a Crusader at a rocket target released by the same plane a few seconds of each other.

After the two-hour demonstration, lunch was served on board the ship and then the guests were taken on a tour of the *Ranger* and shown a static display of the different types of aircraft it carried.

The aircraft carrier returned to its anchorage outside the breakwater at 3 p.m., and after receiving and acknowledging full military honors; President Garcia left the ship to return to Malacañang.

The regular Cabinet meeting scheduled in the afternoon was postponed, as the President was too tired to preside.

Earlier this morning, the Chief Executive received Alfred T. Zodda, vice-president of the Olin Mathieson International Corp., who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang. Mr. Zodda presented a Winchester model 50 automatic shotgun to the President during the visit.

Among those who accompanied Zodda to Malacañang were Herb G. Wolf of the same corporation, Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, PNB President Eduardd Romualdez, and Jack W. Bohnel and Dr. Paulino M. Taningco of the E. R. Squibb & Sons (Phil.) Corp.

Before disembarking from the *USS Ranger* President Garcia issued the following statement:

I have just witnessed a wonderful air show put up by this mighty attack carrier, the *USS Ranger*, the biggest aircraft carrier currently assigned in the Pacific area.

Such an impressive display of aerial might could, indeed, serve as a deterrent to any scheming enemy of the Free World. It is a convincing demonstration of the determination of the great American people to preserve just and honorable peace in this part of the globe. A few hours aboard the *Ranger*, one cannot but realize the massive striking power potential of this mighty instrument of peace.

I was very much impressed by the coordination and the clocklike precision with which the 3,500 officers and men, equipped with the most modern weapons of warfare, performed their assigned tasks. I congratulate the officers and men of the *USS Ranger* for a job well done.

April 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia told officers of the *Katipunang Manggagawang Pilipino* when they paid a courtesy call at Malacañang this morning that social justice should govern the relationship between labor and capital.

The President congratulated them for having achieved an organization that will be an authoritative channel for the preparation of important and necessary labor laws and hoped that it will be an effective force in hastening the economic development of the country.

“Labor and capital are wedded partners,” the Chief Executive “and each is ineffective without the other. The harmonious partnership of labor and capital will result in the generation of prosperity in the country.”

He expressed himself as personally against the concentration of wealth in the hands of a few and said that the welfare of the nation will be more secured if there is a more equitable distribution of wealth.’

President Garcia said that in his visits to Southeast Asian countries he noted that, with the exception of Japan, the Philippines has made more progress in the field of industrialization than other countries in this part of the world.

Led by KMP President Roberto Oca of the Philippine Transport and General Workers Organization, the labor leaders who called on the President were Vicente Rafael, PLUM; Emmanuel Clave and Gerohimo Quadra, CUGC; Pedro Castro, Severino Tabalno, and Pedro Uson, FOITAF; Cipriano Cid, PAFLU; Leon O. Ty and Oliver Gesmundo, CCLU; Guillermo Sambo, GMSU; Alejandro Lazaro, Teodoro Calalang, Vicente Olazo, and Isidro Atienza, PTGWO; Eulogio Lerum and Antonio Policarpio, NLU; Jose Hernandez and Ildefonso Remolona, PTUC; Cipriano-Malonso, MFL; Bert Olalia, NAFLU; Ignacio Lacsina, NATU; and Johnny Tan, FFW.

Also with the group but not affiliated with the KMP were Felicidad Villanueva and Zenaida Enriquez, both representing the Philippine Labor Organization (PLO).

Davao Gov. Vicente Duterte presented to the Chief Executive a request for assistance from the contingent funds in the amount of ₱170,000 for the repair and construction of school buildings and feeder roads in the barrios. He also asked President Garcia for the release of ₱50,000 for the province's anti-rat campaign.

Gov. Duterte was accompanied by several mayors of Davao who presented similar request for financial assistance. They were Mayor Catalino Sajolia and Vice-Mayor Vicente Yu of Governor Generoso, Tagum Mayor Hermenegildo Belayo, Mabini Mayor Solomon Interno, Catael Mayor Santiago Silverio, Carroga Mayor Ricardo Pichon, Bagangga Mayor Filomeno Gonzales, and Mabini Municipal Secretary Angel Rodriguez.

Surigao Gov. Bernardino Almeda asked the President for the allocation of five pre-fabricated school buildings to be erected in various towns in his province. He also submitted a resolution of the provincial board objecting to a proposed bill now pending in Congress dividing Surigao into Suriagao del Norte and Surigao del Sur. With Gov. Almeda was Provincial Board Member Jose Areza.

Gov. Salvador T. Lluch of Lanao asked President Garcia to expedite the issuance of a presidential proclamation releasing 19,000 hectares of public land in the northern part of Kolambugan to the proposed Ramon Magsaysay settlement of the NARRA.

He also voiced the protest of the people of Lanao against allegedly unjustified increase of .66 per cent in the rates of electric power from the Maria Cristina hydroelectric plant. It has discouraged investors from establishing factories in Lanao and has driven them away to other provinces, he said.

Gov. Lluch was accompanied by Rep. Florentino Ll. Badelles of Lanao, Bacolod Mayor Antonio Nolan, Iligan City Mayor Mariano Ll. Badelles, and Maigo Mayor Crispin Bongcawel.

May 1.—THIS morning the President spent the day going over the final draft of the speech he was going to deliver at the Independence Grandstand.

After partaking of a light breakfast, the President read the morning newspapers and then retired to his private study in Malacañang.

Informed that an airplane crash in Spain killed two young Filipino business executives, the President wired the Syjuco family on Taft Avenue in Pasay City:

“Mrs. Garcia and I extend our condolence for the irreparable loss of your son. We will remember him in our prayers.”

The President and the First Lady referred to the untimely death of Santiago Syjuco, Jr., who perished in the plane disaster while aboard an Iberian Airways airliner.

After his lunch, the President rested in his room.

At 3 o'clock, the President and the First Lady were fetched from Malacañang by Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, and Roberto Oca, president of the *Katipunan Manggagawang Pilipino*, to be the principal speaker at the Luneta ceremonies in connection with the Labor Day celebration.

President Garcia in his speech hailed the growth of the trade union movement and assured the country's workers of his support to assure them social justice and fair treatment in the course of their employment.

President Garcia's speech delivered at the Independence grandstand at the Luneta this afternoon highlighted the annual observance of Labor Day.

May 2.—THIS morning, the President was the guest of honor at the 24th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Air Force at the PAF headquarters in Nichols Air Base.

Speaking extemporaneously, the Chief Executive congratulated the officers and men of the organization and expressed his complete confidence in the ability, skill, and courage of Filipino pilots who, he said, are equal to the best in the world.

President Garcia underscored the importance of the PAF in the defense of the country and said that in the event of war the PAF will not only play a major role but will also constitute the nation's first line of defense.

Among those present at the Nichols Air Base ceremonies were Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas, Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenko, Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, Maj. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, Commodore Jose Francisco, Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Ocampo, Brig. Gen. Dionisio Ojeda, Admiral Edgar A. Cruise, COMNAVPHIL, and Gen. Thomas Moorman, Clark Air Force Base commander.

Arriving at Nichols Air Base at 9:20 a.m. with Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, PAF chief, who fetched the President from his residence in Bohol Avenue, President Garcia was accorded full military honors, including a 21-gun salute.

This was followed by a military parade and review in his honor participated in by cadets from the PAF pilot school and ROTC provisional second lieutenants.

After his speech, President Garcia watched a thrilling exhibition of the maneuverability and capabilities of the F-86 *Sabrejet* as demonstrated by Robert Hoover, top North American Aviation test pilot.

Hoover also presented to the President a miniature model of the F-100 *Super Sabrejet*, the latest model of America's foremost fighter plane, after his one-man air show.

From Nichols Air Base, the Chief Executive returned to his private residence in Quezon City to confer with members of the Council of Leaders on important legislative and political matters.

President Garcia met with members of the Council of Leaders to formulate plans for the passage of pending administration bills before the end of the current session of Congress at a three-hour conference late this morning in his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

Present at the conference which started at 11 a.m. and lasted until well past 2 p.m. were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Speaker Pro-tempore Constancio Castaneda, and Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano Primicias, Sr.

Aside from taking up the passage of bills certified to us "urgent" by the Administration, the conferees also discussed the latest political development in various parts of the country.

The President later motored to Malacañang where he received, the members of the Muslim Association of the Philippines headed by Sen. Domocao Alonto. Alonto said that the Muslim were against communism.

The President said he was happy over the Muslim's ideological credo and pointed out that his administration has always worked towards the containment of communism.

Among those with the Muslim group were Rep. Salipada Pendatum, Judge Makapaton Abbas, and Col. Adamin Tallow.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Official Week in Review: May 3 – May 9, 1959

May 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia today summoned to a conference tomorrow morning Labor Secretary Angel M. Castaño, who will be asked to render a report on the current strike of the Luzon Stevedoring Company union which threatens to paralyze completely shipping operations at Manila's south harbor.

The President expressed concern over reports that about a dozen ocean-going vessels were tied up at the harbor and remained unattended alongside the piers owing to the refusal of some 1,200 pier workers to load and unload cargo on these vessels.

The President, meanwhile, spent the day quietly at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He did not receive any caller.

The President started the day by hearing mass at the living room of his home. Also at mass were Mrs. Garcia, some close relatives and friends, Maj. Jose Estrella, presidential aide, and members of the household help.

The President spent most of the day in his private study going over some papers which needed his immediate attention.

May 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia today sounded an appeal to all labor leaders involved in the South Harbor strike to refrain from resorting to violence and for them to exhaust all legal remedies available under our form of government to obtain whatever concessions might be due their union members.

Disturbed by reports that violence threatened to flare up in the strike area, the President appealed to the patriotic sense of the strikers and expressed hope that they would wait for the decision of the Court of Industrial Relations which, he understood, was bent on disposing of their case as speedily as possible.

The President summoned Labor Secretary Angel Castaño to a conference at Malacañang this noon and instructed him to spare no effort to effect the early resolution of the controversy which was paralyzing overseas shipping operations at the piers. The President expressed deep concern over the effects of a prolonged strike on the nation's economy.

The Chief Executive also instructed Secretary Castaño to meet the Labor leaders and prevail upon them to maintain or respect the *status quo* before the strike was declared, pending the resolution of the dispute by the CIR. Castaño, in turn, had assured President Garcia that CIR Judge Arsenio Martinez was holding morning and afternoon hearings to expedite decision on the case.

The President's conference with his secretary of labor lasted for more than one hour late this noon at Malacañang.

Earlier this morning, the President conferred with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and Solicitor General Edilberto Barot, who called to receive final instructions prior to their departure for the United States on a special mission for the President.

A delegation from the Land Surveyors Association headed by its president, Florentino Calderon, called to present a petition that cadastral surveys be left to private surveyors and not to Bureau of Land Surveyors.

Other presidential callers this morning included Consul General Eduardo Rosal, who has just returned from his post in Hongkong, Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Dr. Domingo Tolentino, Eufemio Gimony, Leopoldo Ruiz, and Jose Duran.

The President also commended Alfredo Ignacio, paymaster of the Bureau of Public Highways who fought a notorious hold-upper, Romeo Maruso, last week to protect an P80,000 government payroll.

Ignacio gave chase and shot at Maruso, long wanted for a series of robberies in Pampanga and Tarlac.

President Garcia also hailed the appointment of Sir Deepal Susanta Fonseka as first envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Ceylon to the Philippines and said it marks the beginning of an era of close friendship and cooperation between the countries.

The President received the letters of credence from Minister Fonseka in simple rites held at the ceremonial ball of Malacañang.

At the ceremony, the new envoy pledged to promote and strengthen the cordial relations between his country and the Philippines.

Among those present at the ceremony were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto, Serrano and Executive Secretary Juan G. Pajo.

The President also received Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, who returned recently as head of the Philippine delegation to the military advisers' conference of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization at Wellington, New Zealand.

Cabal briefed the President on the conference and his observations in Hawaii and Japan.

Gen. Isagani V. Campo, chief of Constabulary, also conferred with the President to brief the latter on the peace and order situation.

Despite reports of banditry and petty police cases, Gen. Campo told the President that the situation is "satisfactory."

Sen. Eulogio Balao also saw the President and reported on the political situation in northern Luzon.

May 5.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia led ranking government officials to Antipolo, Rizal, this morning and formally opened this year's two-month pilgrimage season to Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage.

Arriving at the Antipolo parish church about 7 a.m. after a half-hour motor trip from Manila, the President and the First Lady heard mass said by the town's parish priest.

Also at the mass were a large group of senators and their ladies headed by Sen. and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr, Cabinet members, and other ranking government officials.

The senators, included Fernando Lopez, Lorenzo Sumulong, Quintin Paredes, Pedro Sabido, Rogelio de la Rosa, Ambrosio Padilla, Francisco Rodrigo, Eulogio Balao, and Pacita M. Gonzalez.

After the mass, the President and the First Lady stood sponsor to the baptism of Jose Mari Sumulong, the four-month old son of Senator Sumulong. The baptism was officiated by Msgr. Vicente Reyes, auxiliary archbishop of Manila.

Following the ceremonies, the presidential party repaired to the nearby Sumulong residence where they had breakfast.

After a brief motor ride around the town, the President and the First Lady returned to Manila, arriving in Malacañang about 10:30 a.m.

This afternoon, President Garcia received Ambassador Hugo Gouthier, Brazilian envoy to Brussels, who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang. Ambassador Gouthier is the head of a special Brazilian economic mission to Southeast Asia to study trade investment possibilities in the area.

Other callers were Mrs. Dorothy Plant of the *Vancouver Sun*, who was accompanied to Malacañang by Ben R. Mahinay, executive secretary of the Philippine International Friendship Organization, Paul Reeves, Rep. Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, Rep. Laurentino L. Badilles and Gov. Salvador T. Lluch of Lanao, and Mayor Elpidio Cudio of Cabanatuan City.

The President this day certified five bills for enactment by Congress, [missing word]* of which provides incentives for the ramie industry.

Among the bills endorsed by the President seeks to relieve the congestion now obtaining at the state penitentiary in Muntinlupa, Rizal, which has led to riots, by providing for the establishment of five district prisons.

The President, moreover, signed a bill which amends section 2563 of the Revised Administrative Code, as amended, providing for an additional judge for the municipal court of the City of Baguio.

May 6.—THIS morning President Garcia urged Congress leaders, especially the Senate, to speed up the legislative program of the Administration with emphasis on the measures intended to stabilize the national economy.

At the same time, the President and Congress leaders agreed to declare a moratorium on politics in order not to disturb the legislative work of Congress in the few remaining days of session.

The President took up with Congress leaders the important measures still pending in the Senate, among them the budget, the public works bill, and the tax measures.

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Sr., Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer. Also present at the conference was Malacañang Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta.

After the conference with Congress leaders, President Garcia conferred with Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson and signed the nomination papers of municipal officials which were sent immediately to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation.

The nominations of the following were sent to the Commission on Appointments:

VICE-MAYORS—Juan Balisi, Lasam, Cagayan; Andres Tamayo Kidapawan, Cotabato; Miguel Ed Soriano, Lingayen, Pangasinan; Lino Arreza, Cantilan, Surigao; Pio Sotto, Buenavista, Marinduque; Jose Malutac, Caluya, Antique; Mrs. Francisca Nañgit, Agutaya, Palawan.

COUNCILORS—Epitacio Cortez, Pagadian, Zamboanga del Sur, Arsenio Sangco, Dasmariñas, Cavite; Eligio Marcelo, Pasig, Rizal; Mrs. Teresa Rosales, Torrijos, Marinduque; Vicente Pareño, Boac, Marinduque; Ramon Ablang, Buenavista, Marinduque; Sofronio Bag-ao, Carmen, Bohol; Felix Gil, Angono, Rizal; Joaquin Lim, Caluya, Antique; Gil Buksit, Bacnotan, La Union; Hector Figueroa, San Enrique, Negros Occidental; Leon Fabi, Bangui, Ilocos Norte; Dr. Angel Lagat, Dueñas, Iloilo; Alejo Juario, Dingle, Iloilo; Ruperto Gonzales, Lambunao, Iloilo; Jose Feri, Amulong, Cagayan; Ruperto Villareal, Mambusao, Capiz; Clemente Guillermo, Burgos, Ilocos Norte;

Teodoro Cordeta, Cabucgayan, Leyte; Pedro Mercolita, Capoocan, Leyte; Igmidio Suminguit, Sapang Dalaga, Misamis Occidental; Isaac Cabelto, Claveria, Misamis, Oriental; Agustin Pacaño, Natividad, Pangasinan; Ernesto Garcia, Lasam, Cagayan; Ricardo Balao, Aparri, Cagayan; Rodrigo Catalan, Ma-ayon, Capiz; Honesto Uy, San Agustin, Romblon; Felix Jalipa, Kidapawan, Cotabato; and Eriberto Reyes, Banga, Aklan.

The President had lunch with Rep. Vicente L. Peralta of Sorsogon.

President Garcia, upon receiving a wire from Governor Jose Dinglasan early this morning, directed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to fly to Roxas City to survey the damage wrought by the fire and to extend immediate relief to the victims.

The President simultaneously directed the airlifting of relief supplies to the fire-stricken area to avert hunger and suffering among the indigent victims.

Upon his return from a short flying trip, Secretary Pajo reported to the President before the Cabinet that:

(1) The fire gutted some 200 homes, causing the loss of one life and rendering 2,500 persons homeless. The property loss in the commercial district was placed at P3 million.

(2) Relief for temporary shelter amounting to from P80 to P120 per family, depending upon its size, to be charged against the contingent fund, was extended; and

(3) The sum of P2,500 for the cost of a new fire hose, provided another P2,500 was put up by the city government, and P600 for the construction of three communal midden sheds for the indigents were pledged.

Immediately upon receiving the President's instructions, Secretary Pajo alerted all government relief agencies and directed them to start operating in the fire area.

Secretary Pajo together with Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, technical consultant to the committee, Mrs. Felicidad Gatus of the SWA, Dr. Artemio L. Jogo of the Bureau of Medical Services, and Miguel Alba and Ben Benedicto of the NAMARCO made a tour of the devastated area and assured the people that President Garcia was sending them relief.

Secretary Pajo later called a conference with the local, provincial, and national officials and relief workers to coordinate rehabilitation work.

During the conference, Secretary Pajo directed:

(1) The NAMARCO to ship 3,000 sheets of G.I. sheets chargeable against the President's contingent fund;

(2) The Army, the Bureau of Public Works, and the district and city engineers to coordinate activities in clearing up debris and helping set up temporary quarters;

(3) The SWA and the local Red Cross to coordinate relief activities to omit possible wastage and overlapping; and

(4) The SWA to take a complete census of the indigent fire victims, with the view to determining the amount of relief to be given to them.

During the conference, Gov. Dinglasan told Secretary Pajo that the fire spread out rapidly because there was a strong wind when it broke out before one o'clock in the morning. The fire engines were inadequate and water had to be fetched from the river bank.

Present at the luncheon-conference at Gov. Dinglasan's residence were Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Dr. Jugo, Mrs. Gatus, Miguel Alba and Ben Benedicto, Mayor Julian Alba, Gov. Dinglasan, Police Chief Leon Gamboa, the PC commander, Col. Eugenio Acab representing the PC, City Treasurer Miguel Reynaldo, City Engineer N. Altavas, District Supervisor Benjamin de Asis, District Engineer Aurelio Jover, and Deogracias A. Cerdeña, representing the PNRC.

PRESIDENT Garcia received faculty members and students of the U.S. National War College who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang this afternoon.

Accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, the group included Paul Taylor, Capt. A. E. Parker, Maj. T. T. Auberry, Col. W. Sonnkalt, and Dr. Russel Fifield, faculty members; and Sherman Hoar, Alexander Schnee, Denry Dearborn, Col. Marion Akers, Col. J. G. Sutherland, Irving Toberr, Col. J. Crowley, Col. W. A. Daniel, Col. Reesor Lawrence, Lt. Col. B. F. Fuller, Capt. C. G. Barr, Richard Erstiem, Capt. Edward Hessell, Col. Walter L. Moors, Col. K. Woodward, Capt. F. N. Shamer, Col. Julian Ewell, and Col. Benjamin G. Willis.

Officers who participated in "Operations Flying Brothers" also paid a courtesy call at Malacañang, accompanied by Col. Jacobo Zobel, AFP foreign relations liaison chief.

Those who saw the President were Air Marshal Kamol Thijatinya, Thailand; Brig. Gen. Chang Sun Wan and Brig. Gen. Park Won Suk, Korea; Col. Cheng Sung Ting, China; Lt. Penn Randa, Cambodia; Col. Kanshi Ishikawa, Japan; Flt. Lt. Victor Oborn, England; Flt. Lt. Anthony Neale, Australia; Capt. Ha Xuan Vinh, Vietnam; Cmdr. George Lillick, U.S.; Col. William B. Harris, U.S.; and Capt. Oscar M. Alejandro, Philippine Air Force.

President Garcia received members of the Toshiba Electric Manufacturing Co. women's basketball team that participated in the recently-concluded women's basketball tournament here in Manila. They were accompanied by Satoshi Kinase, press officer of the Japanese Embassy in Manila.

Members of the group included Michio Sakurai, delegation chief; Hiroshi Ikeda, coach; Kenzaburo Horai, manager; Kazuko Ikeda, assistant manager; Karuko Takenaka, team captain; Kazuko Okura, Kurako Tsuchiya, Kazuko Nishiwaki, Yasuko Hirose, Fusako Kobayashi, Fusako Kubota, Mitsuko Suzuki, Asako Takawayanagi, Mitsuyo Tanimori, and Ayako Shibasaki, players; Yuichi Hirose, judo instructor; and Yutuka Tsuji, correspondent of *Asahi Shimbun*.

After receiving the three groups, President Garcia proceeded to the Council of State room to preside over this week's Cabinet meeting which started about 5 p.m.

President Garcia and the Cabinet, in its weekly meeting tonight, endorsed to Congress the approval of an administration bill creating a Home (Cottage) Industries Commission.

As envisioned by the President, the creation of the Commission will provide employment to thousands of Filipinos and raise the standard of living among the masses.

In expressing interest in the enactment of the measure, the President pointed out that this venture could be a source of dollars not to mention the fact that it would further develop native skills in the arts and crafts.

The proposal will be carried on a national scale. President Garcia also underscored the possibility that the project would develop new and diversified uses for local raw materials.

Cabinet members were agreed that there is an abundance of local productive talents and skills, and an unlimited supply of raw materials for home industry and that increased productivity in the homes will promote a richer family economy.

The appropriation of P5 million for the first year of operation is earmarked for this purpose. It was agreed that additional appropriation would be asked when needed in subsequent years.

May 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia directed GSIS General Manager Rodolfo Andal to study the feasibility of a financing plan proposed by about 4,300 heads of families for the construction of a housing project in Paranaque.

A total of 129 hectares of land has been allocated by the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation to members of the National Press Club and the employees of airline companies, the Tariff Commission, and the Central Bank.

The parties concerned suggested that the GSIS and the SSS, of which they are all members, advanced the purchase price of the lot to the PHHC. Then they would borrow individually from the two government agencies to pay for the lot and the construction of homes with the guarantee of the Home Financing Commission.

Led by Jesus Poticar, Max Mejia, and Francisco S. Rivera, presidents of the housing associations of the airline companies, the Tariff Commission, and the Central Bank, and with the concurrence of Tesoro G. de Guzman, chairman of the NPC housing committee, the proponents of the financing plan expressed their gratitude to President Garcia for his prompt action in view of the fact that the option to purchase the land from the PHHC expires on May 18, 1959.

The project, according to the proponents, is in line with the recommendations of the President in his state-of-the-nation message to the Fourth Congress of the Republic, and will help liquidate the outstanding obligation of the PHHC to the GSIS.

The proponents of the plan alleged it will be a living symbol of the accomplishment of the Administration.

The President also received Cabanatuan City Mayor Elpidio O. Cucio, who reported that the LP-PPP coalition has caused PPP leaders in Nueva Ecija to bolt the minority party.

Led by Alfonso Espinosa, member of the PPP national committee, former PPP leaders have switched to the Nacionalista Party, according to Mayor Cucio, who informed President Garcia that 13 out of 19 die-hard LP barrio lieutenants have also affiliated themselves to the majority party.

Other callers included Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon, Don Manolo Elizalde, and Govs. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas, Delfin Montano of Cavite, Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, Leon Guinto, Sr., of Quezon, Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Oriental, and Serafin Teves of Negros Oriental.

The President took steps today to insure a sufficient supply of fertilizers to the nation's farmers in the forthcoming planting season as he directed the Central Bank to give priority in the allocation of dollars for the importation of ammonium sulfate under the rice and corn production program of the Administration.

The President warned that further delay or failure of the Central Bank to allocate the dollars needed would adversely affect the rice and corn production program.

The Chief Executive sent the communication to the Central Bank following representations made by the Acting Agriculture Secretary Amando Dalisay and on recommendation by the department secretaries during the regular weekly Cabinet meeting yesterday.

The President received this afternoon officers and members of the board of directors of the NARIC who briefed him on problems of the corporation and submitted recommendations for their solutions.

NARIC Chairman Juan O. Chioco headed the group which included Ramon Enriquez, Maximo Calalang, Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella, NARIC General Manager Leoncio Tan, Assistant General Manager Jose Drilon, Clemente Uson, Diosdado Solomon, Ruperto Joson, and Alfredo Carlos.

Earlier this afternoon, President Garcia became the owner of a three-seater Hiller helicopter after paying the nominal price of one peso.

The helicopter was a gift to the President from the Ysmael family. It was presented to him in a simple ceremony held in the grounds of Malacañang Park.

President Garcia said he will donate the craft to the Philippine Air Force to be used for mercy missions; such as, transporting relief supplies to disaster-stricken areas and airlifting critically ill or seriously wounded persons from remote or inaccessible areas.

Present at the turn-over ceremony held at the Malacañang Park this afternoon were Felipe Ysmael, Sr., Robert O. Philips, Capt. Vicente Rivera, Jr., of the CAA, Capt. Pete Lapeña of the PAF, and Benjamin Gepilano of the PAL, pilot of the helicopter.

Other presidential callers this afternoon were Ex-Sen. Olegario Clarin and Dr. Willard Wilson, provost and vice-president of the University of Hawaii.

In the evening the President honored Ambassador George Lisle Clutton of Great Britain with *adespedida* state dinner. The English diplomat is leaving Manila on Saturday to report to his home office for reassignment.

May 8.—THIS morning, the President tackled NP matters with leaders of the Administration party in a breakfast conference with them at his Bohol Avenue residence.

Present at the conference were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Majority Floor Leader Jose M. Aldeguer, and Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon.

Before he left Manila this noon for Baguio, the President attended to two major activities; namely, the immediate expansion of the Manila International Airport and Nacionalista Party matters.

The President received a group of managers of 12 airlines doing business in the Philippines. The group was accompanied by Modesto Farolan, tourism commissioner.

The airline managers urged the President to facilitate the immediate expansion of the international terminal of the MIA in Balagbag in order that modern airport facilities could be installed.

They said that this move is aimed at keeping the Philippines in step with the jet age from which the country could profit in terms of goodwill, tourism, and dollar income.

The Chief Executive pledged to give serious consideration to their proposal.

President Garcia arrived in Baguio at seven o'clock this evening following an uneventful trip by train from Manila to Damortis, La Union, and by car from Damortis to Baguio.

The Chief Executive went to Baguio to fulfill a speaking engagement tomorrow morning before superintendents of the Bureau of Public Schools now gathered for their yearly convention in the Pines City.

May 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia today batted for the Philippine public schools as he certified as urgent a House bill seeking to stabilize the financing of public schools.

The Chief Executive signed the message certifying the bill after addressing the golden jubilee convention of the Philippine Association of School Superintendents this morning in the Quezon-Roosevelt Memorial Hall in the Teachers' Camp.

After his speech, the President viewed the exhibits of tools used by vocational schools on display in the lobby of the Benitez Memorial Hall. He was accompanied by Mrs. Garcia, Education Secretary Manuel Lim, and Dr. Pedro Guiang, assistant director of public schools.

The President returned to the Guest House towards noon. After lunch, he gave a press conference to Manila newspapermen who went to Baguio with him.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Garcia was the guest of honor and principal patron at a scholarship tea given by the Baguio chapter of the Philippine Association of University Women to raise funds for the schooling of native student nurses at the Baguio General Hospital.

The First Lady lauded the efforts of members of the association to raise funds, particularly of Mrs. Leonora San Agustin, club president, because of the country's great need for more trained nurses.

* Missing word due to document damage.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(19), clxxxv-cxci.

Official Week in Review: May 10 – May 16, 1959

May 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today enjoyed a restful day, limiting his callers to Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr. (N-Quezon), with whom he discussed the problems facing the coconut industry.

Upon the suggestion of Guinto, the Chief Executive agreed to certify to the urgency of enacting immediately a bill establishing coconut banks throughout the coconut-producing regions of the country.

Guinto told the President he would revive in Congress a bill establishing such banks. The bill was introduced by Guinto last year.

The Chief Executive then conferred with Major Arturo Sevilla, presidential adviser on aviation, on the expansion and improvement of the Manila International Airport.

The President inquired from Sevilla on the status of a P10 million loan application with the Export-Import Bank. He recalled that he was assured of the approval of the loan during his state visit to the United States last year.

President Garcia called in Sevilla for the conference because of the representations made by international airlines doing business in Manila for the immediate expansion of the MIA.

The airline executives saw the President last Friday and told him that the Philippines should, by improving the MIA, be able to march along with the jet age and take advantage of the benefits coming as a consequence of jet travel.

Following his conferences with Guinto and Sevilla, the President started considering certifying to Congress as urgent a bill creating a bureau of vocational educational in the Department of Education.

The creation of such a new bureau was opposed by Education Secretary Manuel Lim.

May 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Manila early this afternoon following a five-hour trip from Baguio where he addressed the golden jubilee convention of the Philippine Association of School Superintendents.

Accompanied by Mrs. Garcia, the President left the Guest House in Baguio about 8 a.m. today after a light breakfast. They motored down to Damortis, La Union, where they boarded a special train for Manila. They were escorted up to the Pines City boundary by a large delegation of city officials headed by Mayor Bienvenido Yandoc. They were back at Malacañang about 1:30 p.m.

The President did not receive any caller this afternoon. After a brief rest, he spent most of his time at his study in Malacañang working on a pile of papers brought over to him by Malacañang assistants.

President Garcia declared the period from May 10 to 16, 1959, as national 4-H Club Week and called upon the people to turn their thoughts during the week to the great service that the organization is doing for the country, economically and socially.

In issuing the proclamation declaring observance of the week, the President paid tribute to the 4-H Club, an organization of young boys and girls from the rural areas “who pledge their heads to clearer thinking, their hearts to greater loyalty, their hands to larger service, and their health to better living for their club, community, and country.”

The President said the 4-H Club has been found to be one of the major forces in improving the standards of living in the rural areas. He added that through the organization more than 120,000 boys and girls in and out of school have been developed into more useful young citizens and future leaders, thereby minimizing juvenile delinquency.

May 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the board and management officials of the Manila Railroad to explore ways and means of maintaining present improvements in operating condition of the MRR after a conference with Major Teofilo A. Zosa, MRR director, in Malacañang.

The President also told the MRR officials to make a thorough study for the early release of funds appropriated under R. A. 1867 for the Cagayan Valley extension project and the quarterly allotments for the rehabilitation of the Cabanatuan line for use in these projects.

President Garcia's schedule of callers this morning was called off shortly after 12 o'clock noon.

The President complained of a slight headache. He told Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta to cancel the rest of his morning appointments.

Before retiring to his room, the President assured a delegation of members of the Philippine Library Association he will look into charges filed against Ernesto Rodriguez, Jr., officer in charge of the Bureau of Public Libraries, before withdrawing his nomination of the latter for directorship of said bureau.

Through their spokesman, Gabriel Bernardo of the UP Library and association president, the delegation informed the Chief Executive of the charges against Rodriguez which ranged from lack of special training in library science, and incompetence and maladministration, to persecution and harassment of subordinates during Rodriguez' incumbency as officer in charge of the bureau.

The delegation was accompanied to Malacañang by Sens. Alejo Mabanag and Quintin Paredes and was joined later by Reps. Aguedo Agbayani, Cipriano Primicias, Jr., and Luciano Millan.

Members of the delegation included Abraham C. de Guzman, Isabel S. Sunio, Carolina Escosa-Litiatco, Jose P. Apostol, Fidela de Leyos, Constanca de Jesus, Victor R. Tiangco, Josefina Ramirez, J. Martinez, A. Pantoja, P. L. Mendoza, B. J. Roberto, C. Rosales, and G. A. Aguirre.

Congressional callers were Reps. Jose M. Laurel IV, Ponciano Almeda, and Rogaciano Mercado, and Social Security Commissioner Ramon G. Gaviola, Jr.

In the afternoon, the President motored to España Extension in Quezon City where he was the guest of honor at the inauguration of a new plastic manufacturing plant of the Ysmael Steel Corporation.

In the evening, the President honored Ambassador Cao Thai Bao of South Vietnam with a dinner held at Malacañang in appreciation of the ambassador's contribution in making President Garcia's recent state visit to the Vietnamese Republic a success.

May 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed in his private residence in Quezon City, where he spent his time going over a thick pile of pending bills endorsed to him for certification.

This is the rush hour in Congress and, unless the President certifies a measure, it could not be acted upon.

Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarte had stood at the door of the President's bedroom almost throughout the day, waiting for papers that President Garcia had gone over.

In the afternoon, the President received Defense Secretary Jesus Vargas and discussed with the latter the upsurge of criminality in Luzon.

The President observed that police stories have been dominating the columns of the daily newspapers indicating a deterioration in the peace and order condition.

He told Vargas to conduct a survey of the peace and order condition in Luzon and to attend to the provincial commanders' meeting today in Tuguegarao, Cagayan.

Vargas was asked to study the possible reshuffle of provincial commanders and the removal of misfits from provincial stations. The President also told the defense secretary that most provincial commanders are frequenting nightspots in Manila and Pasay City.

Vargas assured the President he will shortly confer with Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo on the relief of PC commanders who have not been able to preserve peace and order in their respective provinces.

Secretary Vargas said he would ask Gen. Campo to keep track of the movements of his PC commanders who had been reported to have been "slipping" to Manila frequently without the knowledge of the main headquarters in Manila.

The President likewise conferred with Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, who assured the Chief Executive that the long-drawn strike at the pier would be finally settled on Friday.

President Garcia cancelled the scheduled Cabinet meeting this afternoon. He was reported busy going over the pending bills needing presidential certification.

May 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia today gave Congress the green light to the immediate consideration of two bills designed to help him eliminate graft and corruption.

In a special message to the Senate and the House of Representatives, President Garcia pointed out that Congress could enact a good and effective bill after taking into account the good provisions of House Bill 3265 and Senate Bill 293.

The President was of the opinion that the objectionable portions found in the Senate and the House bills should be eliminated in order to assure its smooth passage in the Congress.

Particular praise was made by the President to a provision in the Senate bill providing for the submission of a statement of assets and liabilities by government officials. However, this particular provision was already being complied with by officials working in Malacañang.

The President discussed in detail the merits of both bills with Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta. He set aside other state matters during the afternoon to study the requests for certifications of urgency presented by Secretary Logarta.

President Garcia's observations made on the anti-graft bill in Baguio City last week was misinterpreted as opposition to the entire bill. On the contrary, the President at that time expressed his support of the bill in principle.

The President merely pointed out an apparent void in the proposed bill which failed to provide for sufficient safeguards against political presecution and harassment of government employees by unscrupulous politicians,

President Garcia was informed by Speaker Romualdez that the House version of the anti-graft bill was approved a week in advance of the Senate bill.

Other bills certified to as urgent by President Garcia are as follows:

1. HB 2416—An Act authorizing the President of the Philippines to sell a certain parcel of land of the public domain of the national government to the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation;

2. SB 441—An act to amend certain sections of Commonwealth Act Numbered 446, otherwise known as the National Internal Revenue Code, as amended (Re exemption from the payment of fixed and percentage taxes by retailers in public markets);

3. HB 3633—An act authorizing the reclamation of submerged lands off the shoreline of Manila Bay for the extension of the Dewey Boulevard to the City of Cavite and of Bonifacio Drive to the municipality of Navotas, province of Rizal, as well as the simultaneous construction of the related health, recreation, and economic facilities and the reservation of areas for other public uses;

4. HB 2185—An act appropriating annually the sum of P205,600 as aid to the Philippine Normal College for the equipment, operation, and maintenance of its community-school health education center; and

5. 2418—An act to authorize the printing and issue of semi-postal stamps and a souvenir sheet to commemorate and help raise funds for the Tenth Boy Scouts World Jamboree.

This evening the President commended the presidential fact-finding committee headed by Lt. Commander Marcelino Calinawan in helping the administration in its campaign against graft and corruption.

At a conference with Calinawan and his group on the occasion of its first year of work, President Garcia stated that he is proud of the achievements of his administration which in one year alone has surpassed the record of eight years of the Liberal regime with regard to the campaign against graft and corruption.

Showing his determination to face the people with that proud record, President Garcia also stated his administration has suspended or removed from office one undersecretary, two bureau directors, one assistant bureau director, and suspended 72 minor officials, as well as filed in court or had pending preliminary investigation before the fiscal's office 25 criminal cases against government officials and employees.

The President said that he has reasons to believe that in the second year of his administration, the campaign against graft and corruption, will be no less a success than the first year.

In expressing his appreciation to the PFFC members for helping rid the government of corrupt elements, the President singled out Calinawan for his zeal in the performance of the task assigned to him.

The President said that the government has increased its revenues while the committee had uncovered dollar smuggling, economic saboteurs, and rackets in the government.

Present at the conference which was held at Malacañang were Col. Vicente Novales, Edgardo Villavicencio, Fiscal Leonardo Lucena, Narciso Angeles, Capt. Clemente Antonio, Maj. Enrique Galang, Alfonso Faliare, Felipe Rey Hipolito, and Amando Padilla.

May 15.—THIS morning, the President received in his private residence on Bohol Avenue Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, who conferred with the Chief Executive on the proposal to resume the international flights of the Philippine Air Lines.

Romualdez consulted the President on the position of Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, who wanted the international flights to be manned by Filipino pilots after 18 months of operation.

The President also received Chairman Rodolfo Maslog of the Reparations Commission, who briefed the President on the government plan to purchase 12 ocean-going vessels from Japan.

Sen. Pedro Sabido also saw the President and asked the latter to certify the bill seeking to encourage the investment of foreign capital in the country.

At noon, the President had lunch with members of the House ways and means committee headed by Rep. Jose J. Roy.

Committee members assured the President of the passage of the bill seeking to impose 25 per cent premium on the sale of foreign exchange.

In the afternoon, the President signed a proclamation declaring the period from June 1 to June 15 for the 11th annual fund campaign of the Community Chest.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the residence of Rep. and Mrs. Joaquin Roces who observed their wedding anniversary in Quezon City.

President Garcia indicated today he may call Congress to a special session to take up unacted measures needed to shore up the country's shaky economy.

At his regular press conference, the President told newsmen a special session was a "possibility." The current regular session will wind up on Thursday.

At the same time, the President reiterated his decision to call Congress to another special session primarily to discuss proposed amendments to the constitution, especially the plan to synchronize the elections every four years.

"If Congress is ready to take up these amendments," the President said, "I am ready to call a special session."

He said the special session may be convened early next month. He pointed out he did not want to call Congress immediately to a special session." "I want to give the senators and congressmen a breathing spell," he added.

During the press conference, the President:

1. Branded as speculative the reports that he would not maintain a "status quo" in the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration;
2. Stressed that the approval by the American Senate of the Philippine gold devaluation claim of \$23 million "has strengthened the belief of the Filipinos in the sense of justice and fairness of their brother across the Pacific;"
3. Disclosed an assurance made by Congress leaders of the passage of the proposed 25 per cent premium to be levied in the sale of foreign exchange; and
4. Said he had sent Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and Solicitor General Edilberto Barot to the United States to press for the release of the \$125 million credit line promised him by U.S. President Eisenhower last June.

President Garcia refused to make a premature assessment of legislative work with six more days remaining before the end of the regular session.

Pressed by newsmen to comment on the congressional output this year, the President said, "I would prefer to make the assessment after the close of the regular session."

Before answering questions from newsmen, the President asked Press Secretary Jose C. Nable to read a prepared statement which President Garcia wrote in connection with the U.S. Senate approval of the PI gold devaluation claim for \$23 million.

He said he was thanking the members of the US Congress for their favorable action in approving finally the PI devaluation claim.

“I expressed my confidence in the American Congress to do justice to a legitimate claim. Their action now, “he said, “has confirmed that expression of confidence and trust which I publicly stated during the early stages of the claim’s discussion on the floor of Congress.”

The President also averred that “this gesture of the American people, through their elected-representatives in Congress, has strengthened the belief of the Filipinos in the sense of justice and fairness of their brothers across the Pacific.”

May 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today sounded an appeal for unity in the Administration’s efforts towards the economic development of the country.

The Chief Executive was the principal speaker at the closing day of the Rizal Vice-Mayors and Councilors League luncheon held at the Villa Lolita, in Taytay, Rizal.

Speaking in the national language, the President lauded local officials for forming an association with members coming from both parties which, he said, was “necessary to enable the officials to work effectively for the welfare of the people.”

The President revealed that 14 months from now 15 ships of approximately 10,000 tons each will be acquired by the Philippine Government through Reparations and another 12 ships of similar tonnage, through the NDC, thus increasing the present 47,000 tons of Philippine bottoms by 270,000 tons.

The President continued by citing the achievements of the Administration. He informed the people of Rizal that construction of the Marikina multi-purpose project will soon be in full swing. He said the project will provide for more industrial power for future industries, help farmers increase their production of rice and other products, and may solve the permanent water-shortage problem in Manila and suburbs.

The President earlier heard *Misa Rezada*, a special mass dedicated to the President and the First Lady celebrated by Mons. Vicente Fernandez, parish priest of Antipolo, Rizal. He was fetched from his Quezon City residence by Rep. and Mrs. Francisco Sumulong.

At the entrance to the Antipolo church, the presidential party was met by town officials headed by Mayor Isaias Tapales and Taytay Mayor Manuel Santos.

After the mass the President and his party motored to the Juan Sumulong Elementary School in Antipolo, where a delegation of parents and teachers headed by Lamberto San Esteban, principal, and Dr. Antonio M. Santos, president of the PTA, presented to the Chief Executive a petition to grant the municipality P50,000 from his contingent fund to replace the school building totally destroyed by a freak tornado. The President promised to give P25,000.

From Antipolo, the President motored direct to Taytay, the site of the convention, where the presidential party was met with brass bands at the entrance to the Villa Lolita. The President and his party were welcomed to the Villa by Mr. and Mrs. Antonio C. Esguerra, owner of the Villa and host of the conventionist.

The President certified to Congress today the urgency of House Bill 3570, providing for the expropriation of the Tatalon Estate in Quezon City and its resale and distribution to present tenants.

In his message to both Houses of Congress, President Garcia said that the approval of the bill will benefit about 1,500 heads of families residing in Tatalon Estate and is in line with the policy of his administration to give land to the landless.

President Garcia took this step in order to restore peace in the estate. Tenants of the Tatalon Estate who requested the certification alleged that a state of tension continues to prevail in the area, brought about by the efforts of the estate owners to eject the tenants and the repeated refusal of the tenants to budge from the lots they are occupying.

President Garcia this evening directed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo as head of the recently created relief committee to assess the extent of damage wrought by the recent conflagration which razed three blocks of Lipa City's commercial center and to administer immediate aid to the victims.

On receiving reports of the fire which had rendered some 500 persons homeless, the President promptly mobilized the Constabulary health units and government relief agencies, directing them to coordinate their efforts towards extending the fire sufferers immediate assistance.

The President from his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City ordered SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor to render a report on the amount of foodstuffs, medicines, building materials, and other relief goods already given to the sufferers and to inform him what further aid are needed by the victims.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(20), cxcv-cc.

President's Week in Review: May 17-23, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

May 17.—THE PRESIDENT today spent a quiet Sunday at his Bohol Avenue residence. He received very few callers. He had instructed his aides to cut down to a minimum his schedule of appointments in his desire to concentrate on legislative matters during the last few remaining days of the regular session.

The President started the day by hearing mass at his Quezon City residence. With him at the mass were Mrs. Garcia, Major Jose Estrella, junior aide, and household helps.

After a light breakfast, the President received a few callers. Brig. Gen Isagani V. Campo, chief of the Constabulary, called to report on the progress of the peace and order campaign currently being waged in Northern Luzon province.

Retired Lieut. Gen. Alfonso Arellano also called to pay his respects.

About 11 a.m., the President repaired to his private study where he resumed work on a pile of bills recommended for certification by senators and congressmen.

The president spent most of the day at his private study with his pile of bills.

President Garcia certified today to Congress the urgency of enacting bills that will improve the economy of the country and introduce reforms in local government administration.

Some of the important bills certified are House Bill No. 544, which will promote the development of the coconut industry through the establishment of coconut cooperatives and coconut rural banks, and Senate Bill No. 445 which deals with the creation of a commission of eight members known as the Local Government Reform Commission that will study the local government system, laws, and practice and recommend reforms.

Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta estimated that President Garcia is still studying from 150 to 200 bills recommended for certification by senators and representatives.

May 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia this day cancelled all his morning appointments in order to devote his time to the certification of bills to Congress and the submission of nominations for the confirmation of the Commission of Appointments.

At a conference with Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, the President signed the following nominations:

Fiscal Delfin Suarez, first assistant provincial fiscal of Iloilo; Fiscal Dionisio Claridad, first assistant city attorney of Baguio; Fiscal Antonio Cortez, second assistant city attorney of Baguio; Basilio Toquero, assistant provincial fiscal of Nueva Vizcaya; Domiciano Cruzada, first assistant city attorney of Davao; Miguel Hermano, justice of the peace, Dueñas, Iloilo; Pastor Ablay, justice of the peace, Quinapundan, Samar; Gregorio Aldovino, justice of the peace, Imparugong, Bukidnon; Raymundo Vinluan, justice of the peace, Binmaley, Pangasinan; Eloy Bello, Jr., justice of the peace, Santa, Ilocos Sur; and Celestino Guerrero, justice of the peace, Galimuyod, Ilocos Sur.

At a conference with Malacañang Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, President Garcia certified eight more bills to Congress, including an act converting the National Power Corporation into a stock corporation, amending for the purpose Commonwealth Act 120.

The President also certified to the necessity of the immediate adoption of Senate Joint Resolution No. 2 and House Joint Resolution No. 3 entitled

“Joint Resolution creating a temporary commission to work with and assist the commission to be established by the Government of the United States to study the veterans’ program of the United States in the Philippines.”

In the evening President Garcia revamped his Cabinet by naming Reparations Commissioner Alejo Santos, Sen. Alejo Mabanag, and former Ambassador Jose E. Romero to head the Defense, Justice, and Education Departments, respectively.

Before giving the defense portfolio to Santos, the President accepted “with regrets” the “verbal resignation” of Secretary of National Defense Jesus Vargas.

At the same time, the President named Secretary of Justice Jesus G. Barrera as associate justice of the Supreme Court. Barrera will replace Justice Alfonso Felix, who retired after reaching the age of 70 years last year.

President Garcia also named former Governor Fructuoso Cabahug as undersecretary of foreign affairs. Cabahug will replace Undersecretary Juan Alcazaren who died last March.

The President also accepted the resignation of Education Secretary Manuel Lim, who had pressed for his retirement from public service shortly after the 1957 elections. He had wanted to return to his position as executive vice-president of a Soriano firm. The President, however, had deferred action on Lim’s resignation until the close of the school year.

The new appointments were rushed to Congress this evening for confirmation by the Commission on Appointments. The body ‘is scheduled to meet Wednesday and on the last day of the current session.

The assumption of office of the new appointees will be made after their confirmation by Congress.

The new defense chief was formerly a member of the House of Representatives and former governor of Bulacan province. He was also a guerrilla leader during the last war.

The new education secretary was a former Philippine ambassador to London. A veteran legislator, he was once majority floor leader in the House of Representatives.

Romero is leaving a lucrative position with the Philippine Sugar Association to accept a berth in the President’s Cabinet.

Romero was also one time Senate president pro-tempore and later a member of the now-defunct Surplus Property Commission.

The new secretary of justice is a member of the Senate. He was formerly city fiscal of Manila, and had long years of private practice as a lawyer before he went into politics.

Malacañang was terse in its announcement of the appointment of Cabahug to the position as undersecretary of foreign affairs.

Cabahug was a former governor of Cebu. Alcazaren was also from Cebu.

President Garcia decided to revamp his Cabinet in order to strengthen his advisory body.

Before making the announcements, the President was reported to have, consulted the Council of Leaders on the new members of his Cabinet.

Santos is from Bulacan, Mabanag from La Union, Barrera from Tarlac and Romero from Negros Occidental.

May 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed in Malacañang the whole day today and, although he did not want to receive any callers visitors, especially from Congress, succeeded in getting into his bedroom.

He received Sen. Pedro Sabido and Rep. Manuel Zosa and other solons who were following up their pet bills in Malacañang in order that they could be taken up in Congress before the end of the current session.

It was learned that the President also called up Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., concurrently president of the Nacionalista Party, on the Senate developments. In the afternoon, the President went over the pending bills which needed his certification before they could be taken up by Congress. He signed a number of bills late yesterday afternoon.

This afternoon the President signed four treaties which he sent to the Senate for ratification at a conference with Malacañang Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta.

The treaties were the Treaty of Friendship between the Philippines and South Vietnam, the Cultural Agreement between the Philippines and Indonesia, the International Wheat Agreement, and the Convention on the Organization and Juridical Personality of the International Hydro-graphic Bureau.

At a conference with Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, the President signed the nominations of Felipe Mabilangan as consul general and of Geronimo Capahi as city assessor of Ormoc. The nominations were sent to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation.

Nine more bills were certified by the President to Congress, among them being HB No. 3604, an act to amend section 3 of Republic Act No. 1789 otherwise known as the Reparations Act, and HB No. 162, an act to create a new Board on Textbooks and to repeal Act No. 2957.

May 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia, at a breakfast conference held this morning at his Bohol Avenue residence, discussed with congressional leaders the different administration bills still pending in Congress with the view to expediting their passage during the last two remaining days of session.

The conference which lasted for two and half hours took up the controversial 40 per cent marginal bill, a price control measure to be certified by the President, and other tax bills still pending in Congress.

During the conference Rep. Roy informed the Chief Executive that out of the six tax measures reported out by his committee, those increasing the registration fees on motor vehicles, the berthing fees of vessels, and the tax on non-aromatic cigarettes (chemically treated), had been approved by both Houses of Congress and are now with the conference committee, while the revenue measure increasing by, two per cent the; gasoline tax is still pending in the Senate.

Roy estimated that the revenue measures will bring in from ₱100 to ₱150 million additional income for the government. Those who attended the breakfast conference were Speaker Daniel Romualdez; Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias; Sens. Pedro Sabido and Gil Puyat; Reps. Jose Roy of Tarlac, Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, Justiniano Montano of Cavite, Jose Leido of Mindoro Oriental, and Francisco Sumulong of Rizal; and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno.

After the conference, the President received PHILCOA Chairman Feliciano V. de Gala, Secretary-Treasurer Jose S. Felix, Assistant Manager Pacencio Ysalina, and Deputy Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, De Gala and Felix are leaving for Europe to attend the Congress of International Association of Seed Crushers.

Chairman De Gala informed the President that the conference will discuss the trading rules of copra and coconut oil. The Chief Executive instructed De Gala to try his best to obtain the most advantageous terms for the Philippine coconut and copra producers, considering that the Philippines is the world's biggest supplier of copra and oil.

Later at noon, the President received Sen. Roseller T. Lirn, who sought the appointment of Retired General Ramon Enriquez to the reparations commission, vice Alejo Santos who had been appointed defense secretary. Sen. Lim also asked for the elevation of Justice Undersecretary Enrique A. Fernandez to the Court of Appeals.

The Chief Executive did not receive any other caller the whole day. In the afternoon, he closeted himself in his study at his Bohol Avenue residence, where he resumed study on bills recommended for certification by senators and congressmen.

The President cancelled the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet scheduled for this afternoon in his desire to devote his full time to legislative matters.

President Garcia today created a committee composed of Cabinet members to study the labor dispute in the Government Service Insurance System.

In a directive sent this morning to the Board of Trustees and General Manager Rodolfo Andal of the state firm, President Garcia expressed his desire to have the back-to-work ultimatum sent by the GSIS management to the strikers suspended pending the work of the Cabinet committee.

The committee counts with the following members: Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera, chairman; and Labor Secretary Angel Castaño and Administrator Pablo M. Cruz of the Office of Economic Coordination, members.

At a conference in the Quezon City residence of the President, Secretary Castaño reported the apparent reluctance of the GSIS strikers to submit to the mediation efforts of the Department of Labor.

The strikers had been given by the GSIS Board of Trustees until noon tomorrow within which to return to work or face dismissal for dereliction of duty reportedly as a measure to protect the interests of more than 300, 000 members of the system.

The directive of the President to the GSIS trustees is as follows: "I have decided to appoint a committee of Cabinet men to study the question of the labor dispute in the Government Service Insurance System. Pending the work of the committee, I request suspension of further action on the decision of the Board of Trustees as published in the papers on May 19, 1959."

The President today authorized Modesto Farolan, commissioner of the Philippine Tourist and Travel Agency, to attend the executive committee meeting of the International Union Travel Organization (IUOTO) in Moscow, Russia, from May 24 to 28 this year.

Farolan's trip to Moscow was authorized by the President, through Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, upon recommendation of Commerce Secretary Pedro C. Hernaez.

Farolan was until last November vice-president of the IUOTO and his presence at the executive committee meeting in Moscow was deemed necessary because the meeting will finalize plans for the World Tourist Conference to be held in Manila from November 18 to 26 this year.

The IUOTO is composed of 67 member nations and acts as consultative organ of the United Nations.

May 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning had a breakfast conference with representative elements of export industries who explained their opposition to the, 40 per cent marginal tax on sales of foreign exchange.

The producers of Philippine export products pointed out to the President the adverse effects of the tax to the export industries in particular and to the national economy in general.

Present at the conference were Carlos Fernandez of Nasipit Lumber Co.; Jesus Cabarrus, president of the Base Metal Producers Association of the Philippines; Sebastian Ugarte, Soriano & Co.; Gaudencio Antonino, president of the Producers and Exporters Association of the Philippines; Jose G. San-victores, Aras-Asan Lumber Co.; Antonio delas Alas, president of the Philippine Lumber Producers Association; Ricardo Ledesma, Acoje Mining Co.; and Conrado Benitez, General Base Metals, Inc.

Officials of the Reparations Commission led by Chairman Rodolfo Maslog presented to President Garcia a report on the accomplishments of their office. Other officials were Alejo Santos, recently appointed secretary of national defense, and Gregorio Abad, executive director and secretary of the commission.

The President directed today Reparations Commissioner Alejo Santos to proceed to Tokyo and help push through the approval of the reparations schedule for the third year and to participate in preliminary talks for the drafting of a fourth-year reparations schedule which is due in July.

Commissioner Santos expects to be in Japan for 10 days. He will take his oath as defense secretary on his return to Manila after completing his work.

President Garcia today received outgoing Secretary of National Defense Jesus Vargas, who sought an audience with the Chief Executive before formally stepping out of the government.

Calming down after his bitterness over his sudden relief from the Cabinet, Vargas sought audience with the President to thank President Garcia for the opportunity he had given him to help the Administration.

Vargas, at the same time, pressed his resignation as chairman of the board of directors of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority. President Garcia said it is up to the Nawasa board to act on the chairman's resignation.

Accompanying Vargas was Undersecretary of Defense Mariano Yenke, who is actually acting defense boss until incoming Secretary Alejo Santos takes his oath.

Santos is scheduled to leave shortly for Japan to clear his desk, as reparations commissioner before taking over as head of the defense portfolio.

Santos likewise saw the President yesterday. He called on the Chief Executive, together with Chairman Rodolfo Maslog of the Reparations Commission and Gregorio Abad, whom he had recommended to take his place in the body. Maslog reported on the accomplishment of the commission.

Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and Solicitor General Edilberto Barot, who arrived the other night from a mission to the United States, reported to the President on their work.

Both Aytona and Barot told the President they had accomplished their mission, and the President thanked them for their efforts in pushing through the U.S. pledge for a \$125 million credit line to the Philippines.

In the afternoon, the President did not receive any caller, as he wanted to be free to receive information from time to time on the late administration bills before Congress.

Today is the last day of the regular session, and the President stayed in his bedroom in Malacañang.

However, Rodolfo P. Andal, general manager of the strikebound Government Service Insurance System, called on him to seek reconsideration of the decision of a four-man Cabinet committee upholding the right of GSIS workers to strike.

Members of this committee are Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, outgoing Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, and Acting Administrator Pablo Cruz of the Office of Economic Coordination.

President Garcia referred Andal to Secretary Pajo. The Executive Secretary assured Andal he would reconvene his committee to hear the management's side of the labor dispute in the GSIS.

President and Mrs. Garcia stayed up late this evening to wait for a congressional committee which will notify the President of the formal adjournment of the regular session.

After the report of the committee, the President and the First Lady Were scheduled to motor to the Sky Room of the Jai Alai, where they will join a traditional congressional dinner in honor of the Chief Executive immediately after the adjournment of the 100-day session.

May 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia early this morning decided to convene Congress to a special session on June 1 to legislate on the administration bill calling for a marginal tax on foreign exchange.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the special session will not last more than 30 days, the maximum period provided for in the Constitution.

The presidential decision to call Congress to a special session was reached by the President shortly after Congress adjourned from its 100-day regular session.

The President announced his decision after consultations with Senate and House leaders.

A top-level conference between President Garcia and Congress leaders is scheduled any day before the start of the special session, Secretary Nable said.

The starting date of the special session on June 1 will give members of Congress one week's rest from the grueling pace it kept during the closing days of the regular session.

May 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today formally launched the rural radio educational program of the administration at a colorful ceremony in barrio Mapulang Lupa, Pandi, Bulacan, when he officially received from American Ambassador Charles Bohlen the 1,000 transistor radios donated by the American people to the Filipino people through the Cooperative American Remittances Everywhere.

The Chief Executive explained that the program aims at the dissemination of accurate information to the Filipino people, especially the rural folks.

The radios, he said, will help immensely in the efforts of the government to stop subversive elements from misleading the rural people and thus maintain the democratic way of life which American instilled in the Filipino people.

The barrio of Mapulang Lupa in Pandi was selected by a special committee created by President Garcia as a model rural community for its advancement and progress through self-help. The barrio was formerly a hotbed of subversive activities where the Huks used to terrorize the residents.

In his thank-you speech delivered in Tagalog, President Garcia pointed out the role that radio plays in keeping the people enlightened, and added that an enlightened citizenry is the best 'insurance in the fight against communism.

A token model was presented to President Garcia in New York last year by Richard Reuter, head of CARE, during his state visit to the United States

High Philippine and American officials motored to Pandi this morning to attend the turn-over ceremonies. Among those present were Dr. Allan Kline, CARE director in the Philippines, Secretaries Alejo Santos, Elpidio Valencia, Alejo Mabanag, Florencio Moreno, and Jose Nable, acting Defense Secretary Mariano Yenke, Rep. Rogaciono

Mercado, and Bulacan Governor Tomas Martin. Generals Manuel Cabal, Isagani Campo, Dionisio Ojeda, Pelagio Cruz, and Alfredo Santos were also present.

President Garcia and his party were royally welcomed at the town proper by Pandi residents. It took him 45 minutes to negotiate the distance from the town to Mapulang Lupa, because the crowd that welcomed him was very large and dense.

After the ceremony, lunch was served on the grounds of the barrio school. The President and his party returned to Malacañang after lunch.

In the evening, the President was guest speaker at a dinner given by the first Asian conference of mechanical and electrical engineers at the Manila Hotel on the closing day of its sessions.

President Garcia signed today two bills creating the new provinces of Leyte del Sur and Lanao del Sur.

The first bill creating the new province of Leyte del Sur with Maasin as its capital, was signed into law by President Garcia in the presence of Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez at the Malacañang reception hall.

The new province which will formally be established on July 1, 1960, will include the municipalities of the third representative district of Leyte; namely, Maasin, Macrohon, Padre Burgos, Malitbog, Bontoc, Sogod, Libagon, Liloan, Pintuyan, S.an Francisco, Saint Bernard, Cabalian, Anahawan, Hinundayan, Hinunangan, and Silago.

The other act which takes effect on July 4, 1960, divides the province of Lanao into two, with Iligan City as the capital of Lanao del Norte and Marawi City as the capital of Lanao del Sur.

The Lanao act was signed in the presence of Sen. Domocao Alonto, Rep. Laurentino Badilles, and Lanao Gov. Salvador Lluch.

The President conferred with General Manager Bernardo Torres and Board Director Manuel Leelin and agreed to the sale of PHHC properties which are not needed by the state firm He also reappointed Enrique J. L. Ruiz as director of the PHHC.

K. Ishiyama, chief Manila liaison representative of Mitsubishi Shoji Kaisha, Ltd., and Jose Mayuga called on President Garcia to inform him that 55 multi-purpose tillers donated by the Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Reorganized, Ltd., are due to arrive in Manila on board the *M.S. Samar* on May 27.

The tillers, which are self-powered mechanical farm implements, will be formally turned over to President Garcia immediately upon arrival.

The gift was symbolically presented to President Garcia during his state visit to Japan last year as a gesture of friendship from the Mitsubishi enterprises to the Filipino people.

The tillers, worth about \$25,000, are especially designed for field conditions in the Philippines and are equipped with complete interchangeable accessories for plowing, harrowing, tilling, cultivating, and weeding.

President Garcia had as luncheon guests the members of the Senate and the Congressional Press Clubs.

In the afternoon the President enjoined members of the Philippine Association of Broadcasters to help mold a healthier public opinion by leading it along avenues of positive, constructive thinking rather than overemphasizing faults or imperfections.

The Chief Executive said that good, progressive thinking should prevail in all radio programs.

The members of the association led by Henry Canoy, president, called at Malacañang to invite the President to be their guest speaker during their third annual convention. The group was accompanied by Assistant Secretary for Radio and TV Angelo Castro.

Other callers in the afternoon were Gov. Jose Briones of Cebu and Rep. Benjamin Ligot and Gov. Marcelo Adduru of Cagayan.

In the evening, the President motored to the Quezon City residence of Rep. Justiniano S. Montano, where he and the First Lady were special guests at an affair given in honor of senators and representatives.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: May 22-28, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

May 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning called on the officers and men of the Philippine Constabulary to uphold the glorious tradition which the men in “Khaki and Red” have established during the past half-century.

The President was main speaker at the inauguration of the new PC headquarters in Camp Crame, Quezon City, which replaced the old building that was burned down over a year ago.

The ceremonial ribbon was cut by Mrs. Garcia, assisted by PC officers' ladies, after which a mass was celebrated and blessings bestowed by Rufino Cardinal Santos.

In his short impromptu speech the President recalled that of all the services of the Philippine armed forces, the Philippine Constabulary is the most battle-tested, and it holds the longest glorious record since its inception during the early days of American occupation.

The President recalled that the Constabulary as the biggest national police agency has not only successfully maintained peace in the country but also contributed its share of life and blood in the defense of the country against foreign aggression.

Thus, the President said, the organization has a dual role—to maintain peace and order and to ward off aggression to defend the country and to preserve democracy.

The President expressed confidence that present and future officers and men of the Constabulary will keep its tradition untarnished by devoting their utmost to the successful prosecution of this role.

The President and the First Lady, who were fetched from their Bohol Avenue residence by Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, chief of the PC, arrived at Camp Crame for the ceremony at 8:20 a.m.

They were greeted by Cardinal Santos, who later said the mass and bestowed the blessings, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenko, Jr., JUSMAG Chief Maj. Gen. Derril Daniel, Brig. Gen. Ricardo Papa, Mrs. Manuel Cabal, Justice Sotero Cabahug, former PC chief Brig. Gen. Guillermo Francisco and Brig. Gen. Alberto Ramos (both retired), and many others.

After the mass and blessings of the building, the guests, headed by the President and the First Lady were entertained at the breakfast.

The President and Mrs. Garcia left Camp Crame at 10:15 and returned to their Bohol Avenue residence, where the President took a short rest and then start working on the speech which he will deliver tomorrow evening at the Winter Garden, Manila Hotel.

The President will be the guest of honor and main speaker at the closing ceremony of the 1960 annual convention of the League of Provincial and City Health Officers at dinner tomorrow evening.

May 23.—THIS morning the President followed a heavy schedule of callers lasting up to 2 p.m.

Arriving at Malacañang at past 10 a.m. from his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, where he usually spends his weekends, the President received a big delegation of clothing manufacturers.

Then the President received Ivan Knops and M. C. Fitzgerald, technical director and Far East director, respectively, of the De La Rue Security Printing Co. of London. The President and De La Rue officials discussed business for half an hour. The De La Rue Co. is handling the printing of Central Bank notes for the Philippine Government.

Later, the President received the annual report of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, and rallied the BSP behind the government drive against graft and corruption.

After receiving the local scouters, the President received Postmaster General Enrico Palomar, who reported to the President on the First Philatelic Congress in Barcelona, held March and April, 1960, at which he represented the Philippines.

The President also received officials of the Church World Services, which had been engaged in relief work in the Philippines since just after liberation and during the big earthquake in Lake Lanao a few years back.

Other callers were Sen. Alejandro Almendras and some Davao mayors and Agusan Gov. D. O. Plaza, who requested the reallocation of the Manobo reservation to the Agusan provincial government as a jail site.

President Garcia expressed gratitude to the officials of the Church World Services on their decision to resume charity and relief operations after a lapse of three years in the Philippines.

The CWS officials told the President that their organization is deeply concerned with the social welfare of peoples all over the world and has decided to resume operations as a direct expression of its concern for the Filipino people.

According to the officials, the organization will distribute approximately 900,000 pounds of powdered milk, corn meal, flour, clothing, medical supplies, and other items during the fiscal year 1960-1961.

The organization will try to reach approximately 20,000 indigents through schools and colleges, hospitals and clinics, social centers and children's homes.

In addition, the CWS also plans to put up agricultural improvement and research projects, a youth center in Tondo, a children's home in Mindanao, and self-help projects in Cebu.

When the officials informed the President that the CWS has not yet been recognized by the Department of Foreign Affairs as a charitable organization and that it has been encountering official red tape, the President directed Acting Foreign Secretary Fructuoso Cabahug to facilitate recognition so that the operations of the organization can proceed smoothly.

Those who call on the President were Bishop Isabelo de los Reyes, of the Philippine Independent Church, CWS chairman; Paul Nelson, CWS director; and Dr. Gumercindo Garcia and Dr. Jose Yap, president and executive secretary, respectively, of the Federation of Christian Churches.

The President directed Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona today to re-examine the decontrol policy on remnant goods with the view to helping Filipino clothing manufacturers who claimed they were being forced out of business.

The President showed deep concern for the plight of some 100,000 small Filipino clothiers and craftsmen depending on the remnants imports who reported that they are unable to procure the raw materials because of the Central Bank ruling classifying remnants under the free market rate of ₱4 to \$1.

The two-hundred man delegation representing five clothing manufacturers, associations under the leadership of Roberto S. Rivera told the President that the present set-up will lead to mass lay-off, loss of income to barrio people, and the return of the industry to alien control.

They also claimed that there will be a rise in prices of clothings and all other commodities, a drop in the purchasing power of the peso, and a general agitation for higher wages and unemployment.

President Garcia rallied the Boy Scouts of the Philippines behind the government in the fight against graft and corruption.

The President also appealed to the local boy scouts organization to help the government in its campaign to stop wanton waste of forest and marine resources as well as the preservation of the national patrimony.

The President made this appeal during the presentation to him, as honorary president of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, of the annual report the organization's national and regional operations during 1959.

Speaking before the BSP executives this morning at the Malacañang reception hall, the President said that the BSP efforts to eradicate youth delinquency run parallel to the Government's drive against graft and corruption, and that they, too, can do a lot to help the government in this drive by cooperating in every way in the discovery and prosecution to all forms of anomaly in the government.

The President appealed to the local boy scouts to reinforce the scanty government personnel charged with the preservation of forests and marine resources in order to avert a national catastrophe in the future.

The President also accepted his nomination as honorary patron of scouting in the International Boy Scouts Organization because, he said, after the BSP has placed the Philippines on the international map, he can do no less than to try to keep it there.

The BSP delegation was headed by Jorge B. Vargas, president and chief scout executive of the BSP; H. B. Reyes, vice-president and international commissioner; Vitaliano Bernardino, Cecilio Putong, and J. Plaridel Silvestre, members of the BSP national executive board;

Regional representatives Alfredo Cuchapin, Region 1; Enrique Hernandez, Region 2; Johnny Frivaldo, Region 3; Fructuoso Tiangzon, Region 4; Cesar Climaco, Region 5; Juan S. Tismo, Region 6; and Jose Y. Tuazon, Region 7.

In his conference with Postmaster General Enrico Palomar, the President said he will seek easing of Central Bank restrictions on the sale of Philippine stamps abroad because it is an economical and feasible means publicizing the Philippines.

The President was elated to learn from Palomar that of 90 participating countries in the First International Philatelic Congress in Barcelona last March and April, at which Palomar represented the Philippines, only the Philippines had been requested by the Spanish Government to extend its exhibits owing to the unusually great interest being shown by people in Philippines stamps.

Palomar, however, informed the President that Philippine stamps are not available anywhere abroad because of tight restrictions imposed by the Central Bank on their sale.

Palomar said there is a rich market for Philippine stamps because there are some eight million collectors all over the World and if each buys only Philippine stamp per issue, the Philippine stands to earn ₱20 million with the cost of printing as the only expense.

Palomar proposed that CB restrictions be eased and Philippine stamps be put on sale to collectors at all Philippine embassies, legations, and consulates abroad.

The delegation of clothing manufacturers who called on the President was headed by Roberto S. Rivera, president of the Association of Philippine Clothing Manufacturers; Rep. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Rep. Benedicto

Padilla of Rizal, Rep. Francisco Sumulong of Rizal; Rizal Gov. Isidro Rodriguez, Bulacan Gov. Tomas Mertin, and several town mayors from Batangas.

This afternoon the President directed postponement of the public bidding for the construction of the Marikina multi-purpose dam to enable him to review Congress recommendations on the same project.

Until late this afternoon, however, the President had not yet received the report and recommendation of the House special committee and the Senate Blue Ribbon committee, both reportedly asking postponement of the public bidding for certain reasons.

President Garcia set new date for the public bidding for June 14 on recommendation of public works Secretary Florencio Moreno. The bidding would be held simultaneously in Manila and Tokyo, Japan.

Secretary Moreno subsequently cabled the chief of the Reparations Mission in Japan, Cesar Lanuza, to postpone the public bidding in Tokyo. The original date for the simultaneous public bidding had been scheduled for tomorrow, May 24.

Secretary Moreno said three companies to date had signified their intention to participate in the public bidding. These are (1) Filipino Contractors Co., led by Juan B. Carlos and teamed up with the Kajima, Kumagai Gumi, and Nisi Matsu Gumi companies; (2) Valdez Construction Co. with Maeda Construction Co.; and (3) L. Sarmiento Construction Co. with Obayashi Gumi.

He said there may be a total of four companies participating in the public bidding on June 14.

This is the second time that President Garcia has agreed to the postponement of the public bidding.

May 24.—THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady started the day by hearing mass at the Malacañang chapel and taking holy communion from Fr. Juan Tugadi, navy chaplain.

After the mass the President and the First Lady received friends and relatives at a simple breakfast, during which the President gave the First Lady a big kiss, a gold necklace with a pendant consisting of three pearls and a love missive in commemoration of their wedding anniversary.

Among their guests were Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, Finance Secretary and Mrs. Dominador Aytona, Rep. Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Executive Secretary and Mrs. Natalio P. Castillo, Assistant Executive Secretary and Mrs. Enrique C. Quema, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, DBP Governor Gregorio S. Licaros, Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Isagani Campo, and others.

Other well-wishers who arrived later in the day were Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, Sen. Roseller T. Lim, Rep. Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, Rep. and Mrs. Ramon Mitra of Mt. Province, Justice Buenaventura Ocampo and Major Teodulo Natividad, and many others.

President Garcia today gave Pacifico L. Velilla, president of the Philippine College of Commerce, 72 hours within which to answer charges filed against him by the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency.

The President, who was having a quiet wedding anniversary celebration with the First Lady and a circle of close relatives and friends in Malacañang this morning, excused himself for a few minutes to hear the report of his graft-busting assistant, PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo.

Justice Ocampo and Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, after complimenting him and the First Lady on their anniversary, read to the President their findings on the Velilla case and recommended Velilla's outright suspension and immediate filing of an administrative case against him.

The Chief Executive, however, always for giving the other fellow a chance to present his side, told Justice Ocampo to hold his charges for 72 hours while Velilla answers the charges.

The PCAFE, which had been ordered by the President through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to look into numerous reports against Velilla, listed the charges as follows: (1) notoriously disgraceful or immoral conduct; (2) grave abuse of discretion or favoritism; (3) willful failure to pay just debts; (4) borrowing money from subordinates; (5) accepting gifts of substantial value; (6) incompetence or laxity in the performance of his duties; and (7) disreputable or dishonest conduct prior to entering the service.

The PCAPE officials informed the President that they had strong evidence to support these allegations, particularly the first and the last.

Justice Ocampo also informed the President of a court decision dissolving the conjugal partnership of respondent and his wife to save the conjugal property from being “squandered away by Velilla, who was gambling and losing heavily, paying off his debts from the sale of the conjugal property and issuing rubber checks to his creditors.”

May 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning signed H. B. No. 1569, nationalizing the medical and dental services in the public schools throughout the Philippines.

Enactment of the bill will lift the burden of paying for children’s dental and medical fees from the poor people and will transfer it to the national government.

Support for these two services since 1946 came from the ₱.50 voluntary contribution collected from each pupil by the school teachers.

Nationalization of the two services will also permit school physicians and dentists to enjoy all the benefits of regular government employees, such as sick and vacation leaves, and they would no longer be forced to go on forced leave, as they are now doing, when the funds for their salaries are exhausted.

After his caucus and luncheon with the senators and congressmen at the Palace social hall, the President also signed into law two bills: H. B. 4177, increasing the jurisdiction, salary (from ₱10,000 to ₱11,600 p.a.), and the number (by one) of municipal judges in the city of Manila; and H. B. 4979, appropriating ₱1 million and ₱200,000 for the relief and aid of fire victims in Cavite and Butuan cities, respectively.

Present at the signing of the bill nationalizing medical and dental services in schools at the Malacañang reception hall were Education Secretary Jose Romero, Public Schools Director Benigno Aldana; Sens. Arturo M. Tolentino and Decoroso Rosales; Reps. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna and Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, sponsors of the bill in the Senate and the House, respectively; and some 200 school physicians and dentists. Later, the President received outgoing French Ambassador Georges Cat-tand, who came to say goodbye. Cattand was called back to Paris for re-assignment.

The President gave Ambassador Cattand a box of ‘choice Philippine cigars.

President Garcia’s plan to call a special session ran into unexpected opposition this afternoon among Nacionalista senators at a joint caucus with NP congressmen and tied up the administration program to push through six important amendments to the constitution this year.

The President decided to call NP senators to a separate caucus early next month in an effort to whip up solid support for his special session plan.

While the NP House members supported the President’s views, three NP senators were mentioned as opposed to the special session plan. There were 63 NP representatives and eleven senators at the caucus.

Sen. Arturo M. Tolentino mentioned the names of Sen. Lorenzo M. Sumulong, Quintin Paredes, and Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez as not favoring the convocation of a constitutional convention instead of a special session. While the President can call a special session on his own initiative, the opposition of the three NP senators and of the Liberal members of the upper chamber to the proposed amendments would defeat the purpose of the session.

For this reason, the President desires to line up the solid support of his own party before calling Congress to an extra meet to consider the proposed charter changes.

All the affirmative votes of the 18 Nacionalista senators were necessary to approve a constitutional amendment.

Significantly, Nationalist-Citizens Senators Claro M. Recto and Lorenzo M. Tañada, who are counted with the NPs, were not present at the caucus.

May 26.—PRESIDENT this morning took a direct hand in the settlement of the jeepney drivers' strike in Malabon by ordering strict enforcement of the Public Service Commission policy to discourage the boundary system.

President Garcia authorized Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal to enforce strictly PSC rulings, especially as regards the boundary system which is not legally recognized by the PSC.

Gov. Rodriguez informed the President during the conference that he had official information that the PSC had abolished the boundary system and had instituted a new ruling directing jeepney operators and owners to pay drivers on a daily wage basis.

When contacted, however, the PSC administrative officer said the Commission never did recognize the existence of the boundary system; hence, it had no way of abolishing such system. Mr. Molina, the administrative officer, added the PSC is trying to discourage the boundary system and has recommended wage pay for drivers.

Gov. Rodriguez, who had been summoned to Malacañang, Caloocan Mayor Macario B. Asistio, and Navotas Mayor Roberto Monroy, told the President that the strike was confined to the so-called Seventh. Fleet, a combination of seven operators who own over 200 units in Malabon, each owning 21 to 40 units.

The mayors informed the President the root cause of the strike was the increase in the boundary rate charged by the Seventh Fleet from ₱25.60 to ₱38.60 a day.

They said small operators with two or three units each, charge only ₱25.00 daily per unit.

The President was worried over the strike owing to the reported terrorism, maulings, and intimidation obtaining in the three suburban towns, and the difficulties commuters are encountering owing to the strike.

President Garcia today proclaimed June 4, 1960, as special holiday in the provinces of Sulu, Cotabato, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, Davao, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Bukidnon, Palawan, Agusan and Surigao, and in the cities of Zamboanga, Basilan, Davao, Iligan, Marawi, Butuan, and Cotabato.

The President declared the date a special holiday in connection with the National Feast of EID-UL-ADHA which Muslims celebrate annually throughout the world.

The presidential proclamation exempts from work all Muslim officials and employees of the government whether or not they are performing their duties outside the provinces and cities mentioned above.

The President today told Gov. Telesforo S. Paredes of Palawan to discuss with Reparations Commissioner Juan Alberto the needs for the development of cottage industries in Palawan.

The President was impressed by Gov. Paredes, who submitted to him a detailed plan of developing various industries to provide employment to the people in his province.

The President told Paredes, however, that the plan was too big to start all at once, and advised him to begin with modest project, paying particular emphasis to the development of rattan furniture manufacturing, fishing, and cottage industries.

Later the President motored to the Loreto church in Sampaloc to pay his last respects to Mrs. Mercedes Pedrera Santiago, mother-in-law of his brother Cosme, whose remains lie in state in the church.

The President also received several groups of callers, among them Rep. Jose Alberto and Gov. Jorge B. Almojuela of Catanduanes; Lt. Gov. Jose Neri of Camiguin with Mayors Antonio Luspo of Manbajao, Enerito R. Acain of Initao, Paulino Gng of Naawan, and Francisco Abarrientos of Talisayan; and Mayor Indanan-Anni of Siasi, Sulu.

Most of the callers asked the President for the release of funds for typhoon aids, public works, and other projects.

The President and his party left for Talibon at 2 p.m. aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, after a two-hour's delay owing to the typhoon reportedly brewing in northern Mindanao area.

May 27.—SINCE leaving Manila at 3 p.m. yesterday and up to this morning the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* carrying the President proceeded under fine sailing weather conditions with a very smooth sea. About 9 p.m. today, however, the ship slightly rolled and winds became more brisk under completely overcast sky, but this is considered normal in the Sulu Sea. The ships movements which continued the whole day, failed to disturb passengers who went about as usual.

The sea started to calm down again at 7 p.m. as the ship rounded the southern tip of Negros, protected by nearby small islands.

At 9 p.m. the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* was skirting around Siquijor Island f off the southern tip of Cebu and turning back toward Bohol, maintaining its normal cruising speed of 16.5 knots. The presidential party is expected to arrive in Talibon at the northwestern part of Bohol at 7 o'clock this morning after skirting off the western part of the island. The President's arrival is twelve hours behind the original schedule owing to the delayed departure from Manila as well as the roundabout route the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* had taken to avoid tropical storm *Lucille* that lashed the Luzon provinces.

May 28.—THE PEOPLE of Talibon turned out enmasse to greet the local town boy who made good. Accompanied by Mrs. Garcia the President was warmly greeted with a fluvial parade and swamped by the townsfolk and provincial and municipal officials upon stepping off the motorboat which ferried him from the *RPS Lapur-Lapu*, anchored three kilometers offshore.

The President surrounded by close and boyhood friends, recalled his boyhood and student days in his hometown of Talibon.

After landing at the wharf, the President and Mrs. Garcia greeted the welcomers led by Rep. Maximino Garcia, Acting Governor Timoteo Butalad, and Mayor Lazaro Evardo and, preceded by a brassband, went to the Talibon Catholic Church where a pontifical mass was sung by the parish priest, in honor of the Blessed Trinity, patron saint of Talibon. Along the route, welcome arches and paper buntings lent a festive air to the reception.

After a light breakfast at the convent, the President and the First Lady proceeded to the new ₱100,000 Talibon Emergency Hospital, where lady physician Fe Evangelista presented an indigent patient, Mrs. Nemesia Cabrijos, who just gave birth to triplets.

Already the mother of ten and wife of an unemployed laborer, Mrs. Cabrijos drew the pity of President and Mrs. Garcia, who gave her ₱50 from their own funds after instructing the hospital staff to extend free medical services and medicines to the mother and babies Teresita, Cleofe, and Lourdes.

The President and his party were feted at luncheon at the residence of Rep. Garcia. Merienda was served at the residence of Capt. Vidal Cresencio and Dr. Pastor Boiser.

President and Mrs. Garcia and the rest of the party attended the religious procession at 5 p.m. After dinner at the residence of Mayor Evardo, the party attended the coronation ball in honor of Miss Talibon of 1960, (Miss Trinidad Aguja), where the President declaimed a *balak* (poem) after the First Lady had crowned Queen Trinidad.

After the ball the presidential party boarded the Lapu-Lapu for Tagbilaran, where they are scheduled to arrive at 8:30 a.m. Sunday.

President Garcia today expressed deep concern upon learning of the casualties and the extent of the damage wrought by the flood brought about by typhoon Lucille in Manila and suburbs and the provinces.

The President, who is now in Bohol, learned of the calamity from the reports of Malacañang officials. He immediately instructed Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema to release an initial amount of ₱10,000 to Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor to be distributed among the stricken families in Manila and the suburbs.

The President also directed Mrs. Villamor to coordinate relief work with the Philippine Constabulary, the Philippine National Red Cross, and all other government relief agencies. Social workers started canvassing flood victims early this morning. The SWA has been distributing cash and material aid to the victims.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: May 24-30, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

May 24.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia observed their 26th wedding anniversary today. The celebration was “simple and quiet” with a few close friends and relatives invited.

The Chief Executive and the First Lady started the day by hearing a mass and receiving Holy Communion at the Malacañang chapel.

After the mass, the First Family led their well-wishers to the grand porch of Malacañang where breakfast was served.

An orchestra organized by the Presidential Guard battalion headed by Lt. Ambrosio Ordoña played *Anniversary Waltz* as the celebrants emerged from the chapel.

Among those who called at Malacañang to greet the President and the First Lady were Executive Secretary and Mrs. Juan C. Pajo, Health Secretary and Mrs. Elpidio Valencia, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, Rep. and Mrs. Manuel Zosa of Cebu. Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Manuel F. Cabal, Brig. Gen and Mrs. Isagani V. Campo, Assistant Executive Secretary and Mrs. Enrique C. Quema, Mrs. Daniel Romualdez, Mrs. Felixberto M. Serrano, Mayor and Mrs. Mariano Dimataga, Mr. and Mrs. Alberto Cayabyab, Mrs. Vicenta Dimataga-Lacerna, and Mrs. Alice T. Banguela.

About 10 a.m., the President and Mrs. Garcia repaired to their residence in Quezon City, where they spent the rest of the day quietly with a few close relatives.

In the evening, the President motored to the Guevara compound in Parañaque, Rizal, where he was dinner guest of the Association of the Philippine Broadcasters.

May 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia today joined world officialdom in mourning the death of former U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. From his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, the President dictated a message of condolence which was dispatched from Malacañang to the widow of the American official.

In a message sent to Mrs. Dulles by Malacañang this morning, the President said:

“The freedom loving peoples of the free world have lost a staunch friends with the passing of Mr. John Foster Dulles. His bold determination for the preservation of world peace won for him the admiration not only of his countrymen but of all the Democratic nations of the free world.

“I was personally associated with your late distinguished husband in such tasks as the founding of the SEATO and in our annual meetings we had to make this regional organization an effective force for peace not only of Southeast Asia but of the entire world.

“I personally feel the loss of a great friend.

“The Filipinos will long remember him.

“Please accept, madam, our heartfelt condolence for the irreparable loss and be assured that we will remember him in our prayers.”

Aside from former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez Sr., the President did not receive any caller this morning. The two Nacionalista Party stalwarts called in the Chief Executive at his Quezon

City residence shortly before noon. Among the matters they discussed during the call were the forthcoming special session of Congress and party matters.

The President cancelled all his scheduled morning callers in order to devote his time to some pending matters brought over to him from Malacañang for immediate action.

In the afternoon, the President received a delegation from the Philippine Government Employees' Association which presented a petition registering their opposition to the demands of the employees of the GSIS who recently staged a strike.

Headed by Artemio E. Gesmundo, PGEA vice-president, the group included Jose M. Manglicmut, national secretary, Bienvenido C. Olarte chairman of the board of directors, and the following board members; Mariano Ledesma, Gregorio Aq. Linjoco and Alfonso Llamas.

May 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia today called Congress to a special session starting June 1, 1959, to legislate on the administration-sponsored bill on marginal tax on foreign exchange.

The President emphasized that the number of days of the special session will be determined by Congress leaders but in no instance will it exceed 30 days the maximum period provided for in the Constitution.

President Garcia made no mention of other administration bills which may be sent to Congress at a later date, thereby giving full emphasis to the urgency and importance of the marginal tax on foreign exchange bill.

His message to Congress, however left the door open for other administration measures to be forwarded to Congress for legislative action.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the President's signing of proclamation No. 512 calling the Congress to a special session implements a previous decision made by the President immediately after the adjournment of Congress from its 100-days regular session which ended last May 21.

Earlier, the Chief Executive received the Cabinet committee studying the legality of the GSIS is a proprietary body not immune to strikes and that the strike called by its employees was legal.

After the conference, the President went to his study where he received his callers for the day. Among his callers were Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, who accompanied Col. Gaudencio Sakay to invite the Chief Executive to be the principal speaker at the graduation rites of the 492 trainees and 20 officers from the Bicol region, to be held at Fort William McKinley. Sen. Gonzalez also brought a letter from the Youth Welfare Coordinating Council composed of 33 public and private agencies organized to coordinate effort to combat juvenile delinquency requesting him to be their honorary chairman.

Other callers were Reps. Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, who came to ask for release of additional funds for Virginia tobacco industry, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Ramon Bagatsing of the third district of Manila, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Francis Sumulong of Rizal, Vicente L. Peralta of Sorsogon, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, and Felipe R. Garduque of Cagayan.

The President also received Pampanga Gov. Rafael Lazatin, who sought the appointment of Board Member Rosbe Henson as acting governor during his absence, and Dr. Gil Gadi, who requested that Cotabato be declared a free zone in this coming election.

The President signed today an executive order creating an anti-economic subversion force to be known as the Constabulary-Revenue Customs Service Group in order to minimize the violation of revenue and customs laws which threaten the economic stability of the country.

The joint team shall be composed of the Chief of the Constabulary or any other person as the President may designate, as chief coordinator; an executive coordinator to be designated by the President upon recommendation of the Chief of the Constabulary; three chief operations officers from each of the Constabulary, Bureau of Internal Revenue, and Bureau of Customs, and a Constabulary intelligence officer.

Detail of these officers with the group shall be subject to approval by the President upon the recommendation of each of their respective heads of offices, and of other officials and employees of the Constabulary, Bureau of Internal Revenue, and Bureau of Customs who from time to time may be designated by the respective heads of officers concerned.

May 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning did not receive any scheduled callers but confined himself at his residence on Bohol Avenue Quezon City.

There were callers, however, including Rodolfo P. Andal, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System. Andal saw the President on the decision of the five-man Cabinet committee which decided against the GSIS management.

Andal had previously asked a reconsideration of the Cabinet committee findings.

The committee reviewed its findings but reaffirmed its ruling finding the strike called by GSIS workers justified.

In the afternoon, the President motored to Malacañang where he received the letters of credence of Shri S. N. Maitra as the new Indian ambassador to the Philippines. Maitra replaced Ambassador Mohindar Singh Chopra.

During the ceremony held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall, the President and the new Indian envoy pledged to promote the ties of friendship, understanding and cooperation between their countries.

Among those present at the ceremony were Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, and Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, presidential aide.

In welcoming the India ambassador, the President said that his predecessor, Ambassador Chopra, “not only succeeded eminently in building up a reservoir of goodwill between our peoples but also bringing them closer together in the spirit of mutual respect and cooperation.”

Ambassador Maitra arrived at Malacañang riding in the presidential car accompanied by Pedro Angara Aragon, chief protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

He received full military honors from a unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion.

After receiving the letters of credence of the new Indian envoys the President presided over the regular meeting of the Cabinet.

The President met the old members of his Cabinet, including those who had been relieved like outgoing Education Secretary Manuel Lim. And outgoing Justice Secretary Jesus G. Barrera.

Outgoing Secretary of Defense Jesus Vargas did not show up at the meeting.

The defense department however, was represented by Undersecretary Mariano Yenke.

This evening the President directed several government agencies to rush immediate assistance to farmers in Mindanao who suffered losses due to rat infestation.

The Chief Executive set aside ₱100,000 for the immediate purchase of palay seedlings to Mindanao provinces in order to catch up with the planting season this year.

Undersecretary of Natural Resources Amando Dalisay was directed to take charge of the seedlings' availability to the farmers.

Presidential action on this matter was based on petitions from Mindanao farmers for government assistance. Cotabato, Lanao, and Zamboanga provinces were especially mentioned. The President was informed by Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona that about ₱500,000 had been already spent from the Contingent Fund to meet similar emergencies in several provinces, including Iloilo and the Bicol region. The sum ₱100,000 will be earmarked from the President's contingent fund.

May 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning signed into law three bills enacted during the recently-concluded regular session of Congress.

The bills are:

- (1) House Bill No. 3647, granting Filipino citizenship to Paul Reeves;
- (2) House Bill No. 1197, authorizing the President of the Philippines to sell at a normal sum of one peso, a lot in Manila to the Rural Bankers Associate of the Philippines; and
- (3) House Bill No. 2828, increasing the salary of the Auditor General.

The Bill granting Filipino citizenship to Paul Reeves, a U.S. Army retired general and public relations counselor, was enacted by Congress in recognition of his valuable service to the Philippines, which includes 21 articles inserted in the *U. S. Congressional Records*, a lengthy reply to the attacks of High Commissioner Paul V. McNutt against the late President Manuel L. Quezon, published in the *Washington Star* issue of December 3, 1939, and another article inserted in the *U. S. Congressional Records* calling the attention of that body on the just claims for benefits of the Filipino veterans resulting in the passage of the Rogers Bill.

For this, Reeves recalled having a handwritten personal letter from the then Congressman Ramon Magsaysay, thanking him and saying that the article helped a lot in its work for the extension of benefits to the Filipino veterans.

Immediately after he signed the bill, the Chief Executive administered the oath of allegiance making Reeves a Filipino "with all the rights privileges, and prerogatives appurtenant thereto," in the presence of Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Sens. Claro M. Recto, Gil J. Puyat, and Lorenzo Sumulong, and Rep. Fausto Dugeno and Mrs. Paul Reeves.

The signing of the bill authorizing the President to sell a lot located in Manila to the Rural Bankers Association at a normal sum was witnessed by Rep. Jose J. Roy of Tarlac and Jose Desiderio acting president of the association.

The rural bank bill signing was followed by the signing of H.B. No. 2828, increasing the salary of the Auditor General from ₱16,000 to ₱21,000 per annum. Present during the signing of bill were members of the different association of the auditors headed by Ismael Mathay, president of the Government Corporation Auditors Association; Jesus Iriarte, president of the League of Provincial and City Auditors; and Jose R. Amoyo, president of the National Government Auditors Association.

Later, the Chief Executive and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez conferred with the "Sugar Bloc", composed of Reps. Lorenz Teves of Negros Oriental and Jose Aldeguez of Iloilo, Alfredo Montelibano, and Jose M. Gomez. They exchanged views on the proposed marginal tax on dollar exchange.

Other callers were Sen. Roseller Lim, who is leaving for the ILO conference in Geneva; Rep. Fausto Dugenio, who asked for the release of funds for his province; Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., who requested the certification of a bill putting the PHILCOA under Malacañang instead of the Department of Agriculture; Govs. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas and Manuel Barreto of Zambales, who accompanied 25 mayors and vice-mayors from his province; Jose Dinglasan of Capiz who asked for the release of funds for the Roxas City Airport; and Rep. Jose Legaspi of Aklan, who accompanied Mayor Bartolome Venus of New Washington.

May 29.—THE PRESIDENT and the first Lady left Manila at 6 a.m. on a Philippine Air Lines regular Viscount flight to Cebu. Alighting at the Mandawe airport about 7:30 a.m., the President found waiting for him a delegation of local officials headed by Gov. Jose Briones who accompanied him to the wharf where he boarded the Philippine Navy tugboat *RPS Ifugao* for crossing Bohol.

During the five-hour crossing, the ship came upon heavy rain which drove members of the presidential party to crowding few shelters available on the ship. The ship usually utilized by the Navy for towing and rescue operations and commanded by Lt. David Cruz, had to anchor about a mile off Talibon owing to shallow waters.

The President and party landed at the wharf about 2 p.m. A big cheering crowd at the wharf refused to take shelter despite a slight drizzle which developed as the launch carrying the President and the First Lady approached the shore.

The quiet fishing village of Talibon went all out today to welcome its favorite son who had come to join them in commemorating the Feast of Santisima Trinidad, town's patron.

People turned out in holiday clothes and welcomed their distinguished townsman with colorful fluvial parades, brass bands, and fireworks. Cheering welcomers were led by local officials, including Rep. Maximo Garcia and Mayor Lazaro Evardo.

Wherever he could, the President traditionally came to Talibon for its fiesta and this is the second fiesta he attended since assuming the Presidency. He was unable to come last year owing to the preparations for his state visit to the United States.

President Garcia went direct to the town church for the *Te Deum* sung in his honor. Then he repaired to the nearby guest house, where he received endless stream of people until late into the night.

President Garcia today took official cognizance of the success of the "Bayanihan" troupe of the Philippine Women's University in the promotion of Philippine culture.

In a letter of commendation, President Garcia lauded the troupe for having represented the Philippines fittingly in the Brussels International Fair on May 30 of last year and for cooperating with Philippine missions in the presentation of cultural programs abroad from May 6 to July 4 1958.

The President also lauded the troupe for creative leadership, preserving and promoting Filipino folk arts and ways, particularly the customs of cooperative endeavor known as *bayanihan*, thus promoting the best interests of Philippine culture as a means to attain international good will.

Secretary Pajo, who entertained the troupe with a merienda in Malacañang, told the troupe, in behalf of the President and the First Lady that their performances which drew record crowds at the Brussels International Fair, have added more prestige to the Philippines abroad.

Secretary Pajo assured the troupers that they can expect the full support of the government because they have done a wonderful job as ambassadors of goodwill for the country.

The presidential commendation was read and later personally handed to the head of the group, Miss Helen Z. Benitez, by Commerce Secretary Pedro M. Hernaez.

Also present at the ceremony besides the members and organizers of the Bayanihan Folk Arts Center of the PWU were Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema; William Morris, cultural attaché of the U. S. Embassy, Belgian Minister Ferdinand Buckens Salvador Peña, Philippine Tourist and Travel Agency representative; Dean Conrado Benitez; and Luis Araneta.

May 30.—THE President and the First Lady started the day by hearing mass at the local parish church. They had breakfast at nearby convent on the invitation of Fr. Castro, town's parish priest.

After the breakfast, the President proceed to the town hall and informally addressed the conference of local officials. He was introduced by Gov. Esteban Bernido. Also present was Rep. Maximo Garcia.

The Chief Executive went to Bohol with the First Lady to attend the Talibon town fiesta, but he seized on the occasion to meet with provincial and municipal officials of Bohol.

In his speech before the municipal and provincial officers, the President sounded a general appeal for local officials to lay special emphasis on improvement of health and education facilities for people in their respective jurisdiction in anticipation of eventual implementation of the local autonomy act. President Garcia pointed out that the autonomy bill would confer greater powers and greater responsibilities to local executives towards people in their communities and that it is for them to strive harder to promote the welfare of the masses.

The Chief Executive devoted a considerable part of his speech to defending issues currently raised against the Administration, including increased rates of taxation and the acquisition of the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*. He assured his audience that increases taxes would apply only to the rich for the benefit of the poor and that the yacht has been acquired for economy and efficiency. He also enumerated the accomplishments of the Nacionalista administration in the establishment of power projects, nationwide construction of roads, etc.

He said the NP records was unmatched by the Liberals during all of the eight years of their administration.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: May 31 - June 6, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

May 31.—THE *RPS Ifugao* carrying the presidential party arrived at Cebu early this morning and dropped anchor at the middle of the Mactan channel. At 7 a.m. the President and the First Lady, together with members of the party, heard mass on board the PN tagboat. After the mass the President and party proceeded to the Lahug Airport where they boarded the PAL *Viscount* plane for Manila.

The President arrived at Manila at 10:10 a.m. At the MIA domestic terminal, he was met by Gov. Rafael Lazatin and a delegation of the Federation of Filipino Distributors Association headed by Mrs. Cesar Lorenzo, president of the association, who informed the President that the spiraling of prices of prime commodities is only temporary and caused by speculation on the part of some businessmen. The association pledge to cooperate with the President in his fight against this unreasonable increases of the price of prime commodities.

From the airport the President motored direct to his Quezon City residence where he had a luncheon-conference with leaders of Congress on a vital economic measure to be taken up at the special session.

President Garcia was assured by Congress leaders of the approval of the administration-sponsored marginal tax on foreign exchange in a luncheon-conference held this noon on the eve of the opening of the special session.

Sufficient safeguards against unreasonable increase in the price of consumer goods was discussed by the conferees in order to assure smooth legislation of the bill. President Garcia emphasized the need of approving the measure.

Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez issued separate statements after the conference, each assuring the passage of the bill.

The Senate President said there was no doubt the country needed such a measure. He pointed out that the Administration will prove to the people that it could ably handle any threat or attempt at abnormally increasing the price of consumer goods.

Speaker Romualdez on the other hand, took time to reply to reported threats of a boycott by the Liberal congressmen of the special session. He pointed out that such a boycott would be a grave mistake on the part of the opposition, as it would violate their sworn duties as congressmen.

Present during the three-hour conference were Senate President Rodriguez, Speaker Romualdez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Sen. Pedro Sabido, and Reps. Jose J. Roy of Tarlac, Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan, Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, Dominador Tan of Leyte, Jose Leido of Mindoro Oriental, and Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna.

In the evening, the President motored to the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel to attend dinner held in honor of Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez on the occasion of his having completed 50 years of public service.

June 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning lauded the new Secretary of Education Jose Romero for giving up a better paying job to answer the call of government service again. He also congratulated the outgoing Secretary Manuel Lim for his "great performance."

The President administered the oath of office to Romero in the Malacañang reception hall in the presence of former President Sergio Osmeña, members of the Cabinet, among them outgoing Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, and PC APE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo.

Also present at the induction ceremonies were heads of local universities and colleges led by FEU's Teodoro Evangelista, UE's Francisco Dalu-pan, FEATI's Victoria Araneta, and PWU's Helen Benitez.

President Garcia directed Secretary Romero to implement the remedies recommended by Lim to correct the deficiencies of the Philippine educational system.

The President said that Lim had been prevailed upon to remain as consultant on education with a compensation of ₱1 a year.

Earlier, President Garcia administered the oath of office to Fructuoso Cabahug as Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs to take the place of the late Juan Alcazaren, in the presence of former President Osmeila, Executive Secretary Pajo, Health Secretary Valencia, and Rep. Maximino Noel of Cebu.

After the induction ceremonies, the President received a joint committee of senators and representatives who went to Malacañang to inform him that both chambers of Congress had already convened in special session and was awaiting the measures to be considered during its special meet.

Another caller was Durga Das, president of the Press Club of India and of the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference, who interviewed the President.

The Chief Executive received visitors from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Other callers included Professor Dapen Liang and Sotero Baluyot, chairman of the Quezon Memorial Committee, who brought to the attention of the President the problems of the body.

THIS afternoon the President congratulated the Community Chest and the people who contributed money and service for a humanitarian cause and sounded an appeal to the nation to give generous support to this year's CC fund campaign.

In a ceremony held at Malacañang formally launching the 1959 CC fund drive, the Chief Executive pointed out that the organization had time and again proved its worth by various deeds all aimed to assist the less fortunate. He urged people from all walks of life to cooperate with this year's noble undertaking.

The President, after delivering a brief speech, handed to Fernando E. V. Sison, general campaign chairman, his personal check for ₱1,000 for this year's campaign. The President's contribution was followed by contributions coming from the audience in amounts ranging from ₱500 to ₱1,000.

Some of the division leaders of the campaign also handed to the campaign-chairman checks totalling ₱150,000 with the Filipino community division topping the contribution as of this afternoon with ₱60,000 followed by the American community with a collection of ₱50,000 and the Chinese community collecting ₱33,000.

This year's Community Chest campaign is chairmanned by Sison, with Francisco V. del Rosario, co-chairman, and Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay, honorary general chairman.

The ceremony started with an opening selection rendered by the Presidential Guards Battalion band with Lt. Ambrocio Orduña conducting. This was followed by the presentation of the 1959 campaign workers by Dr. Teodoro Evangelista, president of the Community Chest of Greater Manila, and a response delivered by the general campaign chairman. The speech of the President formally launching this year's CC campaign closed the "kick-off" ceremony.

Johnny Perez, National Press Club president and chairman of the Red Feather public relations council, acted as master of ceremonies.

Present during the ceremony were members of the diplomatic corps, headed by Ambassador and Mrs. Chen Chih-mai, Minister Walter Hofer of Switzerland, and Mrs. Charles Bohlen, wife of the American ambassador, Philippine

government officials and campaign leaders, civic groups, and representatives from government-owned and private corporations.

June 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to prepare the nomination of National Integration Commissioner Madki Alonto for governor of the new province of Lanao del Norte.

The Muslim Cabinet member will take over as provincial executive of Lanao del Norte upon its formal inauguration and establishment.

In this connection, President Garcia signed today proclamation declaring July 4, 1959, as the formal inauguration and establishment of the two new provinces of Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur.

The provisions of Republic Act No. 2228, approved on May 22, 1959, provides that the two new provinces shall be considered to have been formally established upon proclamation by President Garcia.

Meanwhile, President Garcia at a conference with Muslim leaders of Lanao and Cotabato directed Secretary Pajo to prepare also the nomination of Datu Tagoranao Benito as member of the provincial board of Lanao del Norte.

Gov. Salvador T. Lluch and Board Member Hadji Cosain Ali Usman expressed their preference to remain in their present positions in the province of Lanao del Sur. The other member of the provincial board of Lanao will be named upon the recommendation of Gov. Lluch.

Presidential callers were Sen. Domocao Alonto and Reps. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, Fautino Tobia and Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, Leon Guinto of Quezon, Jose Legaspi of Aklan, Francisco Ortega of La Union, Jacobo Gonzales and Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Bartolome Cabangbang and Natalio Castillo of Bohol, Ricardo Ladrado of Iloilo, and Ramon Mitra of Mountain Province.

The President this day proclaimed June 15 this year, as International Labor Organization (ILO) Day in the Philippines in connection with the world-wide celebration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the organization scheduled for that day.

The Philippines is a duly accredited member nation of the ILO.

The Chief Executive said the ILO “has proven itself to be an effective forum for the free exchange of ideas for the uplift of the welfare of the workingman all over the world.”

It has also fostered the improvement of labor-management relationship strengthened by a spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding, he added.

The President called upon all government offices and instrumentalities throughout the country, particularly the Department of Labor, as well as all labor and management groups, to participate in the proper observance of the day.

He also asked them to dedicate future efforts to the fostering of the laudable aims of the ILO in promoting social justice for a better and more lasting world peace through the tri-partite cooperation of labor management, and government

THIS evening the President directed Secretary of Labor Angel Castaño to meet labor leaders and allay their fears that the marginal tax on foreign exchange would bring about industrial chaos throughout the country.

The President summoned Castaño to Malacañang after reading news report this afternoon that the labor secretary had gone on record as opposing the passage of the controversial foreign exchange bill.

Castaño, according to the report, told newsmen that if the bill become a law, “strikes would increase as management would be forced to reject concessions by labor.”

Labor had already gone on record as opposed to the enactment of the controversial foreign exchange measure.

The President conferred with Castaño and discussed with him the latter’s views in, opposing the measure.

Castaño, it was learned told the President he merely expressed the sentiment of labor in opposing the passage of the bill.

The labor secretary pointed out the laborers feared that prices of some essential goods are already spiraling to prohibitive levels.

President Garcia explained that the bill, if enacted, would not only stabilize the nation’s finances but would also provide funds for essential social services which would redound mostly to the benefit of the labor class.

Castaño, after a three-hour conference with the President, decided to issue a statement, turning about from his previous position.

Castaño called upon the workers to rally behind the measure, as the bill would “stabilize our financial situation and half of the proceeds will be used to provide funds for essential social services, which projects would redound mostly to the benefits of our laboring class.

June 3.—THIS morning President Garcia stayed in his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

It was learned that the President received unscheduled callers as he carried on his campaign to push through his controversial foreign exchange bill.

The President had for breakfast guests, former President and Mrs. Sergio Osmeña, Sr., and Justice Sotero Cabahug, brother of the new Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug.

While no announcement was made at the breakfast conference, it was hinted that the President took up the alleged distrust of Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano for his new undersecretary.

Undersecretary Cabahug, who is former President Osmeña’s protégé, seemed to have peeved the head of the foreign office when he issued a statement to a newsmen that the Department of Foreign Affairs was shot through and through with venalities.

It was learned that the President also had a telephone conversation with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez on the pressure of some scions to include some of their pet measures in the current special session.

Reports said the President yielded to the demands of several solons to include their pet measures in the legislative agenda of the current special session.

In the afternoon, the President presided over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet and took up the problems of stepping up farm production.

At the Cabinet meeting was the new member of the President’s advisory body, Education Secretary Jose E. Romero.

President Garcia, at tonight’s weekly Cabinet meeting, whipped into action four government offices to combat a locust menace in the South.

The President directed the immediate release of ₱260,000.00 from his contingent fund for this purpose, placing the disposition of the funds directly under the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Three other government offices directed by President Garcia to lend direct assistance to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources are the Departments of Defense and Education and the Social Welfare Administration.

Municipal and provincial officials will be asked to render assistance to the National Government's efforts.

President Garcia was informed by acting Agriculture Secretary Amando Dalisay of the critical locust situation in several provinces in Mindanao, particularly in Cotabato.

Dalisay told President Garcia and the Cabinet that reports had been received that the locusts are now in the "flying stage" and could spread out not only to most provinces in Mindanao but also to the Visayan provinces unless the Administration acts to eradicate them.

Education Secretary Romero, who is attending his first Cabinet meeting, and acting Defense Secretary Mariano Yenko pledged to the Chief Executive the support of their respective departments. Realizing the gravity of the problem, Secretary Romero said he would even order the suspension of classes in locust-infested localities to enable teachers and schoolchildren alike to help in the campaign against the winged menace.

President Garcia told Dalisay to enlist the assistance of provincial and municipal officials in locating the breeding grounds of the locusts and instructed him to confer with Romero and Yenko to map out an effective plan for a concerted drive against the locusts.

June 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed President Vicente Sinco of the University of the Philippines to admit conditionally some 700 student-veterans who were denied admission by UP authorities for nonpayment by the Philippine Veterans Board of the amount of ₱883,096.71 representing school fees of the veterans from 1946 to 1958.

The Chief Executive took a direct hand on the matter at a conference held at Malacañang with acting Defense Secretary Mariano Yenko, who informed him that classes at the state university begin on Monday.

At the same time, President Garcia directed PVB authorities to confer with Sinco and work out a formula of payment.

The veterans board had not paid fees since 1946 when the late President Manuel Roxas had overruled the auditor general who insisted that the board pay the fees. President Roxas with the concurrence of his Cabinet at its meeting on March 20, 1947, expressed his belief that student veterans should not pay to public schools, alleging that he was personally acquainted with the background of Republic Act No. 65, which grants educational benefits to veterans and their dependents.

The law provides that the PVB pay 70 per cent of the school fees of the student veterans while the colleges or universities absorb the remaining 30 per cent but Sinco maintained that the UP charter only exempts those with scholarship grants from the payment of school fees.

Meanwhile, President Garcia directed Manuel Castaneda, chairman of the Land Tenure Administration, to reduce the selling price of the lots in the Mabalacat Estate in Pampanga in order to honor a commitment made by the late President Magsaysay.

The LTA had previously fixed the selling price of P0.74 a square meter to which the tenants vigorously objected in view of the commitment of the then President Magsaysay.

Castaneda alleged that to break even, the LTA can sell the land at P0.50 a square meter but President Garcia, upon representation of Rep. Emilio Cortez, directed that the price be reduced to only P0.35 a square meter.

The President received callers at Malacañang from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. He received the officers and personnel of the Philippine Floating Exposition, including members of the Barangay dance troupe and of the Philippine Army Band, who arrived on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* at 9 a.m. after a successful 47-day trade, goodwill, and cultural tour of Southeast Asia.

Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez gave a verbal report on the spontaneous reception accorded the exposition on all ports of call.

The President said that the success achieved by the exposition is even more than what he expected. He added that the exposition has shown to other Southeast Asian countries the progress made by the Philippines along the lines of industry, agriculture, arts, and culture.

Among other presidential callers were Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon, Rep. Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, Govs. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan and Diego Ty Deling of Misamis Occidental, and Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora.

IN the evening, the President motored to the new Coca-Cola building on Highway 54 to inaugurate the new concentrate plant of the soft drinks firm.

President Garcia was fetched from Malacañang by Col. Andres Soriano.

The President lauded the establishment of the firm as it would help stop the drain of dollars.

The new Coca-Cola building was blessed by Archbishop Rufino J. Santos . of Manila.

From the new Coca-Cola building, the President returns to Malacañang and later to Bohol Avenue in Quezon City where he presided over a conference.

Malacañang did not say who the President's guest were and what he took up in the scheduled conference.

June 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today assured a delegation of Virginia tobacco growers and FACOMA officers from Northern Luzon that unless the measure contains objectionable or monopolistic features, he would sign the bill which provides for the creation of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

The delegation led by Sen. Quintin Paredes, Reps. Godofredo Reyes, Lucas Paredes, Antonio Raquiza, and Aguedo Agbayani represented Virginia tobacco growers from Abra, Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte, La Union, Pan-gasinan, Tarlac, and Nueva Ecija.

In support of their petition for the approval of the bill, the delegation claimed that the measure has two good features: (1) the removal of price support for sun-dried Virginia tobacco as recommended by the President to Congress; and (2) the creation of a separate and self-supporting government agency to administer exclusively the Virginia tobacco industry, in which the government has investments amounting to ₱60 million annually.

The delegation which included about a hundred farmers also claimed that the approval of the bill would be a boon to four million Ilocano farmers who depend on the industry and would minimize the stranglehold of alien businessmen in the industry.

Among other members of the delegation were Gen. Alfonso Arellano (ret.), Col. Carmelo Barbero (ret.), and Mayors Ludovico Aning, representing the Mayors League of Abra, Antonio Ganal, representing the Mayors League of Ilocos Norte, and Casimiro Fombuena, representing the Mayors League of La Union.

Earlier, President Garcia received Minister Rustan Abdulgani, vice-chairman of the National Council of Indonesia, who was accompanied by the Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamuntjak.

The No. 2 man of Indonesia, who arrived last Wednesday, is scheduled to leave tonight for Tokyo to meet President Sukarno and brief him on recent development in Indonesia.

The President this morning received four executives representing over 80 per cent of U.S. industry suppliers of equipment and services for the proposed integrated steel mill plant. The American executives confirmed U.S. interest and confidence in the NASSCO project which will be the start of an expanding steel industry in the Philippines and the basis of industrial development.

The four executives are Frederick W. Rys, vice-president and manager, Freyn Department, Koppers Company, Inc.; Jacques W. Lourie, director Foreign Sales Industrial Division, Baldwin-Lima-Hamilton Corporation; James E. Boots, president, General Electric (P. I.), Inc.; and Fred D. Kelly, regional director, Westinghouse Electric Co., Ltd.

The NASSCO integrated mill project was discussed extensively and the President agreed that when started it could be the key to a better standard of living for Filipino citizens. The President also agreed the project should not be delayed in the interest of economic development.

The President also received Joe Rosenfield, famed radio commentator of New York, who leaves tomorrow to continue his round-the-world trip. Rosenfield was accompanied by his wife.

The President moreover, received ACCFA Govs. Hilario de Pedro and Joaquin Ortega, GAB Commissioner Manuel Nieto, Jr., Salvador Viada, and John Bodin, president of Foreign Buyers Service.

This afternoon the Chief Executive administered the oath of office to Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera as associate justice of the Supreme Court in a ceremony held in the reception hall of Malacañang.

Among those who attended the induction rites were ex-President Sergio Osmeña, Cabinet members, members of the judiciary, officials of the Department of Justice, a delegation from the Daughters of Isabela, and close friends and relatives of the family.

After the ceremony, the President signed into law a bill appropriating more than P23 million to enable the Philippine Air Lines to resume its suspended international flights.

President and Mrs. Garcia then proceeded to the Manila Cathedral to attend a solemn novena to the Sacred Heart.

From the Cathedral, the President motored to his private residence and workshop on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

June 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia inaugurated this morning the ₱700,000 Tayabas-Mainit-Mauban highway in a colorful ceremony attended by national and provincial officials in Quezon province.

A rousing welcome by thousands of residents in three towns, complete with 17 arches along the way, was accorded the visiting Chief Executive, who together with the First Lady, motored through what was once a Huk infested territory.

The new road has opened for settlement vast tracts of fertile virgin forest and shortens the distance from Tayabas to Mauban by over 12 kilometers.

Provincial officials thanked the President for the new highway. They emphasized that peace and order would be assured in these areas, as the road would make accessible to Constabulary men the territory along the Pacific Ocean.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, assisted by Mrs. Leon Guinto, Sr., wife of the provincial governor, cut the ceremonial ribbon formally opening the 30-kilometer road to vehicular traffic.

President Garcia and the members of his party received a warm reception upon their arrival in Lucena, the point of debarkation. In other Quezon towns along the route, large crowds waited at the station to greet the Chief Executive with shouts of "*Mabuhay!*"

Waiting at the Lucena depot to greet President and Mrs. Garcia were Gov. and Mrs. Leon Guinto, Sr., Provincial Board Members Eladio A. Caliwara and Eduvigio Antona, mayors of the different towns of Quezon, provincial officials, and leading citizens of the province.

After acknowledging the welcome at the station, the Chief Executive and his party motored to the outskirts of Mainit town for the road inauguration ceremonies.

Enroute to Mainit, the presidential party was stopped by a human roadblock in barrio Angeles, just outside the town of Tayabas, where a delegation of municipal officials and townfolks awaited the President with leis and fireworks.

Refreshments were offered after the ribbon-cutting ceremonies after which the President led a long motorcade over the newly-opened road to Mauban town.

Along the 30-kilometer stretch from Tayabas to Mauban an observant member of the presidential party counted a total of 17 arches erected to welcome the Chief Executive to the province.

Arriving in Mauban, the President proceeded to the parish church where a *Te Deum* was offered for him. From the church, President Garcia walked the short distance to the town recreation center across the plaza where a popular banquet was prepared for him and the members of his party.

In the short program that followed the popular banquet, Gov. Guinto acted as master of ceremonies. Musical intermission numbers were rendered by Lukban Mayor Hubert Dator while Rep. Manuel S. Enverga introduced the President.

Thanking the people of Quezon for the rousing welcome accorded him and the members of his party, President Garcia said the new road will make the task of maintaining peace and order in the province a lot easier.

The President said the people of the country have several reasons for rejoicing, among them, the decreased prices of staple food crops as a result of the Administration's extensive campaign for the achievement of self-sufficiency in food, clothing, and shelter, and the increased prices of the principal export crops of the country like copra and sugar.

The Chief Executive also assured the people that the development program of the Administration will promote the economic conditions of the country so that this nation's democracy will mean a fair share for labor in the prosperity of the nation.

From Mauban, the presidential party motored to the Quezon Coconut Central in barrio Sto. Cristo, Sariaya, and visited the plant which is owned principally by Judge Vicente Arguelles and the Rodriguez family of Quezon.

President Garcia was very much impressed by the conditions in the copra central after he was briefed by Antonio E. Prats, QCC general manager, on its operations during a tour of the plant.

The President was told that the plant has a capacity of 130,000 nuts daily and produces 25 tons of high grade copra. It also employs some 100 people and provides the coconut producers in Sariaya and neighboring towns with a market for their nuts.

The Chief Executive boarded the special train at Candelaria at 3 p.m. for the return trip and arrived in Manila after a two-and-a-half hour trip during which he gave a press conference to representatives of Manila newspapers who were with the party.

Alighting at the Sta. Mesa railroad station, President Garcia proceeded to his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, to finalize his speech before the Philippine Chapter of the American Legion at the New Selecta restaurant on Dewey Boulevard scheduled at 8 p.m.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening told the members of the American Legion's Philippine department that Philippine nationalism is a friend of America and a fearless foe of communism.

In a speech at a dinner-dance at the New Selecta restaurant on Dewey Boulevard highlighting the first day convention of the American Legion, the President explained fully the meaning of the Philippine nationalism and its aims and purposes regarding surrounding Southeast Asian countries.

The President's speech thus answered the doubts raised in American circles regarding the rising wave of nationalism sweeping the country and its effects on foreign nationals and investments.

He started his speech by saying that the United States and the Philippines have divergent views on questions of jurisdiction on bases, trade, international problems, and on many other things.

But the Chief Executive reminded the American veterans that "all these can be solved and will be solved to the satisfaction of both nations under the principles of justice and equality and understanding which characterize the relations of friendship between the Philippines and the US."

President Garcia declared that he is positive the American Veterans Legion understands that Philippine nationalism, which is sweeping the country, "is a friend and ally of American and a fearless foe of communism."

He continued: "I am certain that you understand that Philippine nationalism seeks to spread the gospel of freedom and democracy in Asia and aims to make the Philippines politically and economically as self-reliant and self-sufficient as possible to maintain material dignity and self-respect."

The President emphasized in his speech that "Philippine nationalism hates dictatorship in any form. It seeks to be free of the bondage of colonial mentality and seeks freedom to work out the country's destiny."

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: June 7-13, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

June 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia had a relatively quiet day today free from callers in the privacy of his residence and workshop in Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

He spent most of the day going over important papers of state and studying correspondence and documents requiring presidential attention which were forwarded to him for consideration.

Early this morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard an early morning mass before an improvised altar in their residence.

After partaking of a hearty breakfast, the Chief Executive went over the morning papers and then retired to his study room to work on state papers.

The President had lunch with Mrs. Garcia and then saw her off for Los Baños, Laguna, where she unveiled a 50-foot concrete marker for the coming 10th boy scouts world jamboree. The marker which will serve as the monument to the scouting movement in the Philippines.

Late in the afternoon, President Garcia took a break from his paper work to heed the advice given him by Dr. Antonio Guytingco, his personal physician, to take some exercise.

The President took a brisk walk around the compound of his residence, accompanied by Lt. Melchor Frond a, naval aide to the President.

After a light supper, the Chief Executive returned to his study and continued his work until late in the evening.

June 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning reiterated the vital and urgent need for national discipline “as a most potent element in our efforts at national construction and in our desire to enjoy the bounties of a free and democratic life.”

Addressing about 500 twenty-year-old trainee-graduates of the Bicol region at their graduation exercises at Fort William McKinley parade ground, the President urged them to participate actively in community projects, particularly those with national significance.

The Chief Executive reminded them that, when they attain the voting age, it will be their responsibility as free citizens of a democracy to analyze carefully the issues that are raised before them and to vote for the men who can give a government that is truly responsive to the needs of the community and the nation.

President Garcia described the youth as the source of the strength of a nation and said the dynamic spirit among young people is “the strength that builds the pillars of our industries, which advances our national aims and objectives and builds the destiny of our people.”

The President arrived at Fort McKinley at 9 a.m. and was accorded full military honors, including a 21-gun salute, by a guard of honor that met him at the entrance of the camp.

Upon arriving at the parade ground, President Garcia reviewed the trainee-graduates. and then witnessed demonstrations on platoon fancy drill performed by Alfa Company, unarmed defense by Baker Company, and rifle exercises by the 4.2 Mortar Battery.

Everyone in the grandstand was pleasantly surprised when the Chief Executive concluded his address in the National Language. They looked at each other with wonder on their faces, as if they could not believe they were hearing right.

After the President's speech, certificates were distributed to the graduates by Lt. Col. Gaudencio P. Sacay, CO, 3rd BCT, while Brig. Gen. Dionisio S. Ojeda, IIMA commander, awarded certificates of merit to outstanding trainees.

Trophys and banners were also presented to the organizations that participate in the ceremonies by Brig. Gen. Marcos P. Soliman for their exceptional performances during the parade and review.

From Fort McKinley, President Garcia returned to Malacañang to devote the rest of the morning going over state papers.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon conferred with Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, who appraised the President of an agreement he had reached with officials of the *Katipunan ng Manggagawa* (KMP) to hold in abeyance their proposed general strike in protest against passage of the foreign exchange measure.

The President was heartened by this development, as he is confident he would be able to stave off the proposed general and nationwide strike if he meets the labor leaders.

Castaño said the labor leaders are coming to Manila this weekend to meet the President.

The President conferred with Castaño after he had inducted Ramon Gaviola, Jr., as administrator of the Social Security System.

Gaviola formerly SSS commissioner, replaces Emitterio Roa, who resigned from the body.

The President said he knew Gaviola very well and is confident the new SSS administrator would be able to acquit himself creditably in his new position.

Before inducting Gaviola this afternoon, the President received Sen. Eulogio Balao and Northern Luzon solons who urged the Chief Executive to approve the bill giving the Philippine Tobacco Administration the power to engage in the purchase and sale of native tobacco.

Although the President was scheduled to sign the bill in the presence of these solons, he found out that he did not have a copy of the bill.

Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta told the President the bill was still in the Bureau of Printing.

Balao also accompanied a group of PC and AFP pensionados and the widows of Generals Climaco Pintoy, Benito Ebuena, and Patricio Borromeo to urge the President to sign House bill No. 344, otherwise known as the Armed Forces Retirement measure.

IN the evening, the President motored to his private residence on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City for a conference with some unidentified political leaders.

President and Mrs. Garcia also wired their son-in-law Fernando Campos and congratulated him for having finished his studies leading to the degree of master of laws at the Harvard University.

Campos will be conferred with master's degree sometime this month.

June 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning declare that his faith in the UP College of Agriculture has been fully justified by its achievements during the past 50 years.

The President was the guest speaker at the golden jubilee celebration rites and alumni homecoming day of the UP College of Agriculture in Los Baños, Laguna.

The Chief Executive said the college has faithfully and satisfactorily worked up towards the ideals set up by its founders. He credited it for the improved varieties of foodstuffs, livestock, and poultry in the country, saying that these are the results of the judicious research being conducted in the laboratories of the institution.

President Garcia declared that the attainment of surplus production of rice and corn in pursuit of the goals set by the Administration in order to achieve self-sufficiency in food, shelter, and clothing should inspire the people to exert greater efforts in other fields. He also stressed the importance of the progress of agriculture in the advancement of the nation and underscored the role played by the College of Agriculture in the training of agricultural leaders, teachers, and researchers for the neighboring Asian countries.

“Their education has set the pace for closer ties with our Asian neighbors”, the President said, “and it is my expectation that this policy will continue to be implemented by this institution.”

President Garcia and members of his party boarded a special train for Los Banos, Laguna at 8:30 a.m. at the Sta. Mesa MRR station.

The presidential train arrived at the college depot at 9:50 a.m. On hand to greet the President at the Los Bahos railroad station were UP President Vicente G. Sinco, Dean Leopoldo B. Uichanco, UP Regent Gonzalo Gonzalez, Brig. Gen. Dionisio S. Ojeda, 2nd MA commanding general, UP Vice-President Enrique Virata, and members of the faculty and student body of the agricultural college.

Upon arrival at the college campus, the Chief Executive was accorded full military honors, including a 21-gun salute, by a guard of honor made up of local units of the Constabulary.

Also on hand to witness the celebration were Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Undersecretaries Amando Dalisay and Jose M. Trinidad, Reps. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay and Jacobo Gonzales, ICA Director Paul Summers, and NAMARCO Director German Neri.

During the program held at the Baker Memorial Hall, a one-minute silent prayer was offered for “departed” alumni of the school. Dr. Alexander Gordon, Class ’23, acted as master of ceremonies.

Welcome addresses were delivered by Dean Uichanco on behalf of the college, and by Jose F. Zamora for the alumni. President Garcia was introduced by UP President Sinco.

After the program, luncheon was served at the department of home technology building.

President Garcia boarded the special train at 2 p.m. for the return trip to Manila. He gave an informal press conference to representatives of Manila dailies who accompanied him on the trip.

The President was back at Malacañang about 4 p.m.

June 10.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia launched formally the first Philippine-made 1600-ton vessel in a colorful ceremony attended by national and foreign dignitaries in the national shipyards in Mariveles, Bataan, today.

Filled with pride and emotion at the launching of the Motor Vessel *General Roxas*, first built vessel in the Philippines since 1521, the President discarded his prepared speech, and in an extemporaneous address, stressed the need for, and importance of, a ship-building industry in the Philippines.

With the launching of the vessel M/V *General Roxas*, the Filipinos have proven their capacity and ability to build ships, President Garcia said, adding that this is only the first of a series of vessel that will be constructed by the NASSCO at Mariveles.

The President deplored the fact that approximately 97 per cent of Philippine imports and exports are transported aboard foreign ships. The President however expressed the hope that this situation will be remedied soon with the building up of the country's overseas merchant marine fleet.

He said that contracts have been finalized for the purchase of 12 oceangoing vessels from Japan and that 15 other ships of various types will soon be acquired by the Philippines through Reparations, all these having a total tonnage of 240,000. These will form the nucleus of the Philippine overseas fleet, he emphasized.

The Chief Executive declared that despite the country's facing serious economic problems the people could be assured of the Philippines' march to progress.

He also expressed the hope that a decision would soon be reached regarding the country's application for a loan for the establishment of an integrated steel industry.

The President was introduced by NASSCO General Manager Bernardo P. Abrera.

President and Mrs. Garcia arrived at Pier 9, South Harbor, at 8 a.m. and were met by Chairman Ulpiano Sarmiento and other members of the NASSCO board of directors.

On hand to witness the historic ceremonies were members of the diplomatic corps, Cabinet members, officers and directors of various government corporations, and ranking government officials. Other guests of the NASSCO were accommodated in the M/V *General Malvar*, a sister ship of the M/V *General Roxas*.

After the christening and launching ceremonies, Col. Generoso Tanseco, general manager of the General Shipping Co., Inc. presented to Mrs. Garcia the special hatchet she used in the rites as a souvenir of the historic occasion.

The President and members of his party returned to the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* after the ceremonies for the return trip to Manila. They arrived at Pier 9, South Harbor, shortly before three.

President Garcia remained on board the yacht for the regular weekly Cabinet meeting.

President Garcia today directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE), to prosecute three local drug importers believed to have illegally shipped out of the country millions of dollars intended for drug importation.

Justice Ocampo said that the firms in question had anomalously obtained large amounts of dollar allocations for decontrolled drugs but instead brought into the country worthless cotton, catgut, and pinewood which were left unclaimed at the piers.

One firm alone, which was virtually new in the importing business capitalized at ₱18,000 only, and therefore not qualified to the grant of dollar allocations, obtained a total of \$2,311,845.12 allocations for importation of drugs and medical supplies.

Patient sleuthing covering several months by agents of the PCAPE, Central Bank, and Bureau of Customs, headed by Major Teodulo Natividad, chief of the PCAPE Investigation and Legal Division, uncovered the widespread activities of a syndicate in salting away dollars by the simple ruse of shipping to the Philippines token imports marked and manifested as drugs and medical supplies but actually containing worthless items which could be, and were actually, abandoned without incurring losses.

PCAPE findings, after consultations with Philippine diplomatic and consular posts abroad, revealed that the supposed shippers were not even registered, and it was generally believed that the manifests and invoices used were printed in Manila.

The activities of this large syndicate, it was pointed out by the PCAPE chairman, resulted not only in a sharp dip in the country's dollar reserves but also in the current acute shortage of drugs and chemicals not locally manufactured.

It will be recalled that only recently, President Garcia constituted a committee of drug specialists to seek ways and means of relieving the acute shortage of drugs which is being felt everywhere in the country.

In the meantime, hearings have already started on the administrative charges filed against seven ranking and minor officials of the Central Bank believed responsible for the anomalous grant of dollar allocations to one of the importers in question.

One of the seven employees, according to NBI findings, actually forged the certification and juggled the records of the drug importer, on the basis of which it was able to get dollar allocations with unusual frequency.

The other six officials and employees are being held to account for their failure to detect the spurious insertion in the application for dollar allocations and other inconsistencies in the dates appearing therein which an otherwise reasonably alert official should have detected.

THIS evening the President directed the Department of Education to study the feasibility of increasing from 40 to 60 the number of school children in each class in the public schools as an immediate remedy to solve the present school crisis.

The President issued the directive during the Cabinet meeting after hearing the report of Education Undersecretary Daniel M. Salcedo on the number of children of school age who were turned away from the public schools.

Salcedo said that reports reaching his office indicated that about 160,000 school children were barred for lack of accommodations.

The President pointed out that under the arrangement of increasing the enrolment in each class, the public schools would be able to absorb some 400,000 more pupils.

President Garcia shelved Salcedo's proposal to certify an education bill seeking the appropriation of ₱10,371,200 to finance some 4,000 additional classes.

The President said he would study the plan, as the government is at present beset with financial problems.

The President took up the recurrent school crisis during the Cabinet meeting held aboard the yacht *Lapu-Lapu*.

According to the proposed measure, the non-admission of these children may bring about two adverse consequences: (1) the protraction of their schooling and (2) the accumulation of the number of children who will not be accommodated in school in the succeeding years. Therefore it is necessary to organize 4,000 additional extension classes in order to enrol these 160,000 children, the measure stated.

June 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia met with House leaders headed by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez on board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* this morning and discussed with them proposed exemptions under the proposed 40 per cent marginal levy on foreign exchange.

The conference was attended by Reps. Vicente Peralta, Jose Leido, Jacobo Z. Gonzales, and Aguedo F. Agbayani. Also present were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno.

Other matters taken up at the two-hour conference, which lasted from 9 to 11 a.m., included the necessary measures to insure the speedy approval of the proposed bill and complementary legislation to prevent the unjustified increase in the prices of prime commodities as a result of manipulations by speculators and hoarders.

President Garcia, who spent the night on board the RPS Lapu-Lapu after launching the MV *General Roxas* at Mariveles, Bataan, yesterday noon and the subsequent Cabinet meeting held on the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* last night, received Samar and Leyte solons and provincial officials this morning at a breakfast conference on the yacht anchored at Pier 9, South Harbor.

In the group were Speaker Romualdez, Reps. Alberto T. Aguja, Dominador M. Tan, Marcelino R. Veloso, and Nicanor Yniguez of Leyte; Gov. Ildefonso Cinco; Board Members Emiliano Melgazo and Enrique Granados; Sen. Decoroso Rosales; Rep. Valeriano Yancha, Felipe Abrigo, and Eladio T. Balite, and Samar Governor Fernando Veloso.

They briefed the President on the local political situation, informed him about the low buying price allegedly being offered by the NARIC for rice and corn, and later witnessed the signing of a bill dividing Samar into three engineering districts and the signing of the nomination of Assistant Director Jesus Perpihan as director of private schools.

Other presidential callers this morning were Ambassadors Jose Imperial and Salvador P. Lopez, who are here on home leave, and a delegation of newly-elected officers of the Rural Bankers of the Philippines composed of Jose Desiderio, Acting president of the association, Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora, Dr. Procopio C. Reyes, Licerio Florendo, Eduardo Barretto and Jose R. Platon, technical adviser of the association. They were accompanied by CB Deputy Governor Andres Castillo and Director Augusto Es-piritu of the CB Rural Banks Administration.

THIS evening the President signed the native tobacco bill which is expected to estabilize the price of Philippine leaf tobacco and be a boon to small farmers, especially those in the Cagayan Valley.

The President affixed his signature to the pet measure of the Northern Luzon bloc in the presence of Sen. Eulogio Balao, Reps. Benjamin Ligot, Felipe Garduque. Luis Hora, and Delfin Albano, and Gov. Felix T. Caro of Isabela.

Also present at the ceremony were municipal mayors and provincial officials of the provinces of Cagayan and Isabela.

The new law aims to wrest from alien control the purchase, sale, and distribution of native tobacco, amending to this effect Republic Act No. 1135, which established the Philippine Tobacco Administration.

The law gives the PTA the power to buy, process and age, and sell all native tobacco leaves, as well as stabilize and guarantee prices of just cured tobacco leaves, based on grades, and to promulgate such rules and regulations governing seed selection, pest control, culture, irrigation, and the marketing of native tobacco leaf.

Sen. Balao lauded the President for signing the measure and stated that this is the first time since the Spanish regime that a law has been enacted to help the small native tobacco farmers.

Earlier this afternoon, the President inducted Alejo Santos as secretary of national defense at the Malacañang reception hall in the presence of Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, former Secretary Jesus Vargas, Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke, ranking officers led by Lieut. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, Bulacan Gov. Tomas Martin, Rep. Rogaciano Mercado, and a host of friends and relatives of the new defense head.

The President also signed the appointment papers of Gregorio Abad as a member of the Reparations Commission, vice Alejo Santos.

Among the last callers in this evening were Sen. Roseller T. Lim and a delegation from Zamboanga del Sur, with whom the President discussed local problems.

June 12.—EARLY this morning, President Garcia received executives of the Ford Rockefeller Foundation who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang accompanied by Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez.

They were Dr. Tom Forest Hill, vice-president of the Ford Foundation; Dr. J. G. Harrar, vice-president of the Rockefeller Foundation; and Robert Chandler, also of the Rockefeller Foundation.

When informed that they were in the Philippines to lay the ground work for the establishment here of a research center for rice and other staple agricultural products, President Garcia thanked them and at the same time emphasized that rice experts from other countries are agreed that the best conditions for the growth of the cereal are found in the Philippines.

President Garcia and congressional leaders agreed in principle to the exemption of 10 commodities from the proposed marginal levy on foreign exchange after a four-hour luncheon-conference on board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* today.

The commodities exempted from the proposed margin are the following: drugs and medicines; medical, dental, and hospital supplies; fertilizers; textbooks; paper and newsprint; canned salmon and canned sardines; milk; containers; unassembled pressure lamps; and explosives and dynamite.

The conferees agreed to include canned salmon and sardines in the list of exemptions to keep these goods within the reach of the masses. Containers, including materials for the manufacture of tin containers used by the importer himself in the manufacture or preparation of local products for consignment or export abroad, was also included in order to protect newly-established industries.

They also decided to exempt unassembled pressure lamps for the benefit of people living in the rural areas where there is no electricity.

The commodities exempted are, with four exemptions, the same as those exempted from the special import tax provided for in the recently enacted bill H. B. No. 2365, revoking certain exemptions from said tax.

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr.; Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez; Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez; Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano Primicias; House Majority Floorleader Jose Aldeguer; Sens. Roseller Lim, Gil Puyat, Pedro A. Sabido, Quintin Paredes, and Edmundo Cea; Reps. Lamberto Macias, Jose Leido, Jose Roy, Justiniano Montano, Bartolome C. Cabangbang, Manuel A. Zosa, Aguedo Agbayani, Jacobo Gonzales, and Luciano Millan.

The conference was also attended by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, and CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno.

Before the meeting started, President Garcia signed two bills, one creating the City of Legaspi and the other amending R. A. 2046, changing the name of the Cavite Electricity Distribution Authority to Cavite Electricity and Communications Development Authority.

President Garcia today mobilized immediately all available Army planes to combat the locust menace in Cotabato and other provinces in Mindanao.

Acting swiftly on reports that some 27 towns in Cotabato alone, covering 2,524 hectares were heavily infested with locusts, President Garcia immediately ordered Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez and Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke to fly personnel and supplies with all available planes to the infested areas.

In the last Cabinet meeting, President Garcia directed the release of ₱200,000 for the purpose of combating the locust menace and placed the secretary of agriculture at the head of the campaign, assisted by the Departments of National Defense and Education.

The President expressed deep concern over the locust threat, because it will greatly affect the continuing success of his campaign to make the Philippines self-sufficient in food, especially in rice and corn.

June 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today summoned Education Secretary Jose Romero to report on studies made by his department on the feasibility of increasing the number of pupils from 40 to 55 or 60 per class as a means of solving the reported classroom shortage at the opening of the current school year.

At the last regular Cabinet meeting held last Wednesday on board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu*, the President expressed concern over reports that thousands of children of school age seeking admission in the public schools had to be turned off owing to lack of classrooms. He directed the Department of Education to study a proposal to increase the number of pupils in a class.

The President had given the directive after it was pointed out during the meeting that increasing the size of classes would riot necessarily lower the standard of education in the public schools. It was observed that a few months after the opening of classes, many pupils usually drop off and deplete the size of the class considerably. It was also pointed out that some classes had to be closed about halfway during the school year because of big drop-offs and the remaining pupils absorbed by other classes.

The President is also expected to confer with Congress leaders on the perenial school problem with the view to finding out how the government could provide more funds for this schoolyear, if necessary. This, however, will depend on the outcome of his talks with Secretary Romero, who is expected to submit his recommendations. The newly-inducted education secretary is currently on an orientation tour of the country.

The Chief Executive this morning expressed hope that the proposed levy on dollar exchange would pass Congress to enable the government to generate additional funds with which to expand its social services, including education.

The President spent the day quietly at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He did not receive any caller. He spent most of his time in his private study where he went over bills passed during the last regular session of Congress and submitted to him for approval.

About noon today, the President called up Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and instructed him to get Secretary Alejandro Almendras of General Services to authorize overtime work in the Bureau of Printing for the printing of bills. The President ordered a 24-hour work at the bureau, if necessary.

The Chief Executive expressed his desire to get hold of bills as soon as possible to give him ample time to go over them before the 30-day period allotted him by law expires on June 20.

Of the more than 500 bills passed by Congress during the last regular session, more than 100 had already been signed, vetoed, or allowed to lapse into law by the President. Thus, he has about a week within which to study and act on some 300 measures.

The law gives the President 20 days after submission to act on measures submitted to him during sessions. The President has 30 days from adjournment within which to act on bills submitted after the session.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: June 14-20, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

June 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent the whole day today studying various bills passed by Congress and submitted for his approval or disapproval, as the deadline fixed by the Constitution for his action on them approaches.

In order to allow himself sufficient peace and quiet in going over these proposed pieces of legislation, the President did not receive callers.

To continue his work, President Garcia likewise decided to cancel all his appointments for tomorrow and to keep the whole day open for possible conferences with congressional leaders.

At the same time, the Chief Executive directed his aides to check up if the Bureau of Printing personnel are working overtime in the printing of bills which have been submitted to Malacañang for the President's action.

June 15. — PRESIDENT Garcia spent this day at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City going over bills passed during the last regular session of Congress and submitted to him for consideration. He did not receive any caller.

After breakfast this morning, the President sought refuge at his private study and started reading about 60 measures brought over to him by Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta.

Of 553 bills enacted by Congress last regular session, only about 160 have so far been approved, vetoed, or allowed to lapse into law. The President thus have only five days within which to act on about 400 bills before the 30-day period allotted to him by law expires at midnight on June 20.

Legislative Secretary Logarta informed the President this morning that with the exception of the voluminous budget and the public works bills, all the measures passed by Congress last session have already been printed.

The President instructed his legislative secretary to distribute the bills among his department secretaries for their comments and recommendations. At the same time, the Chief Executive directed the members of his Cabinet to have the bills returned to him as soon as possible to give him ample time.

In the evening the President took time out from his work to meet Labor leaders who had a scheduled conference with him arranged by Labor Secretary Angel M. Castaño.

PRESIDENT Garcia sought to win the support of workers affiliated with the Katipunang Manggagawang Pilipino for his 25-40 per cent marginal tax on foreign exchange.

A three-hour defense of his pet measure before a delegation of 25 officers and high ranking members of the KMP at his Bohol Avenue residence, Quezon City, this evening failed to get for the President a categorical endorsement

The delegation told President Garcia that they viewed the President's proposal with an "open mind," but that they will have to hold a consultative meeting among themselves before making a definite stand.

The KMP leaders advanced the following arguments against the tax

- 1 There will be a general rise in prices of staple and essential articles, irrespective of the selective exemptions.
- 2 The bill will result in the curtailment of marginal enterprises which are now developing or beginning to develop in the country.
3. The bill will restrict, if not paralyze, the domestic economy.

4. The bill will inflate the cost of industrialization, by adding cost to the bringing in of machinery, part, and general heavy equipment.

President Garcia revealed he would expand the agenda of the present special session and ask Congress to grant him powers over trade and price controls to prevent prices from spiraling when the tax measure is passed.

Among the KMP officers and leaders who saw the President were Eulogio Lerum, acting KMP president and president of the National Labor Union; Ignacio Lacsina, KMP treasurer and head of the National Trade Union; Felixberto Olalia, KMP vice-president; Geronimo Cuadra of the Confederation of Government Corporation Unions; Pedro Castro, president of the Union of Stevedores; Antonio Policarpio of the KMP and National Labor Union; and Cipriano Malonso of the Mindanao Federation of Labor.

Labor Secretary Angel Castaño was not present.

During the conference, the President recited before the labor leaders the benefits that the nation will derive from the marginal tax.

He said one-half of the tax proceeds, amounting to roughly ₱350 million (computed at the 25 per cent minimum), will be used to stabilize the currency. The other half will be spent for social services, public works, and other community and rural development projects this year.

Another idea behind the tax, the President explained, is to force idle capital out of the banks and private vaults, and put this in circulation so that the people, particularly those in rural areas, will benefit from wider monetary circulation.

The independent labor leaders who met the President this evening, according to Secretary Castaño, represents some four million laborers in Mindanao, East and West Visayas, Bicol, and Luzon.

June 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today cancelled all his appointments in the morning and received former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr.

Although the Grand Old Man of Cebu was not scheduled to see the President, President Garcia cleared the way for an important meeting with the old Osmeña.

It was learned the former President gave President Garcia a fill-in on the political situation brought about by the Osmeña-Cuenco merger.

Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez was called to the meeting and joined the conference.

Romualdez, it was learned, reported on the move started by Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang to bar young Osmeña from the Nacionalista caucus the other day.

Earlier in the morning, the President received his new senior aide, Col. Jorge B. Delarmente, who has replaced Lt. Col. Emilio Borromeo, who retired from the army.

Col. Delarmente assumes the position of senior aide-de-camp to President Garcia today.

Col. Delarmente had been the senior aide of President Garcia when he was still the Vice-President while Col. Borromeo has been senior aide since the time of the late President Magsaysay.

IN the evening the President received some 60 labor leaders in his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, in an effort to convince them on the merits of his controversial foreign exchange measure.

The President had received some of them the other day, but the labor leaders did not commit themselves, saying they came with an “open mind” and would meet shortly to take up the President’s views on the matter.

Eleven major labor federations in the country this evening gave President Garcia a vote of confidence on the controversial 40 per cent foreign exchange levy.

The confidence vote, which virtually meant an endorsement of President Garcia’s pet tax measure, was made by the federations even as the *Katipunang Manggawang Pilipino* prepared to meet tomorrow to decide on whether to support or oppose the measure.

Labor Secretary Angel Castaño gave the President the confidence vote on behalf of the representatives of the labor groups who met with the President at the latter’s Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this evening.

Through Castaño, the heads of the federations, however, presented to the President a four-point proposal designed to offset the feared adverse effects of the measure on the working men.

The proposal:

1. An effective enforcement of the Price Control Law;
2. Creation of a Price Control Commission to be headed by Castaño “so as to ensure a strcig labor representation in the commission;”
3. The exemption of three main items from the levy; namely, the prime and essential commodities, raw materials for existing industries, newsprint and related items; and
4. Government agencies like the National Marketing Corporation should be fully geared to bring about the needed economic atmosphere.

President Garcia opened the conference with the labor leaders by assuring them that the tax measure would be the immediate remedy to balance the budget of the government.

The President reflected that he could not be ill-motivated in batting for the measure because, for during the 34 years that he has been serving the public, he has never been identified with any business interest.

He said that if the finances of the country were to be stabilized, it should be done so now and not later on, for then it might be too late.

PRESIDENT Garcia today signed a proclamation declaring June 17, this year as a special public holiday in several provinces and cities in Mindanao.

The President signed the proclamation to enable the Muslims in the country to observe the feast of Hidul Adha, one of the most important holidays for Muslims.

The holiday will only be observed in the provinces of Sulu, Cotabato, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, Davao, Lanao, Bukidnon, and Palawan and in the cities of Zamboanga, Basilan, Davao, Iligan, and Marawi.

Muslim officials and employees of the government, both national and local, performing their duties and functions outside of the provinces and cities above stated, shall be exempted from duty, pursuant to the proclamation.

June 17.—THE PRESIDENT did not receive any caller this morning because he was very busy going over bills passed by Congress.

In the afternoon, the President signed the following bills in Malacañang:

1. Converting the Philippine School of Arts and Trades into the Philippine College of Arts;
2. Authorizing the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes to hold a lottery for the benefit of the *Association de Damas Filipinas*; and
3. Authorizing the President to sell a piece of land in Malate, Manila, to the Ramon Magsaysay Foundation.

The President also received Reps. Luis Hora, chairman of the House committee on minorities, and Rep. Lucas Paredes, who recommended the allocation of a sizable amount to finance the studies of some 400 minorities. The President immediately authorized the release of ₱150,000 to cover the obligations of these pensionados.

President Garcia also received two German technicians; namely, Kurt G. Rosenbaun, chief engineer of the Inter-Consulting, Ltd., and Gunter Heinpze, chief metallurgist of the Von-Roll Iron Works, Ltd.

They were accompanied to Malacañang by Sen. Gil J. Puyat, Eugenio Puyat, and Mrs. Schenkel, representative of the Von-Roll firm in the country.

THE Cabinet this evening abandoned plans of packing primary grade classes from 40 to 60 pupils and decided instead to create immediately 3,000 new classes to accommodate some 160,000 new pupils.

The Cabinet authorized the release of ₱9 million from the current budget to finance the creation of 3,000 first grade classes.

The President took up the controversial plan of increasing the enrolment in the primary grades following the storm raised by the proposal.

The Philippine Public School Teachers Association hit the proposal claiming it would set back the standard of instruction in the public schools.

At the same time, the President this evening authorized the release of ₱50,000 to finance the studies of 400 pensionados from the minorities.

The release of the amount was sought by the House committee on minorities and by the Commission on the National Integration.

Commissioner Madki Alonto said the pensionados have been refused admission by the schools because of their financial obligation.

Education Secretary Jose E. Romero recommended the opening of new classes to absorb 160,000 new pupils, during the Cabinet meeting.

He said that the present budget authorizes the financing of these classes in the event of so-called school crisis this year.

The President also adopted Romero's plan to institute double single sessions in the primary grades to be able to accommodate other pupils who were turned away for lack of funds.

Under this arrangement, a school teacher will handle two classes of 40 pupils each. He will handle the first in the morning and the second in the afternoon.

It was learned that aside from the 160,000 first graders turned away, there are still some 200,000 pupils out of school.

Romero said that he had just returned from what he called an “orientation tour of the southern islands” and found out that the school crisis was only talked of in Manila.

He said, in some provinces, teachers had to go on a house-to-house campaign for pupils.

He also observed that, in some cities, the problem is not lack of funds but lack of buildings to house the classes.

During the course of Romero’s report on his “orientation tour,” lights went off in Malacañang. Romero continued with his oral report during a 20-minute blackout.

Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno observed that some school buildings are not well situated, giving rise to a situation where there is overcrowding in one school and a comparatively sparse enrolment in another.

Moreno suggested the centralization of school buildings in order to have an equal distribution of pupils in a locality.

From the Cabinet meeting, the President motored to the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* where he spent the night. He may stay there the whole day tomorrow.

Malacañang said the President is going over 300 bills which had been approved by Congress. He has up to midnight Saturday to sign or veto the bills.

President Garcia signed today a proclamation declaring the 98th birth anniversary of Dr. Jose P. Rizal on Friday, June 19, as a special public holiday.

In calling the country to commemorate the birth anniversary of the Philippines’ national hero, President Garcia described Dr. Rizal as “our greatest hero and patriot.”

The President emphasized that June 19 should be a day for the Filipino people to be given the full opportunity to celebrate the date with appropriate ceremonies in keeping with Dr. Rizal’s ideals and teachings.

June 18.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia boarded the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* last night after the Cabinet meeting and stayed aboard the yacht the whole day today.

The President decided to board the yacht in order to give him ample time to go over more than 300 bills which have been approved by Congress. He has up to midnight Saturday to act on these bills.

The President conferred with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who briefed him on some pending state papers and later on huddled with Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta on the pending bills.

Although he did not want to receive callers, many visitors boarded the yacht in an effort to see the President.

Reps. Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon and Natalio Castillo of Bohol saw the President.

Peralta, it was learned, explained his pet measures which are facing presidential veto.

After his conference with the two solons, the President asked himself to be excused from callers. He retired to his bedroom where he went over the bills,

To give the President complete seclusion Lcdr. Manuel C. Mandapat, skipper of the *Lapu-Lapu*, sailed away from the harbor.

He signed 11 bills up to press time this evening, including the bill scrapping exemptions from the payment of tariff duties on the personal effects brought in by returning residents.

Before the signing of the bill into law, returning residents could, bring in ₱500 worth of personal effects.

The President is staying aboard the yacht until he has acted on all the 300 bills.

On the eve of the 98th birth anniversary of Dr. Jose P. Rizal, President Garcia emphasized that nationalism and racial dignity are the main factors that would lead our country towards progress and prosperity.

In two statements, one to the nation and the other in the form of a special radio broadcast inaugurating the distribution of transistor radios in Jolo, Sulu, the President extolled the achievements and conduct of our national hero thereby showing that the Filipinos are the equal of any race in the world. (See *Historical Papers and Documents*, pp. 4627-4629, for the radio message to Mindanao and Sulu residents.)

President Garcia also underscored the significance of the nation's celebration of the Rizal centennial in 1961.

The President's statement to the nation follows in full: Ninety-eight years ago today, the Pride of the Malay race was born. Dr. Jose P. Rizal died at the young age of 35 but in that short life span, his achievements and his conduct showed the world that our race, which at that time was much maligned, was the equal of any other in the world. Not only did he live a hero's life as patriot, doctor of medicine, linguist, sociologist, and scholar but he also died a hero's death, martyr to the cause of freedom for his native land.

As we celebrate his 98th birth anniversary, we are also working on great preparations for his centennial birth anniversary in 1961. No stone is being left unturned to make the celebration of his centennial year truly worthy of his place in our galaxy of heroes.

With the realization that we must live up to the teachings to Rizal to be a great nation, Congress has made it a law that these teachings of our national hero be part of the formal educational curriculum of our land. Our people can do no less. Nationhood and independence are nothing if not upheld by economic stability and national dignity.

But this year's observance of his birthday is more significant than just looking forward to his hundredth year or merely looking back to his historic past.

For the Filipino people today is conscious more than ever that the nationalism and racial dignity that goaded Rizal on the road to martyrdom are the same propulsive forces that will hurry the Filipino people towards their meeting with destiny.

President Garcia today authorized the use of the R P S *Lapu-Lapu* to transport 1,500 boy scouts from Mindanao and the Visayas to Manila for the Boy Scout World Jamboree.

The 10th Boy Scouts World Jamboree will be held at the Makiling National Park, Los Banos, Laguna, from July 17 to 26 this year.

The RPS *Lapu-Lapu* will make one trip to Mindanao and two to the Visayas starting July 10 to bring the boy scouts to Manila. The boy scouts from Mindanao will converge in Cagayan de Oro where they will be picked up while the boy scouts from the Visayas will gather in Cebu where they will be transported to Manila.

This will be the second time the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* will be on a special assignment. The first one was the successful Philippine floating commercial and industrial exposition which recently visited Asian countries.

The President stayed the whole morning on board the *Lapu-Lapu* anchored off Manila Bay where he worked on the bills passed by Congress during its last regular session.

On board the ship, the President also prepared his message on the occasion of the birthday of Dr. Jose Rizal, national hero and martyr, on June 19.

June 19.—FOR the second consecutive day, President Garcia stayed the whole day today aboard the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* where he went over pending bills in complete seclusion.

Malacañang said the President is scheduled to stay aboard the yacht until the stroke of midnight tomorrow, which is the deadline for his action on the various bills approved by Congress in the last regular session

The yacht is moored near the breakwater to avoid callers who may pressure the President one way or the other. No visitors were allowed to board the *Lapu-Lapu*.

The First Lady, who accompanied the President aboard the yacht the other night, debarked this morning to fulfill an engagement but returned shortly before lunchtime.

Up to press time, the President was reported to have gone over some 50 bills, including the repeal of the barter law.

The President was reported going over the other bills which he will either sign or veto or allow to lapse into law.

Up to press time, the President was reported going over the omnibus bill which will make all positions of mayors of chartered cities elective, excepting those of Naga, Tagaytay, and City of Trece Martires.

President Garcia today issued executive order No. 341, prescribing the rules and regulations for the appointment of reserve officer pilot graduates and technical men into the regular force of the Philippine Air Force.

In his executive order, the President emphasized that it is to the best interest of the military service that such appointments be made on a fair and equitable basis depending on the demonstrated fitness of officers, taking into consideration the necessity of giving reasonable security to regular officers.

The rules and regulations cover the appointment of officer pilots into the regular force in grades higher than second lieutenant of graduates of the PAF flying school or the USAF flying school, as well as non-pilot reserve officers on active duty who passes necessary technical qualifications for operation and maintenance of aircraft.

June 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia worked until midnight today going over pending bills approved by Congress with members of the Cabinet and Malacañang aides in order to meet the 30-day deadline set by the Constitution for the President to act on bills passed by Congress.

Waking up at 6 a.m. after going to bed past midnight last Friday, the President called for Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta and started working.

The first bill to be signed today was Senate Bill No. 388 which creates the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration, authored by Sens. Quintin Paredes and Cipriano Primicias.

The President also called for Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, and dictated his reasons for vetoing several bills.

The Chief Executive ate his lunch at 1 p.m. with Secretary Pajo, Malacañang legal adviser Salvador Esguerra, and other Malacañang aides.

After lunch, the President continued going over the bills. At 4 p.m. he approved the 1959-1960 budget after going over it with Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona and Secretary Pajo.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: June 21-27, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

June 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia said today that the lifting of controls might be effected in four years depending upon the outcome of the currency stabilization plan.

The President made this statement during an informal exchange of views with members of the Business Writers Association of the Philippines on board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* this morning.

Members of the association were on board the ship for about two hours during which they sought the President's views on a number of economic problems besetting the nation at present.

Headed by Emiliano Jurado of the *Philippines Herald*, president of the association, the group included Ernie Ilustre of the *Manila Times*, Benny Ronquillo of the *Daily Bulletin*, Johnny Redoblado of the *Daily Mirror*, Charlie Castañeda of the *Evening News*, Gene Marcial of the *Manila Chronicle*, Virgilio Maceda of the *Bagong Buhay*, and Joe Aspiras past president of the National Press Club.

Shortly before noon, the President administered the oath of affiliation to Gov. Marcelo Adduru of Cagayan, who turned Nacionalista Gov. Adduru was chairman of the Liberal Party chapter of his province.

Among those present at the induction were Sen. Eulogio Balao and some politicians from Misamis Oriental who happened to be on board; namely, Ex-Gov. Paciencia G. Ysalina, Ex-Rep. Pedro Baculio, and Ex-Mayor Tomas T. Mediante.

Following the ceremony, the President and the First Lady boarded a Navy launch, disembarked at the PN headquarters landing on Dewey Boulevard, and proceeded by car to the home of Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr. Mrs. Rodriguez was celebrating her birthday.

About 2:30 p.m. the President returned to the ship and spent the rest of the afternoon going over some state papers brought over to him by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

The President is scheduled to get off the *Lapu-Lapu* tomorrow morning to fulfill some engagements in Malacañang.

June 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Malacañang at 8:30 a.m. today after working overtime for three successive days aboard the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* to meet the midnight deadline last Saturday for acting on more than 300 bills passed by Congress during its last regular session.

He spent the morning preparing the speech he will deliver this evening before the General Federation of Women's Clubs in the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo met the Chief Executive upon his return to the Palace and briefed him on the latest developments in Malacañang during his absence.

IN the afternoon, President Garcia received delegation after delegation, led by senators and congressmen who expressed their gratitude for the approval of pet bills.

First delegation received by President Garcia was led by Sen. Eulogio Balao, Rep. Benjamin Ligot, and Gov. Marcelo Adduru, who called to thank the Chief Executive for approving the bill giving capital to the Philippine Tobacco Administration.

Sens. Pacita M. Gonzalez and Decoroso Rosales and Fernando Santiago, tenancy mediation commissioner, also led a delegation of farmers and employees of the Agricultural Tenancy Commission who also thanked the President for approving the bill granting more rights and security to tenant-farmers.

Other politicians who led delegations to Malacañang to express their gratitude to the President for signing their pet bills were Sen. Domocao Alonto; Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal; Reps. Salipada Pendatun of Cota-bato, Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Godofredo Reyes of Tlocos Sur, Ricardo Yap Ladrado of Iloilo, Miguel Cuenco of Cebu, Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon; Gov. Serafm Teves of Negros Oriental; Dumaguete City Mayor Mariano Perdices; and Celerino Martinez, secretary of the Provincial Board of Negros Oriental.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Antonio Delgado, Tomas de Castro, Gov. Esteban Bernido of Bohol, and Serafin Gunigundo led officials of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines who called on President Garcia to express their gratitude for the approval of the bill authorizing the release of semi-postal stamps for the 10th World Jamboree.

THIS evening the President exhorted the woman delegates to the 68th annual convention of the General Confederation of Women's Clubs to lead in the worldwide campaign to preserve manpower which, he said, was being lost because of youth delinquency.

He made the plea as guest speaker of the confederation at an international dinner this evening at the Manila Hotel. The GCWC convention is the first to be held in Manila and in Asia.

The President pointed out that the world problem is how to conserve manpower and this has become a "challenge to the womanhood of the world," he said.

"You should lead in the fight against youth delinquency. I believe this should be started from the cradle unrelentingly until the emancipation age," he added.

The President expressed optimism that the women of the world will prove equal to the challenge.

President Garcia prefaced his speech by greeting the delegates of several countries affiliated with the confederation and lauded them for choosing the Philippines as the site of their first meeting.

"The role of women throughout the world is fundamentally the same ' and only made diverse by cultural and historical patterns," he said. "Because they are mothers of mankind and are aware of the sacredness of life, women have exercised a strong spiritual influence in almost all fields of culture," President Garcia added.

The President observed that it is the women's concern for mankind and spirit of love and selfless devotion that have fortunately tempered man's egomania and thirst for power.

He paid tribute to women's "tremendous spiritual influence and love for mankind" that the era of peace is brought nearer realization.

June 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today reenacted the signing of H.B. 544, appropriating ₱30 million for the establishment of coconut banks throughout the country, in a ceremony held in the President's study room in Malacañang.

Members of the "coconut bloc" in Congress, headed by Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., thanked the Chief Executive for approving the measure, saying it will mark the beginning of the emancipation of coconut producers from alien stranglehold on the coconut industry.

Among those who attended the reenactment were Reps. Manuel Enverga of Quezon, Jose Fuentesbella of Camarines Sur, Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, Emilio Espinosa of Masbate, Natalio Castillo of Bohol, Gaudencio

Abordo of Palawan, Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Francisco Sumulong of Rizal, Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, and Felipe Garduque of Cagayan.

Rep. Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan presented to the President a copy of the draft of a proposed bill providing for incentives for exporters and producers under the 25 per cent-40 per cent margin on foreign exchange.

The proposed bill provides that exporters-producers will be allowed to retain 25 per cent of dollars earned. These dollars, it was explained, will be subject to the rules and regulations of the Central Bank on foreign exchange and will be used by them exclusively for the purchase of necessary machinery, equipment, and spare parts.

Earlier this morning, President Garcia received Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Romualdez who invited the President and the First Lady to attend the town fiesta of Tacloban, Leyte, on June 30.

June 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia relayed his congratulations to the people of the City of Legaspi on the occasion of the turnover today of transistor radios donated by the Committee on American Relief Everywhere (CARE) to the Filipino people.

In his congratulatory message, the President stressed that these radio sets are being distributed in connection with the current drive of the Administration to keep the people, especially in the rural areas, well posted on general facts and actual conditions and progressive trends in community development.

The Chief Executive said this information campaign is being implemented under two general principles; namely, (1) that national security and progress can be fostered and stabilized through continuous education and information which can be effectively disseminated through radio broadcasts beamed to the masses; and, (2) that the programs and activities in connection with this projects shall be non-partisan and non-sectarian.

Dubbed "Rural Radio Education Project," the radios will be used for extending basic educational broadcasting for literacy, health, agriculture, trades, and other basic needs of the people.

In line with the aims of CARE, the President declared that rural families will be continually supplied with correct information to enable them to improve their lot in life and help them realize the blessings offered by democracy as against the abuses, evils, and horrors of communism.

President Garcia said the principal aim of the government's "Rural Radio Education Project" is the building of a well-informed and enlightened citizenry, especially in the rural areas, where live the men behind the nation's economic development.

The President said his administration subscribes to the belief that an informed citizen is a good citizen and that enlightenment is a key to a people's progress.

The turnover ceremony that takes place today in the City of Legaspi is the second of its kind, the first being in barrio Pulang Lupa, Pandi, Bulacan, late last month.

THIS afternoon the President received the credentials of Monsignor Salvatore Siino as the Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines in a ceremony held at the Malacañang Ceremonial Hall.

The ceremony was witnessed by members of the Cabinet, local Catholic hierarchy, and prominent lay members.

The new Papal Nuncio, who replaces Mons. Egidio Vagnozzi, was received at the Malacañang grounds with full military honors rendered by an elite unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion on his arrival about 5 p.m.

President Garcia and Mons. Siino pledged to strengthen the cordial relations between the two states.

In his short address, the Papal Nuncio expressed his hope that with the cooperation of the President and the Filipino people, he would be able to accomplish his mission in the Philippines, which he called "the outstanding vanguard of Christian civilization in the Orient."

The President, in his response, pledged the full cooperation of the government and people to the new Nuncio.

June 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia today hailed the recently-concluded "Exercise *Handa*" as a healthy sign of a continuing and lasting understanding between the Philippines and the United States while working for a common objective that would in the end "promote lasting peace not only in this part of the globe but also among other nations who believe in freedom and the democratic way of life."

The President made this statement at the conclusion today of command post exercise dubbed *Handa* participated in by units of the U.S. 25th infantry Division and the Philippine Army. *Handa* is a bilateral command post exercise conducted under the joint directorship of Major General John Theimer of the U.S. 25th Division and Brigadier General Marcos G. Soliman of the Philippine Army. The exercise was conducted from June 21 to June 25, with the following objectives:

1. To increase the capability of Philippine and United States forces in standardization of methods and procedures;
2. To further the progress of Philippine and United States forces in standardization of methods and procedures; and
3. To enhance the traditional close working relationship between Philippine and United States forces.

The Chief Executive commended PI-US brass who had contributed toward the successful conclusion of the exercise. He said that their contribution will form another link between the United States and the Philippines, in particular, and members of the free world, in general, and will, in the end, positively unite them in the formation of a common defense against aggression in all forms.

President Garcia extended his commendations to Admiral Harry Felt, commander-in-chief, U.S. Pacific; General Isaac D. White, USARPAC; Maj. Gen. John E. Theimer, U.S. 25th Division- commander; Brig. Gen. Curtis J. Herrick, assistant division commander of the 25th Division; Brig. Gen. Tirso G. Fajardo, commanding general, Philippine Army; Brig. Gen. Marcos G. Soliman, PA exercise director; and Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, AFP chief of staff, who was particularly cited for having worked closely in the preparation of the exercise.

"I am proud," the President said, "that the Philippines was chosen to be the site of the exercise and I am sure that the members of the Philippine Army units that participated in this command post exercise have learned new techniques in staff procedures in combined planning and operation."

The President expressed the hope, shortly before he left this morning for Gapan, Nueva Ecija, to inaugurate the opening of new railway system to Cabanatuan that this type of exercise could be conducted again in the near future.

President Garcia, praised the attendance of foreign military observers during the whole period of the exercise. Foreign military observers who attended the exercise came from Argentina, Australia, China, France, Italy, and Thailand.

President and Mrs. Garcia inaugurated the San Miguel-Gapan line of the Manila Railroad Company in ceremonies held at the Gapan station in Gapari, Nueva Ecija, this morning.

In an extemporaneous speech, President Garcia assured the people of Nueva Ecija that his administration will not stop until the present railroad lines are extended up to Aparri, in the North, and to Matnog, Sorsogon, in the South.

He said he will make the MRR the instrument for achieving national progress and securing the best interest of the people by opening up vast tracts of fertile land in the country and making these accessible to markets.

When the Nacionalista Party took over the reins of government in 1954, the President said, Nueva Ecija was the center of widespread social problem. He cited the agrarian unrest that rocked Central Luzon, to solve which the government instituted a program to provide land for the landless.

During his incumbency, the Chief Executive told the people, the government has purchased through the Agricultural Tenancy Commission several vast estates in Nueva Ecija and subdivided them among the tenants and farmers working on the land. Among the estates purchased by the government, he said, were the De Leon, Halili, and Jaen properties.

To implement further this "land for the landless" program of the Administration, President Garcia announced that he will release 15,000 hectares of land belonging to the Fort Magsaysay military reservation in Papaya, Nueva Ecija, and have them subdivided and sold to the tenants and occupants of the estate.

Immediately after his speech, the President signed a proclamation releasing said land from the military reservation and transferring it to the ATC for distribution.

The Gapan MRR line is part of the MRR project for the rehabilitation of the railroad line from Plaridel, Bulacan, to the City of Cabanatuan, a distance of 81 kilometers. With the inauguration of this line, 56.5 kms. of rehabilitated line will be put to operation for the service of the people of Bulacan and Nueva Ecija.

President and Mrs. Garcia left Tutuban Station at 8:30 a.m. aboard a special train bound for Gapan, Nueva Ecija, to officiate at the inauguration ceremonies.

Members of the presidential party included Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, SWA Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, Gov. Amado Q. Aleta of Nueva Ecija, MRR Board Chairman Juan J. Carlos, OEC Administrator Pablo Cruz, NASSCO General Manager Bernardo Abrera, Rep. Felicisimo Ocampo of Nueva Ecija, PNB Vice-President Conrado Sevilla, MRR General Manager F. F. Santiago, and MRR Board Director Teofilo Zosa.

The special train arrived at Gapan Station at 11 a.m. and the inauguration ceremony was started shortly after with Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia cutting the symbolic ribbon opening the San Miguel-Gapan line. The presidential party were met on arrival by Chairman Paulino Garcia of the National Science Development Board, Cabanatuan City Mayor Elpidio Cusio, and other provincial executives of Nueva Ecija and their ladies.

After the inauguration program, some 80 members of the Progressive Party of the Philippines chapters in Gapan and Cabanatuan City, headed by Jose P. Ramos and Alfonso G. Espinosa, affiliated with the Nacionalista Party and took their oaths of affiliation before President Garcia.

The President returned to Manila on board the same train after the inauguration ceremonies and arrived at Tutuban Station at 2:30 p.m. From Tutuban, the President motored to Malacañang.

June 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia discussed possible items for further inclusion in the agenda of the current special session of Congress following the approval last night by the lower House of the administration-sponsored 25-40 per cent marginal levy on foreign exchange at an hour-long conference with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., and Speaker Daniel Romualdez in Malacañang this morning.

The President was also presented with the first *Rhine* sewing machine manufactured locally as a personal gift from the Claude Wilson, Inc., manufacturers of the machine.

Among those who attended the presentation of the company's first product were Claude Wilson, Jr., Hilarion Henares, Jr., Eduardo Rodriguez Jose Fernandez, Jr., Roman Cojuangco, and Wellington Koo, Jr.

The President expressed gratification upon being informed that the sewing machine was built out of 80 per cent local materials in line with the Administration's policy of utilizing a maximum of local resources

Newly-appointed members of the UNESCO National Commission took their oaths of office before President Garcia this morning. Present at the oath-taking ceremonies were Prof. Galo B. Ocampo, Art Association of the

Philippines; Mrs. Enriqueta Benavidez, Civic Assembly of Women; Alfredo Lozano, National Music Council of the Philippines; Benjamin Zamora, Pam-paaralang Kapisanan Ng Wikang Pambansa; Dr. Estefania A. Lim, Philippine Mental Health Association; Dr. Benigno Aldana, Bureau of Public Schools; Minister Privado Jimenez, Department of Foreign Affairs; Lugum Uka, Philippine Muslim Educational Association; Dr. Ricardo Pascual, University of the Philippines; Francisco Trinidad, Philippine Broadcasting System; and Mrs. Josifina P. Ambrosio, member-at-large.

Officers of the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines headed by Jose Desiderio, Sr., invited the President to induct the newly-elected officers of the association at a dinner to be held in the near future. Desiderio was accompanied by Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora; president of the Agco Rural Bank, Inc., and director of the Association, and Dr. Procopio Reyes, president of the Pasay City Rural Bank, Inc.

President Garcia also accepted an invitation extended by Dr. Rafaelita H. Soriano to open the first conference of Asian United Nations to be held in Manila from July 6 to 8, this year.

The Chief Executive signed souvenir copies of H.B. 2475, creating a division and additional positions in the General Auditing Office, and S.B. No. 94, establishing the Philippine Tobacco Administration at the request of interested parties.

Among those present at the signing were Auditor General Pedro M. Gimenez and other officials of the GAO while the signing of souvenir copies of S.B. 94 was attended by Ilocos solons, including Sen. Quintin Paredes, Reps. Lucas Paredes, Godofredo Reyes, and Faustino Tobia, and Gen. Alfonso Arellano (ret.);

Earlier this morning, the President received George Billainkin, British lecturer and author, who is on a tour of the Far East interviewing Asian leaders and gathering materials for a book.

President Garcia also received W. E. Murray, general manager of CALTEX (Far East division) and president of CALTEX (Philippines) who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang. Mr. Murray, who is president of the Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce in New York for the fourth consecutive year, was accompanied to Malacañang by W. E. Menefee, general manager of CALTEX (Philippines) and J. P. Roxas, public relations manager of CALTEX (Philippines.).

THIS afternoon the President announced he would seek from Congress "standby powers" to crack down on profiteers and hoarders and check the rise of prices of essential commodities.

At his regular press conference the President showed concern over reports that prices of commodities have soared even as the controversial marginal bill was being discussed in both chambers of Congress.

"It is an act of bad Faith," the President said as he explained his decision to seek the necessary authority from Congress as a complementary measure of the controversial foreign exchange bill.

"I want stronger powers and stern penalties," the President said, as he gave a warning against blackmarketers and speculators who are reportedly cornering the market in an effort to manipulate the prices of essential goods.

At the same time, the President disclosed he would inquire into reports that even prices of goods of the National Marketing Corporation have skyrocketed. He also promised he would ask for the cancellation of the dollar allocations of importers who are found guilty of profiteering.

"There is absolutely no justification for this," the President said when inform that price of corned beef has almost doubled.

The President, however:

1. Expressed gratification over the House approval of his embattled exchange measure and said he hoped the Senate would pass the same bill before July 3;
2. Said he was not calling a second special session, as politics have crept into the deliberations of both chamber of Congress, this being an election year;
3. Definitely killed the move to push through the dollar-retention bill of a powerful bloc of House members, as it carried the same provisions as the celebrated Senate Bill 167, which he vetoed two years ago;
4. Left to the NP executive committee of the Nacionalista Party, which meets tomorrow, to decide on the cases of Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco and Rep. Sergio Osmefia, Jr., and also the three-cornered fight for the mayoralty of Manila among Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, Vice-Mayor Jesus Marcos Rocas, and Rep. Augusto Francisco; and
5. Indicated his readiness to meet the opposition leaders on the controversial marginal bill this coming elections.

The President admitted that there are existing price control measures but pointed out that under their provisions, “it is hard to prove a case of profiteering.”

He said he wanted Congress to invest him with “standby powers” which he would wield in going after importers and traders who have unreasonably jacked up their prices.

Informed that the prices of essential commodities, including NAMARCO goods, have already soared, the President said “there is no reason for those increases.”

He charged these traders and importers with “bad faith” as the marginal bill is not yet enforced.

In seeking congressional special authority, the President said he wanted stern measures which he would use against unscrupulous traders who threaten the economy of the nation.

The President, however, said he would allow traders only a “fair profit.”

He said he would go to the source of the sky-rocketting prices by inquiring into the invoices of the importers.

The President said he was in favor of the automatic deportation of alien traders who are found guilty of unnecessarily padding their prices.

“I will go after these profiteers until they would listen to reason,” the President vowed.

June 27.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia played hosts to chiefs of diplomatic offices in Manila and their ladies at a cruise on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* around Manila Bay this morning.

The diplomats, headed by their newly-arrived doyen, Papal Nuncio Msgr. Salvatore Siino, started boarding the president yacht at Pier 3 at 8 a.m. Cabinet members and their ladies were also among the guests on the cruise. Promptly at 9 a.m., LCdr. Manuel C. Mandapat, skipper of the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, gave the order to shove off. Destination was Sisiman Cove, an isolated pocket ringed by mountains with a white-sand beach just outside the mouth of Manila Bay, on the Bataan coast.

President and Mrs. Garcia mixed freely with the guests and obligingly posed for pictures for camera enthusiasts among the diplomats.

U.S. Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen invited the President to a game of chess and soon after they retired to the Chief Executive’s drawing room to play the royal game with Msgr. Siino acting as moderator and kibitzer. The President also played with Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak and Counselor David Golan of the Israel Legation, who said he had been playing the game since he was 12 years old.

The presidential yacht reached Sisiman Cove at 11:30 a.m. and some members of the party went down in the vessel's two motorboats to take a dip in the shallow waters near the beach.

The yacht lifted anchor at 2 p.m. for the return trip to Manila and after a slow and leisurely trip docked at Pier 3 at 5 p.m.

President and Mrs. Garcia saw the guests off and then remained on board the rest of the day.

The President received today an assurance from Roberto Oca, president of the *Katipunang Manggagawang Pilipino*, that the latter was in favor of giving the Administration a chance to test the effectivity of the proposed marginal bill as an economic remedy so long as adequate safeguards were provided to protect the interest of the nation's workers.

In a conference on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* today, Oca informed the President that he would meet the KMP board of directors tonight for the purpose of reexamining their stand on the issue and giving the President a vote of confidence. He said he still stood by his commitment previously made when he had testified before the Senate and House committees that he had no objection to the marginal bill provided it did not work hardship to the laboring class.

The KMP president said that the bill, in its present form, would be sufficient to protect -the interest of the workers, as certain exemptions has been made on commodities basically needed by the workers.

Oca called on the President on the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* following his arrival from Geneva where he attended a conference of the International Labor Organization. Accompanied by Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, the KMP president heard the Chief Executive explain the objectives sought to be achieved by the proposed law. The Chief Executive also gave reassurance that he would personally initiate its abrogation if the measure could not remedy the economic ills sought to be remedies.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: June 28- July 4, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

June 28.—THIS morning President and Mrs. Garcia boarded the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* for their first long trip aboard the new vessel. They were headed for Leyte where they will attend the annual fiesta of Tacloban City.

The yacht was scheduled to pull off at 10 o'clock this evening but was a little delayed on account of President Garcia's previous engagement with the Manila Symphony Society at the Manila Hotel.

The President and the First Lady attended the "black and white" dinner of the Manila Symphony Society at the Manila Hotel.

The President and the First Lady heard mass this morning at the dining saloon of the yacht.

After the mass the President conferred with Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental. He discussed with the President the political situation in his province.

President Garcia likewise received Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, who briefed the President on the progress of the controversial foreign exchange bill in Congress.

The President said he was elated with the approval of the measure in the Lower House and hoped that the bill would go through the Senate this week.

After his conference with Gov. Gatuslao and Logarta, the President relaxed inside the presidential suite.

He left the yacht at 8 o'clock this evening to attend the "black and white" reception and ball given by the Manila Symphony Society.

From the Manila Hotel, the President and the First Lady motored directly to the PN headquarters to board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* for the trip to Tacloban City.

June 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia today belittled the newly-announced coalition senatorial ticket of the coalesced minorities branding it as "not impressive."

The President told newsmen he was confident that the coalition could easily be bested by the senatorial slate the Nacionalista Party will form shortly.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, a host of Manila newspapermen, and government officials, is proceeding on board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* to Tacloban City.

The President will attend the Tacloban City fiesta and meet mayors and political leaders from Cebu who are crossing over to Leyte.

He is scheduled to plot with them a fool-proof strategy that is calculated to minimize the effects of the recently formed alliance between the age-old rival factions of Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco and Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr.

The *Lapu-Lapu* is scheduled to dock at the Tacloban wharf early tomorrow morning.

Speaker Daniel Romualdez, who saw the President off in Manila late last night, will head a large delegation of Leyte officials in welcoming the Chief Executive to the island province.

June 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia today predicted major victory for the Nacionalista senatorial and local candidates in the coming elections at a conference of national, provincial, and municipal officials in the new Tacloban City Hall.

The President also dared the Liberal Party to raise the Lapu-Lapu issue. He justified the acquisition of the ship.

In a lengthy extemporaneous speech in the dialect during the conference, the President explained the huge budget, the dollar marginal bill, and the economic development program of the Administration.

In explaining the budget, he compared the Philippines to an infant and said the country's requirements and expenses increase through passage of years.

President Garcia said the marginal bill on foreign exchange was necessary for currency stabilization purposes and to provide more essential public services which have increased as a result of the tremendous growth of population in recent years.

The Chief Executive told the conference that the Philippines had achieved three first:

- (1) The country has become self-sufficient in rice and corn and is even exporting these cereals;
- (2) The just recently launched NASSCO ship, the first ship built in the Philippines by Filipinos; and
- (3) For the first time the country sent an international floating exposition which visited eight Southeast Asian countries and enhanced Philippine prestige in this part of the world.

Towards the end of his address, President Garcia called on local officials to work for the victory of the majority party's candidates, among them incumbent Gov. Ildefonso Cinco for governor, Ramon Torres for vice-governor, and incumbent board members Enrique Granados and Emiliano Melgazo for board members.

The President was introduced at the conference by Speaker Daniel Ro-mualdez. Other speakers were Samar Gov. Fernando Veloso, Samar Rep. Valeriano Yancha, Bohol Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang, Leyte Reps. Marcelino Veloso, Alberto Aguja, Dominador Tan, and Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte, and Rep. Felipe Abrigo of Samar.

Earlier, the President presented to Gov. Cinco 16 transistor radio sets donated by the Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE) to the Philippines during President Garcia's state visit to the United States last year.

The sets were among the first batch of 1000 sets from 19,000 pledged to this country.

In a brief talk the Chief Executive said these sets are gifts of the American people to Filipinos in rural areas to keep them posted on international and local events as effective means of combating communism.

The presidential party arrived at Tacloban City aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* at 9 o'clock this morning and was met at the wharf by a huge crowd.

After acknowledging military honors tendered by the provincial Constabulary honor guard, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Sto. Nino Church for a *Te Deum* offered by the Tacloban City parish priest.

President Garcia then proceeded to the City Hall for the turnover ceremony of the 16 transistor radio sets and for the conference with local officials.

Lunch for members of the presidential party was given by Ambassador Eduardo Quintero, *hermano mayor* of the town fiesta, at his residence.

After the luncheon, President Garcia returned to the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* to hold a closed door conference with 39 Cebu mayors and over 200 political leaders on board the yacht.

Meanwhile, thousands of people from all walks of life went aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for a whole day sightseeing tour.

Later in the evening the Chief Executive and the First Lady went to St. Pauls College where Mrs. Garcia crowned Miss Leyte.

The *RPS Lapu-Lapu* was met this morning at the entrance to San Juanico Strait by several brightly decorated boats escorted it to the Tacloban City wharf. On board the boats were Governor Cinco, Tacloban City

Mayor Artemio Mate, PHHC General Manager Bernardo Torres, Ramon Torres, Mayor Alfredo Bantug, and Antonio Benedicto. Speaker Romualdez and Rep. Marcelino Veloso boarded the vessel early this morning before the ship entered San Juanico Strait.

July 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia emphasized at a press conference today on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* that he will not tolerate political interference in consideration of Army promotions.

The President, in answer to questions of Manila newsmen, declared there will be no extension of the present special session of Congress which will end July 3.

The Chief Executive joined members of the presidential party at breakfast this morning and appeared unaffected by the hectic and strenuous schedule in Tacloban City yesterday.

The President retired to his stateroom after giving the press conference and worked until late in the evening on pending state papers, including finalized drafts of speeches he will deliver before the Manila Rotary on July 2, and the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines on July 3.

The *RPS Lapu-Lapu* left Tacloban early this morning and negotiated the narrow difficult San Juanico Strait shortly after sunrise.

The sea was very calm and smooth. The weather was excellent in spite of slightly cloudy sky. At 2 p.m. the ship passed abreast of Ticao Island traveling at service speed of 17 knots per hour. The presidential party is expected to arrive in Manila early tomorrow morning.

PRESIDENT Garcia today slammed the door on the possibility of another special session and told newsmen that Congress has to make up its minds within the 30-day period ending Friday.

In a brief interview on board the yacht, the Chief Executive said that the elections are fast approaching and that politicians could not move because of the congressional sessions.

President Garcia indicated he would leave the fate of his pet measure to the two chambers of the legislature.

“I hope they will make up their minds before the 30 days are over,” the President answered when asked if he would call another special session if the 40 per cent margin bill is not passed by Friday.

The President, however, expressed optimism that the measure would go through before Congress adjourns its present special session.

He recalled that Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., had assured him that the margin bill will go through before adjournment. In the same interview, President Garcia also:

1. Said he will look into the gas shortage, if the House committee on good government would not proceed with its inquiry;
2. Assailed disgusted Armed Forces colonels for indulging in political talks on promotions as brought about by the reported promotion of Col. Antonio de Veyra to brigadier-general;
3. Said creation of the Virginia Leaf Tobacco Administration will delay action on the reorganization of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperatives Financing Administration; and
4. Left the door open to the possible affiliation of Nationalist-Citizens Party leaders to the Nacionalista Party.

When asked to comment on the proposed decontrol measure whose inclusion as an amendment to the Senate version of the margin bill might snag the approval of the foreign exchange measure, the President said he had not been advised officially on this development.

He stressed that he was not inclined to call another special session, as the elections are fast approaching and politics has crept into the congressional deliberations.

Turning to Manila Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, the President lampooned the city executive for his charge that President Garcia was gagging radio commentators, including the mayor, from the air.

"I don't even know they are getting out of the air," he said when told that Lacson had charged that Melchor Aquino and other commentators will eventually be deprived of their radio time.

He added that he did not even know "they are radio commentators." The President said he believes in a free market of ideas, as "truth will win in the market of free ideas and falsehood will go to trash."

July 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning returned from a four-day trip to Tacloban City where he fired the first political salvo which is expected to swing the voters of the province behind the Nacionalista candidates in the coming elections.

The President also conferred with more than 30 mayors from Cebu and rallied them behind the NP, following the formation of an anti-Garcia Osmeña-Cuenco alliance in that province.

Asked about the big number of Cebu politicians who rallied behind the President in the latter's fight against the Osmeña-Cuenco combine, the President said, quoting former Senator Jose P. Laurel, "They (the Cebu political leaders) are my people."

The President went to Tacloban City to attend the town fiesta, which he said has become significant to him, as it was on June 30, 17 years ago, when he got the ultimatum from the Japanese soldiers to surrender. President Garcia was then a *guerrillero* holding out in Leyte.

Upon his arrival in Manila, the President conferred with ex-President Sergio Osmeña, who reported to the Chief Executive the political developments in Cebu. The conference was held aboard the yacht *Lapu-Lapu*.

At 12 o'clock," the President motored to the Manila Hotel, where he addressed the Manila Rotary Club.

THIS AFTERNOON the President outlined his plans for a four-year program of decontrol to bring the country's economy back to the operation of a free market enterprise.

He disclosed his plans in a speech he delivered before the inaugural luncheon-meeting of the Manila Rotary Club at the Manila Hotel this noon.

The President, in the course of his speech, gave what he called a “frank appraisal of the situation which should convince us of the urgency to act quickly if we are to avert the danger that our problems grow to Unmanageable proportions.”

He cited inflation and the low international reserves as “the most critical problems facing the country’s economy today.”

He said these two problems “have arisen as a consequence of rapid economic development characterized by expansionary fiscal and monetary policies.

“That we have indeed made economic progress is attested by the rise of real per capita income from ₱308 in 1953 to ₱377 in 1958,” the President pointed out.

President Garcia outlined his program of decontrol as follows:

“In the first year, all commodities falling under the ‘essential consumer’ category of the Central Bank classification will be added to the present ‘decontrolled’ category.”

In the second year, the President said, “about 20 per cent of the essential category will be decontrolled, with another 35 per cent to following the third year.”

In the fourth year, President Garcia expected all essential producers and essential consumers goods and about one fourth of the semi-essential producers import to be decontrolled.

The President bared his decontrol program as he took cognizance of an agitation in the Senate to lift controls.

However, the President said that a general licensing of foreign exchange for non-essential producers and consumers capital accounts and invisibles would continue.

He pointed out that the licensing of foreign exchange would likewise be lifted “to insure the channeling of resources to productive enterprises.”

In planning to carry on with the controls on the foreign exchange the President said the unregulated transfer of capital accounts abroad may result in another large and immediate drop in the reserves “on account of the existence of a large reservoirs of blocked funds.”

“If the stabilization program is successful, as I hope, by the fourth or fifth year, we should also be able to remove the import controls and rely solely on regulation by the tariffs,” he said.

The President explained that by January 1, 1962, the tariff charge on U.S. goods, which have traditionally comprised the bulk of the country’s imports, will be 75 per cent of the normal tariff.

“At this level,” the President said, “we may expect the tariff to become usable as a normal and effective weapon of economic order.”

The President also disclosed that concurrent with the gradual decontrol program, credit policies will also be liberalized to allow the private sector a fuller development under conditions of greater stability and freedom.

At the same time, he said, the government during this period, can pursue an accelerated economic development program without the danger of a resurgence of inflationary pressure inasmuch as there would be available new non-inflationary financing for such outlays.

“Thus,” he reasoned out, “the more aggressive government program will more than offset whatever hardships these stabilization measures have caused the masses in the form of greater social benefits and greater employment.”

He also justified his program of tapping foreign credit to supplement domestic resources.

“With the recent steps we have taken to bring about international stability in our economy,” the President said, “we can hope that more credits will be forthcoming, since we have demonstrated our willingness and capacity to take the necessary, if unpalatable, measures to keep our economic house in order.”

Moreover, the President added, “nationalism means that we have the pride to be relatively self-reliant and self-sufficient to stand on our own feet and paddle our own canoe and be a contributing member of the great community of free nations.”

In explaining the country’s economic problems, the President said that inflation and low international reserves are common to underdeveloped countries today.

He deplored the fact that the peso is now worth only 98.8 per cent of its 1955 value.

He likewise loathed the fact that the country’s reserves “has been hovering around \$150 million for the past year and a half now.”

However, he traced these problems to the expansionary expenditures from both the public and private sectors of the national economy.

“To satisfy the aspirations of our people for economic and social development, public and private credit have been utilized to finance investment projects,” he said.

The President also touched on his controversial foreign exchange bill which is now in Senate-House conference committee.

He said he had sought the enactment of the unpopular bill to check “the origin of domestic inflation and add the drain of our international reserves.”

He pointed out that the margin bill over the selling rate of foreign exchange is expected to exert deflationary impact on money supply so as to bring about a balance between demand and supply of goods and services.

“At the same time,” he added, “the margin proceeds will provide the government with funds which shall be used to retire a part of the public debt, as well as to augment the Securities Stabilization Fund, the Account to Secure the Coinage, and to finance social and economic projects in rural areas.”

The President observed that “we are grappling with serious, often perplexing, problems inherent in a young and developing nation. We know that the solution to these problems necessarily entails sacrifices of some form or another. There is no royal road to national success. But history eloquently attests to the fact that the Filipinos, with their spirit of sacrifices, have survived through four centuries of bondage, and with the instrumentality of freedom, the same spirit of sacrifice will carry us through new and thrilling saga of growth, of achievement of success and happiness,” he added.

The President addressed the Manila Rotary Club shortly after he returned from a trip to Tacloban City.

He also inducted the new officers of the Rotary Club, namely: Ramon Ordoveza, president; John L. Leach, vice-president; Jose Y. Orosa, M.D; Arnold, Jose M. Barredo, Charles Graeminger, and Joaquin Preysler, directors; R. R. de la Cruz, secretary; Jesus Jacinto, treasurer; Alexander Sycip, sergeant-at arms; and Rafael S. Dedal, assistant secretary-treasurer.

THIS EVENING President Garcia took up with his Cabinet anew the sale of the 12-ocean going vessels to private companies and the applications of a firm to put up a coconut mill in the country.

The Cabinet failed to arrive at a definite decision on these matters, as the discussions shifted to varied subjects touching on the controversial foreign exchange bill and politics. The President will take up these subjects again at the next Cabinet meeting.

The President called the Cabinet to a meeting this evening following his failure to meet the members last Wednesday.

President Garcia accepted the credentials presented by Ambassador Walter Hofer of the Swiss Confederation during a simple ceremony held in the ceremonial hall of Malacañang this afternoon.

In accepting the letter of accreditation of Ambassador Hofer, the President said the elevation of the Philippine Legation in Berne and the Swiss Legation in Manila to the rank of embassies proves the desire of the people and government of both countries for the establishment on the highest level of diplomatic relations and to strengthen further the bonds of friendship existing between the two nations.

Ambassador Hofer declared in his address that the elevation is a clear manifestation of the fruitful collaboration in the past between the two countries and of their sincere wish to strengthen the bonds which link them. It is also an expression of the mutual respect and esteem which binds both countries, he added.

The Swiss diplomat arrived at Malacañang promptly at 5 p.m. accompanied by Pedro Angara-Aragon, protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs; Maj. Jose Estrella, junior military aide to the President; and Werner Wahl, attache of the Swiss Embassy.

After acknowledging military honors accorded him by an honor guard composed of elements from the Presidential Guards Battalion, Ambassador Hofer entered the Palace and was met at the head of the stairs by Col. Jorge Delarmente, senior aide-de-camp to the President, and together they proceeded to the ceremonial hall.

The presentation ceremony was attended by members of the Cabinet and officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs, among them, Ministers Enrique Garcia and Juan Arreglado. *Basi*, the Malacañang ceremonial wine, was served after the ceremony.

From the ceremonial hall, President Garcia went to the music room and received four Japanese newsmen who covered the latest attempts of their government to secure the surrender of two Japanese stragglers believed to be holding out in Lubang Island, Mindoro.

The Japanese newspapermen who paid a courtesy call on the President were Yutaka Tsuji, *Asahi Shimbun*; Koichi Fujii, *Yomiuri Shimbun*; Teizo Hamada, *Mainichi Shimbun*; and Hisao Inomata, staff writer of the Kyodo News Agency. They were accompanied by Satoshi Kinase, press attache of the Japanese Embassy, and Ramon V. Mitra of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

After receiving the Japanese newspapermen, the Chief Executive proceeded to the Council of State room to preside over the weekly Cabinet meeting.

July 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia directed the ACCFA authorities to continue buying Virginia tobacco produced in the Ilocos region pending the organization of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

The directive was given today following a breakfast conference with Congress leaders at Malacañang. Present at the conference were Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda and Sen. Quintin Paredes, Reps. Delfin Albano of Isabela, Jose Roy of Tarlac, and Manuel Zoza of Cebu.

The President also authorized the Philippine Tobacco Administration to continue buying native tobacco used as fillers by local cigar factories.

At the same time, President Garcia certified to the urgency of enacting Senate Bill No. 350, proposing the creation of anti-graft courts and Senate Bill No. 368, which seeks to amend the Judiciary Act of 1948.

Senate Bill No. 350 proposes to create a Court of Public Functions with original and exclusive jurisdiction to try and decide all criminal cases involving offenses committed by officers and employees of the Government, including those of government-owned or controlled corporations, in connection with their official duties, and private individuals conniving with said officers and employees.

It also proposes that the Court of Public Functions will have exclusive jurisdiction in cases involving offenses against national security, escheat proceedings under Republic Act No 1379, all electoral protests involving provincial and municipal officials, and all other cases concerning the extent of powers of public officials or titled to public office.

Senate Bill No. 368, on the other hand, seeks to amend the Judiciary Act of 1948 by increasing to over ₱200,000 the minimum value of the controversy in civil cases over which the Supreme Court shall have exclusive appellate jurisdiction.

It also provides for an additional judge each in the Courts of First Instance of Ilocos Norte, Pangasinan, Zambales, Rizal, Camarines Sur, Misamis Oriental, Misamis Occidental, Cotabato, and Basilan City, and group the province of Marinduque with the province of Romblon under one judge.

Meanwhile, the President received Miss Leticia Quintal who reigned as Miss Philippines at the recent Fiesta Filipina held recently in Honolulu in connection with the first convention of Filipino Community Association of Hawaii.

Miss Quintal delivered to the President a letter from Governor William F. Quinn of Hawaii, who greeted him and conveyed to him the *Aloha* of the people of Hawaii.

Gov. Quinn reported that since the time President and Mrs. Garcia passed by Hawaii during their state visit to the United States last year, the Filipinos in Hawaii have gained much in stature and prestige. He added that "we can be proud of them," especially at a time when Hawaii is about to become the 50th state of *the* Union.

Two Cebu mayors saw President Garcia and pledged their loyalty to the Administration and to the Nacionalista Party. One of them, Mayor Pedro Cabaron of Moalboal, informed the President "that it's hard to follow Serging (Osmeña, Jr.), because he keeps jumping from one party to another and from position to position." Mayor Cabaron formerly belonged to the faction headed by Rep. Osmeña in Cebu.

Mayor Panfilo Montecillo of Tuburan, who formerly belonged to the Cuenco faction, informed President Garcia that he cannot support the candidates of the faction of Rep. Osmeña even though Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco has combined forces with them.

Other callers this morning included Col. Francisco Katigbak, SSS Administrator Ramon Gaviola, Jr., Sens. Reseller Lim and Eulogio Balao, and Govs. Romulo Garrovillo of Zamboanga del Norte, Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental, and Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac.

THIS afternoon President Garcia called upon the women of the Philippines to start the early training and discipline of their children to bring about the wholesome growth of a good citizenry.

Addressing the 13th annual assembly of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines (CAWP) in the Malacañang social hall, the President assured his hearers it is his personal concern and that of the Administration to insure a high moral integrity among public officers.

During the affair, the Chief Executive conferred upon Miss Helen Z. Benitez and Dr. Herberto Zipper presidential award medals in recognition of their outstanding work in international cultural relations.

President Garcia also conferred presidential medals of merit to the following CAWP awardees: Felicisimo Reyta for invention; Dr. Miguel Cañizares for contribution to national health; Anastacia Giron Tupas for nursing education; the family of Pablo Campos for the distinguished contribution of their children and grandchildren in various fields of activity.

The Chief Executive thanked the women for their commendation and assurances of cooperation and support for the following programs of the Administration:

1. The "Filipino First" policy;
2. Program of bringing about closer ties between the Philippines and Asia;
3. Bipartisan membership in important representations abroad;
4. Interest in, and financial support given to, cultural projects; and
5. Interest in, and financial support given to, the National Family Life and Workshop, the first Asian seminar on mental health and family life.

After a late lunch, President Garcia went over the records of deserving prisoners recommended by the board of pardons and parole for executive clemency.

After due consideration, the President extended clemency to 114 prisoners on the occasion of the observance of the 13th anniversary of Independence Day.

At exactly 5 p.m., President and Mrs. Garcia went to the Malacañang social hall for the 13th annual assembly of the CAWP.

After the program, the Chief Executive retired to his room and went over the final draft of the speech he will deliver at the July 4 celebration at the Independence Grandstand on the Luneta tomorrow afternoon.

On the eve of the celebration of Philippine and United States Independence, President Garcia sent a special message to United States President Eisenhower hoping "that the special relationship between our two countries be further strengthened as we rededicate ourselves today to the continuing defense of the dignity and the liberty of man."

The Chief Executive, on behalf of the Filipino people, conveyed to the "great American people my most sincere greetings and felicitations on the Anniversary of your Independence Day."

"It is quite meaningful that our two countries have a common Independence Day, because we share the same ideals of freedom and democracy for which our gallant soldiers have fought and died," President Garcia said.

Following is the full text of President Garcia's message: "On behalf of the Filipino people and of my own I wish to convey to your Excellency and to the great American people my most sincere greetings and felicitations on the Anniversary of your Independence Day.

"It is quite meaningful that our two countries have a common Independence Day, because we share the same ideals of freedom and democracy for which our gallant soldiers have fought and died. It is my fervent hope that the special relationship between our two countries be further strengthened as we rededicate ourselves today to the continuing defense of the dignity and the liberty of man."

July 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia rededicated the Philippines and the Filipino people to democracy and the democratic way of life in his address at the 13th independence anniversary celebration rites at the New Luneta this afternoon.

Addressing one of the largest crowds ever assembled on the Luneta, the President painted a bright picture of the country's economic progress during the last 13 years and cited the remarkable gains made in agricultural production, manufacturing, and mining. He expressed concern, however, in that most of its benefits have become concentrated in the hands of a few.

In pursuance of the Administration's program to attain a symmetrically balanced economy, the Chief Executive called upon the people, nationals and foreigners alike, to give their unstinted cooperation to the efforts of the government in this respect.

President Garcia also pledged free, clean, honest, and democratic elections this coming November in consonance with the democratic principle of free and untrammelled expression of the popular will.

President and Mrs. Garcia arrived at the Independence Grandstand on the Luneta promptly at 3 p.m., together with defense Secretary Alejo Santos, chairman of the 13th independence anniversary celebration committee who fetched them from Malacañang. The two-and-a-half hour long military and civic parade started a few minutes after their arrival.

The seeming monotony of the parade which dragged for hours was broken when Miss Leticia Quintal, voted "Miss Philippines" of Hawaii, descended in front of the grandstand from the Filoil Refinery Corporation float she was riding, went up to President and Mrs. Garcia, and presented them with leis and then kissed them.

The slight shower that fell during the early part of the program failed to dampen the spirits of the crowd who surged close to the grandstand to hear the President's address.

Estimates of the attendance at this afternoon's 13th independence anniversary celebration ranged from 500,000 to 700,000 people.

After delivering his speech, President and Mrs. Garcia returned to Malacañang where they were hosts at a state dinner in Malacañang in commemoration of Independence Day.

Earlier this morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. Among those present at the mass were members of the Cabinet and ranking government officials and their ladies.

After breakfast, the Chief Executive retired to his study where he worked on the final draft of his speech he delivered this afternoon at the Luneta.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: July 5-11, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up early this morning despite a heavy schedule he had followed the whole day yesterday, topped by a three-hour ceremony at the Independence Grandstand on the New Luneta in the afternoon and a subsequent state dinner he gave in Malacañang which lasted up to 11.30 p.m., in observance of the 13th anniversary of Philippine Independence.

The President started the day today by hearing mass at the Malacañang chapel. Mrs. Garcia was not with the President at the mass, as she had left Malacañang earlier to fulfill an early morning engagement outside.

After breakfast the President boarded his car about 9:30 a.m. and motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He had not been there for more than a week, as he had been busy holding series of conferences with Congress leaders during the last few remaining days of the special session and attending to important state matters which had kept him in Malacañang.

The Chief Executive did not receive any caller at his residence the whole day. He spent most of his time closeted in his study, going over some important state papers he had brought over from Malacañang.

July 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia called the United Nations humanity's greatest hope in the sphere of world security and peace and in the field of social and economic well-being at the opening of the first regional conference of Asian United Nations Association in the WHO conference hall on Taft Avenue this morning.

The President stressed the significance of the conference and said it is a step forward in the effort to make peoples the world over understand the UN's principles and support the organization's activities.

President and Mrs. Garcia were fetched from Malacañang at 10 a.m. by former Minister Manuel V. Gallego and Dr. Rafaelita H. Soriano, chairman and member, respectively, of the five-man Philippine delegation to the conference.

Upon their arrival at the conference site, the Chief Executive and the First Lady were met and greeted by chiefs of participating delegations and representatives of other UN agencies in the Philippines.

After a one-minute silent prayer for the achievement of peace through the United Nations, President Garcia delivered his address and formally opened the conference.

The President motored to his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, after the conference started and stayed there to work on state papers.

In the afternoon, the Chief Executive returned to Malacañang where he worked on state papers.

President Garcia appointed Judge Salvador V. Esguerra as technical adviser on legal matters to the President effective July 1 this year, it was announced by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable today.

On receiving the appointment signed by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo by authority of the President, Judge Esguerra promptly took his oath of office before Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema.

Judge Esguerra also filed a manifestation with the Supreme Court suggesting that his acceptance of the position constituted an abandonment and renunciation of his office as judge of the court of first instance of Iloilo, and prayed that this circumstance can be taken into consideration in the final disposition of the writ of mandamus pending before the high tribunal seeking to compel him to assume the Iloilo post.

July 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia early this morning received Vice-President Sarvepalli Radhakrishman of India at breakfast in the state dining hall of Malacañang. With them at breakfast were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano and Indian Ambassador Naker Nath Maitra.

Dr. Radhakrishman, who is here on a one-day visit to the Philippines, arrived last night and is scheduled to leave at 11 p.m. tonight for Honolulu to attend a conference of world philosophers.

The Chief Executive also received Dr. Alfredo Rocha, noted gastro-enterologist of Barcelona, Spain, and Nestor Casas Jacome, editor of *El Mundo Diplomatico*, who paid courtesy calls at Malacañang.

Dr. Rocha was accompanied by Dr. Francisco Roman, Dr. Mariano M. Alimurong, Dr. Oscar Liboro, and Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician.

Among the first callers was Rep. Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, who briefed President Garcia on the political situation in his province. With Rep. Sanchez were Eulogio Garcia, incumbent senior member of the provincial board and prospective candidate for the governorship of the province, and Dr. Casiano Plaza, councilor of Butuan City and aspirant for the mayorship under the Sanchez banner.

A delegation from Misamis Oriental headed by Rep. Fausto Dugenio called on the President to apprise him of political developments in the province.

Members of the delegation included the following political leaders of Misamis Oriental: Ex-Rep. Isidro Vamenta, Ex-Rep. Pedro Sa. Baculio, Maj. Crisostomo Chaves, Vice-Mayor Osmundo R. Waga of Cagayan de Oro City, Major Gerardo Roa, Cagayan de Oro City Councilor Juan G. Regalado, Marino B. Avanceña, Ramon Chaves, Dr. Simplicio Roa, Jose C. Roa, and Roberto Palermo.

Rep. Jose M. Laurel IV saw President Garcia this morning to request the appointment of Pedro Llanes as councilor of Lipa City, vice Dominador Magno, deceased.

Other callers this morning requested the President to expedite the release of funds for the completion of various public works projects in their districts. Among them were Reps. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, Francisco Sumulong of Rizal, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, and Jose Nuguid of Bataan.

This afternoon the President received Belgian Minister Ferdinand Buckens, who is leaving on Thursday for Brussels for reassignment. The Belgian minister, who served in the Philippines for the last four years expressed his full confidence in the future of the country.

President Garcia expressed his regrets that the local diplomatic corps will lose a very able member. He said that his government will extend all possible help and cooperation to the successor of Minister Buckens.

Before proceeding to his home office, Minister Buckens will pass by Saigon where he is concurrently assigned as Belgian minister.

The President also received Alfonso Ponce Enrile and Dr. Jose Locsin, chairman of the National Economic Council.

In the evening, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to their Quezon City residence.

The Chief Executive signed 34 ad interim appointments including that of Col. Antonio V. de Veyra as brigadier general in the Armed Forces of the Philippines shortly after lunch today.

The President adopted today positive measure to curb the reported increase of prices of prime commodities pending his signing into law of the price control bill.

The Chief Executive at the same time reiterated his stern warning to profiteers against disposing prime commodities at unreasonable prices.

In twin moves, the President directed the Central Bank of the Philippines to allocate additional dollars to the NAMARCO for the immediate purchase of prime commodities in addition to the ₱3.5 million earmarked for the immediate importation of milk.

Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo was directed likewise by the President to look into the delay in printing of two major administration bills; namely, the price control bill and the margin measure.

Secretary Pajo in turn directed the Director of the Bureau of Printing to rush the printing of both measures. The implementation of the price control law is being delayed by the non-delivery of said bills for President Garcia's signature.

July 8.—THIS morning, the President discussed with President Vicente G. Sinco of the University of the Philippines the proposed expanded program of the UP in scientific and agricultural research in line with the Administration's policy of encouraging technological studies.

The Chief Executive also received Indian Ambassador S. N. Maitra, who presented personal gifts to him and to the First Lady from Vice-President Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan of India, a recent visitor to the Philippines.

The gift to President Garcia consisted of an intricately carved chess table made from sandalwood and chess pieces of ivory and ebony. The President requested Ambassador Maitra to convey his thanks and appreciation to Vice-President Radhakrishnan. He said the gift will be a welcome addition to his collection of chess sets.

President Garcia will invite officers of all chambers of commerce, importers, and heads of various civic organizations for the purpose of enlisting their cooperation in the government's efforts to arrest the reported spiraling of prices of prime commodities.

He directed General Manager Benjamin Estrella of the NAMARCO to call to a general conference representatives of all NAMARCO distributors and retailers all over the country to impress upon them the necessity of reconciling the profits motive with their obligation as beneficiaries of the NAMARCO law to serve the public.

Concerned over persistent reports of increasing prices, the President this morning summoned Estrella and Governor Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank to a conference at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He directed Cuaderno to furnish the state marketing firm with the necessary dollars with which to import prime commodities which are in short supply.

The President expressed hope that with these importations, the price of essential commodities would be stabilized and go down to a reasonable level. He said that the new price control law would give him sufficient weapon to go after unscrupulous traders but that he would not do so unless it became necessary.

Estrella said that he would set his general meeting with NAMARCO distributors and retailers for Saturday. Also at the conference this morning was Miss Virginia Yaptinchay, special assistant to CB Governor Cuaderno,

Estrella reported that in an ocular survey of retail stores he made in Manila and suburbs, he had noted a considerable increase in the prices of foodstuffs, particularly evaporated and condensed milk, corned beef, and other canned goods in short supply.

The President directed Estrella to flood the market with these prime commodities so that their prices would go down within the reach of low-salaried employees and wage earners. Estrella recommended an initial release of \$10 million for the importation of these goods. He also proposed that a total of \$30 million be set aside for this purpose.

After his conference with Cuaderno and Estrella, the President felt light headache. He cancelled a luncheon engagement at the residence of Justice Buenaventura Ocampo on the occasion of the birthday anniversary of the PCAPE chairman.

Shortly before 5 p.m., President Garcia motored to Malacañang to receive the credentials of newly-arrived Ambassador Anthony T. Stirling

The President postponed his regular weekly meeting with the Cabinet scheduled for this evening, as he was not feeling well.

President Garcia and Australian Ambassador Alfred Stirling this afternoon exchanged pledges for the further enhancement of the good relations existing between the Philippines and Australia.

The mutual pledge was made at the presentation of credentials of Ambassador Stirling held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall in the presence of members of the Cabinet and ranking officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The President in his remarks recalled that both countries stood together in steadfast alliance through the dark days of the last World War.

He also expressed recognition of the usefulness of the membership of the Philippines to the SEATO and the Colombo Plan in which Australia plays a leading role.

The President said that the Filipinos are deeply appreciative of the generosity of the Australian Government in extending grants of twilight aid scholarships, and donations of useful publications to the Filipinos.

The New Australian Ambassador, who replaces Ambassador Keith Owen Shann, opened his remarks by stating that he was happy to begin his mission with the feeling that he was among friends.

He said that the Philippines and Australia will share the same ideals, being partners in the Colombo Plan and allies in the common cause of the South East Asia Treaty Organization. He added that this cooperation is undoubtedly increasing the close relations and understanding between the peoples of both countries.

After the presentation of credentials, President Garcia and the new ambassador exchanged toasts with *basi*, which has become the ceremonial beverage in Malacañang.

Ambassador Stirling, upon arrival at Malacañang, received full military honors given by a select unit of the Presidential Guards Battalion under the command of Capt. Felixberto Damian.

After the military ceremony, Col. Jorge Delarmente, senior aide-de-camp to the President, escorted the ambassador to the ceremonial hall.

Present at the ceremony held at 5 p.m. today were Executive Secretary Juan C Pajo, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo, OEC Administrator Pablo M. Cruz, General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, National Science Board Chairman Paulino Garcia Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, Health Secretary Rafael Tumbokon, and Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza.

July 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to receive presidential callers because the President was indisposed.

The President retired to an undisclosed place to rest on the advice to his physician.

Among those who were received by Secretary Pajo were: Reps. Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, Jose Nuguid of Bataan, Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, Laurentino Badelles of Lanao, Natalio Castillo of Bohol, ex-Rep. Atilano R. Cinco; Govs. Diego Ty-Deling of Misamis Occidental, Veliciano Leviste of Batangas, Manuel Solidum of Romblon, Jose Dinglasan of Capiz, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, and Dominador Chipeco of Laguna.

Other presidential callers were Mayor Elpidio Cudio of Cabanatuan City accompanied by NP leaders, Juan Soriano and Alfonso Espinosa; and Gov. Emilio Navel of Bataan who headed a big delegation of mayors and NP leaders from his province.

Most of the congressmen, governors, and mayors received by Secretary Pajo on behalf of the President requested financial aid for their respective localities. They also reported on latest political developments in their provinces.

After receiving callers, Secretary Pajo inducted into office Samuel Carin as provincial fiscal of Cebu. The ceremony was attended by friends and relatives of the inductee, among them, Rep. Natalio Castillo of Bohol, NDC Board Director Celestino Cortez, Ricardo Bacatlos, Tito Carilles, and Mrs. Carin.

The President at press time had not returned to Malacañang.

President Garcia today had himself examined by physicians of the V. Luna General Hospital, as he was reported still complaining of a recurrent headache.

Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan, the President's physicians, advised President Garcia to enter the V. Luna Hospital for a medical check-up.

It was learned that the President was not serious but was advised to rest.

The President returned to his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, from the V. Luna Hospital where he rested the whole day.

July 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took up the cudgels for Manila's commuting public and ordered the indefinite postponement of a demand by bus operators to hike their fares from one centavo to one-and-a-half centavos per kilometer.

The President also authorized the release of ₱25,000 originally intended for transporting members of the notorious *Sigue-Sigue* gang from Muntinlupa to the San Ramon penal colony, and utilizing the money for the construction of a separate stockade in the New Bilibid Prisons compound to house the troublesome convicts.

At a conference in Malacañang this morning with Commissioner Alejandro Galang of the Public Service Commission, President Garcia asked that final action be deferred on the petition for increased rates filed by members of the Bus Operators Association of the Philippines with the commission.

Commissioner Galang informed the President that the increase requested by the BOAP is still within the maximum of two-and-a-half centavos per kilometer authorized by the PSC.

The rising prices of spare parts and the resulting higher cost of maintenance and operation, Galang said, have forced bus operators to take this move in order to remain in business.

Approval of the transfer of funds for the construction of a new stockade in the New Bilibid Prisons compound in Muntinlupa followed representations made by acting Justice Secretary Enrique A. Fernandez, concurrently acting director of prisons.

Secretary Fernandez informed the President that conditions in Muntinlupa have improved considerably and that there have been no violent incidents in the prison during the last four months since he took over.

President Garcia also directed the NARIC board of directors to include 1,000 metric tons of corn produced by NARRA settlers in the quota of 8,000 tons authorized for export by the Cabinet.

The directive was issued after a conference with Mrs. Remedios O. Fortich, NARRA board chairman and general manager. Also present at the conference were Bruno O. Aparri, assistant to the general manager and NARRA coordinator; and Maj. A. Lotho, NARRA financial adviser.

Other presidential callers this morning were John C. Lipham and Mrs. Lucas Paredes, Fr. Mariano Gaviola, Gov. Florencio Garcia of the Development Bank of the Philippines and his brother, Recio Garcia, Gov. Juan Triviho of Camarines Sur, Ceferino Tavora, Venancio Makiling, Jr., and Daniel Vizco.

President Garcia received in the name of the Filipino people symbolic gifts of the peoples of the United States and Japan which he obtained during his state visits to both countries, at separate colorful ceremonies held at Malacañang this afternoon.

In the first turn-over ceremony, President Garcia received three mobile medical units donated by the American people through CARE. These units will be used by the medical and dental services of the Bureau of Public Schools in a nationwide health program to combat intestinal parasite diseases found among the school children in the rural areas.

In the second ceremony, President Garcia received from K. Ishiyama, chief Manila liaison officer of Mitsubishi Shuji Kaisha, Ltd., 55 complete units of Mitsubishi multi-purpose tillers specially designed for field conditions in the Philippines.

High ranking government officials attended the ceremonies, among them Education Secretary Jose Romero, Education Undersecretary Daniel Salcedo, Sen. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable. Others present included Salvador Neri, vice-president of the Farm and Factory Machinery Company, exclusive distributors in the Philippines of Mitsubishi; Press Attache Satoshi Kinase of the Japanese Embassy; S. Morahasi, T. Shimada, and K. Kawamura, of Mitsubishi; PHHC Director Manuel Leelin; and Jose Mayuga.

Dr. Allan Kline, Manila head of CARE, in presenting the mobile medical units to President Garcia, said that this is the second time that the U.S. agency has cooperated with the Philippine Government in a nation-wide project. The first time, it was in connection with CARE's rural information and education program wherein some 2,000 transistor radios were turned over to the President for distribution to the barrios.

Each mobile unit will carry a physician, two laboratory technicians, and a driver and will treat approximately 20,000 pupils a year. It is equipped with medical and laboratory apparatus, a self-contained electric power plant, and an electric refrigerator, and has a full range of audio-visual components including a 16 mm. movie projector with accessories, a tape recorder, a film-strip projector, and a public address system. One of *the* units was donated by Graham French of Philadelphia.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon said he is in favor of the formation of a strong opposition party to better preserve democracy in the Philippines.

He made these remarks during his weekly press conference, as he denied charges that he was responsible for the present discord which is plaguing the coalesced Liberal and Progressive Parties.

At his regular press conference, the President said he "hoped that they (the minority leaders) would be able to put their house in order."

President Garcia denied charges aired recently by Vice-President Macapagal, LP president, that the President had been responsible for the announcement of conflicting Senate slates.

“I did not know” the President mused, that “I have great influence in the Liberal Party. I could use as tools Sen. Ambrosio Padilla and Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa, if we have to believe Macapagal’s charges.”

Asked on the effects of the rift within the coalesced LP-PP, the President said, “That is something.”

In a sarcastic tone, the President said: “It’s too bad I could not help Mr. Macapagal as I have problems of my own.”

Asked on the problems plaguing the majority party, the President said he preferred to indulge in “generalities.”

At the same time, the President refused to comment openly on the new move of Nacionalista leaders to expel Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., from the administration party.

“I would rather wait for the committee looking into the case, to render its report before I make any comment,” he said.

President Garcia, however, recalled that there are “loyalist groups in Cebu” who have deplored Osmeña political conduct and are seeking to defeat him in the coming elections.

The President obviously referred to the meeting of more than 40 mayors of Cebu province aboard the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* in Tacloban City last week.

He said the Osmeña followers are now referred to in the NP ranks as the “rebels from Cebu.”

During the press conference, the President:

1. Denied reports that Sen. Edmundo Cea is being groomed for the position of ambassador to Jakarta to eliminate him from seeking a berth in the NP senatorial slate;
2. Branded as a “restraint of employment” the supposed “pact” entered into between the Chief Executive and members of Congress to share on a 50-50 basis the filling up of new positions in the budget;
3. Vowed to mete out drastic penalties against officials allegedly linked with smuggling syndicates;
4. Said he would sign the two bills on price control and the margin on the foreign exchange as soon as he receives the printed copies from Congress;
5. Justified the threat of Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno to cancel the dollar allocations of importers who would jack up the prices of their goods; and
6. Refused to comment on the move of the United States Government to suspend the exportation of- U.S. surplus goods to the Philippines after Congress had approved the foreign exchange bill.

July 11.—THE PRESIDENT discussed with members of the Council of Leaders the implementation of the dollar marginal levy and reviewed the overall political situation in the country at a meeting in his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, this morning.

The meeting, which was attended by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano Primicias, and House Majority Floorleader Jose Aldeguer, started with a breakfast conference and was continued later in the President’s study and lasted until almost noon.

President Garcia interrupted the conference at 10:30 a.m. to receive Miss Malinda Diggs Berry, America's 1959 "Maid of Cotton," who paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive.

Miss Berry was accompanied by Jesus Yujuico, president, and P. L. Lim, vice-president, of the Textile Mills Association of the Philippines; Carl Campbell, executive director of the Cotton Council International; Jose Aspiras, executive secretary of the Textile Mills Association of the Philippines; and other officers and directors of the association.

After receiving Miss Berry, President Garcia returned to his study and resumed the conference with members of the Council of Leaders.

The President did not receive any callers in the afternoon. He spent most of his time in his study where he went over some state papers he brought over from Malacañang.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: July 12-18, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent another quiet Sunday today, as he was freed from the string of callers that usually marks his other days as Chief Executive.

He heard mass with Mrs. Garcia at an improvised chapel at his Bohol Avenue residence in the morning.

Members of the household staff also heard Sunday mass with the President and his lady.

After a light breakfast, the President went to his study room and read the Sunday morning newspapers. He glossed over important state papers which he had brought over from Malacañang.

In the afternoon, he rested briefly and then tackled again pending state papers.

In the evening, he prepared to attend with the First Lady the Cotton Ball, sponsored by the textile industry of the Philippines, at the Manila Hotel.

July 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed hope that he would not be driven by circumstances to wield the powers provided under the price control bill as he appealed to importers and local manufacturers of prime commodities to keep the prices within reasonable bounds.

At a conference held at Malacañang this morning, President Garcia warned that he would not hesitate to use the stand-by powers granted him by Congress should he find it necessary to protect the interest of the consuming public.

The President showed his concern over the reported rise of the price of prime commodities. He debunked the claims of certain traders that it was due to the passage in Congress of the margin fee for foreign exchange.

In the course of the conference, President Garcia took occasion to explain the objectives of the dollar margin fee stating that it was absolutely necessary to stabilize the government's fiscal position and prevent a runaway inflation.

Such a kind of inflation, President Garcia said, would prejudice the masses and might cause a social upheaval.

At the same time, President Garcia reiterated his opposition to the devaluation of the Philippine peso, saying that it would only benefit a few and cause hardships to the great majority of the people, particularly the salary and wage earners.

Several representatives of importing firms stood up to voice their opinion during the conference on the invitation of the President.

Alfredo Burgos, representing the Connell Brothers, local importers of Carnation evaporated milk, pointed to the imposition of the 17 per cent special import tax as the cause of the rise of price of the commodity.

Dick Hoog, representing Filipino, local indentors of *Señorita*, condensed milk, backed up the claim of Burgos and added that milk is not exempted from the payment of the import tax, forcing the indentors to pass to the consumers the increase of the landed cost of the commodity.

J. M. Lontoc, who also spoke at the conference, urged the importation of Australian cattle in order to ease the sudden rise in the price of beef which is proving to be so attractive to local cattlemen that it would deplete the cattle population of the country.

Lontoc said that the Department of Agriculture had adopted a policy of curbing the importation of cattle which is influencing the rise in the price of beef in the local market.

H. Eugene Davidson, representing the Armour Company, explained that the rise of price of certain commodities can be traced to the shortage of dollars.

Other traders who spoke attributed in part the spiraling of prices to the rise of prices in the world market which affects the Philippine market.

Practically all the 200 businessmen present at the conference, representing big companies supplying the country with imported prime commodities, promised the President they would cooperate in keeping prices at reasonable levels.

Ben Estrella, NAMARCO general manager, submitted to President Garcia a memorandum of the price trends of food items from late January to the first week of July.

The price trend of canned goods like milk, corned beef, and sardines showed increases ranging from 6.7 to 20 per cent, according to the memorandum of Estrella.

Earlier this morning, President Garcia inducted the officials of the Asian Anti-Communist League in the Philippines, headed by Col. Cirilo D. Ledesma, president. Other officials are Mrs. Felicidad Manuel, first vice-president; Carlos R. Lazo, second vice-president; Prof. Jesus Tanghal Dera, third vice-president; Capt. Bienvenido Molero, secretary; Dr. Domiciano L. Alcazar, treasurer; and Andres Lodovico, auditor.

The President also received Austrian Minister Anton M. Harting, who is returning to his post in Bangkok, where he is concurrently minister for his country.

Gen. Laurence S. Kuter, commander-in-chief of the Pacific Air Forces, paid a farewell call on President Garcia. Kuter is being reassigned to a more important job as commanding officer of the North American Air Defense Command.

Gen. Emmet O'Donnell, who saw service in the Philippines at the outbreak of the last World War, will soon take over the post vacated by Kuter.

The high ranking U.S. officer was accompanied by Gen. Thomas Moorman, commander, 13th Air Force; Col. David Jones, air attache, U.S. Embassy; Lt. Col. Joseph Lynch; and Lt. Edward Luna.

The President also received Fiscal Demetrio Vinson, Mr. and Mrs. Democrito O. Plaza, Rep. Tobias Fornier, and Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona.

IN THE EVENING, the President inducted Lugum Uca as commissioner of national integration vice Madki Alonto, who was appointed governor of the new province of Lanao del Sur.

He also conferred with Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Capt. Ernesto Jimenez, manager of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration, and Auditor General Jimenez.

President Garcia was interviewed this evening by Lourdes Jimenez of the Maryknoll College.

Miss Jimenez said she was interviewing the President for her school paper, Knoll.

July 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia discussed with top advisers the financing aspect of public works and economic development projects in order to facilitate the construction of top priority ones.

Present at the conference held at the presidential anteroom were Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Public Works Director Julian Buendia, General Manager Filemon Zablan of the National Power Corporation, and General Manager Susano Negado of the NAWASA.

The President was particularly interested in the early completion of projects given high priority, especially the integrated steel mills in Iligan City and the Marikina multi-purpose project.

The financing of both projects, either through bond issue or through loans obtained from abroad, was thoroughly discussed by the conferees.

Negado informed the President that he expects the construction work of the Marikina multi-purpose project to start in January.

At the conference, President Garcia gave the Marikina project technical committee the power to evaluate the bids to be submitted for the construction of the project.

Negado informed the President that a technical mission is soon leaving for Japan to pave the way for final negotiations in order to expedite the construction of the project.

The conferees also discussed several alternative financing schemes submitted by foreign parties for the construction of the Iligan integrated steel mill.

Moreno informed the President that he has observed a favorable climate

abroad regarding the loan solicited by the Philippine Government for the completion of the Iligan mill.

After the conference, President Garcia inducted Sen. Alejo Mabanag as secretary of justice, in place of Justice Secretary Jesus Barrera, who was elevated to the Supreme Court.

The Malacañang Reception Hall was almost filled to capacity by members of the Senate led by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, members of the Cabinet, high government officials, and friends and relatives of the Pangasinan legislator.

After the induction ceremony, President Garcia received members of Congress, among them Sens. Decoroso Rosales, Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Domocao Alonto, and Roseller Lim; and Reps. Benjamin T. Ligot of Cagayan, Francisco Ortega of La Union, Wenceslao Rancap Lagumbay and Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, Emilio Cortes of Pampanga, Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, and Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur.

The President today issued a proclamation suspending the reduction of the rate of the special import tax to 11.9 per cent and, in lieu thereof, increasing the rate of said tax to the previous rate of 15.3 per cent applicable to all goods imported into the Philippines during the current calendar year, starting from the start of the year.

IN THE AFTERNOON, the President received Col. and Mrs. Constantino Navarro, formerly with the criminal investigation service of the Constabulary to try his luck in politics. He is going to Surigao where he had been proclaimed official candidate of the Nacionalista Party for governor.

The President also conferred with Governor Bernardo Torres of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation on PHHC affairs.

July 15.—THE PRESIDENT'S signing into law of the margin bill and the price control measure which was set for today was postponed until after the top level conference tomorrow of the President and Congress leaders with members of the Monetary Board.

Preparatory to implementing the margin law, President Garcia discussed with Monetary Board members in a conference this morning the different aspects of the margin bill.

They discussed in particular the proposed rules and regulations to be issued by the Central Bank in the implementation of the margin law.

President Garcia and Congress leaders will confer with monetary board members tomorrow morning to determine the proper starting margin rate which should be imposed on the sale of foreign exchange.

The conference between President Garcia and congressional leaders with Monetary Board members tomorrow morning will climax the series of conferences of the President with government and non-government sectors.

Only last Monday the President called to a conference to Malacañang Filipino and alien importers. In this meeting the President heard the different views of the business communities in connection with the margin bill.

A statement by President Garcia is scheduled to be released simultaneous with the signing into laws of the margin bill and the price control bill.

The President is expected to emphasize the importance of the margin law and its immediate effects upon the country's economy. The new law, designed primarily as a stabilization measure, would transfer the burden from the labor and farmer classes to the wealthier sector in our country.

The President is also expected to specify the benefits to be derived as a result of the margin law. He had already emphasized that the foremost benefits would include social security services and continued support of the Administration's economic development program.

Present at the conference this morning were the following members of the Monetary Board: Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, chairman, and CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno, DBP Chairman Gregorio S. Licaros, PKB President Eduardo Romualdez, Col. Jaime Velasquez, Gaudencio Antonino, and Roberto Villanueva.

Also present at the conference were Rep. Vicente Peralta, one of the principal sponsors in Congress of the dollar margin bill; Deputy CB Governor Andres Castillo, and CB Special Assistant Natalio Balboa.

The President this morning appealed to the striking employees of the Government Service Insurance System to return to work pending final determination by the courts whether the state firm is exercising governmental or proprietary functions.

The GSIS union members went on strike demanding higher pay and other benefits.

The President made his appeal at a conference with labor leaders headed by Roberto Oca and leaders of the GSIS strikers.

However, after the conference GSIS strike leaders announced that they were not going back to work unless their demands are granted by management.

GSIS General Manager Rodolfo Andal and the strike leaders agreed to abide by the decision of the court on two main issues, namely, whether the GSIS is exercising governmental or proprietary functions and, in case the court decide that it is exercising proprietary functions, whether they are entitled to strike-duration pay.

The labor dispute is now pending before the Court of Industrial Relations and the Court of First Instance.

This is the second back-to-work appeal made by the President to the GSIS strikers. In a memorandum sent to Labor Secretary Angel Castaño on July 7, 1959, President Garcia issued the same appeal under the following conditions: (1) That upon their return to work, there would be *status quo* in their employment; and (2) That their right to strike-duration pay would be held in abeyance until after the courts have decided finally on the question of whether the GSIS is exercising proprietary or purely governmental functions.

AT A CONFERENCE in Malacañang this afternoon, President Garcia met members of the newly-created Council on Administrative Management to implement reorganizational plans of the government.

The council, created under Executive Order No. 339, is composed of Education Secretary Jose Romero, chairman; and Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, General Services Undersecretary Serafin Salvador, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Civil Services Commissioner Amado del Rosario, U.P. President Vicente G. Sinco, and Carlos Ramos, members,

Among the functions of the council as specified in the executive order the following: (a) to formulate and recommend to the President management improvement policies and programs and specific needs for legislation effect efficiency and economy in the government and (b) to review and coordinate management improvement programs of the various government entities for the purpose of determining their effectiveness.

Secretary Romero informed President Garcia that to perform these functions, the council adopted a program of action based on the identification of problem areas in management at various levels of the government service.

The organization of the Council on Administrative Management replaces the government advisory board on in-service training which was created on February 13, 1953.

The responsibility of the board for establishing policies in the development or training of government personnel has also been taken over by the new council.

President Garcia congratulated the members of the council and told them that he expects plans for the reorganization of the government to be implemented soon in order to effect efficiency and economy in the government service.

FOUR YOUNG FINNISH scouts paid a courtesy call on President Garcia in Malacañang this afternoon and presented to him a *puukko* and a Lapland knife used for whittling and woodcurving.

The scouters, who are delegates to the 10th Boy Scouts World Jamboree which will start on July 18 in Makiling Park, Los Baños, Laguna, are Eero Martino, 17; Ilpo Santala, 18; Asko Kuoppamaki, 27; and Keijo Kekola, 27.

THIS EVENING President Garcia ordered a general reduction of government expenditures by ₱80 million compared with the President's budget as submitted to Congress in order to avoid possible budgetary deficit during the current fiscal year.

The President's action was prompted by the change in the fiscal outlook for the general fund as originally embodied in the President's 1960 budget in view of congressional action on appropriation authorizations and revenue sources.

Rather than adopt deficit spending, the President ordered drastic cuts in the program of expenditures originally recommended for various departments and offices in the executive branch of the government. He instructed department heads to adhere strictly to the revised plan of expenses to preclude financial difficulties this fiscal year.

The new plan which was adopted by the Cabinet at its regular meeting this evening, includes the following major changes:

1. Public works obligations reduced from ₱47.9 million to ₱ 37.3 million;
2. Repayment of treasury notes under Republic Act No. 245 to be retired from proceeds of the dollar margin bill reduced by ₱60 million; and
3. "Forced savings" increased from ₱20.3 million to ₱23.9 million. Other reductions were distributed among the various departments in the government. Recommendations for the Department of Education have however been left intact because of the necessity of accommodating school children seeking entry into the public schools.

The decrease in the originally expected income from new sources was due generally to the modifications made by Congress on proposed revenue bills which reduced their income potential. Following are some of the specific changes:

1. The amusements tax with an estimated revenue of ₱2 million was not passed;
2. The proposal to require new and necessary industries to pay full income tax (H.B. 2363) designed to realize an additional income of ₱17 million was reduced to ₱4 million;
3. The recommended higher rates for income tax of individuals and corporations (H.B. 1825) which had been expected to yield ₱16 million in additional revenue had been reduced to ₱8 million; and
4. Premiums on the sale of foreign exchange under the dollar margin bill was reduced from ₱145 million to ₱70 million in view of additional exemptions.

The plan which was adopted by the Cabinet was recommended by Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona. The President said that the policy of austerity in government expenditures which had been started by his administration some two years ago should be continued through this fiscal year in order to stabilize the financial position of the government.

He urged department heads to issue the necessary directives to their subordinate officials.

July 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia together with Congress leaders and Monetary Board members today fixed at 25 per cent the margin on the sale of foreign exchange.

Presidential signature into law of the margin bill and the price control measure came swiftly after a top level conference was held in Malacañang this morning.

It also came 17 days ahead of the deadline set in the Constitution for presidential veto or approval of any measure enacted by the Philippine Congress.

Simultaneous with the signing into law of both administration bills, President Garcia directed top government fiscal and monetary officials to synchronize all government expenditures and activities.

His directive led to a heavy and drastic cut of about ₱67 million from the Administration's bond issue program which had been originally set at ₱126 million for the fiscal year 1959-60.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the government's belt-tightening effort received its first shot in the arm when the Cabinet reduced government expenditures by about ₱80 million in its weekly meeting yesterday.

In a statement issued upon signing into law the margin bill and the price control measure, President Garcia reiterated his plea for cooperation from government and the private sector as he emphasized the urgency of the margin law to the general economy of the country.

He underscored the vital importance of this measure as a stabilization factor to the country's economy. The President also said this was aimed at shifting the burden from the labor and farmer classes to the wealthier sector of the population.

President Garcia likewise stressed the benefits which will be derived from the new law, mentioning in particular that the proceeds from the margin on the sale of dollars will go into social security services and at the same time support the country's growing financial needs for economic development. In signing into law the price control measure, President Garcia referred to it as the companion bill of the margin measure.

He expressed the hope that he would not be compelled to resort to strong-arm methods to keep the price of prime commodities at a low level. He apparently referred to the pledge made by Filipino and alien businessmen in a conference with them in Malacañang last Monday.

Emphasis was made by the President to the danger that run-away unreasonable increase in prices would have on the people, especially the working class. He underscored the fact that he would not hesitate to use his stand-by powers granted him under the new price control law should he be forced into it.

In determining the margin rate to be fixed, the President heard a thorough discussion of all the aspects of the law from Congress leaders and Monetary Board Members.

The discussion lasted for three hours. Certain Monetary Board members recommended a higher rate than the 25 per cent. Congress members, however, reminded Monetary Board officials that it was their understanding that the margin rate would start from 25 per cent and not more.

Both chambers of Congress are usually responsible for the formulation of such major policies, it was said.

The conferees revealed that the total amount of exemptions granted under the new margin law would reach ₱266 million, such exemptions to include invisible items. This figure was reached by the conferees after consulting tabulations from the Central Bank.

About \$483 million will be subject to the margin rate of 25 per cent. As an offshoot of the conference this morning, Central Bank officials announced that rules and regulations would be issued soon by the Central Bank in connection with the new margin law.

An executive session of the Monetary Board was scheduled for tomorrow, July 17. Monetary board officials advanced the proposal exemptions to be granted under the new margin law would be extended only when end-users are benefitted.

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguee; Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez; Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda; Sens. Cipriano Primicias, Gil J. Puyat, and Pedro Sabido; Reps. Jose Aldeguer, Vicente Peralta, Aguedo Agbayani, and Jose Leido; and MB members Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Col. Jaime Velasquez, PNB President Eduardo Romualdez, DBP Chairman Gregorio Licaros, Roberto Villanueva, and Gaudencio Antonino.

Also present were Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, CB Deputy Governor Andres. Castillo, and Natalio Balboa, and Mrs. Fanny Garcia of the Central Bank.

THIS AFTERNOON, the Chief Executive and the First Lady motored to Manila International Airport at Balagbag to welcome their children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, who returned in time for Mrs. Garcia's birthday tomorrow.

Nanding and Linda Campos stayed for a year in Cambridge, Mass., where Nanding obtained his Master of Laws degree from Harvard University.

A large crowd was on hand at the airport to welcome the couple, and police and security officers had a difficult time holding back the crowd when Nanding and Linda emerged from, the door of the Air France plane that brought them home.

From the Balagbag terminal, President and Mrs. Garcia returned with their children to Malacañang for the reception in honor of the boy scout delegates.

President and Mrs. Garcia were hosts at a reception in honor of delegates to the 10th Boy Scouts World Jamboree at the ceremonial hall of Malacañang this afternoon.

Heading the reception line composed of ranking international and Philippine scout executives, the President and the First Lady were greeted by foreign and local delegates to the jamboree in the reception hall. Also present at the reception were members of the diplomatic corps headed by Papal Nuncio Salvatore Siino.

The reception was highlighted by the presentation to Mrs. Garcia of a bouquet of red roses on the eve of her birthday anniversary. The flowers were presented to the First Lady by scouters Julius Villarme of Pampanga, Egbert Abiad of Quezon City, and Allen Dimataga of Cebu.

After receiving the delegates, President and Mrs. Garcia led their guests to the ceremonial hall where light refreshments were served. Before the close of the reception, the boy scouts sang "Happy Birthday" to Mrs. Garcia and wished her many happy returns on her natal day tomorrow.

IN THE EVENING, the President and the First Lady attended an *asalto* given by Congress ladies, headed by Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, in honor of Mrs. Garcia on the eve of her birthday anniversary.

The President received this morning H. N. Harilela, vice-chairman of the World Health Organization, who was accompanied by his wife, his father-in-law M. Hiranand, and Edgardo Sindico.

Other callers this morning were the members of the Bisan municipal board led by Mayor Atilano Nolasco. The councilors were Dr. Jaime Bautista, Dr. Librado Espiritu, Dr. Pedro Colcol, Engineer Juan Florentino, and Florentino Puzon.

July 17.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia, together with their children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, early this morning heard a Pontifical low mass and received Holy Communion at an improvised altar in the State Dining Hall of Malacañang.

For the First Family the mass which they heard together for the first time in over a year, assumed double significance. It commemorated the birthday anniversary of the First Lady and served as thanksgiving for bringing the First Family together, the children having arrived only yesterday from their studies in the United States.

Immediately after the mass the Chief Executive and the First Lady received their well-wishers, composed of some 200 close friends and relatives and high government officials, at breakfast at the Malacañang grand porch.

During the breakfast, the Chief Executive presented his Lady with a beautiful gold necklace (tambourine) to match the earrings he gave her during their wedding anniversary last June 24.

After breakfast the President and Mrs. Garcia took their guests to the ceremonial hall where the birthday cake, overlaid with flower designs of sugar icing, complete with lighted candles, awaited them.

The First Lady, in the presence of the President, Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, and friends, blew out all the candles in one long breath, and began cutting up the cake for her guests.

From the ceremonial hall the First Couple and their guests proceeded to the music room where a life size painting of the First Lady was unveiled in the presence of her guests.

Friends and admirers swamped Malacañang with cakes, candies, and flowers for the First Lady the whole day. The First Lady sent the cakes and candies to children's wards of hospitals and offered the flowers at the altars of the different churches in Manila and suburbs.

The President today declared Thursday, July 23 of this year, a special public holiday in the province of Batangas and the city of Lipa, to commemorate the birthday anniversary of Apolinario Mabini, the "Brains of the Philippine Revolution."

In another proclamation, President Garcia authorized the Philippine Tuberculosis Society to conduct a national fund and educational campaign from August 19 to September 30, this year.

In proclaiming July 23 a special public holiday in Batangas and Lipa, the President pointed to the desirability of giving the Batanguenos an opportunity to celebrate properly Mabini's birthday anniversary.

The fund raising and educational campaign of the Philippine Tuberculosis Society will focus once more the attention of the people on the grim but necessary task of combating the white plague which causes not only heavy losses in life but also in the economic field annually.

The President, in issuing his proclamation, called on all the people regardless of race or creed to give generously to the common fight, and authorized all provincial, city, and municipal treasurers as well as school officials to receive contributions and donations in the name of the society and to issue corresponding official receipts.

DURING the press conference this afternoon, President Garcia scored the laxity of the Board of Pardons and Parole in screening prisoners' applications for executive clemency and disclosed he had returned "for further study" all unacted papers recommending the freedom of convicts.

The President admitted that he was not aware of all the circumstances of the case of Ang Chio-kio when he signed the conditional pardon of the plane hijacker.

He told his regular press conference he did not know that Ang was the infamous plane hijacker who had killed a Philippine Air Lines pilot and purser.

However, the President said he could not rescind the pardon, as it was already a *fait accompli*.

President Garcia was apparently incensed by the testimony of Mrs. Pilar Hidalgo Lim and Dr. Leopoldo Pardo, board members, before the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee for admitting that they did not know the circumstances of Ang's case.

Asked if he would sign Ang's pardon papers if he had known the prisoner was the plane hijacker and the killer of the pilot and purser, the President replied:

"I would have tabled the case for further study."

President Garcia's press conference was dominated by questions on the hijacker's pardon, which had stirred the country and the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee.

He indicated he was holding in abeyance the reorganization of the board until after the Senate Blue Ribbon committee had completed its inquiry into the case.

The President, however, said most of the members of the board, including Mrs. Lim and Dr. Pardo, have been with the body since President Roxas.

“They have been chosen for their integrity,” the President said.

The Chief Executive, however, observed that there had been laxity in the screening of prisoners’ applications for executive clemency.

President Garcia said that Ang had accepted the condition of his pardon and had been transferred to Engineering Island preparatory to his deportation.

He said the prisoner will be deported to Hongkong, his place of origin, before entering the country.

The President scouted charges of “misrepresentation by the board” in recommending Ang’s pardon.

He made the statement when confronted with the threat of Justice Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez to resign if the President believes he was misled to approving Ang’s conditional pardon.

The President said Fernandez presided over the board and certified to the fact that, that body had approved the application of listed prisoners for executive clemency.

In deploring the laxity of the board, the President said he had returned some hundreds of papers from the body recommending executive clemency to some prisoners.

He said he directed the board to review “further” the cases to prevent the approval of cases similar to the plane hijacker.

Asked if he was planning to reorganize the board, the President said “that would depend on the findings of the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee.”

The Senate body had started inquiry into the conditional pardon of Ang. Members of the Board of Pardons and Parole and the prisoner himself had already testified before the body.

President Garcia said he did not want to judge the board members on the basis of their testimony before the Senate body but that he would want to wait for a report on the inquiry.

President Garcia held his usual press conference this afternoon in spite of earlier reports that it would be postponed on account of Mrs. Garcia’s birthday.

After the press conference, members of the Malacañang Newsmen’s Association headed by Bulletin’s Amante Bigornia, association president, proceeded to the ceremonial hall and waited for the First Lady so as to greet her on her natal day.

The newsmen presented a bottle of Spanish perfume to the First Lady and then individually wished her a “happy birthday.” A continuous stream of well-wishers continued to flow into Malacañang, all of them eager to see Mrs. Garcia and felicitate her on her birthday.

Meanwhile, President Garcia retired to his room immediately after the press conference to work on the draft of the speech he will deliver tomorrow afternoon at the formal opening of the 10th Boy Scouts World Jamboree in Makiling Park, Los Baños, Laguna.

Later in the evening, President Garcia joined the First Lady in receiving members of the Boholano community in Manila who came to greet Mrs. Garcia on her birthday.

July 18.—THIS MORNING President Garcia received. U. S. Secretary of Interior Fred A. Seaton, who earlier had arrived enroute to Cambodia to represent President Eisenhower in an important ceremony Wednesday.

The visiting American official was accompanied en his courtesy call by Ambassador Charles Bohlen and L. E. Kennedy.

Earlier, the President discussed informally with some members of the Council of Leaders the political situation in the country as well as the coming NP national convention.

Present were Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castaneda, Senator Claro M. Recto, Rep. Jose Aldeguer, and Antonio Araneta.

Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Senator Cipriano Primicias, and other members of the Council were not present owing to previous engagements; so the discussions were held informally.

President Garcia scheduled for coming Tuesday a breakfast conference with the Council of Leaders for formal discussion of the political developments.

President Garcia signed the diplomas of honor of Valeriano Calma, Cristobal Manalang, Gaudencio Reyes, Anastacio Teodoro, Marcos Alicante, Carlos Locsin, Gregorio Zara, Felipe Adriano, and Manuel Felizardo for their contribution to science, in connection with the annual celebration of the National Science and Technology Week.

President Garcia formally opened the 10th Boy Scouts World Jamboree in Makiling Park, Los Baños, Laguna, this afternoon. Enroute to Makiling Park, the President took time out to inaugurate the PI million super-highway linking Buendia Extension on Highway 54 to Alabang, Rizal. Construction of the 14-kilometer shortcut, Bureau of Public Highways officials said, will considerably relieve the traffic congestion on the Manila south road.

Present at the brief inauguration ceremony and ribbon-cutting formally opening the super-highway to vehicular traffic were Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno and Highways Commissioner Nicolas Cuenca and other officials of the Department of Public Works and Communications and the Bureau of Public Highways.

Arriving at the jamboree site at exactly 2: 30 p.m., the President reviewed some 12,000 foreign and local scouts representing 54 out of 68 member nations of the international scouting movement.

At the program for the opening ceremonies, Most Rev. Vicente P. Reyes, chairman of the national Catholic committee on scouting, delivered the invocation while Jorge B. Vargas, BSP president and chief scout, welcomed the delegates.

The delegates to the jamboree were presented to President Garcia by Prudencio Langcauon, jamboree camp chief, and then the 10th World Jamboree flag was unfurled and raised up the flagpole by Maj. Gen. D. C. Spry, director of the Boy Scouts International Bureau, while everybody stood at attention.

A one-minute silent prayer was also said in memory of Lord Baden Powell, chief scout of the world, and of departed scouts and scouters. Dr. Vitaliano Bernardino, deputy camp chief for program, acted as master of ceremonies.

Among the well-applauded foreign contingents were the Poland, Russian, Venezuelan, and Hungarian delegations. The 600-strong delegation from Nationalist China was the biggest, whereas Russia and Venezuela were represented by only one delegate each.

As the United States contingent came within view of the grandstand, the AFP GHQ band broke into the familiar strains of “God Bless America” and later switched to “Swanee River.”

Slight intermittent rains fell during the two-hour long parade, but the scouts took the weather in stride and stuck by their posts in front of the grandstand until the program was over.

The rain turned the already soggy jamboree arena into a field of mud and created a problem for motorists and pedestrian alike. Surprisingly, the rain stopped shortly before the President’s turn came to deliver his address and formally open the international scouting’s biggest event.

President and Mrs. Garcia were fetched from their Bohol Avenue residence for the trip to Makiling Park by Chief Jorge B. Vargas and Rep. Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna. Others who joined the presidential entourage to the Jamboree site were Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Rep. Manuel A. Zosa of Cebu, Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, and NEC Chairman Jose Locsin.

After the jamboree opening, the President and the First Lady returned to their private residence in Quezon City.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: July 19-25, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 19.—AFTER breakfast, the President went over the Sunday morning drill papers and then retired to his study to finalize the speech he would deliver this evening before Filipino scientists in the Manila Hotel.

Earlier President and Mrs. Garcia heard an early mass said before an improvised altar in their Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

After partaking of a light lunch, President Garcia again returned to his room to work on pending state papers.

Early this evening, the Chief Executive was fetched from his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, by chairman Dr. Paulino J. Garcia of the National Science Development Board for the awards ceremony and dinner at the Manila Hotel honoring Philippine men of science.

THIS EVENING President Garcia challenged Filipino scientists to pool and gear their knowledge and skills towards the development of a sturdy economy that will insure national prosperity.

The President said that the task of Filipino science men is to “make our farms and our factories produce more food, more materials for shelter, more clothing, more medicine, and more of the necessary commodities to meet the growing needs of growing population.”

The Chief Executive spoke at a dinner held at the Manila Hotel climaxing the observance of National Science and Technology Week. He also presented awards to nine top Filipino scientists of the year.

The President stressed that the demands of independent nationhood call for among others the development of a sturdy economy, as the stability of a nation depends on it in the long run. He said, “We have come to a critical time when we must diminish our dependence on other countries for the supply of necessities, because such practice is sheer economic folly.”

National prosperity is an item that cannot be imported. We have to build it for ourselves,” the President stressed.

He pointed out that, in the task of building a sturdy national economy, it will be the scientists, along with engineers and technologists, who will be in the forefront, for it is they who have command of the knowledge and skills with which to extract the riches of the country's resources.

He said, “It is they who can exploit the marvelous discoveries of modern science to increase our nation's productivity and to raise our people's living standards. It is they who can put science to the service of the people.”

At the same time, the Chief Executive said that the government is not wanting in its contribution towards the full utilization of the scientific resources of the country to develop the economy.

President Garcia said his administration “is solidly committed to a vigorous program of scientific development,” and in keeping with that program, it encouraged the enactment of the Science Act of 1958.

The act created the National Science Development Board and empowered it to conduct scientific and technological researches which are geared to satisfy the most urgent needs of the country's economy.

But, the President said, scientific research is not and should not be the work of the government alone. It was for this main reason that he was calling for the cooperation of scientists in the development of the economy.

He took note of the fact, however, that various sectors in private enterprise have already given much of their time, effort, and facilities to scientific research.

As for the industries, the Chief Executive said that they are “in a happy position to engage in the search for new scientific methods and new technological techniques not only in increasing but also in diversifying production.”

On the other hand, the universities have a distinct and special role to play in the development of the country’s scientific potential, for they have always been the fountainhead of scientific knowledge and the training ground for scientific minds, the President said.

At dinner, the President was presented by the United Technological Organizations of the Philippines with a memorial plaque.

The top scientists he presented with awards were Dr. Gregorio Y. Zara, pioneer worker in aeronautical construction using bamboo and other local materials; Dr. Felipe T. Adriano, pioneer researcher in foods and food chemistry; Dr. Marcos M. Alicante, foremost investigator of Philippine soils and fertility; Dr. Valeriano C. Calma, for achievement in improved farm practice; Manuel I. Felizardo, for valuable contributions in the development and production of industrial chemicals; Carlos L. Locsin, pioneer sugar technologists; Dr. Cristobal Manalang, for studies in tropical diseases; Dr. Gaudencio M. Reyes, for studies in biology and control of cereal and other crop diseases; and Dr. Anastacio L. Teodoro, for studies in the use of alcohol as fuel for combustion engines.

These outstanding Filipino scientists were chosen by a panel of judges composed of Leopoldo Uichangco, chairman; and Patrocinio Valenzuela, Dr. Walfrido de Leon, Dr. Joaquin Maranon and Dr. Canuto G. Miguel, members.

July 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia discussed with Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez the research institute in rice and other staple crops proposed to be established in the Philippines by both the Rockefeller and the Ford Foundations, at a breakfast conference at Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, this morning.

Secretary Rodriguez informed the President that these two organizations will invest from \$5 to \$6 million for buildings and equipment and will provide \$1 million annually for the maintenance and support of the research institute.

The President also received this morning Andres Soriano, Jr., first vice-president of the Philippine Air Lines, who paid a farewell call on the Chief Executive before leaving for the United States.

Mr. Soriano was accompanied by his brother, Jose; Daniel Gomez, vice-president of PAL; and Alfonso Ponce Enrile.

The President left his private residence shortly after 10 a.m. and proceeded to Malacañang to receive the courtesy call of Prof. Charles Moraze, French SEATO lecturer. Prof Moraze was presented to President Garcia by French Ambassador Georges Cattand and Dr. Rafaelita H. Soriano, chief of the SEATO affairs division of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Members of the American Association of the United Nations headed by Prof. Warren Tomlinson of the University of Washington also paid a courtesy call on the President in Malacañang.

The 27-man group, composed of university professors and school teachers, are now in the Philippines in the course of a two-month round-the-world tour observing United Nations projects in foreign countries and the effects of American foreign aid programs.

Later, the President was briefed by members of the board of directors of the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation (NASSCO) on the progress of the firm’s ship-building program.

Present at the conference were Chairman Ulpiano Sarmiento, General Manager and Vice-Chairman Bernardo Abrera, and Directors Ramon T. Jimenez, Aniceto Crisostomo, Hilarion Henares, Jr., and Eligio Herrera.

Other presidential callers this morning were Ananias Garcia, Valeriano Toledo, and Alfonso Fallarme.

THIS afternoon the President signed Senate Joint Resolution No. 2, which seeks to create a temporary Philippine commission to work with a U. S. commission to be established by the American Government to study the veterans program in the Philippines.

The President also signed the bill which authorizes him to negotiate and contract for a loan with the Export and Import Bank of Japan or any other foreign bank or manufacturing corporations to finance the nationwide telecommunication system, and the bill amending the Reparations Act.

The creation of a temporary commission would pave the way for the approval by the American Congress of the joint resolution introduced by Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts on March 12, 1959, for the establishment of a temporary commission to study the veterans' program of the United States in the Philippines.

After signing the veteran bill, President Garcia authorized the trip to the United States of some members of the Philippine Department of the American Legion to work in Washington for the enactment into law of the resolution of Congresswoman Rogers.

The mission will also work for the amendment of the Rogers Act (PL 85-461) so as to grant to Filipino veterans the same hospitalization benefits as those authorized U. S. veterans at the Veteran Memorial Hospital, and the enactment into law of a bill which would repeal the provisions of a U. S. law which requires that payments be made to Filipino pensioners in pesos for each American dollar.

The mission will be composed of Defense Secretary Alejo Santos and the following officers of the Philippine Department of the American Legion: Alberto de Joya, commander, Inocentes Dineros, acting adjutant; Roberto Philips, national executive committeeman; Rev. Fr. Thomas Cannon, S. J., chaplain; Mrs. Juanita Santos, auxiliary; Marina Lopez de Joya, auxiliary.

The expansion and improvement of the telecommunication system is expected to be completed within five years and will involve an outlay of \$12.3 million of capital equipment and services to be charged to the Japanese reparations, and ₱24 million for the peso' counterpart to be used for the installation of capital equipment, construction of buildings, purchase of sites, telephone and telegraph poles, and other materials procurable in the Philippines.

Present at the signing of the veterans commission were Defense Secretary Alejo Santos; Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong; Reps. Ramon Mitra, Jacobo Gonzalez, and Francisco Ortega; Gen. Dionisio Ojeda; Cols. Jose M. Barredo, Agustin Marking, and Vicente Umali; and war widows.

Earlier this afternoon, President Garcia administered the oath of office to Melecio Domingo as *ad interim* commissioner of internal revenue, succeeding Jose Arañas, retired.

Present at the induction ceremony held at the Malacañang reception hall were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, former BIR commissioner Bibiano Meer, Judge Felix Domingo, high ranking officials of the Department of Finance and the Bureau of Internal Revenue, relatives and friends of the new BIR head.

The President also inducted the following officials of the Philippine Standards Association: Roberto Villanueva, president; Cesar Concio, vice-president for administrative affairs; Joaquin Maraño, vice-president for technical affairs; Mariano Ramiro. Gabriel Daza, and Gil Opiana, directors; and Jose Mene. Magat, executive secretary.

PRESIDENT Garcia today directed three of his Cabinet secretaries to proceed to the Tala Leprosarium to look into the needs of the community with the view to affording a new deal to the inhabitants, most of whom are afflicted with leprosy.

The President expressed deep concern upon hearing the report of Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo about conditions in the leprosarium after the latter's surprise visit there last week.

As a result of Secretary Pajo's first visit, the President directed the opening of a post office in the town, the release of \$3,000 for an additional elementary school building, and the complete screening of all windows in the wards to keep out flies and mosquitoes.

Secretary Pajo motored to Tala, together with Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Public Works Undersecretary Nicolas Cuenca, Caloocan Mayor Macario Asistio, Presidential Backpay Committee Member Rodolfo V. Ocampo, Director Jose N. Rodriguez of the Disease Control Section of the Department of Health, and other officials of the Bureau of Posts and the Bureau of the Treasury, to make on-the-spot solutions to problems of the community.

Among the problems presented by the Tala Leprosarium authorities was the congestion and the resultant insanitary conditions, especially on the plaza, which had been set for future study and planning by Undersecretary Cuenca and his staff.

It was pointed out that there are around 2,300 patients in the leprosarium, consisting of men and women, veterans, and servicemen in addition to the town population which descended from former inmates and consisted for the most part of healthy citizens who have come to consider the 800-hectare colony as their home.

The original town lay-out has therefore been congested and needs wider streets, proper canals and drainage, and other facilities including accommodations for children born of leprous parents. At present a nursery operated by sisters of Our Lady of the Star takes care of some 200 children of various ages who have to be kept away from sick parents.

The group of officials also brought with them the checks of some 51 backpay claimants who had made representations with Secretary Pajo for their early payment. The checks were distributed by treasury officials who were with Secretary Pajo.

Other problems presented to Secretary Pajo for further study were:

- (1) Request of veterans and servicemen patients for participation in the hospitalization benefits given veterans in Army and veterans hospitals under R. A. 1362;
- (2) Veterans' request for payment of cash ration differential of ₱1.00 to which they claim they are entitled;
- (3) Additional pension of pensioners of ₱50.00 a month under Republic Act No. 1920; and
- (4) Rehabilitation of crippled patients and release of funds for physical medicine and reconstructive surgery.

Secretary Pajo told the huge crowd which packed the town center that he will make his report to the President and assured them that President Garcia will always be receptive to their requests.

The President today sent a message of condolence to the family of Don Roman Santos, a Manila businessman, who died of heart attack at the Doctor's Hospital last night.

The President today ordered the suspension of Francisco G. H. Salva, city fiscal of Pasay City, pending final disposition of the administrative charges filed against him by a private party.

The charges which involve irregularities and misconduct in office are being investigated by the Department of Justice.

Preliminary investigation of the case had been conducted by Baldomero Villamor, chief prosecutor. Villamor had recommended the suspension of Salva pending final disposition of the case by Department of Justice.

THIS evening the President deferred the imposition of price control following reports from, four government agencies that prices of prime commodities were as a whole within the normal reasonable range of fluctuations.

The President at the same time took two precautionary measures to assure that the level of prices would be maintained within the normal range of fluctuation. He directed the Central Bank to earmark \$10 million more to the NAMARCO as standby allocation, thereby increasing this agency's allocation to \$40 million this year.

The President also prepared the machinery with which to implement the Price Control law, should level of prices goes out of control. The machinery could be put into action in a moment's notice.

President Garcia was informed by NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin Estrella of huge shipments of prime commodities to flood the market. He said some \$6 million worth is due to arrive the first week of August. Five hundred thousand cases of evaporated milk and 100,000 cases of corned beef are included in the huge shipment, it was said.

Meeting with Central Bank, NAMARCO, Bureau of Commerce, and Constabulary officials at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, the President discussed the stern provisions of the price control law which, when strictly implemented, could be tough with businessmen.

The President reiterated his hope that alien and Filipino businessmen would cooperate in keeping the level of prices down. He said that he would not use the powers granted him under the price control law as long as prices were kept at reasonable levels.

The Chief Executive added, however, that he would not hesitate to use these powers if forced to do so in order to protect the interest of the consuming public.

President Garcia was informed by Central Bank and Bureau of Commerce officials that only a few prime commodities had gone beyond normal range of price fluctuations and that the general tendency was for maintained prices in Manila as well as in the provinces.

Particular attention was called to provisions which provide for imprisonment of not less than two years nor more than ten years and or a fine of not less than ₱2,000 nor more than ₱10,000 of any person who:

- (1) Sells at retail or wholesale any commodity in excess of the maximum prices established by the President of the Philippines;
- (2) Purchases any commodity in excess of the established maximum prices unless he makes a denunciation of the act to the proper authorities within seven days or unless it can be shown by satisfactory proof that the purchase was done under circumstances of compelling necessity or in good faith;
- (3) Refuses to sell any commodity under price control which he keeps either as an importer, manufacturer or producer, wholesaler or retailer in his establishment, store, or stall, whether displayed or not;
- (4) Having in stock merchandise the price of which is under control will transfer the same or make a false or fictitious sale of all or any portion thereof so as to defeat the purpose of this Act; and

(5) Fails or refuses to file with the Agency or Board or its duly authorized representative an inventory of his stock or to transmit bills of lading or bills of sale.

In the case of alien violators, in addition to the penalty provided in the law, the offender shall, upon conviction, be subject to immediate deportation without the necessity of any further proceedings on the part of the Deportation Board. If the offender is a naturalized Filipino citizen, in addition to the penalty, his naturalization certificate shall be cancelled.

Present at the conference were Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, PC chief; Col. Flaviano Olivares, PC chief of staff; Labor Secretary Angel Castaño; NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin Estrella; Acting Director Rizalino Pablo; Graciano Salonga, chief of the market division; and Felipe Fernandez, all of the Bureau of Commerce; Margarito Araña of the Department of Labor; and Mrs. Fanny Garcia of the Central Bank.

July 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia discussed with members of the Council of Leaders the agenda for the national convention of the Nacionalista Party scheduled for Sunday, July 26, at a conference on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, this morning.

The four-hour long conference, which started at 8:30 a.m. with a breakfast, was attended by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano Primicias, Sr., Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castahada, House Majority Floorleader Jose Aldeguer, and Sen. Claro M. Recto.

The conferees also discussed final plans for the proposed coalition of the Nacionalista-Citizens Party with the Nacionalista Party for the local elections this November.

This morning President Garcia congratulated Filipino farmers for the massive effort they had exerted to attain self-sufficiency in food and expressed confidence that in the near future his twin-goal of self-sufficiency in clothing and shelter will also come true.

President Garcia, who had a long conference with the Council of Leaders this morning, was represented by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo as guest speaker at the awarding of prizes to the winners of the National Rice and Corn contest at Malacañang Park.

In his brief address, Secretary Pajo pointed out that the success of President Garcia's self-sufficiency in food drive was largely due to the all-around support given by all sectors of the population, the press and radio, and government as well as private civic agencies.

Secretary Pajo told the model farmers and the large crowd which attended the ceremony that the Philippines can comfortably support 60 million people and that it is paradoxical that there is a food shortage annually when the population is only 24 million people.

President Garcia, he said, had been worrying about this food shortage because since time immemorial, although the Philippines was an agricultural country, it had always been importing rice and other cereals from other countries, as local production was not enough to meet local demand.

He said President Garcia came up with a bold solution by increasing production through modern methods, the use of fertilizers and irrigation, and mechanized farming, and the feasibility of his program caught immediate popular support which resulted in a huge bumper crop this year.

Winners in the contest were:

Lowland Rice, Category I (1 to 2 hectares)

1st Prize, ₱2,500, Reymundo Saños, San Agustin, Libon, Albay, 241.78 cavans per hectare.
2nd Prize, ₱1,250, Cirilo Tañedo, Sanggalang, San Antonio, Nueva Ecija, 240 cavans.
3rd Prize, ₱625, Francisco V. Cabrera, San Carlos, Burot, Tarlac, 231.40 cavans.

Lowland Rice, Category II (2 to 10 hectares)

1st Prize, ₱5,000, Manuel Cala, San Agustin, Baybay, Leyte, 241.1 cavans.
2nd Prize, ₱2,500, Geronimo Diato, Dumarais, La Paz, Tarlac, 226.47 cavans.
3rd Prize, ₱1,250, Serapio Colira Minao, Pura, Tarlac, 225.37 cavans.

Lowland Rice, Category III (10 to 50 hectares)

1st Prize, ₱10,000, Felmington Dorado, Bangyas, Calauan, Laguna, 182.64 cavans.
2nd Prize, ₱5,000, Bonifacio Eugenio, Annoturan, Abulug, Cagayan, 146.77 cavans.
3rd Prize, ₱2,500, Jose Jimenez, Mining, Angeles, Pampanga, 130 cavans.

Corn, Category 1 (1 to 2 hectares)

1st Prize, ₱2,000, Rufino Ballesteros, Baculud-Fugu, Ilagan, Isabela, 237.16 cavans.
2nd Prize, ₱1,000, Martillano Bartolome, Baculud-Fugu, Ilagan, Isabela, 225.80 cavans.
3rd Prize, ₱500, Loreto Dolor, Carolina, Naga City, 165.48 cavans date popular support which resulted in a huge bumper crop this year.

Corn, Category II (2 to 10 hectares), 1st prize was won by Jose S. Mercado of Carolina, Naga city, who harvested 188.52 cavans per hectare, while Category III (10 to 50 hectares) was won by Dr. Jose Valdez of Maluno, Ilagan, Isabela, who harvested 111.21 cavans.

Besides these prizes, all the first prize winners were given one weeder each, donated by Vicente Zamora Manufacturing Company, a local farm implements manufacturer.

Nineteen other contestants received honorable mention and corresponding cash prizes in the rice contest, and nine in the corn contest.

Present at the ceremony were Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, ICA Director Paul D. Summers, Chairman Paulino J. Garcia of the Philippine Science Development Board, PNB President Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Juan Cojuangco, prominent rice producer, UP Dean Leopoldo Uichanco of the College of Agriculture, Plant Industry Director Eugenio E. Cruz, and others.

July 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia called Dr. Vicente G. Sinco, president of the University of the Philippines, to a conference at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning in order to step up the state university's research program in science and agriculture.

In line with the Administration's policy of encouraging studies along technical and technological lines to hasten the economic development of the country, the President instructed Sinco to extend all possible help and cooperation to the Research Institute in Agriculture proposed to be established jointly by the Ford and Rockefeller foundations in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Chief Executive said the two philanthropic institutions will put up \$6 million for the construction of buildings and for the purchase of needed equipment and supplies. They will also provide \$1 million annually for the maintenance of the institution to enable it to carry on its research programs.

President Garcia said that the institute will secure the services of the world's best technologists in rice and corn culture. Not only the Philippines but all of Southeast Asia will benefit from, the results of their studies, the President said.

President Sinco informed the Chief Executive that the UP will soon initiate a series of important research projects in science following the arrival recently of \$1 million worth of electronics equipment donated to the state university by the International Cooperative Administration.

President Garcia later received Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, who reported to the Chief Executive on plans being made by the defense department to insure clean, honest, and orderly elections this year.

Secretary Santos also briefed the President on the overall peace and order situation in the country.

Other presidential callers this morning were Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Rep. Natalio Castillo of Bohol, and Mayor Aurelio Cahilog of Valencia, Bohol.

In the afternoon, the President motored back to Malacañang to preside over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

The President called up anew this afternoon and directed Defense Secretary Alejo Santos to look into the murder of Mayor and Mrs. Lucio Zabala of Cambugao, Ilocos Sur, reported to him by wire this noon by Rep. Faustino Tobia.

Secretary Santos failed to attend the weekly Cabinet meeting earlier in the afternoon, as he rushed to Cabugao in compliance with the President's directive.

In Secretary Santos' absence, Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenko attended the Cabinet meeting.

President Garcia's attention to the reported murder was called in a telegram from Congressman Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur earlier today.

THE CABINET this evening decided to include subordinate officials and employees of the General Auditing Office within regulations of the Wage and Positions Classification Office.

The Cabinet decision was prompted by reports that GAO subordinate officials and employees have exempted themselves from the effects of the WAPCO.

A Malacañang spokesman said that the Cabinet decided to include the GAO employees as the office was not among those specifically exempted by the law which had authorized the reorganization of various government offices.

The Cabinet also took up a proposal of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno to make direct purchase for government tractors and trucks to be able to hasten their repairs and commission into the service.

General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, however, objected to the Moreno proposal and the plan was shelved until the next Cabinet meeting.

Moreno claimed that coursing purchases of spare parts and minor items through the Department of General Services has stalled use of government tractors and trucks. He said he could secure these items even from stores in Manila.

Almendras, however, said that his office has been established as clearing house for government requisitions and purchases. He urged the Cabinet to implement the law in connection with the acquisition of requirements of various government offices.

The President today directed the Central Bank to release ₱30 million to the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration for payment of Virginia leaf tobacco purchased from farmers.

In taking this step, Secretary Pajo said the President was well aware of the urgent need of the tobacco farmers for the payment of their crops, especially with the advent of the rainy season.

The amount represented the balance of the ₱70 million allocated to the ACCFA for the purchase of Virginia leaf tobacco, of which ₱40 million had already been paid out.

A week ago, a delegation of tobacco farmers marched to Malacañang to request the release so that they could collect payment from the ACCFA for their tobacco which had been purchased from them and was already stored in the redrying plants of Agoo, La Union.

Payment was stopped by the auditor general pending the opinion of the secretary of justice on the legality of the purchasing activity of the ACCFA. However, upon study by Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, the secretary affirmed the legality of the purchase.

July 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received Lord Rowalan, chief scout of the British Commonwealth Nations, and Ellsworth H. Augustus, president of the Boy Scouts of America.

The two foreign boy scouts executives, who are here for the 10th Boy Scouts World Jamboree, paid a courtesy call on the President. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Jorge B. Vargas, president of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines; former Secretary of Education Manuel Lim, scout commissioner; and British Charge d’Affaires John Henry Lambert.

During the call of the scout executives, Vargas reported to the President on the overall situation prevailing in the “Jamboree City.” President Garcia previously inquired into the situation in Mt. Makiling.

Vargas spiked reports of profiteering inside the campsite saying that concessioners were under strict surveillance. He also said that Gov. Dominador Chipeco of Laguna and Mayor Catalan of Los Baños were curbing profiteering outside the camp site.

On thievery, Vargas said that there were only 19 cases so far reported and PC soldiers and pickpocket squads of Manila, Pasay City, and Quezon City police departments joined hands in minimizing the incidents.

The President of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines also discounted the possibility of epidemic breaking out in the “Jamboree City.” He said water and sewerage facilities were greatly improved.

After the courtesy call of the scout executives, the President received the new officers of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce headed by reelected President Marcelo Balatbat.

The PCC officials invited the President to be their guest speaker and inducting officer at a date to be set later. The officials also submitted a resolution of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce endorsing the candidacy of Marcelo Balatbat for senator. The resolution was given to the President after Balatbat had left upon request of the other PCC officers. The resolution was handed by Gaudencio Antonino.

Other PCC officers who called on the President included Manuel Lim, E. V. Mendoza, Lorenzo Jovino, Ramon V. del Rosario, Jose Y. Orosa, Ben R. Medrano, Martiniano Abad, Zoilo Alberto, and Benito Medina.

Later the President received Gov. Diego Ty-Deling of Misamis Occidental, who requested the placing of the town of Sinacaban under PC control following the killing of two NP leaders allegedly by a town policeman who was said to have been ordered by a rival politician. The President directed PC Chief Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo to look into the case.

A delegation from Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur headed by Representative Florentino Badilles, Gov. Salvador Lluch, and Madki Alonto also saw the Chief Executive for financial aid and appointment of officials for their respective provinces.

Other governors who called on the President were Govs. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, Francisco Infantado of Mindoro Oriental, Amado Aleta with Dr. and Mrs. Enrique Melencio of Nueva Ecija, Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, and Manuel Barretto of Zambales.

The President also received Mayor Alfonso Tabora of Baguio City, accompanied by Colonel Francisco Paraan and Colonel Basilio Hernandez of the PAFC, who turned over to the President a check for ₱8,000 as the contribution of the city to the Peace and Amelioration Fund.

Nine NP mayors from Ilocos Norte requested funds for their respective towns. They were Mayors Esmeraldo Agabin of Badoc, Vicente Hernando of San Nicolas, Patrocinio Albano of Dingras, Aldrico E. Ignacio, Constante Benemerito of Pagudpud, Toribio Ibarra of Nueva Era, Apolinarie Magdarilla of Pinilli, Feliciano Asuncion of Batac, and Antonio Ganal of Salsona.

Other callers of the President were Mayor M. Imperial of Naga City, Mayor Norberto Amoranto of Quezon City, Vice-Mayor Isidro Bayang of Santiago, Isabela, and Councilor Victor Clapano of Davao City.

President Garcia and Secretary Felixberto Serrano conferred today and discussed pending promotions and appointments of lesser officials in the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The President today served stern notice of revoking his pardon of Ang Chio Kio for non-fulfillment of a condition to leave the country.

In a letter to Immigration Commissioner Emilio L. Galang through Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, the President gave an ultimatum of five days within which time Ang Chio Kio should explain his failure to comply with the condition.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the President emphasized that 18 days had already elapsed since the release of Ang Chio Kio from the national prisons in Muntinlupa.

It was pointed out that non-compliance to the condition to leave the country voluntarily is a ground for the commitment back to prison of Ang Chio Kio.

Commissioner Galang was directed by the President to contact Ang Chio Kio and report on the matter within five days.

July 24.—AT A BREAKFAST conference in Malacañang this morning, President Garcia conferred with Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag and Solicitor General Edilberto Barot on the steps to be adopted by the Department of Justice to end the wave of political killings that has swept Northern Luzon.

The President expressed concern over the recent murder of Mayor and Mrs. Lucio Zabala of Cabugao, Ilocos Sur, and recalled other violent incidents mostly involving politicians in the province that occurred the last few months.

Also present at the conference was CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno to whom the Chief Executive expressed his desire for the CB to extend financial assistance to cotton-producing projects in order that local textile mills will have no difficulty in procuring raw materials to feed the mills.

President Garcia received Prof. Roberto Durrer, inventor of the L-D and Von Roll processes of refining steel, when the latter paid a courtesy call at Malacañang this morning.

Prof. Durrer is general director of the Von Roll Iron Works, Ltd., and president of the Interconsulting, Ltd., in Zurich, Switzerland. He was accompanied by Chairman Paulino Garcia of the National Science Development Board; Dr. Gunter Heintze, chief metallurgist of the Von Roll Iron Works, Ltd.; Kurt Rosembaum, managing director of Interconsulting, Ltd.; Eugenio S. Puyat, general manager of Puyat Steel Mills, Inc.; Commissioner Joaquin Maranon of the National Institute of Science and Technology; Ruben Macaspac, director of planning, NEC; and Mrs. Paul Schencker, Philippine representative of the Von Roll Iron Works, Ltd.

The famed metallurgist is in the Philippines to study the possibility of developing the steel industry in this country by private sectors.

The President also received three Australian experts on educational broadcasting who came here under the Colombo Plan. They are Kenneth Watts, Ronald McCall, and John Lonergan.

They reported to President Garcia that they will initiate a series of educational broadcasts over the Philippine Broadcasting System on August 3 utilizing 500 specially manufactured radio sets donated by the Australian Government to Philippine schools Under the Colombo Plan.

They were accompanied by Francisco Trinidad, manager of the Philippine Broadcasting System, and Mrs. Amparo Asuncion of the Bureau of Public Schools.

Jesus Cabarrus, president of the Philippine Base Metals, Inc., demonstrated to the President a new method for up-grading local Virginia leaf tobacco. The Chief Executive expressed enthusiasm for the process and said it would eliminate the need for grading tobacco bought from small farmers and eliminate a principal source of irregularities in tobacco trading.

Cabarrus was accompanied by Francisco Prat, Florencio A. Soliven, and Manuel Lontoc.

President Garcia also received Yoshio Kobayashi and Dr. Ryoichi Naito, president and managing director, respectively, of the Blood Plasma Corporation of Japan, who said they had come here to look into the feasibility of establishing a blood plasma plant in this country to meet local demands.

The President accepted an invitation extended to him by Salvador Pacis, outgoing president of the Confederation of Government Employees of the Philippines, to induct into office the newly elected officers of the organization in a ceremony to be held in the social hall of Malacañang on August 3.

Pacis was accompanied by Col. Crisanto Alba and Fernando Santico, newly elected vice-president and public relations officer, respectively, of the confederation which has a membership of 300,000.

Other presidential callers this morning were Paul Reeves, who presented a copy of his book entitled *Public Relations* to the Chief Executive, and Major Arturo Sevilla, who briefed the President on the political situation in Marinduque where he is being boosted for the governorship of the province.

THIS AFTERNOON the President indicated he will recommit Ang Chio Kio back to jail for his failure to leave the country within a reasonable period of time.

This was his reaction during his regular press conference, as he ruled out any possible explanation that the notorious Chinese plane hijacker might make to justify his protracted stay in the country.

The President told newsmen that, when he signed Ang's conditional pardon, it was with the understanding that he would leave the country voluntarily.

President Garcia rejected Ang's reported reason that he could not leave immediately because he had been refused a visa to Hongkong and to Taipei.

“If he could not fulfill the condition,” the President stated, “he (Ang) has to return, to jail.”

The President denied that Ang has been detained by the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee which has started an inquiry into the pardon which has been extended to the Chinese prisoner.

President Garcia yesterday served notice to Ang to explain within five days his failure to leave the country.

Asked if he favored the detention of Ang together with the Filipino communists, the President answered it was up to the director of prisons to decide.

DAVAO delegates to the NP convention pledged this evening their loyalty to President Garcia and, at the same time, endorsed unanimously the inclusion of Secretary Alejandro Almendras of the Department of General Services in the NP senatorial slate.

The delegates, led by Gov. Vicente Duterte, Rep. Gavino Sepulveda, Board Member Abelardo Aportadera, and Davao City Vice-Mayor Ramon Morada, told President Garcia that it would be an honor for their province to have the “favorite son” of Davao included in the NP senatorial slate.

Earlier this afternoon, the President administered the oath of office to Nieves Baens-Del Rosario as director of the Bureau of Workmen’s Compensation in the presence of Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, Judge Almeda Lopez, former Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, Manila Vice-Mayor Jesus Marcos Rocas, officials of the Department of Labor, and members of the Philippine Government Employees’ Association, of which the inductee is the president.

In appointing Mrs. Del Rosario to her new position, the President said he recognized the capability of women in the government service.

The new bureau head started working in the government as a clerk in 1923 and slowly worked her way up to her present position.

PGEA officials present at the induction ceremony were Marcelo Quiroz, Fernando de los Reyes, Corazon Ortila, Gloria Villano, Ligaya Jorge, and Guillermina Rodriguez.

The President also received Mayor Patalinghod and A. Cortes. Later, he went with the First Lady and Health Secretary and Mrs. Elpidio Valencia to be the guest speaker at the National Health Conference held at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel.

July 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia conferred with former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., on the latest development in the Cebu political front at a closed-down conference in the former’s private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, this morning.

Former President Osmeña arrived by plane this morning from Cebu and motored directly to the Bohol Avenue residence of President Garcia accompanied by his son-in-law, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia. Upon arrival at Bohol Avenue, the former president and founder of the Nacionalista Party, was ushered into the President’s study where they conferred for over an hour.

After receiving President Osmeña, President Garcia ate lunch and then retired to his room to work on state papers.

Earlier, the President was briefed on the highlights of the convention held a few days ago by the Nacionalista Party in Cebu managed by Reps. Manuel A. Zosa and Ramon Durano. Rep. Zosa who called on the President this morning, was accompanied by several Cebu mayors and political leaders of the province.

Sen. Domocao Alonto also called on the President and arranged for a meeting between the Chief Executive and the members of the MINSUPALA committee in Malacañang this afternoon before he receives the rest of the 1,000 delegates to the NP convention in the Manila Hotel tomorrow.

PRESIDENT Garcia virtually gave the delegates to the Nacionalista convention to be held tomorrow a free hand in the selection of candidates for the NP senatorial slate as he welcomed them to Manila at a merienda held at the Malacañang social hall this afternoon.

The Chief Executive, titular head of the party, shied away from political talks regarding the choice of candidates, but traced the history of the party and expressed optimism in its overwhelming victory in the coming November elections.

However, he described today's convention as a starting point in the coming fight for economic freedom.

President Garcia said the Nacionalistas have fought for political independence and now that this struggle has been won, they are now embarking on a new program to achieve economic freedom.

Before meeting the NP delegates, the President received members of the Minsupala, composed of political leaders of Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan.

The meeting was held behind closed doors, but it was learned that the group urged for the inclusion of Senator Emmanuel Pelaez in the NP senatorial ticket.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: July 26 - August 1, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia expressed satisfaction over the orderly and expeditious manner with which the national convention of the Nacionalista Party held this morning at the Fiesta Pavillion of the Manila Hotel had been conducted.

The President congratulated the delegates to the Nacionalista Party convention for their nomination of capable candidates whose records both in public and private levels will be a credit to the nation.

Expressing optimism over the senatorial ticket's sweeping victory in the forthcoming polls, President Garcia also congratulated the delegates for their orderly and democratic national convention.

President Garcia underscored the sharp contrast between the NP convention and those held by the opposition parties. The President noted that while there is a surplus of nominations of capable candidates for the NP ticket, there seemed to be a lack of such candidates in the ranks of the opposition.

The President spent the day quietly at Malacañang with members of his family. He did not receive any caller. He spent most of the morning watching the proceedings in the NP national convention on a television set.

Earlier this morning, the President heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. With him at the mass were Mrs. Garcia, his daughter Linda and son-in-law, Fernando Campos. Fernando and Linda recently returned after completing their studies in the United States.

After the mass, the President, had breakfast with members of his family and Father Nicolas Ortega.

Then the First Family retired to Linda's room where they watched the progress of the convention on Linda's TV set. With them was Ma. Jose Estrella, junior military aide.

The President originally intended to spend the day at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City where he usually spends the weekends quietly with members of his family. He later decided to remain in Malacañang so that he would be nearer the convention site and make himself available for consultation by conventionists who might wish to seek his advice.

With the convention over about noon time, the President returned to his room where he worked for a while over state papers. He had lunch with members of his family about 1:30 p.m.

In the afternoon, after a brief rest, the President resumed work on pending papers.

July 27.—THE IMPLEMENTATION of the new civil service law in government or controlled corporations will create a serious problem in view of existing collective bargaining agreements between labor and management, President Garcia was informed today by Roberto Oca, president of the Katipunan Ng Manggagawang Filipino.

Oca, who called at Malacañang this morning, asked President Garcia 'if the new civil service law will contravene the collective bargaining agreements entered into by labor and management in several government firms.

President Garcia said that Commissioner Amado del Rosario of Civil Service had been instructed to solve this problem in order not to impair the rights of employees in the state firms.

Oca protested the retention of Ildefonso Remolona as trustee of the Social Security System as labor's representative, stating that Remolona had worked against the interest of labor during his tenure.

Oca informed President Garcia that Remolona had worked against labor when he favored the SSS board resolution including bonuses and overtime pay in the 2 ½ per cent contribution of labor to the system.

Moreover, Oca and delegates from Camarines Sur, endorsed the candidacy of Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo for senator under the Nacionalista Party banner.

Delegates from Camarines Sur, led by Gov. Juan Trivino, who is running for reelection, said they were backing Pajo for senator because they thought that the executive secretary would be a good addition to that august body.

Gov. Trivino presented to President Garcia the NP candidates for provincial as well as the Naga City offices. They were Jack Arroyo, who, is running for vice-governor and Board Member William Buquid, reelectionist, and Victorino Ojeda and Mariano Villafuerte, who are candidates for mayor and vice-mayor of Naga City.

The President also received Ramon L. Paguaia, sugar quota administrator, who reported verbally on, his observations while attending the International Sugar. Congress recently held in Honolulu.

The President received callers at his study from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Other callers included former Gov. Perfecto Faypon and Rep. Ramon Mitra of Mt. Province.

PRESIDENT Garcia today of ordered Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, Constabulary chief, to take all possible measures to insure the non-recurrence of violent incidents in Ilocos Sur.

In a conference held at Malacañang this evening, the President reiterated his desire to have the root causes of the Ilocos Sur killing inquired into thoroughly so that steps could be taken to avert further bloodshed in that province.

Gen. Campo called at Malacañang to render a verbal report on the latest situation in Ilocos Sur. The PC head recently arrived from that region where he personally supervised the restoration of peace and order in the province.

The President stressed the necessity of having the situation there well in hand in order to realize his objective of having a clean, honest, and peaceful elections this year.

The Chief Executive also received Tatehiko Ito of Kyoto, Japan who was accompanied to Malacañang by Chuji Ozaki, deputy national commissioner of Japan, and Satoshi Kinase, press attache of the Japanese Embassy.

Ito presented to President Garcia a miniature Japanese doll which was a gift from the youngster's grandfather, Hisashige Ito, who had met the President during his state visit to Japan last year.

Later in the evening, the President met the delegation of boy scouts from Misamis Oriental who were accompanied by Rodrigo Lim, a civic leader of that province.

July 28.—THE POWERFUL Mindanao-Sulu-Palawan bloc today informed President Garcia that it was withdrawing its support for the inclusion of Senator Emmanuel Pelaez in the Nacionalista Party senatorial line-up.

The announcement came on the wake of reports published in metropolitan newspapers about the formation of a "Grand Alliance" wherein the Misamis Oriental solon will reportedly get a berth in the senatorial slate.

Two leaders, of the powerful bloc, Senator Domocao Alonto and Rep. Salipada Pendatun, told President Garcia that "as far as the MINSUPALA is concerned, Pelaez is out." They also urged the inclusion of two candidates from Mindanao in the NP senatorial slate.

Meanwhile, another powerful bloc from Negros Island and Antique presented a resolution to President Garcia urging the inclusion of a candidate from the 8th senatorial district.

Leaders of the block urged the inclusion in the NP senatorial slate of Alfredo Montelibano, formerly chairman of the National Economic Council, administrator of the Office of Economic Coordination, and secretary of national defense.

Leading the delegation were Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, Reps. Agustin Gatuslao and Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental, Reps. Lorenzo Teves and Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, and Rep. Gaudencio A. Abordo of Palawan. Rep. Tobias Fornier of Antique also signed the resolution, as well as Jose Mapa Gomez; president of the Federation of Sugar Cane Planters; Armando Gustilo, Negros Occidental board member; and Municipal Mayors Sofronio Carmona of San Carlos, Armando Tambo of Escalante, Luis Magalona of Saravia, Elizalde Rodrigazo of Murcia, Vicente Suanico of Pontevedra, Julian Montilla of Pulupandan, Pedro Yula of Binalbagan, Albino de la Cruz of Toboso, Enrique Hinlo of Manapla, Mario Lizares of Talisay, Guido Castellanes of Calatrava, Cesar Aguilar of Hinigaran, and Dolores Infante of Valladolid, all of Negros Occidental.

Members of the Cebu Loyalist group also saw President Garcia to inform him that the group now counts with the solid support of 40 out of 53 municipal mayors.

The group, led by Reps. Ramon Durano and Manuel Zosa, also informed the President that other municipal mayors have sent feelers for their affiliation with the group.

Other presidential callers included Reps. Justiniano Montano of Cavite, Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, Lucas Paredes of Abra, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, and Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao. The latter was accompanied by Constantino Navarro, who recently was chosen at the NP provincial convention as official candidate of the party for governor.

THIS afternoon the President signed the *ad interim* appointments of a bureau director, two provincial board members, seven justices of the peace, one auxiliary justice of the peace, and several chairmen and members of the Board of Assessment Appeals of some provinces.

The appointments signed by the President follow: Antonio Durano, director of Agricultural extension; Masa Tanto Usman and Dr. Felixberto Abellanos, provincial board members of Lanao del Norte; Rustico E. Carada, register of deeds of Tagaytay City; Jose E. Arias Dominador Ermitano, and Jose. A. Gimehez, chairman and members, respectively, board of assessment appeals, Albay; Rustico Custodio, chairman, board of assessment appeals, Dagupan City; Benito Y. Ababao and Alberto Ferrer, chairman and member, respectively, board of assessment appeals, Mindoro Oriental; Ramon F. Arceo and Felino C. Cerinp, chairman and member, respectively, board of assessment appeals, Mt. Province.

The President also signed the appointment of the following justices of the peace: Buenaventura T. Abad, San Antonio, Zambales; Ramon Sison, Jr., Balangiga, Samar; Alfredo Tadiar, San Juan, La Union; Angel P. Borja, Bagamanoc, Catanduanes; Galileo Gaetos, San Gabriel, La Union; Nolencio Narvadez, San Fernando, Romblon; and Oscar E. Cerna, Tangkal, Lanao del Norte. Ester Juritereal was appointed auxiliary justice of the peace of Infanta, Quezon.

President Garcia today also issued an executive order reclassifying Alitagtag, Batangas, from third class to second class municipality on the recommendation of Batangas provincial officials and the endorsement of the Department of Finance and the General Auditing Office. The re-classification takes effect as of July 1, 1958.

July 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took steps to avert power and water shortages in thickly populated areas like Manila and suburbs as he directed Felipe R. Amos, director of forestry, to stop issuing forestry concessions in areas covered by watersheds of hydroelectric plants and waterworks dams.

The directive was issued this noon at a conference with heads of five government agencies called by President Garcia in view of power interruptions in Greater Manila caused by reduced power output of the Ambuklao hydroelectric plant.

At the same time, President Garcia created a committee headed by Secretaries Florencio Moreno of Public Works and Juan de G. Rodriguez of Agriculture, to draft the rules and regulations in order to protect the watersheds from being denuded.

The President was informed that watersheds were becoming barren not so much caused by *kaingeros* but through timber-cutting by concession holders.

As a preventive measure, the President approved the appropriation of ₱100,000 of the National Power Corporation funds for reforestation purposes of the Ambuklao¹ reservation.

He also directed a coordinated drive by the Bureau of Forestry with personnel detailed by the state firm (NPC) to prevent the forest areas in Ambuklao from being indiscriminately denuded.

General Manager Filemon Zablah of the NPC informed the President that the present power shortage in Manila and suburban areas was due to the fact that no “substantial rain had fallen in the Ambuklao area and added that what little rainfall there had been was barely enough to maintain the water level at the safety margin.

Zablan also informed President Garcia that deforestation in the Talomo River area recently caused the worst flood in the middle of the dry season.

Meanwhile, President Garcia received members of the National Education Association of the United States who arrived Monday night in the course of a tour of the Far East.

The group, led by Dr. Charles F. Reid, is composed of Virginia A. Rasor, Esther Eichsteadt, Helen Peck, Mildred Wolf, Inez McLean, Blanche Leedy, Helen Van Dyke, Alvina Christensen, and Mesdames Jennie Dearmin, Eunice Vetting, Henrietta Christensen, and Julia Brueckner.

The President also received Korean Boy Scouts led by former Minister of Defense Kim Yong Woo, a big delegation of Boy Scouts from Hongkong led by Tse Ping Fui, and another big delegation of Boy Scouts from Bohol. All these Boy Scouts called on the President before returning home after the 10th World Jamboree in Mt. Makiling, Los Baños, Laguna.

THE CABINET this evening agreed, to institute annulment proceedings to rescind the sale to a private person of the controversial 46 hectare Sari Pedro Tunasan estate in Laguna which the government tried to purchase two years ago.

The Cabinet action was prompted by the petition of 33 families residing in the estate to the Land Tenure Administration to expropriate the land from its present owner and to distribute it at cost price to the petitioners.

At the same time, President Garcia directed the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation to liquidate its outstanding obligations amounting to several millions of pesos.

During the Cabinet meeting, the PHHC was directed to submit an itemized sheet of its outstanding obligations and proposal to liquidate them.

It was learned that the PHHC had outstanding obligations to two private contractors who have not been able to pay their workers following the failure of the government agency to pay them for their work.

The Cabinet, at the same time, postponed action on the PHHC plan to sell its property in Roxas City to pay a contractor who had built the government housing project in that area.

The President decided to take a hand in the liquidation of the accounts of the housing firm following complaints of workers of private contractors who have not been paid their wages.

In seeking the annulment of the sale of the Tunasan estate, the Cabinet believed that the Colegio de San Jose could not sell the hacienda to a third person, while the government was negotiating to acquire the property.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the government had sought to acquire the property two years ago owing to the unrest in the area stirred up by the residents' desire to acquire the property.

He said the government had asked for the acquisition of the land at ₱38,000.

The Colegio de San Jose had asked for ₱46,000 for the property.

The Malacañang spokesman added that while negotiations were underway, a private landowner, Zoilo Alberto, purchased the property at ₱37,000.

In approving the proposal to seek the annulment of the sale to Alberto, the Cabinet based its decision on the opinion rendered by the Department of Justice that third parties should not intervene in negotiations being conducted by the government.

The Cabinet also sought to include the officials and personnel of the Land Registration Commission under the restrictions of the Wage and Position Classification Office.

Last week, the Cabinet had rendered an opinion bringing the officials and employees of the General Auditing Office under the rules and regulations of the WAPCO,

The President also approved the release of ₱31,000 to pay the tuition fees of non-Christian students in Manila.

July 30.—THIS MORNING the President, received provincial governors and city mayors who called at Malacañang to consult him on political developments in their respective localities. He received the local executives at his study from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The President was assisted by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

All Nacionalistas, the local officials came for final instructions before returning to their localities after attending the NP national convention in Manila last Sunday.

Headed by Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, president of the provincial governors and city mayors' league, the morning callers included Govs. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Feliciano Leviste of Batangas, Fernando Veloso of Samar, Bienvenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur, Miguel Manguera of Marinduque, Marcos Malupa of Batanes, Salvador Lluch of Lanao, Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental, Madki Alonto of Northern Lanao, Diego Ty Deling of Misamis Occidental; Mariano Penaflorida of Iloilo, Manuel Solidum of Romblon; Romulo Garrovillo of Zamboanga del Norte, Leon Fernandez of Sulu, Jesus Almero of Masbate, Mariano Tajonera of Mindoro Occidental, Juan Trivino of Camarines Sur, Jose Dinglasan of Capiz; and City Mayors Ramon Duterte of Cebu, Mariano Badilles of Iligan, and Angel Medina of Ozamiz.

Earlier, President Garcia received former President Sergio Osmeña, who called to say goodbye before returning to Cebu.

In the afternoon, President Garcia received Senator Eulogio Balao who briefed him on the political situation in his home province of Cagayan.

The President also conferred lengthily with Gov. Esteban Bernido, who called at Malacañang for final instructions before returning to his province.

Gov. Bernido was accompanied by Loay Mayof Paulino Inting and, Balilihan Mayor Getulio Calope, also of Bohol.

July 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia will create a fact-finding committee to study the Tatalon expropriation case to help him decide as to what action he should take on a bill, passed during the special session of Congress providing for the purchase of the Tatalon Estate in Quezon City and its sale at cost to bona fide occupants.

The President's decision to create a committee came after a conference with Rep. Pedro A. Venida of Camarines Norte, sponsor of the bill, with whom he discussed some legal impediments to the expropriation of the property.

Rep. Venida informed the President that more than 1,500 landless persons would be benefitted by the expropriation and resale of the estate, in line with the land-for-the-landless policy of the Administration.

Earlier this morning, the President received Minister Rogelio Tristany of Argentina, who is returning soon to his country after completing his tour of duty in the Philippines.

The President also received Ambassador Salvador P. Lopez who is returning to his post in Paris.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon dared Sens. Emmanuel Pelaez and Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo to quit the Nacionalista Party, calling them "political hypocrites" for joining the so-called Grand Alliance without shedding first their political identities as NPs.

At his regular press conference, the President hit the two NP senators who had joined the Grand Alliance and scored them for not bolting the party which they had repeatedly criticized.

They (Pelaez and Rodrigo) say the Nacionalista Party is not good, but why don't they bolt it?" the President asked.

The President made the remarks when asked to comment on the formation, of the new political group which presented recently a complete senatorial ticket.

Asked in the national language on the new political alliance, the President replied in halting Tagalog.

He branded the Grand Alliance ticket as "irresponsible" for not allowing the people to fix party responsibility for the misdeeds of the members.

At the regular press conference, the President:

1. Said he will stop the dismissal of several thousands of ineligible employees in different government offices and government controlled corporations in the course of what he called a "premature" implementation of the new civil service law;
2. Refuse to comment on Frank Pick's analysis of the economic situation in the Philippines;
3. Disclosed he had ordered an inquiry into the purchase of tobacco leaf by the Agricultural- Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration by the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency;
4. Favored the holding of a majoralty convention in Manila to select the NP candidate; and
5. Tossed the responsibility for accepting or rejecting the proposed coalition between the NP and the Nationalist-Citizens Party to the NP executive Committee.

Commenting on the formation of the new Grand Alliance, the President said, "It is neither grand nor is it an alliance.

He claimed that candidates in order to win an election must present a concrete political stand and identify themselves with a party which will be responsible for the people.

In challenging Pelaez and Rodrigo to bolt the NP, the President said that if these NP senators believed that the Nacionalista Party is bad, "why don't they bolt it?"

At the same time, the President allayed the fears of several thousands of ineligible employees who are facing ouster from their government jobs in connection with the implementation of the new civil service law.

The President; appeared surprised over the reported plan to sweep the unclassified employees out of the government. He said he had not received any report on the matter.

He pointed out that there are certain mechanics Which should be followed before the government could enforce the new law.

He explained that the Civil Service Commission is enjoined by the new law to promulgate rules and regulations which should be published in the *Official Gazette*. He added that the new law could only be enforced 30 days after the publication of these regulations in the *Gazette*.

The President refused to comment on Pick's economic diagnosis of the country. He said "I don't think the article is worth my attention, "except that Pick has professed to be an expert on our economic affairs after staying herefor three days.'

The President also said he had ordered an inquiry into the so-called irregularities in the purchase of Virginia leaf tobacco by the ACCFA. The PCAPE is "silently probing into the matter," he said.

The President also said unless government agents could seize substantial evidence, he was not ready to forward the cases to the courts.

Touching on the Manila political situation, the President said he was in favor of holding an NP convention in the city for the purpose of choosing the official mayoralty candidate of the party.

The President disclosed he had received the resolution of more than 3,000 ward leaders from four districts of the city, urging him to support the move to hold an NP convention.

"The mayoralty convention," the President said, "would only complete the work already started."

On the proposed NP-NCP coalition, the President said the Council of Leaders had already "agreed in principle" on the political partnership between the two parties.

However, he said, "the proposal is now being discussed by the NP executive committee."

The President said the proposed coalition may eventually lead to the integration of the NCP members into the majority party.

"It is the natural evolution," he said "that coalition will eventually lead to integration or disintegration like two parties which had coalesced.'

President and Mrs. Garcia received 332 members of the Cebu delegation to the recently-concluded 10th World Boy Scouts Jamboree who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang this afternoon prior to their return to the province.

They were accompanied by officers and members of the Cebu boy scouts provincial council headed by Gil Garcia, president; Eusebio Sevilla, treasurer; and Pedro Soon, Opon Mayor Mariano Dimataga, Leocadio Monongan, Jose Moran, Col. Roque Ancajas, and Fr. Gerardo Jamaoas, spiritual adviser of the delegation.

The President gave the lads a short talks on the lesson to be learned from the jamboree, particularly on world peace and international brotherhood, and exhorted the boys to live- up to the lofty and nobel ideals of the boy scout organization.

After holding his regular weekly press conference, President Garcia inducted into office the new set of officers of the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines.

Among those sworn into office were Jose Rodriguez, president; Jose Desiderio, vice-president for Luzon; Virgilio M. Garcia, vice-president for Visayas; Licerio D. Floirendo, vice-president for Mindanao; Eduardo Barretto, secretary-treasurer; and Juan T. Baun, Sergio Naguiat, Nestor Jalandoni, Rep. Guillermo Sanchez, Procopio Reyes, Sergio Ortiz Luis, Leon. F. Castillo, Oscar Cosculluela, Jose Segismundo, Mayor Alfonso Tabora, and Joyito Francisco, directors.

The induction ceremony was attended by, among others, Central Bank officials headed by Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Deputy Gov. Andres Castillo, and Director Augusto F. Espiritu of the Rural Banks administration division of the Central Bank.

The Chief Executive also received a check for one peso from the bankers and signed the deed of conveyance for the transfer of a property in Intramuros to the association as the site of their future national headquarters.

President Garcia also presented to Ramon O. Pates, provincial revenue officer of Rizal, a plaque awarded to him by the Capitol Press Club for being the most outstanding provincial revenue officer of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

The award was given to Pates in the presence of Jose Pastor, who acted as representative of Benedict Samonte, president of the Capitol Club.

August 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia today conferred with Congress leaders and took up the impasse which marked the first meeting of the Nacionalista executive committee yesterday.

Present at the conference held at the President's private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez and Sen. Gil J. Puyat. Puyat represented Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

Malacañang was silent on the result of the conference but authoritative sources said the President took up the formation of the eight-man senatorial slate of the administration party.

The NP committee yesterday nominated only Senate President Rodriguez and decided to meet anew Tuesday to take up the nomination of the seven others.

The President, it was learned, had expressed concern over the issue of the proposed coalition of the Nacionalista and the Nationalist-Citizen Parties. He had told a press conference yesterday that the Council of Leaders in its last meeting approved in principle the partnership between the NP and the NCP.

However, the President said he was tossing the responsibility of finalizing the coalition to the NP executive committee.

PRESIDENT Garcia retired to his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, this morning to catch upon a backlog of state papers needing presidential action that piled up on his desk during the week.

A heavy schedule of callers at Malacañang this week, made up mostly of delegates from various provinces to the NP national convention last Sunday and foreign and local contingents to the recently-concluded 10th Boy Scouts World Jamboree, gave the President little time to study and act on important papers of state.

After a light breakfast this morning, the President read the morning papers and then retired to a room and buckled down to work. No callers were scheduled for today; so the Chief Executive expected to work sans interruption on the papers brought to him by Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo.

President Garcia returned to his study after lunch and continued working until late afternoon. A flash rainstorm kept him indoors and prevented him from taking his daily stroll. He instead relaxed by reading the afternoon papers and later chatted with Palace aides until almost dinner time.

After dinner, the Chief Executive started preparing the first draft of a speech he will deliver at the annual birthday anniversary celebration of President Manuel L. Quezon in Quezon City on August 19.

President Garcia today commended former Internal Revenue Commissioner Jose Aranas for the increase in revenue collections during the last four months of the latter's incumbency.

In a report to the Chief Executive shortly before his retirement, Aranas revealed an increase of ₱27,347,785.83 in revenue collections from February to May, 1959.

The report also stated that the collections overshot budgetary estimates by ₱16,184,731.99.

The presidential commendation included personnel of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

The increase in revenue collections emphasizes that BIR personnel are stepping up tax collections in line with the Administration's tax collection program. It also shows the healthy attitude of tax payers to settle their obligations to the government on time, he stated.

The Aranas report does not include collections from four provinces and two cities, because until the time that the report was submitted to the President, these were still under preparation.

The provinces are Misamis Oriental, Masbate, Palawan, and Sulu. The cities are Bacolod and Ozamis.

The increase in tax collections are based on February to May, 1958, collections as compared to those of the same months this year. The smallest increase registered was in February, 1959, with ₱4,773,856.66; while the highest increase was in May, 1959 with ₱10,040,888.14. The collections during the months of March and April, 1959, averaged over ₱6 million a month.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: August 2-8, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 2. — PRESIDENT Garcia woke up early this morning in spite of the fact he had stayed up to 2 a.m. the night before at the residence of Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, where he headed an *anasalto* staged by Malacañang officials and employees on the eve of his secretary's 55th birthday.

The President and the First Lady had enjoyed the rollicking affair with ranking Malacañang officials being asked to contribute in an impromptu program. With Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema as master of ceremonies, Malacañang officials were individually called upon to sing songs, recite poems, deliver speeches, or play musical instruments.

The President climaxed the affair by proclaiming Secretary and Mrs. Pajo "king" and "queen" for a day. He placed on them colorful crowns fashioned out of colored paper and carboards. The mock ceremony was held amidst the explosive bangs of a fireworks display and the howls and of the cheers of Malacañang personnel.

It was a noisy, slambang family affair with everybody apparently enjoying every minute of it despite an intermittent drizzle.

President Garcia spent a quiet day today at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, devoting most of his time to clearing his desk of pending state papers.

Early this morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass before an improvised altar in their residence.

After partaking of a light breakfast, the Chief Executive read the Sunday morning newspapers and then closeted himself in his study until noon, working on papers.

The President resumed his work shortly after lunch and relaxed in the late afternoon by reading one of several books on chess given to him by friends and wellwishers last Christmas.

After a late supper, President Garcia stayed up until late in the evening preparing the preliminary draft of his speech for the forthcoming Quezon Day celebration in Quezon City.

The President approved the award of the Philippine Legion of Honor (Legionnaire) to Capt. Geferino S. Firaza, chief of police of Tabaco, Albay, and Antonio Villaos, barrio lieutenant of Pasipis, Lopez, Quezon, Malacañang announced this day.

In granting the award, the President cited Capt. Firaza for especially meritorious conduct and outstanding service to the cause of peace.

Sometime on December 19, 1958, upon learning of the presence of "Colonel" Pedro Borja of the Anderson's Fil-American Guerrillas, in Tiwi, Albay, Capt. Firaza mobilized the Tabaco police force and, together with some PC elements, engaged Borja in a gun fight resulting in the killing of two AFAG men and the wounding of two others.

Antonio Villaos, on the other hand, was cited for especially meritorious and invaluable service. Upon learning of the presence of Borja at Sumacab, Cavinti, Laguna, and without considering his personal safety and that of his family, Villaos informed the PC detachment in Quzeon province, resulting in the apprehension of Borja and 39 others.

Borja was alleged to be the mastermind in the Gancayco murder on San Miguel Island, Tabaco, Albay, and was reported to have been stirring up the people in the region to overthrow the government.

August 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed in his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City and cancelled all appointments scheduled for today to devote his time studying five remaining bills passed during the last special session of Congress and whose deadline for presidential action falls at midnight tonight.

Early this morning, the President called for Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta and Judge Salvador Esguerra, Palace legal adviser, to assist him on the bills.

Starting with a breakfast conference, the Chief Executive discussed the merits and demerits of the bills with Logarta and Esguerra until past 2 p.m. Defense Secretary Alejo Santo was later invited to the confab to clarify certain provisions of H.B. 2970, which sought to raise the ranks of certain officers in the AFP.

EARLY this afternoon, President Garcia summoned to Bohol Avenue J. Antonio Araneta, proprietor of the Tatalon Estate, to explain his side in the proposed expropriation of the vast Tatalon Estate.

The Chief Executive worked on the measures until late at night.

President Garcia today directed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to issue twin directives calculated to ameliorate the plight of tobacco farmers in northern Luzon provinces.

Secretary Pajo's first directive to Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno was for the immediate release of ₱24,500,00, which had been authorized by Auditor General Pedro Gimenez for payment of Virginia leaf tobacco purchased by the ACCFA as of June 19.

The second directive was dispatched to ACCFA Administrator Ernesto T. Jimenez, ordering him to resume immediately operations of the ACCFA redrying plants.

The attention of President Garcia and Secretary Pajo were called in a petition of tobacco farmers led by Gregorio V. Gonzales, Jr., reporting the rotting of Virginia leaf tobacco awaiting redrying processes.

About ₱12 million worth of Virginia leaf tobacco are aboard freight trucks at redrying plants exposed to the elements.

It was pointed out that farmers are paying demurrage fees as high as ₱40 a day and the tobacco is deteriorating to the great disadvantage of the farmers. The degeneration by only one grade could mean at least a difference of ₱2 per kilo in the selling price.

It will be recalled that ACCFA purchases for the tobacco season ending August 1, were stopped owing to a controversy that arose over the creation of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration which will eventually take over the tobacco trading functions of the ACCFA.

August 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up early this morning in spite of the fact that he had retired at 3:30 a.m. after finishing a lengthy memorandum embodying his reasons for allowing H.B. 3570, providing for the expropriation of the Tatalon Estate in Quezon City to lapse into law.

Beating the midnight deadline for presidential action on the remaining five measures passed during the last special session of Congress, the Chief Executive vetoed H.B. 2970, raising the ranks of certain officers of the Armed Forces, and approved the following:

(a) H. B. No. 3082, creating a national council on rehabilitation and providing for the promotion of vocational rehabilitation of the blind and other handicapped persons and their return to civil employment.

(b) S. B. No. 368, increasing the number of judges of the Court of First Instance to cope with the volume of undisposed cases in certain provinces; and

(c) S. B. No. 380, extending the retirement benefits enjoyed by justices of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals to judges of the courts of agrarian relations, industrial relations, tax appeals, first instance, and juvenile and domestic relations.

Shortly after taking a light breakfast, the President left his Bohol Avenue residence and motored to Malacañang to keep his schedule of appointments with members of Congress. It was Congressmen's Day at the Palace.

Rep. Justiniano S. Montano and his son, Gov. Delfin N. Montano of Cavite, accompanied Arcadio Alarcon, division superintendent of schools for Cavite, and other provincial school officials to Malacañang to request the expeditious release of ₱200,000. The money, they explained, will be used for the construction of an athletic field in Cavite City for the Southern Tagalog Athletic Association (STAA) meet early next year.

President Garcia accepted an invitation to open the nationwide, anti-tuberculosis drive in a ceremony to be held at the Malacañang social hall on August 18 in connection with the celebration of Anti-Tuberculosis Week from August 19 to 25 this year.

The invitation was extended by Pedro Lopez, executive secretary of the Philippine Tuberculosis Society, who was accompanied by Rep. Tobias Fornier of Antique. In the course of the call Rep. Fornier also briefed the President on the political situation in his province.

Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon proposed that a coconut mission be sent to the United States to follow up matters vital to the local coconut industry.

Rep. Guinto informed the Chief Executive that the price of copra had gone down during the last few months following receipt of reports that the U. S. was going to unload its stockpile of coconut oil on the world market.

The mission, Guinto said, could also work for the extension of the suspension of the coconut excise tax and seek a refund of some \$150,000 in excise taxes paid by Filipino coconut producers since 1946.

Other congressional callers in Malacañang this morning were Reps. Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, Francisco Sumulong of Rizal, Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Lagutia, Dominador Tan of Leyte, Apolinario Apacible of Eatangas, Faustina Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Ramon Mitra of Mt. Province, Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, and Ricardo Y. Ladrido of Iloilo.

They presented their requests for financial releases for the construction of schools and various public works projects and for the repair of public buildings and installations in their respective districts which were either damaged or totally defrayed by storms.

The President today expressed the hope that the forthcoming exchange of visits between President Eisenhower and Mr. Khrushchev would bring about a great era of world peace which is the dream and prayer of the entire humanity.

The President, who was vice-president and concurrently foreign affairs secretary during the incumbency of the late President Magsaysay, underscored the significance of the exchange of visits.

He pointed to these events as fraught with tremendous possibilities and significance.

The President today directed Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo to conduct an on-the-spot survey of damages wrought in Cotabato farms as a result of a reported locust infestation in nine Cotabato towns.

Secretary Pajo, who is chairman of the Emergency Relief Coordinating committee, will enplane to Mindanao tomorrow morning. He will be accompanied by Agriculture Undersecretary Amando Dalisay, PC Chief Isagani V. Ocampo, and other members of the committee created recently to handle relief work for victims of natural calamities.

The President expressed his concern over reports of ravages wrought on some 5,000 hectares of crops, principally upland and lowland rice, in at least nine Cotabato towns. He instructed his executive secretary to look into the reported forced suspension of the anti-locust campaign due to lack of funds.

The President recalled that a few weeks ago, he had authorized the release of funds from his contingent fund and had ordered the Air Force to have planes available for the locust operation. He emphasized the necessity of checking the infestation in time before it could do further damage and spread to other localities in Mindanao and other nearby provinces.

THIS evening the President summoned Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag to Malacañang and directed him to utilize additional personnel of his department in order to expedite the disposition of pending criminal cases in Ilocos Sur.

Informed that there are about 500 criminal cases involving murder and homicide, as well as attempted murders and homicide, President Garcia directed the justice head to dispatch two additional judges and three special prosecutors to Ilocos Sur, with definite instructions to expedite the pending criminal cases.

After the conference, President Garcia announced that Judge Dollete will leave for Ilocos Sur on August 10, and Judges Romero and Domingo on August 17. The three judges had previously been alerted to be in readiness to help the two judges of the court of first instance of Ilocos Sur. clear the court docket. They will stay in the province for only three months.

Earlier, President Garcia received Canadian Consul General Henry L. E. Priestman, who accompanied the contingent leaders of Boy Scouts of Canada who attended the Tenth World Jamboree in Los Baños.

The Canadian Boy Scouts contingent leaders who are returning tomorrow to their country are Fred J. Finley, J. L. Watson, Leonard May, and Barry Dewil from Ottawa.

August 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today, appointed Simeon M. Gopengco as ad interim government corporate counsel and Loreto C. Señorán as ad interim member of the board of examiners for architects.

Government corporate counsel is a new position created by Congress during this year's regular session. Duties of the position were formerly discharged by the solicitor general.

Gopengco, the new government corporate counsel, was a ranking official in the Solicitor General's Office before his new appointment.

The President received very few callers this morning at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He spent most of his time with Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, who brought to him some papers pending presidential action. He also went over the agenda for the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet scheduled for this afternoon.

About 9 a.m., the President conferred with Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, who reported on the progress of construction work on various public works projects all over the country.

Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental also called to brief the President on political developments in the former's province.

Shortly before noon, the Chief Executive conferred with J. Antonio Araneta, head of the law firm administering the Tatalon Estate, in Quezon City. They discussed some legal aspects of the new law authorizing the expropriation of the estate and its subdivision and distribution to bona fide residents.

Other callers included Sen. Pedro Sabido and Rep. Lucas Paredes of Abra. They discussed political matters.

IN THE AFTERNOON the President motored back to Malacañang where he presided over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

President Garcia and members of his Cabinet this evening discussed proposals of six private firms who have offered to take over the government-sponsored integrated steel mills in Iligan.

The six companies are Larap Mines and Smelting Co., FUDCO, Engineering Development Corporation of the Philippines, Gonzalo Puyat & Sons, Jacinto Steel, Inc., and Associated Management Co.

The six firms offered to take over the proposed government steel mills after the Cabinet announced that it would consider private offers to take over the steel mills.

The Larap firm said it would be controlled by Filipino-capitalists on a 60-40 basis.

The FUDCO, on the other hand, said it is putting up the Rosar-Philippines Smelting Co., to be capitalized at \$100 million with a paid-up fund of \$85 million in the first year.

The Engineering Development Corporation, headed by former Chairman Filemon Rodriguez of the National Economic Council, said it would put a capital of ₱170 million or \$85 million which is \$25 million less than the amount fixed by the National Shipyards and steel Corporation.

The Gonzalo Puyat & Sons said it is putting up a steel plant with a capital of \$76.9 million. This amount will be advanced at \$48.5 million and the balance will be paid in pesos.

The Puyat offer is \$33 million less than the NASSCO estimates.

The Jacinto firm is expected to put up ₱120 million as capital while the Associated Management Co. said it will establish the St. Agnes Iron and-Steel, Inc.

Bernardo P. Abrera, NASSCO general manager, objected to the six proposals saying that he doubted whether the firms could comply with the specifications if the amount is pared down. The NASSCO had estimated that a private firm, before it could comply with the specifications should have at least \$110 million operating capital.

No decision was reached on the six applicants.

The President this evening directed the Department of Foreign Affairs to seek a reconsideration of the decision of the US Government turning down 15 items in the Philippine omnibus claims.

The President issued the order during his conference with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano at the Palace this evening.

Serrano, officially informed the President of the rejection of 15 claims of the Philippine Government amounting to some \$950 million.

The President pointed out that the claims were valid and sought a re-examination of these, items.

Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo wired Malacañang to report to the President on the US action on the PI claims. Romulo said that he had received, the US check amounting to \$23,862,751 representing PI claims arising from the devaluation of the US dollar in 1934.

President Garcia hailed the payment of the \$23 million devaluation item as a recognition of the “validity of PI cases.”

He expressed the hope that a review of these claims may bring about a recognition of all the items and their eventual payment by the US Government.

The US Government, have already recognized four other Philippine claims, including the \$37 million war damage payments.

President Garcia and Secretary Serrano discussed this evening the official position of the United States on the Philippine omnibus claims.

The Chief Executive conferred lengthy with Serrano after the Cabinet meeting on the \$900 million omnibus claims, the bulk of which was rejected by the US Tuesday, and on other matters in the field of PI foreign relations.

It was understood that the President and Serrano also took up the status of the present PI-US controversy over the failure of Clark Field authorities to yield documents pertinent to the killings of Filipinos inside the base.

August 6.—THIS morning, the President received Vincent A. Grantham, chairman of the board of directors, of the Chartered Banks of London, who paid him a courtesy call. The British banker was accompanied by Robert Roger Johnston, Manila branch manager of the Chartered Banks. President Garcia disclosed today that the board of directors of the Manila Railroad Company is concurrently studying the possibility of opening bids for the construction of the MRR extension lines to Sorsogon and the Cagayan Valley.

The disclosure was made in the course of his conference with Gov. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, who called at Malacañang this morning and inquired about the projected extension of railroad facilities to the southern and northern tips of Luzon. The President said that the MRR intended to undertake both projects simultaneously as soon as the firm was ready to do so.

The Chief Executive also received in his study room, 24 governors and mayors who came to ask the President for the release of funds for feeder roads, school buildings, irrigation and waterworks projects, and to report on the political situation in their respective localities.

Those who saw the Chief Executive were Gov. Bernardino Almeda of Surigao, accompanied by Board Member Jose Arroza, Mayors A. Jamera of Bacuag and Feliciano Paquio of Claver, and Carlo Lozada, private secretary to the governor.

Gov. Romulo Garrovillo of Zamboanga del Norte also called on the President with Mayors Generoso Tokong of Labasan, Andres Micobo of Siocon, Protasio C. Maraon of Liloy, and Pastor Bajamunde of Dipolog, and requested financial aid for rat control. They informed the President that rat infestation had spread in nine municipalities of the province.

Gov. Leon Guinto of Quezon, accompanied by Mayors Leon S. Ruidera of General Nakar and Ricardo Macasaet of Infanta, requested, the President to release ₱20,000 for the purchase of a ferry-boat for the use of the people of Infanta and General Nakar.

Other callers were Govs. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, Felixberto Dagani of Agusan with Board Member Silvestre Asin, and Diego Ty-Deling with Mayor Liberate Bacayo of Aloran.

Later at noon, the President conferred with Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, on the implementation of Republic Act No. 2616, providing for the expropriation of the Tatalon Estate in Quezon City.

President Garcia was advised by Judge Esguerra that the government could not institute expropriation proceedings on the Tatalon Estate in Quezon City, as the new law passed during the last special session of Congress authorizing the expropriation has failed to appropriate funds for the payment of the property.

Judge Esguerra informed the President that section 2 of Republic Act No. 2616 requires the appropriation of funds by Congress for the payment of "just compensation" for the estate before expropriation proceedings could be instituted.

Judge Esguerra pointed out that section 7 of the act merely authorizes the future appropriation by Congress of funds up to ₱10 million for the purchase of the estate. He said that Congress should make an outright appropriation as required in section 2 of the act before expropriation proceedings could be maintained by the government.

"Unless and until such appropriation shall have been made," Judge Esguerra added, "the government cannot legally stay the action for ejectment instituted against tenants by the owners of the property."

The President had summoned Judge Esguerra to a conference upon receipt of a letter from C. S. Ruperto, counsel of Tatalon tenants, urging the Chief Executive to intervene in stopping the demolition of houses of the tenants on the estate.

THIS afternoon President Garcia signed the appointment of Commander Cayetano Palma as ad interim captain in the Bureau of Coast and Geodetic Survey.

The newly promoted officer is the present assistant director of the bureau.

The President also received this afternoon Giok Eng Gan, prominent businessman from Hongkong who was accompanied by Francisco Remedios, local lumberman. Mr. Giok is the permanent honorary president of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce of Hongkong.

The President also received Dr. Agustin Liboro, his son Renato, former Governor Federico Castillo, former Rep. Jesus Abeleda, and former Insurance Commissioner Ceferino Villar, who led a delegation of Mindoro Occidental NP leaders.

The delegation briefed the President on the political developments in their province in view of the decision of the NP national directorate to declare Mindoro Occidental a free zone in the gubernatorial race.

August 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia honored Chinese Ambassador Chen Chih- mai and Argentine Minister Rogelio Tristany at a despedida breakfast in the state dining room of Malacañang this morning. The two diplomats have been recalled by their respective home offices for consultations prior to their reassignment to other posts. Present at the breakfast were Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, Foreign Affairs Secretary Mrs. Felixberto Serrano, Mrs. Chen Chih-mai, Mrs. Rogelio Tristany, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, and Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora.

After the breakfast, President Garcia presented to Ambassador Chen and Minister Tristany a box each of choice Philippine cigars as a parting gift and token of appreciation for their efforts to strengthen the bonds of friendship existing between the Philippines and their countries. This morning Melecio R. Domingo, commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, submitted to the Chief Executive a report of internal Revenue collections during the last fiscal year.

Collections for the period from July 1, 1958 to June 30, 1959, amounted to ₱436,058,898.96 showing an increase of ₱47,502,422.96 over that of the previous fiscal year, according to the report.

Domingo also reported that their collections exceeded by ₱25,735,898.96 the revised budget estimate amounting to ₱410,323,000.00 made for that fiscal year.

The President then received Col. Bernard Anderson and conferred with him on Philippine veterans affairs. Col. Anderson was accompanied by Sen. Eulogio Balao, who made representations for the immediate release of funds for the construction of various community development projects in Cagayan.

Judge Feliciano de Gala, general manager and board chairman of the, Philippine Coconut Administration (PHILCOA), reported to the President on his attendance in the recent congress of the Internal Association of Seed Crushers in Cannes, France, and on the result of his trade survey of various countries in Europe to observe trading and processing conditions there.

The Chief Executive received callers at his study from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

THIS AFTERNOON the President branded as "premature" the dismissal of non-eligibles from public offices and shifted the responsibility of rehiring these employees back into the service to the department and bureau heads.

At his regular press conference, the President reiterated that the new civil service law could not be implemented until the Bureau of Civil Service has promulgated rules and regulations on the new statute.

Asked to comment on the letter of Director Zoilo Oastrillo of the Bureau of Lands, who had allegedly laid off several unclassified employees in accordance with civil service law, President Garcia said he had not yet received the Director's communication.

However, the President emphasized that the civil service commissioner could not implement the new law until after the latter had issued rules and regulations which should be published in the *Official Gazette*.

He said that the law could only take effect 30 days after the rules have been published in the *Gazette*.

At the press conference, the President also:

1. Said the locust infestation in Mindanao, has worsened and now threatens the self-sufficiency program of his administration;
2. Stated that he had directed the foreign office to take steps to salvage the rejected 15 items in the Philippine omnibus claims with the United States Government; and
3. Admitted the helplessness of his administration to stop the eviction of squatters in the Tatalon Estate following the failure of Congress to enact ₱10 million for the appropriation of the 96-hectare Quezon City Lands.

The President admitted that the locust infestation in Mindanao, especially in Cotabato province, has worsened.

He conferred with Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who reported that the situation is serious and threatened to "upset the President's Program of self-sufficiency in food."

Secretary Pajo returned from a survey of the infestation in Cotabato.

The Executive Secretary reported that he was met by a general clamor for more sprayers and chemicals to combat the pest upon his arrival at the provincial capitol yesterday morning.

This evening the President discussed the locust infestation with National Defense Secretary Alejo Santos.

Santos said that Army planes had been scouring the infested area and spraying chemicals in an effort to exterminate the swarms of locust which had threatened the rice plants.

The Defense Secretary, however, said that his program is faced with difficulties, as Army planes could not swoop low in rugged areas in Mindanao.

Touching on the PI claims, the President said he had ordered the Department of Foreign Affairs to take steps to salvage the rejected items.

He refused to disclose the Government plans for a reconsideration of the U.S. stand on the 15 rejected claims.

The President reiterated that the Philippine claims are “valid and legitimate” demands from the U.S. Government.

The President also admitted Government’s helplessness to help the Tatalon squatters who are facing eviction. He said the Government could not now seek expropriation of the estate, as it does not have the needed appropriation of ₱10 million.

He pointed out that the eviction of the squatters and tenants are in accordance with court decrees.

However, he express the hope that the owners of the estate would not sell the property until after Congress has appropriated the required amount for the expropriation of the estate.

MEANWHILE, Commissioner Amado del Rosario of the Bureau of Civil Service allayed fears of a mass layoff of government employees when the new civil service law takes effect.

He said the fear is “without foundation in fact.” He pointed out that he had written the auditor general urging the retention of skilled and semi-skilled laborers “because there are no laborer eligibles available for certification.”

Del Rosario also said that non-eligibles could not be retained until they are replaced by “appropriate eligibles on the local register.” He, however, said that there are eligibles for clerical, jobs.

He stressed the need of replacing the ineligible in the clerical groups, as there are qualified men to take over their positions.

Del Rosario said the replacement of the unqualified clerks by eligibles is not in accordance with, the new civil service, law but in accordance with statute “since the first Civil Service Act No. 5 was enacted by the Philippine Commission on September 19, 1900.

He said that the new law only repeals those which are inconsistent with that civil service statute.

“There is absolutely no doubt that the previous laws on the subject of certification of eligibles and replacement of non-eligibles are not inconsistent with Republic Act 2260. As a matter of fact,” he added, “said Act reenforces such provisions and makes non-compliance therewith a punishable offense.”

August 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia today enlisted the assistance of Nacionalista Party leaders in Ilocos Sur in the Administration’s efforts to restore peace and order in their violence-ridden province.

Summoning the NP leaders, to a conference at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this noon, the President expressed his determination to have a peaceful and orderly elections in the province this year. He urged them to cooperate closely with Defense Secretary Alejo Santos and Constabulary authorities and to recommend means of arresting the fresh wave of killings in their respective localities.

The President informed the Ilocano NP leaders that according to findings of investigators sent to the field, the killings had been due to personal grudges and family feuds, rather than to political differences. With the aid of influential leaders and men of good standing in the communities, it should not be very difficult to stamp out violence and lawlessness in the province, he said.

The President said he had given Secretary Santos plenary power to handle the situation there. He reiterated, however, that the imposition of martial law would be too drastic and that conditions actually obtaining in the province did not warrant the curtailment of basic individual liberties.

The 80-man delegation from Ilocos Sur was composed mostly of municipal mayors, councilors, and official candidates for local positions as well as chairman of local NP chapters. Accompanied by Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, the group included Reps. Tobia and Godofredo S. Reyes, ex-Gov. Perfecto Faypon, and Mayor Nicolas Bello of Santa.

Earlier this morning, the President had a prolonged conference with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez with whom he discussed ways of setting factional rivalries among NP leaders in the provinces, particularly among those aspiring for the same positions.

The two conferees also discussed the result of the NP executive committee meeting yesterday and assessed the chances of victory for the party in this year's elections. The conference lasted from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Other callers at the President's Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning included Sen. Domocao Alonto and Gov. Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur, who gave the President a fill in on the latest political developments in the newly created province, and Rep. Wenceslao Rancap Lagumbay of Laguna.

The President did not receive any caller in the afternoon. After a late lunch, he retired for a brief rest. Then he closeted himself in his study, where he went over some pending state papers brought over to him by Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson.

IN THE COURSE of his conference with various callers at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning, the President has occasion to explain his veto of House Bill No. 2970, saying that the country could ill afford one lieutenant general, six major generals, and 14 brigadier generals, considering the tendency of Congress to reduce AFP appropriations.

As a direct consequence of the promotion of the rank of the chiefs of the major services as provided in the bill; their respective deputies will have to be also promoted to the rank of brigadier general, thus adding four more one-star generals, to the AFP roster, the President explained;

Another probable consequence of these promotions in rank would be that the present zone and area commanders of the Army and the Constabulary whose rank is now colonel may be expected to ask for a raise of their rank to brigadier general in order to establish the balance of rank based on responsibility, the President added.

The Chief Executive also said that if this happens, and counting the Laur commander of the standing division as well as the commandant of the Philippine Military Academy, there would be a total of 14 brigadier generals.

In short, the President stated, the AFP with a personnel of less than 50,000 men would have 21 generals, which the Philippine Government at present can ill afford to pay.

The President pointed out that the present tendency of Congress is to reduce the appropriations for the Armed Forces of the Philippines, with the possible exception of the Philippine Air Force and the Philippine Navy.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: August 9-15, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 9.—EARLY this morning, the President heard mass said at his Quezon City residence with members of his family. Following the mass, the President had breakfast with Mrs. Garcia, his children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, and Maj. Jose Estrella, junior military aide.

The President did not receive any caller the whole day. He spent most of his time at his study going over some papers, including the ACCFA report. He also dictated the outline of a speech he is scheduled to deliver Tuesday evening at the induction of board members of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel in which he will be guest speaker.

President Garcia today summoned Administrator Ernesto Jimenez of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration (ACCFA) to a conference tomorrow on the early creation of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration, which will take over the functions currently being performed by the ACCFA in promoting the interest of tobacco farmers.

The President will enlist the assistance of the ACCFA administrators in the organization of the new office. He will ask him to submit in the Recommendations to improve various aspects of the undertaking, like the tobacco purchasing program, the proper grading of tobacco leaves and other matters designed to advance the welfare of the small farmers.

The Chief Executive will also instruct the ACCFA manager to liquidate outstanding obligations of the ACCFA in connection with its tobacco purchasing activities as Republic Act No. 2265 creating the PVTA provides that such outstanding liabilities should first be settled before the creation of the new office.

The President today went over a voluminous report recently submitted by Jimenez on the ACCFA's tobacco purchasing program. Contents of the report have not, however, been disclosed pending the President's conference with Jimenez.

The President said he was enlisting the assistance of Jimenez in the creation of the new office, as he wanted the PVTA to profit by the experience of the ACCFA. The conference will be held tomorrow morning at the President's residence in Quezon City.

August 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Ernesto Jimenez, administrator of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration, to start paying right away the purchases of Virginia leaf tobacco it had made for the last six months.

The presidential directive stemmed from the complaint of farmers from the Ilocos provinces that they had not been paid yet and that they needed money in view of the advent of the rainy season.

The other day, President Garcia had directed the Central Bank to release ₱30 million to the ACCFA for the payment of Virginia leaf tobacco purchased from farmers.

The President discussed lengthily with Jimenez the advisability of organizing immediately the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration, as provided for by a new law.

The conferees also discussed the problems facing the local Virginia tobacco industry. Jimenez informed President Garcia that the primary problem of the local Virginia tobacco industry is the marketing of the surplus which has been accumulating for the past two years.

Jimenez pointed out that unless the surplus is disposed of, especially the sun-dried variety, the ACCFA will not be in a position to liquidate its outstanding obligation with the Central Bank. The state firm borrowed money from the Central Bank to engage in the purchase of Virginia tobacco irrespective of kind, in accordance with the provisions of law.

The payment of Virginia leaf tobacco purchase will be made, according to Jimenez, in close coordination with personnel of the Central Bank and of the General Auditing Office. The ACCFA purchasing season for this year will end within two weeks, Jimenez informed the President.

As of today, ACCFA has purchased 20.9 million kilograms of Virginia leaf tobacco this crop year, according to Jimenez, while private parties have bought 7.5 million kilograms. About 8.5 million kilograms of Virginia leaf tobacco are in redrying plants in FACOMA warehouses or in hands of farmers.

Jimenez was directed by President Garcia to exert every effort to dispose of the surplus pending the organization of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration. The law creating the PVTa requires that all outstanding obligations of the ACCFA in connection with its tobacco purchasing activities, should first be liquidated before this function is transferred to the PVTa.

Earlier this morning, the President had separate conferences with General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras and Justice Undersecretary Enrique A. Fernandez, who called to consult him on matters pertaining to their respective departments. Almendras had been one of those nominated by the NP executive committee for the party's senatorial slate for this year's election.

The President also conferred with Sen. Domocao Alonto, Gov. Madki Alonto, and other political leaders from Mindanao who briefed him on the latest political developments in Mindanao provinces.

Other callers this morning included Manuel Nieto, Jr., chairman of the Games and Amusements Board, some governors, and municipal mayors from nearby provinces who sought financial assistance for pet public works projects in their respective localities.

THIS evening the President met Ilocos Sur political leaders anew and decided to break the stalemate in the selection of an NP gubernatorial candidate for the province.

Aspirants for the position are Rep. Godofredo Reyes and Mayor Nicolas Bello of Santa town.

The President decided to select Rep. Reyes as the NP gubernatorial candidate. He said that according to a straw vote he had made from among the delegates who saw him last Saturday, the choice was the congressman.

At the same time, the President said that Mayor Bello could be the vice-gubernatorial candidate.

The political leaders who saw President Garcia were Reps. Faustino Tobias and Reyes, Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, Mayor Bello, and former Governor Perfecto Fayon.

August 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia said today he would bring to the attention of the executive committee of the Nacionalista Party the "strong representations" made by more than 20 NP members of the House of Representatives for the inclusion of Rep. Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon in the senatorial line-up.

A protest against the non-inclusion of their colleague from Sorsogon was signed by the congressmen in spite of the objection of Rep. Peralta, who announced that he was not in favor of the move.

The President who received his callers at Malacañang this morning also took up with senators and congressmen the political problems in their respective localities.

Following the successful mediation efforts of the President in the gubernatorial squabble in Ilocos Sur, Domocao Alonto requested his intervention in the gubernatorial row in Sulu in order to preserve party unity.

Contesting the post of governor are the incumbent Gov. Leon Fernandez, who is running for reelection, and District School Superintendent Salu Ututalum, both of whom were summoned to Malacañang for a conference by the President.

At the same time, Rep. Francisco Lecaroz of Marinduque requested the help of the President to have his province declared a free zone among the NP candidates. In this connection, Rep. Lecaroz boosted Maj. Arturo Sevilla, presidential adviser on aviation, for the top provincial post, stating that Sevilla could preserve party unity.

The move boosting Peralta for the Senate was spontaneously spearheaded by Reps. Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, and Delfin Albano of Isabela, and backed by Reps. Wenceslao Lagumbay and Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, Leon Guinto, Jr., and Manuel Enverga of Quezon, Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon, Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon, Laurentino Badelles of Lanao, Ramon Mitra of Mt. Province, Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, Alberto Aguja of Leyte, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, Francisco Lecaroz of Marinduque, Francisco Sumulong of Rizal, Aguedo Agbayani and Luciano Millan of Pangasinan.

President Garcia, however, told the congressmen that they should have initiated the move, which was alleged to count with the solid support of 60 members of the Lower House, before the NP executive committee made the selection of the NP senatorial candidates.

Earlier this morning, the President had a closed door conference with Rep. Peralta in his bedroom. Then he received Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Rep. Genaro Magsaysay, Senators Fernando Lopez, Domocao Alonto, and Eulogio Balao, and Reps. Tobias Fornier and Jose Aldeguer. Another presidential caller was a former congressman and governor, Dr. Fermin Caram of Iloilo.

The President received callers from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

In the afternoon, he motored to the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel, where he was guest of honor at the induction of officers of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines.

President Garcia received official notice today that over \$37 million was approved by the Development Loan Fund for public works projects and private enterprise.

Reporting on his trip from the United States, Public Works Undersecretary Marciano D. Bautista was highly optimistic on the approval of another \$33 million by the Export-Import Bank for national projects.

A total of \$18,750,000 was approved in loans for the construction of public highways and \$19 million was approved by the Development Loan Fund for private loans, including \$5 million for small industrial loans.

Addition to the substantial loans awarded to the Philippine government and private sector, Undersecretary Bautista was successful in negotiating better terms in payment.

President Garcia congratulated Undersecretary Bautista for a job well done. The latter left for the United States for the official mission in May and returned August 2, 1959. The President was informed today that the killing of Prudencio Sales, 44, at the height of a political meeting last Sunday night in Moalboal, Cebu, was not politics-inspired.

A radio message received by Malacañang from Camp Lapu-Lapu, 111 PC Zone headquarters, said that Sales, reportedly a political follower of Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., was under the influence of liquor and was creating trouble.

He was shot down by Mateo Duaya, after Sales had fired his gun at four persons, and hit an innocent bystander. The message was intended to clarify newspaper reports attributing the death of Sales to politics.

August 12.—THIS morning the President signed two proclamations first declaring August 19 as a special public holiday throughout the Philippines and the second setting aside August 29 as a special' holiday in San Juan, Rizal.

The first proclamation, numbered 607, was issued to give the people full opportunity to render homage to the memory of the late President Manuel L. Quezon, whose 81st birthday anniversary falls on that day.

The President enjoined the people to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies designed to inculcate upon them, especially the youth, the rights and duties of good citizenship to the end that they will consecrate themselves to the ideals and traditions of the Republic.

The other proclamation, numbered 608, commemorates the 63rd anniversary of the Battle of Pinaglabanan in San Juan, Rizal, an important event in the Filipino people's struggle for freedom.

The historical event is of particular significance to the residents of San Juan, Rizal, and the day was declared a special holiday in that municipality to enable them to celebrate the occasion with appropriate ceremonies.

The President today denied he had given unconditional support to Hernando Valmores' gubernatorial aspirations in the forthcoming- elections in Misamis Oriental.

The President's clarification was issued following reports appearing in. certain metropolitan newspapers that he was indorsing fully the election of Valmores.

THE CABINET this evening agreed to delay implementation of the new civil service law to prevent the mass layoff of temporary and unclassified employees in different government offices.

The President and the Cabinet gave Commissioner of Civil Service Amado del Rosario "reasonable time" to promulgate the necessary rules and regulations covering implementation of the new statute.

Malacañang did not specify the length of time needed by the civil service commissioner.

At the same time, the President directed Del Rosario to study ways and means of giving a general examination to give the temporary employees an opportunity to gain permanent status.

Before the new statute could be enforced, these rules and regulations should first be published in the *Official Gazette*.

The law takes effect 30 days after the publication of the rules in the *Gazette*.

Del Rosario was summoned to the Cabinet meeting this evening to explain the program of his office in connection with the implementation of the new law.

He told the Cabinet that he was in favor of the gradual displacement of the temporary employees in order to avoid disruption in the public service.

The Cabinet decision cleared up the confusion created by the premature dismissal of unqualified employees by several government offices.

August 13.—PROVINCIAL governors and city and municipal mayors called on President Garcia this morning and renewed their pledges of loyalty and support to his Administration.

The President was gratified to hear the pledge of support of three municipal mayors of Misamis Oriental. The mayors formerly die-hard supporters of Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez said they choose to remain in the NP fold and promised to support all eight senatorial candidates of the party.

The mayors were Felipe Arcenas of Kinoguitan, Ismael Labos of Alobihid, and Enerito R. Acain of Initao. They were accompanied to Malacañang by Maj. Tommy Chavez, NP candidate for governor of Misamis Oriental.

The President also received pledges of support from Gov. Emilio Naval and former Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, both of Bataan. Gov. Naval announced that he is supporting the gubernatorial bid of Cruz.

Mayor Telesforo A. Unas of Maragondon, Cavite, requested President Garcia the early release of ₱120,000 for the construction of the Mambog Communal Irrigation System and the Tuma Communal Irrigation System in his town.

Other provincial executives who called on the President to ask for national aid in the construction of their pet projects were Govs. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas, Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, Juan Triviño of Camarines Sur, Dado Dangwa of Mountain Province, Miguel Manguera of Marinduque, and Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora.

President Garcia received earlier this morning Don Andres Soriano, who arrived recently from the United States. He was accompanied by his son Jose, Sebastian Ugarte, and Miguel Noel.

The President today signed the ad *interim* appointments of five new officials.

The new appointees are Baltazar N. Pascual, as member of the board of directors of the Cebu Portland Cement Company; Dr. Randolph P. Flor, as member of the board of examiners in optometry; Maminta Usudan, as assistant fiscal of Lanao del Sur; Marcial Tupas and Galileo Gaetos as justices of the peace of Lemery, Iloilo; and San Gabriel, La Union, respectively.

IN THE AFTERNOON, the President reacted sharply to the report that he had allegedly offered Artemio Lobrin, Nationalist-Citizens Party candidate for Congress in Batangas, ₱100,000 to withdraw his protest against Rep. Jose M. Laurel IV.

The President said the report is a “brazen lie.”

He immediately directed Press Secretary Jose C. Nable to deny the report.

The President also received Charles Henderson of the Australian Pacific Shipping Company on the possibility of investing in the economic development of the country.

Henderson was accompanied by Fernando Campos, President Garcia’s son-in-law.

President Garcia likewise received Ambassador Jose Ingles, who returned recently from his station in West Germany. Ingles reported to the President upon his arrival.

Gov. Triviño of Camarines Sur also accompanied to the President the Philippine delegation to the Food and Agriculture Organization international conference on coconut production.

The delegation is composed of Simeon Bomidiano, Braulo Alfaro, Sisemundo Barreto, and Godofredo Reyes, Jr.

The delegation saw the President for final instructions before leaving shortly.

August 14.—THIS morning, the President accepted the resignations of three members of the board of pardons and parole in the course of his conference with Justice Secretary Alejo Mabahag, who had recommended acceptance of

the resignations. The three board members are— Mrs. Pilar Hidalgo-Lim, Dr. Leopoldo Pardo, and Dean Jose Espiritu.

Rev. Fr. Casimiro Alvarez, another board member, did not submit any resignation papers. Under the law, the secretary of justice is ex officio chairman of the board. The President today also accepted the resignation of Lt. Col. Francisco Paraan, chief of police of Baguio City, who is running for mayor of that city. President Garcia signed this morning the appointments of Santiago A. Fonacier, Ardeliza Sucaldito, and Dr. Julian Pilares as members of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

Fonacier is former senator, Sucaldito is an active law practitioner and woman civic leader, while Pilares is former director of hospitals of the Department of Health. They replaced Mrs. Pilar Hidalgo-Lim, Dr. Leopoldo Pardo, and Dean Jose Espiritu whose resignations had been accepted by the President.

The President commended the Presidential Backpay Committee for having succeeded in eliminating fixers and middlemen in the payment of backpay claims by the backpay division of the national treasury.

In a conference with the committee this noon, the President said that he had not heard any complaint about fixers or middlemen mulcting backpay claimants since the committee had been constituted and started working with the backpay division months ago.

The committee is composed of Pedro Aguilar of the General Auditing Office, as chairman, and Rodolfo Ocampo of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency and Ruben Castro of the Budget Commission, as members.

The committee attributed their success in the elimination of fixers and middlemen to their having tried faithfully to enforce the President's policies regarding payment of backpay claims.

During his conference with the Presidential Backpay Committee this noon, the Chief Executive instructed the body to expedite action on the application of sick or otherwise incapacitated backpay claimants.

The President also directed the committee to pay some attention to cases, where negotiable certificates of indebtedness had been used for the purchase of lots and houses. He said that backpay holders should be given all the opportunity to own their houses and lots in line with the home-for-the-homeless and land-for-the-landless policy of his administration.

The President instructed the committee to look into whether the backpay holders had entered into contracts with parties from whom they had acquired their homes and lots before redeeming their certificates of indebtedness. This is to protect the interest of the backpay holders.

To update the records in the backpay division, Chairman Aguilar of the committee recommended the recall of personnel previously detailed at the division but who had recently been withdrawn by their respective offices.

Other callers of the President this morning included Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto Laguio, who reported on his recent trip abroad, Ambassador Eduardo Quintero, and Ramon Gaviola, Jr., administrator of the Social Security System.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon said he will press for a holding of a Nacionalista convention in Manila with 3,164 delegates to choose the official city mayoralty and vice-mayoralty candidates. The President made the announcement at his regular press conference.

The President said he would call Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez shortly to a conference to explain, his thinking on the matter.

In favoring a convention with more than 3,000 delegates, the President said that the meeting “is just a continuation of the convention recently held to select the 20 official NP candidates for the city council.”

He said the decision of the NP executive committee reducing the number of delegates should be enforced in the next elections.

The President’s decision is expected to stir up another controversy between the two mayoralty aspirants for the NP nomination; namely, Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson and Vice Mayor Jesus Marcos Rocas.

The President’s stand coincides with that of Rocas, who has been asking that the number of delegates be restored to its original membership of 3,164.

Rocas had previously agitated for a convention in Manila to choose the NP mayoralty candidate. However, after the NP executive committee pared down the number of the delegates to 587, the Vice-Mayor moved for a “free zone”.

Rocas charged that all his delegates were scratched from the list and that he could not win the nomination with the 587 delegates.

When contacted for comment last night on the President’s decision, Lacson said: “I am not in the least interested to know what Garcia does or will do. I have already started my own campaign.”

At the press conference this afternoon the President:

1. Said he would endorse to the NP executive committee the resolution recalcitrant NP solons who had been urging the inclusion of Rep. Vicente Peralta in the senatorial ticket;
2. Claimed that Sen. Claro M. Recto, president of the Nationalista Citizens Party, may or may not campaign for the NP senate slate;
3. Stated that the foreign office is looking into the report that 43 naturalized Chinese are undergoing military training in Nationalist China;
4. Lashed at Vice-President Macapagal, Liberal Party president, for advertising the Administration of “shamelessly” abetting corruption;
5. Frowned upon intervention of the church in politics;
6. Said that the foreign office is at present conducting negotiations for reconsideration of the decision of the U.S. Government rejecting 15 of the Philippine omnibus claims and collecting the 25 per cent margin in the surplus of U.S. goods to the Philippines; and
7. Denied the adoption of “mailed fist” policy in dealing with the native of criminality in Ilocos Sur.

August 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia reiterated today his determination to see to it that elections this year are peaceful and orderly Ilocos Sur as well as in other parts of the country.

In the course of a half-hour conference with Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Ocampo, chief of the Constabulary, at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon early this morning, the President instructed the defense department to take possible measures to insure peace in the violence-torn province of Ilocos Sur.

Gen. Campo called on the President to render a verbal report following return yesterday afternoon from a province-wide tour of Ilocos Sur the purpose of determining the root cause of lawlessness recently sweeping the province.

The PC chief reported that the situation in Ilocos Sur had considerably ceased. He attributed the improved situation to the presence of troops which, he said, had a tranquilizing effect upon the people. He said that the campaign currently being waged to collect loose firearms is proceeding smoothly all over the province.

After the conference, the President received Sen. Pedro Sabido, who fed him on the latest political developments in the Bicol regions. The conference held while the President was having breakfast at 10 a.m. lasted about an hour.

The Chief Executive did not receive any other caller. He spent most of time at his private study going over some papers he had brought over from Malacañang.

On duty with him at his residence today were Lt. Melchor Fronda, naval aide, and Maj. Agerico Palaypay, appointment secretary. The President took time out to congratulate his two aides on learning that they were more than 500 Armed Forces officers who had recently been promoted.

Fronda is now lieutenant-commander in the Navy while Palaypay, whose rank is temporary major, has been made permanent. Other officers detailed with Malacañang included in the promotion list of 500 officers were Maj. Ciriaco Hocson, aide to the First Lady, whose temporary rank had also been made permanent; Capt. Abdinago Ortiz, chief the Presidential Security Unit, who was raised to major; and Lieuts. Carlos Crisostomo and Eustaquio Meim, junior military aides, who were made captains.

In the evening, the President conferred with Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Rep. Jose J. Roy, Gov. Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, and Mayor Benigno Aquino, Jr., of Concepcion. The conferees discussed Tarlac politics.

The President today appointed Justice Jose Gutierrez David associate justice of the Supreme Court and Justice Jose Ma. Paredes, as presiding justice of the Court of Appeals.

Justice David replaces Justice Alex Reyes, retired, in the Supreme Court while Justice Paredes, who' is the ranking member among all the associate justices in the Court of Appeals, took the place of Justice David as presiding justice of the Court.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: August 16-22, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent the day at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City today poring over reports submitted to him for consideration, including the proposal to let the private sector participate in, or take over, the establishment of an integrated steel industry in the Philippines.

Earlier this morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass celebrated before an improvised altar in their residence. After breakfast, the President perused the morning newspapers and then retired to his study to work on some papers he had brought over from Malacañang.

Engrossed in his work, President Garcia had to be reminded several times that it was already lunchtime. The Chief Executive had a late lunch, after which he returned to his study to continue working on important papers.

In the late afternoon, the President was prevailed upon to take a break and relax. Inclement weather and wet grounds kept him indoors; so he spent his rest period conversing informally with Palace aides until it was almost time for dinner.

Linda and Fernando Campos, the President's daughter and son-in-law, arrived shortly before dinner and joined the President and Mrs. Garcia at supper.

After Linda and Nanding had left to return to Manila, President Garcia closeted himself in his library and worked until late in the evening on the final draft of the speech he will deliver on the 81st birthday anniversary celebration of the late President Manuel L. Quezon in Quezon City on Wednesday, August 19.

The President expressed satisfaction with the general peace and order situation in the country following receipt today of a consolidated report on police activities all over the nation.

The report was submitted by Col. Crisanto V. Alba, presidential adviser on police matters, and was compiled from the monthly narrative reports received from chiefs of police throughout the country.

The following seven provinces were listed in the report as obtaining percentage ratings below 80 per cent in the solution of crimes: Albay—78%; Camarines Sur—71%; Capiz—76%; Cavite—74%; Nueva Vizcaya—72%; Sulu—75%; and Tarlac—74%.

Governors of these provinces were requested by Alba to remind their chiefs of police to exert more efforts to improve the solution of cases, the enforcement of laws and regulations, and the maintenance of peace and order in their respective jurisdictions.

Executives of chartered cities and provinces that obtained a percentage; rating of 90 per cent and above in the solution of cases were given letters of commendation by Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio C. Quimson.

August 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia expressed satisfaction with the progress of the campaign to restore peace and order in Ilocos Sur during a conference with Defense Secretary Alejo Santos at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City early this morning.

Secretary Santos informed the President that he had traveled extensively throughout the provinces and he found the people, particularly those in the barrios, responding enthusiastically to his appeals for peace.

The defense department's information and education drive, Santos said has captured the imagination of the people and is receiving their fullest cooperation.

After his meeting with Secretary Santos, the President motored to Malacañang and received Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, internationally-known economist and former economic adviser to Adolf Hitler.

Dr. Schacht offered his services to President Garcia and said that during his week-long stay in the Philippines he would try to meet as many people as possible who are in a position to furnish him with facts and figures on the economic situation so that he can make some recommendations.

Carl Wesley McCardle, a former assistant secretary of state for public affairs and now an executive of the Pan American Airways, paid a courtesy call on the President. He was accompanied by Bert Torrance, PAA district traffic and sales manager.

President Garcia also received Sir Thomas Maltdy, Australian minister of public works, who was introduced by Dr. Paulino J. Garcia, chairman of the National Science Development Board.

The Chief Executive accepted an invitation to head the list of independent members of the Philippines Bar Association which is now being reorganized and revitalized.

The invitation was extended by officers of the UP Women Lawyers Circle (WILOCI) represented by Amor Melencio Herra, president; Lily Basa Salazar, chairman; Corazon Juliano Agrava, president emeritus; and Socorro Liwag, director.

The independent members of the PBA, Mrs. Herrera explained, will be composed of lawyers who are not engaged in the active practice of their profession but who have distinguished themselves in their particular lines of endeavor.

The President received callers at his study in Malacañang until 1:30 p.m. Other visitors this morning were Paul Reeves and Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Gorospe.

The President today contributed ₱3,000 for the flood victims in Taiwan following receipt of an official report from the Department Foreign Affairs on the vast extent of damage in that island republic.

The President was also informed of the appeal for public donations made by the Taiwan authorities.

His contribution will be handed over by Philippine Ambassador Narciso Ramos to President Chiang Kai-shek. President Garcia's contribution will amount to about \$55,550 Taiwan (dollars), it was stated.

August 18.—THE President received today members of Congress, most of whom presented requests for financial assistance for their pet projects, and briefed him on the political situation in their respective districts and provinces:

President Garcia authorized the release of ₱2 million to pay small tobacco farmers for native tobacco purchased by the Philippine Tobacco Administration for use as cigar fillers.

Rep. Justiniano S. Montano saw the President to follow his previous request for the early release of ₱200,000 for the construction of an athletic stadium in Cavite City for the Southern Tagalog Athletic Association (STAA) meet next year.

Rep. Luis Hora of Mt. Province sought assistance for various public works projects in his district and recommended the appropriation of H million for the Commission on National Integration.

Rep. Hora suggested to the President that the amount could be subtracted from the \$24 million recently received from the United States as reimbursement for the gold devaluation.

President Garcia also received Rep. Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur who presented the official candidates of the Nacionalista Party for various positions in Naga City.

Introduced to the Chief Executive were incumbent Mayor Monico Imperial, Vice-Mayor D. Protacio Tolentino, and Ramon Sebulo, Porfirio Poadiong, Col. Jesus Villasenor, Pedro de la Rosa, Fructuoso Ortega, Lt. Victorio Aguilar, and Lt. Severino Tacorda, candidates for councilors.

Earlier this morning, the President conferred separately with Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, and General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, who consulted him on matters pertaining to their respective departments.

Speaker Daniel Romualdez also paid a short call on the Chief Executive.

Other presidential callers this morning were Rep. Manuel Enverga of Quezon, with Nicolas Peñamora, administrator of Region 3 of the Bureau of Agricultural Extension, and ex-Rep. Narciso Umali; Laurentino L.I. Badilles of Lanao; Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan; Jose Legaspi of Aklan; Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan; Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon; Dominador Tan of Leyte; and Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna.

Shortly before retiring for lunch, President Garcia ordered Protocol Officer Manuel G. Zamora that wreathes be laid at, and a guard of honor composed of members of the presidential guard battalion be assigned to, the tomb of the late President Manuel L. Quezon whose 81st birthday anniversary falls tomorrow.

The President will officiate at the annual Quezon Day ceremonies in Quezon City tomorrow afternoon.

President Garcia gave a personal contribution of ₱1,000 to start the 1959 national fund and educational drive of the Philippine Tuberculosis Society at the official opening ceremonies held this afternoon at the Malacañang social hall.

At the same time, President Garcia issued a renewed appeal for support in behalf of some 800,000 persons now afflicted with tuberculosis.

In response to the appeal of President Garcia, Dr. Andres V. Castillo, general chairman of the campaign, received from persons present at the opening ceremonies advanced contributions amounting to ₱143,985.00 which is considered a record.

The President delivered his speech in the presence of prominent businessmen, civic leaders, high government officials, and volunteer workers and personnel of the Society.

Seated with President and Mrs. Garcia at the platform were Dona Julia Vargas Vda. de Ortigas, PTS president; Gen. Basilo Valdez, PTS vice-president; Dr. Castillo; Manuel Marquez, chairman of the advanced gifts division; Francisco Delgado, chairman of the business division; and R. R dela Cruz, master of ceremonies.

The President's speech lasted about seven minutes. The program ended with presentation of donations by various campaign division chairmen and other volunteers. Dr. Castillo received the contributions. One by one, donors came forward and handed checks ranging from ₱50 to ₱80,000. Total cash on hand after all initial contributions were turned in amounted to ₱143,985.00 which was considered a record for the first day of the campaign.

After the parade which started at 2:30 p.m., President and Mrs. Garcia and other guests were served a light *merienda* offered by Mayor Norberto Amoranto and officials of Quezon City.

August 19.—THIS morning, the President slipped quietly out of Malacañang and motored to the North Cemetery where he laid a wreath and offered a prayer before the tomb of President Quezon. He was accompanied by Col. Jorge Delarmente and Maj. Jose Estrella, senior and junior military aides-de-camp, respectively.

The President had earlier ordered honor guards formed by a unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion at the Quezon mausoleum from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Returning to Malacañang about 10 a.m., the President went direct to his study where he went over some state papers.

He signed the appointment of Nicolas Peñamora as assistant director of the Bureau of Agricultural Extension.

He also put the finishing touches to a speech he was to deliver at the rites to be held in Quezon City commemorating the 81st birthday of the President Quezon in which he was guest speaker.

The President was fetched from Malacañang at 2:30 p.m. by Quezon City officials headed by Mayor Norberto Amoranto.

President Garcia issued a call for national unity to achieve economic independence as a most fitting way to perpetuate the memory of the late President Quezon, in a stirring speech delivered at the annual rites held this afternoon in Quezon City in commemoration of the 81st birthday anniversary of President Quezon.

The President sounded the call for national unity after a two-hour long military and civic parade, witnessed by members of the diplomatic corps members of the executive, judiciary, and legislative branches of the government, civic leaders and high Filipino and American officers at the grandstand, and by a teeming crowd along Epifanio de los Santos Avenue (formerly Highway 54).

President Garcia stated that the government is zealously guarding the freedom that President Quezon labored for a life-time.

However, he pointed out that to make the people truly free, the economy of the country must be substantially in the hands of Filipinos. He added that the present economic orientation adopted by the Administration is towards wider participation of Filipinos in the national economy.

August 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation to place the selling prices of houses and lots in its various housing projects within the reach of their low-salaried occupants.

During the conference with Gov. Bernardo Torres, PHHC general manager and board chairman, the President expressed concern over persistent reports that the government housing firm was contemplating to charge amounts considerably higher than those currently being paid by tenants.

The President ordered the PHHC manager to look into these reports and to submit a complete report as soon as possible. He reiterated the policy of his administration to help low-salaried employees to acquire and own their own homes on easy pay plans.

Gov. Torres called at the President's Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning to report on his recent trip to Tokyo. He had just arrived from an observation tour of the low-cost housing program in Japan. He informed the Chief Executive that the PHHC board was studying the proposed sale of the firm's eight-hectare lot in Paranaque to low-salaried employees of the Civil Aeronautics Administration and the Philippine Air Lines.

Sen. Eulogio Balao also called to receive final instructions before leaving for Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, to attend the three-day convention of American veterans from August 24 to 27.

The President had appointed Balao to represent the Filipino veterans at the convention upon the invitation sent through the Chief Executive by the American Legion.

During his call, Balao took occasion to clarify newspaper reports that he was going to the U. S. to press for payment of Filipino, guerrilla backpay claims. He said he was going there to represent Filipino veterans and nothing more.

President Garcia received a briefing on the political situation in Misamis Oriental and Cagayan de Oro City from Rep. Fausto Dugenio, Maj. Crisostomo Chavez, gubernatorial aspirant, and Vice-Mayor Osmundo Waga of Cagayan de Oro City, a candidate for mayor.

After receiving the Misamis Oriental politicians, the President motored to Malacañang about 10:30 a.m. to keep his appointments with provincial governors and municipal mayors.

Among those who called at Malacañang this morning were Sulu. Gov. Leon Fernandez and Salih Ututalum, division superintendent of schools for Sulu; ex-Mayor Jose D. Villena of Makati, Rizal; Mayor Telesforo Unas of Maragondon, Cavite; Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora with Mayor Jose Estonactoc of Agoo, La Union; Capiz Gov. Jose Dinglasan with Judge Cesario Golez; Gov. Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan; and Mayor Salustiano Baura of Tubigon, Bohol.

Most of them presented requests for the early release of funds for various public works projects.

August 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia conferred with officials of the Department of Justice headed by Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag in Malacañang this morning on proposed appointments to fill vacancies in the judiciary.

Secretary Mabanag also presented a request for the release of additional funds to cover operational expenses of the department.

Present at the conference aside from the justice secretary were Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez, Solicitor General Edilberto Barot, Judge Eulagio Pichay, and Leon Jayme, financial officer of the department.

At another conference with members of the executive committee of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation (PAAF) led by PAAF President Antonio de las Alas, President Garcia deferred action on the proposed presidential proclamation awarding to the PAAF a 42-hectare lot in Quezon City for the future site of a national stadium.

The President said he did not wish the lot, which is a part of the Quezon Memorial Park, to be excluded from the park.

He appointed a committee of three composed of Judge Salvador Esguerra, chairman, and Education Secretary Jose Romero and former Education Secretary Manuel Lim, members, to draft a new proclamation which would give the organization the use of the property, including its use for raising funds, the construction of the proposed national stadium, but will leave it as part of the Quezon Memorial Park.

Members of the PAAF executive committee who saw the President were Antonio de las Alas, president, Education Secretary Romero, former Education Secretary Manuel Lim, Leonardo Guinto, House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Oscar Mapua, Dr. Vitaliano Bernardino, Jose Syjuco, Dr. Gamaliel Gonzalez, Julian Malonso, and Serafin Aquino, PAAF secretary-treasurer.

The Chief Executive also received nine American high school students who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang prior to their return to the United States next week.

The youngsters are scholars of the American Field Services, a private non-profit organization, and had just completed a two-month stay with Filipino families in different parts of the Philippines and had also studied in high schools near their foster homes.

Near the end of the courtesy call, President Garcia gladly granted the request of Katherine. Knowles Campbell to autograph a snapshot she had taken of the town hall in Talibon, Bohol, the President's hometown.

Recognizing the picture, the President asked of Miss Campbell, "How in the world did you happen to go to that remote hometown of mine?"

The American scholars and the places they stayed at during their sojourn in the Philippines are Katherine Knowles Campbell of Scottsbluff, Nebraska—Mabolo, Cebu; Patricia Ann Graham of Phoenix, Ariz.—Roxas City; Betty O'Neill of New Bedford, Mass.—Batangas, Batangas; Judy Boeschen of Milwaukee, Oregon—Tarlac, Tarlac; Bonnie Rowan of South Milwaukee, Wisconsin—Bacolod City; Janet Trowbridge of Wayzata, Minn.—La Carlota, Negros Occidental; Ted Fogliani of Laguna Beach, Calif.—Batangas, Batangas; Bob Kane of Bartlesville, Okla.—Tarlac, Tarlac; and Richard Bennett of Oakdale, Calif.—Tanjay, Negros Oriental.

They were accompanied to Malacañang by Laura Poblete, Editor Nacpil, Pol Cabusao, and Estelita Reyes, the last three being Filipino AFS returnees who had spent several months in the United States under the same arrangement.

The President also received a large delegation from Bataan led by Gov. Emilio Naval, who called to pledge their loyalty and support to the Administration.

Other presidential callers this morning were Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo and Don Ramon Fernandez, Justice Jose Gutierrez David, and Justice Jose Ma. Paredes.

THE President today said he was in favor of a 3,000-delegate convention in Manila.

At his regular press conference this afternoon, the President said his position for a convention with all 3,176 delegates to choose the NP candidate for mayor and vice-mayor “still stands.”

He told newsmen at the press conference that he would take up this matter at his scheduled meeting with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez concurrently NP president, and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez.

The President had invited Rodriguez and Romualdez to a *merienda* conference Sunday to break the deadlock for the eighth senate berth in the NP ticket at his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

At the same time, the President lampooned Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, who had allegedly assailed the Administration in his campaign speeches.

“That is without parallel in political history,” the President remarked upon being informed of Lacson’s attacks against the Administration.

The President pointed out that the city mayor is a Nacionalista and a member of the NP executive committee and should help build” up rather than destroy the party.

At the press conference the President also:

1. Refused to commit himself on the tug-of-war between former Chairman Alfredo Montelibano of the National Economic Council and Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson for the eighth berth in the NP senatorial ticket;
2. Reiterated his stand to bring down the cost of units of the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation within a reasonable level;
3. Expressed the belief that five or six NP Senate candidates are sure of winning in the November elections;
4. Flayed Vice-President Macapagal and former Commissioner of Customs Manuel P. Manahari for their charges against the Administration;
5. Hoped that the coalition between the Nacionalista and the Nationalist-Citizens Parties will go down from the national level to the provincial and grassroots level; and

6. Said that diplomatic negotiations for a reconsideration of the United States decision on an increased dollar value in relation to the peso in the, payment of surplus goods are still underway.

THIS evening the President was informed by a visiting Japanese solon that Japan considers the Philippines as a strong force in the fight against communism in the Far East.

The statement was made by Rep. Aikawa Katsuroku, who arrived yesterday in the course of a tour of Asian countries. He was accompanied by Rep. Shiro Watabi, Ambassador Morio Yukawa, and Toriyoshi Kawaguchi, director of the third section of the Legislative Bureau of the Japanese Diet.

Rep. Aikawa, a former secretary of the Welfare Ministry, urged a promotion of the cultural and trade relations between the Philippines and Japan.

The Japanese solon stated that the state visit of President Garcia to Japan has promoted “tremendously” the friendship ties between the two countries.

Earlier this evening, the President administered the oath of office to Simeon M. Gopengco as government corporate counsel in the presence of members of the Cabinet, the judiciary, heads of government owned corporations, and relatives and friends.

The new government corporate counsel, who holds the rank of an undersecretary, was the former secretary of Justice Sabino Padilla of the Supreme Court. A law graduate of the Ateneo de Manila, Gopengco was appointed chairman of the committee that investigated the anomalies in the Import Control Commission in 1954.

Until his appointment as government corporate counsel, Gopengco was the first assistant government corporate counsel.

The new position was created by law passed during the last regular session of Congress. The position was formerly held ex officio by the Solicitor General.

August 22.—THIS morning President Garcia ordered the review of leases on public lands held by absentee claimants for, possible revocation after a three-hour conference at his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, with officials of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency on the squatter, problem in Davao.

The President said he was inclined to revoke the leases and award titles to the disputed lands to squatters living in the area and actually working on the land.

He expressed the opinion that land should be made use of, and spoke against nominal claimants possessing legal titles to public lands but who are sleeping on their obligations or merely holding, on to their rights to the land for purposes of speculation.

The conference was called in view of numerous complaints received by the PCAPE from squatters in Davao province who are being forcibly ejected by lease holders from land they had cleared and developed.

Present at the conference were Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman; Maximo Maceren, vice-chairman; J. Gualberto Planas, chief of the public affairs division; and Rodolfo V. Ocampo, private secretary to the chairman.

Justice Ocampo also gave a verbal report to the President on the accomplishments of the presidential committee during the last fiscal year.

After the meeting broke up at 12:30 p.m., President Garcia had lunch. Then he retired to his room to resume work on a draft of the speech he would deliver tonight before the Lions International in the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel.

The President stayed at his Bohol Avenue residence the whole day where he received political leaders who took up with the Chief Executive the political problems confronting their respective areas.

The unidentified political leaders also discussed the current tug-of-war between former Chairman Alfredo Montelibano of the National Economic Council and Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson for the eighth berth in the NP ticket.

THIS evening the President motored to the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel, where he fired the opening salvo of his political campaign for the Nacionalista Party candidates in the coming November elections. His move was rather unexpected as the NP Senate ticket had not yet been officially formed.

The President, in a fighting mood, reiterated his readiness to pitch into the coming political campaign. He had told newsmen at his regular press conference yesterday that he would participate in the political campaign as titular head of the Nacionalista Party.

President Garcia said his participation in the campaign was necessary, as he was sure of only “five or six” of the NP bets would win. However, he did not mention the candidates whom he did not expect to win in the mid-term senatorial elections.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: August 23-29, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 23.—THIS morning, the President started the day by hearing mass at an improvised altar in his Quezon City residence.

After breakfast, the President went over the morning papers and then retired to his study to work on two speeches he will deliver Wednesday, one before the Seventh Annual Postwar Convention of Philippine Sugar Technologists, and the other on the occasion of the awarding of the Legion of Merit by the Marquez Veterans Legion (Folsom's Division).

After his lunch, the President retired to his bedroom to rest. He woke up shortly to prepare for his crucial meeting with Rodriguez and Romualdez.

This afternoon, the President met with top Nacionalista leaders at a crucial conference in his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, to break the deadlock over the eighth Senate berth in the NP ticket between Alfredo Montelibano former chairman of the National Economic Council, and Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson.

The "Big Three" meeting was called, as the NP executive committee had failed twice to break the deadlock in order to give room for Senator Lorenzo M. Tañada, Nationalist-Citizens candidate, in the NP ticket.

The meeting was held inside the President's residence as a slight drizzle fell preventing their meeting outside,

The meeting started at 5:30 o'clock this afternoon, a few hours after the Speaker had returned from a flying trip to Samar.

Senate President Rodriguez immediately opened the conference with a reiteration of his support for Quimson.

Up to early hours this evening, the President was still in conference with Rodriguez and Romualdez.

The *merienda* meeting had gone through dinner, with the three top leaders of the party still tossing their arguments for and against the two aspirants.

August 24.—THE President conferred this morning with Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, secretary general of the Nacionalista Party, who briefed him on preliminary plans to be adopted for a more effective national political campaign.

During the hour-long conference, the Chief Executive took up with the NP secretary general the basic issues to be exploited and the policies to be pursued during the campaign.

After the conference the President received Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, AFP chief of staff, who reported on his routine inspection of Army and Constabulary installations in the country, as well as the coordinated effort of the PAF-DANR team currently conducting the campaign against locust and rat infestation in the different provinces of Mindanao.

Cabal reported that the campaign against locust and rat infestation is progressing effectively with four PAF spray planes assigned with the team, but suggested the procurement of additional insecticides and other chemicals needed to enable them to cover a wider area.

On the peace and order situation, General Cabal said that the five provinces he had inspected, namely, Misamis Occidental, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Cotabato, and Davao, are generally good.

The President received very few callers at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning. He spent most of his time going over some papers he had sent for from Malacañang.

President Garcia today sent a message of congratulations to Prime Minister Tengku Abdul Rahman Putra of the Federation of Malaya, who recently took his oath of office following his reelection to the premiership of his country.

“On behalf of the Filipino people and of myself, I wish to convey to Your Excellency cordial greetings and warmest felicitations on your inauguration as Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya,” the President said in his message.

“Your reelection to your high office is an endorsement of your lead-ship in working for the welfare of your people and in helping promote closer cultural and economic ties with the countries of Southeast Asia,” he added.

The President concluded: “Please accept my most sincere wishes for your continued success in all your endeavors.”

THIS evening the President took a hand again at a gubernatorial conflict, this time, in Sorsogon, as he conferred with 16 mayors of the province to decide the official candidate for provincial executive of the Nationalists party.

The delegation was accompanied by Reps. Vicente Peralta and Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon.

The delegation claimed that they could not resolve the deadlock between incumbent Gov. Juan Fajardo and Henry Fajardo.

The President decide to take a straw vote and after the ballots were counted Fajardo obtained eight while Fajardo got six. Two votes were not counted, one being without any candidate while the other voted for another aspirant.

With the straw votes of the mayors, the NP would proclaim Fajardo as its official candidate for governor of Sorsogon. Fajardo may run as a rebel candidate, it was learned.

August 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia today solved the gubernatorial rivalry in Sorsogon between incumbent Gov. Juan Fajardo and Henry Fajardo by prevailing upon the latter to withdraw from the race in order to preserve party unity in the province.

The President summoned both the contending parties, together with Reps. Salvador Encinas and Vicente Peralta, to a conference in Malacañang. The conferees agreed to support Gov. Fajardo.

It was understood that the conferees also agreed to give Gov. Fajardo a chance to “continue his good work.” The Sorsogon politicians will soon announce the other NP candidates for members of the provincial, board.

After the conference, President Garcia received members of Congress and provincial governors in his Malacañang study room.

They called to brief him on political developments in their respective localities and sought financial aid for various public works projects.

The callers included Reps. Jose Leido of Mindoro Oriental, Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, Faustino Tobia and Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, accompanied by Mayor Nicolas Bello of Santa, Numeriano Babao of Batangas, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, and Ramon Bagatsing of Manila.

Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato asked the President to push through the former's plan to reclaim the Liguasan marsh as a means of effectively eliminating the breeding places of rats and locust in his province.

The President received callers from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The President today proclaimed Monday, August 31, a special holiday in Zambales and Cebu City in commemoration of the 52nd birthday anniversary of the late President Ramon Magsaysay.

August 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia was kept busy this morning by two speaking engagements and a conference with top executives of the Philippine Air Lines and the Philippine National Bank.

At 10 a.m., the President accompanied by Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez went to the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel to speak before the delegates to the 7th Postwar Annual Convention of the Philippine Sugar Technologists. (See *Historical Papers and Documents*, pp.—, for full text of the President's speech.)

After speaking before the sugar technologists, the President went to the presidential suite in the Manila Hotel for a brief rest.

Then at midday, the President went to the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel to speak again before "fellow guerrilleros" from the Marquez Veterans (Folson's Division).

Before his speech, the President was awarded the Legion of Merit medal by Col. Zacarias M. Marquez, over-all commander of the guerrilla unit.

Present at the affair were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez; Sens. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Lorenzo Tañada, and Pedro Sabido; Reps. Numeriano Babao of Batangas, Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, and Augusto Francisco of Manila; Gen. M. S. Torralba, chairman of the Veterans Claims Commission; and ranking officers of the Marquez Veterans Legion.

The President was roundly applauded when in his introductory remarks he spoke extemporaneously in Tagalog. In delivering his speech he was also interrupted several times when he spoke of the concern of his administration for the welfare of the guerrillas. (See *Historical Papers and Documents*, pp.—, for full text of the President's speech.)

During the occasion, certificates of merit were awarded to Senate President Rodriguez; Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano; Senators Tañada, Sabido, and Gonzalez; and Reps. Francisco, Babao, Lagumbay, and Reyes.

The President, looking tired, returned to Malacañang together with his aides about 2 p.m.

After breakfast, the President conferred with Don Andres Soriano, Daniel Me. Gomez, top officials of the Philippine Air Lines, and Daniel Z. Romualdez, president of the Philippine National Bank, on the re-establishment of the international flights of the Philippine Air Lines in time for the advent of the jet age.

THE Cabinet this evening decided to sell all houses and lots in the "different projects of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation "at cost" to be able to retrieve the capital invested in these projects.

At the same time, the Cabinet also approved the PHHC proposal to sell other lots which it had purchased that are "not immediately needed by the agency."

In deciding to sell all PHHC houses and lots, the Cabinet pointed out that government capital in these projects has been "tied up" and has prevented the agency from opening up new projects in accordance with its charter.

However, the houses and lots will be sold only to those who are "able and willing."

Former Governor Bernardo Torres and Antonio Barrera, general manager and director, respectively, of the housing firm, were invited to the Cabinet meeting to explain the PHHC plan to the department secretaries.

Torres explained that there are some PHHC lands which are not immediately needed by the agency.

He also said the houses and lots in the different housing projects could be sold to “those willing and able,” in order to be able to retrieve the firm’s capital investments.

President Garcia told the PHHC official to sell the houses and lots “at cost and without profit to the government.”

In the sale of the lands, the President asked the PHHC officials to dispose them at public bidding.

Torres explained that there are several offers from private parties who have submitted proposals at a price higher than what the agency paid for them in acquiring these estates.

The Cabinet also ratified this evening a proposal of the foreign office to dispute a U.S. Government’s decision seeking to impose ₱2.50 equivalent for every dollar in the purchase of surplus goods, from America.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano elevated the case to the Cabinet level, following a note from the U.S. State Department seeking to impose a higher peso rate for American dollars following the passage by Congress of the foreign exchange margin law.

Serrano was given “full backing” by the Cabinet to contest the decision of the U.S. Government.

While no details were available in Malacañang on the Serrano report, the Foreign Affairs Secretary was believed to have argued that to accept the U.S. decision would force the Philippine Government to be a party to the violation of its own law.

Serrano was reported to have told the President and the Cabinet that the U.S. Government was consulted before the margin bill was enacted in Congress. At that time, it was pointed out that the measure was merely to control the currency and not to devalue the peso.

The case cropped up following the request of the Philippine Government to purchase surplus raw cotton, leather, and tobacco from the U.S. in accordance with the Mutual Security Act, otherwise known as Public Law 402.

However, after the President had signed into law the foreign exchange measures, the U.S. Government sent the foreign affairs office a note demanding payment of ₱2.50 for every dollar in the deal.

Serrano, in his report, explained that the transactions involving the surplus goods are specifically exempted from the scope of the margin bill.

He likewise waved aside the argument of the U.S. Government that the increase in the dollar value in peso would any way be returned to the Philippines in another grant, as “untenable.” He said that to accept the proposal would be admitting that the country has devalued its peso currency.

The Cabinet, after hearing Serrano’s report, decided to give Secretary Serrano “full backing” in disputing the U.S. decision to increase the dollar value in relation to the peso.

August 27.—POLITICAL rivalries among Nacionalista candidates for city and provincial executives were today brought to the attention of President Garcia for final solution by some of the parties involved Mayor Elpidio O. Cudio of Cabanatuan City got presidential backing to his bid for the top position in Cabanatuan at a conference in Malacañang with President Garcia.

The Chief Executive requested Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., in his capacity as NP president to release the proclamation of Cucio as official NP candidate for mayor.

In the case of Democrito O. Plaza, who was proclaimed official NP candidate for governor of Agusan in a convention called by Governor Felixberto Dagani, the President endorsed the case to Senate President Rodriguez for solution in view of the protest of Rep. Guillermo Sanchez, who wants another convention called to select the NP official candidate for governor.

Maj. Authur Sevilla, who is running for governor of Marinduque under the NP standard, also called on President Garcia to request for a free zone in the gubernatorial race in his province. To solve the rivalry between Sevilla and Gov. Miguel Manguerra, the President will summon the latter to Malacañang for a conference.

Gov. Bienvenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur also saw the President and convinced the latter to sign an executive order creating the municipality of Kumalarang.

Other callers were Lt. Gov. Jose Neri of the sub-province of Camiguin; Govs. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas, Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Marcos Malupa of Batanes, and Bado Dangwa of Mountain Province; acting Governor Jose Javier of Batanes; and Rep. Ramon Mitra, Sr., of Mountain Province.

Earlier this morning, President Garcia received Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, German financial wizard who paid a farewell call after a weeklong stay in the Philippines as guest of the Philippine National Bank. During the call, the President was informed that Dr. Schacht had submitted a written report to the PNB on his observations on the Philippine economy.

The serious concern of the Philippine Government for the recent announcement of the American Government to the effect that it was disposing of its coconut oil stockpile will be taken up by the FAO to the proper authorities, Gov. Juan Triviño, a Philippine delegate to the recently concluded FAO international conference on the coconut industry, informed President Garcia today at a conference in Malacañang.

The matter was brought to the consideration of the conference held in Colombo, Ceylon, by the Philippine delegation, which further informed the delegates that the announcement had caused a depression of prices not only in the international but also in the domestic market.

President Garcia was informed that the Philippine stand on the matter was supported by delegates from other coconut producing countries.

Triviño further informed President Garcia that the Philippine delegation was also supported by coco-producer countries on its stand to have copra exports chemically analyzed in the ports of loading instead of in the ports of destination.

Triviño said that the change of procedure will protect the interests of the Philippines, which can determine for tax purposes the total amount in dollars of the copra exports, thus avoiding the pernicious practice of stashing dollars abroad.

Owing to the objection of the consumer countries and some procedural obstacles, the Philippine proposal will be taken up at the next conference, Triviño said.

The President signed today the appointments and transfers of seven judges of courts of first instance on the recommendation of the Department of Justice,

The President is scheduled to administer the oaths of office to Justice Jose Gutierrez David as associate justice of the Supreme Court and Justice Jose Ma. Paredes as presiding justice of the Court of Appeals.

Justice David replaced Justice Alex Reyes, retired, in the Supreme Court while Justice Paredes, who is the ranking member among all the associate justices of the Court of Appeals, took the place of Justice David as presiding justice of the Court of Appeals.

The new appointments and transfers of CFI judges follow:

- (1) Mariano Benedicto, provincial fiscal of Cavite, appointed CFI judge of Masbate;
- (2) Juan E. Yap, CFI judge of Cebu, transferred to Sorsogon vice Manuel Calleja, retired;
- (3) Fernando Villarosa, municipal judge of Pasay City, appointed CFI judge of Leyte replacing Judge Lorenzo Garlitos;
- (4) Judge Lorenzo Garlitos, transferred from the CFI of Leyte to Batangas, including Lipa City;
- (5) Conrado Vasquez, transferred from CFI in Batangas to Cavite province and Cavite City;
- (6) Judge Emigdio Nietes transferred from Leyte to Iloilo, vice Judge Salvador Esguerra, recently appointed legal adviser to the President; and
- (7) Fiscal Demetrio Vinzon, appointed CFI judge of Leyte vice Judge Nietes.

President Garcia today approved the promotions of 331 reserve officers currently in active duty with the various services of the Armed Forces.

Of the 331 promotions, 35 were to lieutenant colonel, 55 to major, 145 to captain, 16 to first lieutenant, 12 to lieutenant commander, 50 to lieutenant (senior grade), and 18 to lieutenant (junior grade).

August 28.—THE President received this morning callers at Malacañang from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

A group of visiting Mexican surgeons, led by Prof. Manuel A. Manzanilla, called to pay their respects. Other members of the group were Profs. Juan Mora Ortiz, Carlos Malabehar, and Leonardo Silva Espinosa; Drs. Sergio Raul Chaniza, Juan Paz, J. Luis Marin, and Manuel Martinez Suarez; and Mesdames Maria Mora and Luz del Carmen Malabehar.

The President also administered the oaths of office to Justices Jose Gutierrez David and Jose Ma. Paredes as associate justice of the Supreme Court and presiding justice of the Court of Appeals, respectively, in ceremonies held at the Malacañang reception hall.

The Chief Executive approved the readjustment in rank of Major Juan V. Abañes (ret.) of the Philippine Air Force. In approving the readjustment, the President took into account the excellent war and peacetime record of Abañes, who had entered the military service as enlisted man on December 17, 1928.

Other callers this morning included Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, Provincial Board Member Henry Fajardo of Sorsogon, Don Manolo Elizalde, and J. P. Roxas.

President Garcia today declared Monday August 31, a special public holiday in the province of Zambales in commemoration of the 52nd birthday of the late President Ramon Magsaysay.

In declaring the day a special public holiday in Zambales, the President declared it was fitting that the people of President Magsaysay's birthplace "be afforded full opportunity to celebrate the occasion with appropriate ceremonies."

The President recalled the exemplary real and devotion to duty with which the late President had performed his official tasks for the people he loved so well and for the future of the country.

THIS afternoon the President inaugurated the new ₱120,000 municipal building of San Juan, Rizal, and took occasion to chide his detractors for allegedly generating issues based on falsehood.

“Our people have shown their maturity time and again, to differentiate between fact and fiction,” the President said as he expressed optimism that the voters in November will “once more rise to the occasion and do justice by those who have your welfare at heart.”

The President played Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez and former Commissioner of Customs Manuel P. Manahan for criticizing the present administration for allegedly neglecting the rural areas.

Although he did not mention them by name, it was evident that the President referred to them as “some of my critics” who have taken advantage of his busy schedule “to mispresent my economic program as sidetracking the welfare of the rural masses.”

The President pointed out that he does not want to take part in any petty debate with detractors. “Your President is too busy attending to your needs and the multifarious problems of the nation. If I try to answer all criticisms, I will have no time for something else,” he added.

In, answering his critics, “to set the records straight,” the President explained that “today, the PACD serves 2,231 barrios and generated a total of 20,254 projects with an aggregate value of ₱17,916,254.90. In other words,” he added, “community development in the rural areas increased and expanded tenfold since I assumed the Presidency.”

He said the value of these projects which is ₱18 million in round figures did not all come from government funds. He said they were contributed by the people in the barrios.

After inaugurating the new municipal building, the President said the new edifice is the culmination of his promise two years ago to help construct it “that you may have a bigger and better edifice that will serve your various and growing needs.

The President predicted this afternoon a “free zone” in Manila as a compromise solution to end the bickerings over the number of delegates to the convention that will choose the Nacionalista candidates for mayor and vice-mayor.

At a press conference with college editors at the state dining room, the President was asked:

“Will you support, Mr. President, Mayor (Arsenio) Lacson if he were nominated as official candidate of the Nacionalista party?”

The President paused for a moment, and said:

“I understand that Manila will be declared a free zone; so, I will be free to choose my own candidate.”

The President indicated he would settle for a free zone in Manila as a compromise in his conflict of views with Senate and NP President Eulogio Rodriguez and the executive committee.

President Garcia had battled for a convention in Manila with 3,164 delegates to choose the candidates of the majority party for mayor and vice-mayor.

However, Senate President Rodriguez, who is backing Mayor Lacson, wanted the number of delegates reduced from 3,164 to 517.

At the press conference, the President:

1. Said he is going over the report of Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, German economist who made a survey of the economic conditions of the country;
2. Branded the “white paper” as a misnomer which contained a list of alleged irregularities, written by the Senate President, based on rumors and gossips; and
3. Refused to comment on his political plans after the end of his four-year term as Presidents.

Although he did not answer the question categorically, the President gave the impression he would not support Mayor Lacson’s candidacy.

The President also said he is calling his economic advisers, shortly to take up the recommendations of Dr. Schacht.

Dr. Schacht was a former economic adviser of Hitler and was a guest of the Philippine National Bank in the Philippines.

The President said he had always been in favor of gradual decontrol. But decontrol, he said, must go hand-in-hand with the stabilization of the country’s economy.

President Garcia today assured residents of various housing projects of the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation that every centavo they had paid in rentals would be applied to the selling price of their housing units.

The assurance was given to a delegation of Project 8 residents who called at Malacañang this noon to appeal a reported decision of the PHHC board of directors to raise the rentals of the firm’s tenants.

The President reiterated that the housing units would be sold at cost to their occupants without any profit to the corporation. He said that prices would depend on computations currently being undertaken as to the cost of the units. He assured, however, that the selling price would be such as to be within the reach of low-salaried employees.

The Chief Executive recalled that the PHHC had been created to help low-income groups own their own homes through easy payment plans. He said this was part of the program of social justice launched by the Government and that he would see to it that the program was implemented.

Accompanied by Juan Perez, president of the National Press Club, the delegation was composed of Mariano Sta. Romana, Jr., president of Project 8 Residents’ association, Ramon Veloso and David Baquirin of the *Manila Times*, Benjamin Defensor of the *Manila Chronicle*, Cesar Salenga and Gregorio Datuin of the *Daily Mirror*, Victor Diamonon, Rolando Juturian, Arsenio Dominguez, and other prominent residents of Project 8.

August 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning sat down with top leaders and all the senatorial candidates of the Nacionalista Party to map out a campaign strategy for the coming November elections.

The NP senatorial bets were divided into two stumping teams, with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., and Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, together with Sens. Arturo Tolentino and Pacita M. Gonzalez, forming a “stand-by” team to be used “as the need arises.”

Forming Team 1 are Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Sen. Edmundo Cea, and Rep. Genaro Magsaysay, who will fan out to Iloilo, Capiz, Aklan, and Negros Occidental starting next Monday for an intensive 11-day stumping tour.

At the same time, Team 2 composed of Sen. Lorenzo Tañada, Secretary Alejandro Almendras, and Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio C. Quimson will leave for a stumping tour of northern Luzon provinces, particularly Isabela, Cagayan, and Ilocos Norte.

Present at the conference were NP senatorial candidates, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Sen. Gonzalez, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, former Press Secretary J. V. Cruz, Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Logarta, who is the NP information director, and his assistant Ramon Mitra, Jr.

The conference started at 8:30 a.m. and broke up at 1 p.m.

The President did not receive any caller in the afternoon. He devoted his time working on some papers which he had brought over to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City from Malacañang.

The President was informed by Gov. Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank that opponents of the dollar exchange margin must have been disappointed to find that during the first month of the imposition of the charge, prices were going down instead of skyrocketing, that exports were increasing instead of diminishing, and that tax collections continued to be much higher than those of last year.

In a personal communication received by the President at Malacañang, contents of which was revealed by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable this evening, Gov. Cuaderno had recalled that not a few people had claimed that the imposition of the margin would bring chaos to the economy. He said that the opposite of what these people had predicted was happening in the country.

The CB governor, in his letter, cited the Philippine Association which, in its review of local business conditions for the first semester of the year, had said that major economic indicators showed encouraging features during the half-year period. The association had reported that price levels as reflected by lower averages of the cost of living and retail prices indices evidently moved at ranges well below those of the comparable period in 1958.

Gov. Cuaderno predicted a marked improvement in the national economy by next year if the government would continue to be very sparing in putting out money during the remaining months of this year.

President Garcia approved the promotions of 299 regular officers of various services of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, it was announced by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable today.

Of the 299 promotions, 93 were to lieutenant colonels, 97 to major, 57 to captain, 42 to first lieutenant, five to commander, four to lieutenant commander, and one to lieutenant senior grade, the last three being naval ranks.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Official Week in Review: September 6 – September 12, 1959

September 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today stayed the whole day in his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, where he rested preparatory to starting a gruelling campaign to insure the victory of the Nacionalista Party candidates in the coming November elections.

The President is leaving for Cebu, home province of the First Lady, where he is facing a stiff political fight following the alignment of the powerful Osmeña-Cuenco blocs against the Chief Executive.

The President is scheduled to board the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* tomorrow, accompanied t-y the First Lady and Cebu politicians.

The President was reported to have gone over the morning papers to have an assessment of the political situation in Cebu and other parts of the country.

He had been informed that Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., is also planning to stage a simultaneous rally in Cebu City when the President holds a meeting to show the Chief Executive that he has more followers in the city.

Osmeña is running for the Cebu City mayoralty.

Earlier this morning, the President and the First Lady heard mass at their private residence in Quezon City.

September 7.—ON the eve of the anniversary commemorating the organization five years ago of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization, President Garcia said the SEATO is attaining its objective in serving as a shield against communism in this part of the world.

The President recalled that exactly five years ago tomorrow, he had the singular distinction of presiding over the conference which gave birth to the organization of the SEATO. He was then vice-president and concurrent foreign affairs secretary.

The President also took this occasion to call on the Filipino people, along with other beneficiaries of the Organization, to be united behind the principles and purposes of the SEATO so that it may better serve its mission within the treaty area.

THIS afternoon President Garcia left for Cebu on a two-fold mission of insuring the victory of NP candidates in that province and of greeting former President Sergio Osmeña on the occasion of the latter's 81st birth anniversary.

The President boarded the yacht *Lapu-Lapu*, together with Mrs. Garcia and a group of Cebu politicians and Manila newspapermen.

The yacht is scheduled to dock at the Cebu wharf late tomorrow afternoon.

Nacionalista "loyalists" headed by Rep. Ramon Durano, who is running for governor against incumbent "rebel" Gov. Jose Briones (of the Osmeña-Cuenco faction), plan a huge fluvial reception for the visiting Chief Executive.

This being his first trip to Cebu since he decided to stake his political prestige behind the Durano-Zosa bloc, the President is expected to confer with Cebu NP "loyalists" on ways and means of insuring the victory of the "loyalists" bloc.

He is scheduled to address a political meeting in a "show of numbers" with the NP rebels.

Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., who is at present teamed up with the Cuenco faction, is also scheduled to address a separate rally in another spot in Cebu.

After joining the birthday celebration of former President Osmeña, the President is expected to hold several rallies in the interior towns of Cebu to boost Durano's candidacy.

He may return to Manila either Thursday night or Friday morning.

September 8.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia were accorded royal welcome upon their arrival in Cebu City by a huge rousing crowd that converged at the pier and lined the streets several feet deep.

Even before the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, which brought the presidential party, reached the breakwater hundreds of motorboats and bancas with colorful buntings and streamers met it in Bagacay. The fluvial parade started in Bagacay and ended behind the customs building where the *Lapu-Lapu* docked.

Upon debarking, the President received military honors and then, delivered a short speech greeting his welcomers. From the dock, the President headed a long motorcade to the residence of former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., and gave his greetings to the Grand Old Man of Cebu. Tomorrow will be Don Sergio's birthday anniversary.

The President then motored to the Nacionalista Party headquarters, where he inducted the officers of the Nacionalista Youth Movement.

The President and the First Lady attended a popular banquet in their honor before proceeding to the huge rally where the NP Loyalist candidates for provincial and city positions were proclaimed.

NP Loyalist candidates are Rep. Ramon Durano for governor; Isidro Escario for vice-governor; and Arsenio Villanueva, Ernesto Bascon, and Reynaldo Mendiola for board members; Casimiro Madarang for city mayor; Leandro Tojong for vice-mayor; and Remedies Jayme de Fernandez, Generoso Jaca, Alfredo Deen, Francisco Briones, Jose Fortich, Emilio Matheu, Nicolas Ruiz, Florentino Tecson, and Luis Espina for councilors.

Before breakfast, the President and the First Lady heard mass aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, said by Col. Nicolas Ortega, chief of AFP chaplains. After breakfast, the President received Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, PC chief, who reported on the much improved peace and order situation in Ilocos Sur, Cavite, and other provinces. The Chief Executive also received Pablo Suarez, special assistant in the foreign affairs office.

The President this day set aside September 17, 1959, as a special public holiday in Tarlac province in commemoration of the birthday anniversary of Gen. Francisco Makabulos.

Gen. Makabulos was one of the outstanding Filipino leaders during the Revolution against Spain and the war with the United States.

The presidential proclamation was signed to give the people of Tarlac, his birthplace, full opportunity to commemorate the occasion with appropriate ceremonies.

President Garcia received today the profound gratitude of the people of Nationalist China for his donation of NT\$55,500.00 equivalent to P3,000.00 for the relief of victims of the recent floods in Taiwan.

This was contained in a letter from President Chiang Kai-shek which was forwarded to Manila by Ambassador Narciso Ramos. The President's donation was given after a report on the extensive damage to life and property as a result of this major disaster had been submitted by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Embassy staff members and Filipino musicians in Taipei, Ambassador Ramos reported, also contributed a total of NT\$8,000.00. These donations and expressions of sympathy from Filipinos, he said, were deeply appreciated in all quarters and were well played up in Taipei and Hongkong newspapers.

September 9.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia joined thousands of well wishers who greeted Don Sergio Osmeña on his 81st birthday anniversary. The President and the First Lady motored to the Redemptorist Church at 7 a.m. and joined Don Sergio and Doña Titay at mass together with members of the Osmeña family and friends.

After the mass President and Mrs. Garcia returned to the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, where the Chief Executive held a conference with NP municipal mayors who renewed their pledge of loyalty to him. The President in turn appealed to them to support all loyal Nacionalistas and lambasted rebels who are trying to wreck the party. The President appealed for discipline within the NP ranks.

After the conference the President received a Negros Oriental delegation led by Gov. Serafin Teves and former Rep. Enrique Medina to discuss the political situation in the province. Then the President met many people on board the ship.

At past 12 noon, President and Mrs. Garcia left the boat and went to the residence of Don Sergio for the traditional luncheon on the occasion of the birthday anniversary of the Grand Old Man of Cebu. The couple joined friends and admirers in wishing Don Sergio happy returns of the day. From the residence Don Sergio, the President and the First Lady went to the corner of Lapu-Lapu and Legaspi Streets for the unveiling ceremonies of the historical marker of the birthplace of Don Sergio under the auspices of Patria, affiliated Cebu Employees Association.

After the unveiling ceremonies, the First Couple returned to the *Lapu-Lapu* where the President held a press and radio conference.

Commenting on the tumultuous reception at the dock where more than one hundred thousand Cebuanos welcomed him and at the rally where a similar number heard him sound appeal for support of Loyalists NP group, the President said, "I feel deeply grateful to the people of Cebu for the tremendous reception given me and for attending the mammoth rally that followed, and I take this as a testimonial of the continued faith and confidence of the people of Cebu in the Administration. This demonstration convinces me that Cebu will once more uphold the NP in the forthcoming elections. I am also happy to have joined with the thousands of Cebuanos who greeted Don Sergio Osmeña on his 81st birthday anniversary."

PRESIDENT Garcia departed tonight for Manila on board the yacht *Lapu-Lapu*, tired but happy, after more than 30 hours' stay in Cebu City.

The President appeared confident that his leadership in Cebu will be upheld in the coming elections, against the combined forces of Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco and Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr. He gauged this from pledges he received from Cebu politicians and ordinary voters.

PRESIDENT Garcia told a press conference this afternoon that the Philippines will honor her commitments with the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization, saying that the defense of Laos against communism is the defense of the country, against the Red menace.

The President held the press conference aboard the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* with local and Manila newsmen.

Despite the Philippine concern over the Laos situation, President Garcia stood pat on the Philippine decision not to allow the use of American bases here by the United States military to airlift supplies for the beleaguered country unless the Philippine Government's consent is first secured.

President Garcia has always stood against indiscriminate use of American bases in the Philippines by the US unless previous consent is secured.

His statements answered Vice-President Macapagal's criticisms of the foreign affairs office decision disallowing the use of US bases here for sending supplies and materials to Laos.

Asked if the Philippines would send troops to help the embattled Laotian government against the communists, President Garcia said, "I hope it would not come to that."

However, he stressed that the Philippines will not renege on its commitments with the SEATO and recalled that the country had cooperated with the United Nations by sending troops to Korea during the North Korea-South Korea war.

Pressed for his political plans, President Garcia said that personally he had announced his preference to retire after his term in 1961.

However, he said he had assured Nacionalista Party leaders he would not shirk from the challenge to serve the country. President Garcia said he would abide by the decision of the NP if it would ask him anew to run for reelection.

In the press conference, President Garcia:

1. Derided Vice-President Macapagal for his charges doubting President Garcia's guerrilla activities, and referred the latter to the records in the US State Department;
2. Defended again the government acquisition of the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* and the Fokker plane;
3. Underscored nationalism as the issue of his administration as the only way of achieving economic freedom;
4. Challenged his critics mentioning Sen. M. Jesus Cuenco, to go to the courts and file corresponding charges against those indulging in graft and corruption in the government; and
5. Said Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino Calinawan's committee in the Bureau of Customs is fighting an "uphill battle" in busting the smuggling syndicate in the Philippines.

The President recalled that the death of Capt. Hector Crisostomo, member of Calinawan's team, was an aftermath of the efforts of Government agents to probe deeper into the syndicate's activities.

The Chief Executive refused to comment on the effects of his visit in Cebu and on the political situation in that province.

"It's up to the Cebuanos," he told the newsmen in reply to a question asking him to assess the effects of his arrival in Cebu.

President Garcia lashed at Macapagal for doubting his guerrilla record. He said Macapagal should consult the guerrilla records in the US State Department.

September 10.—DESPITE his hectic and gruelling schedule in Cebu, the President woke up early this morning looking fresh and rested. Together with Mrs. Garcia, aides, and some members of the party, he heard mass celebrated by Fr. Juan Tugadi before an improvised altar set up in the ship's dining saloon.

At breakfast, the Chief Executive had a hearty time recounting certain incidents that occurred during his Cebu stump.

Beaming with pride, President Garcia talked of his unscheduled rally during the fiesta last evening in Cebu City's Pasil district, a slum area, where the people insisted that he deliver a speech.

In his speech the President recalled his student days when he lived there, and told his audience that he had always won his political fights through the support of the poor people. Citing achievements of the Nacionalista regime, he said he expects the people to support administration candidates in the coming elections.

In the middle of his speech, the people clamored "*Nor, Imo no, kami, balak na lang.*" (Sir, are already yours; just recite to us a poem!) This forced, President Garcia to abandon his speech and declaim his now famous "*Ang Babaing Philipinhon.*"

After breakfast, the Chief Executive retired to his stateroom and remained closeted there with Palace aides most of the day, studying various state papers and documents he had taken along for consideration.

The *RPS Lapu-Lapu* pulled out of the port of Cebu City at 9:20 last night, shortly after the President arrived from nearby San Nicolas town where he kept the last of his scheduled speaking appointments.

As the ship steamed out of the harbor, President Garcia and his party were given a warm send-off by the people of Cebu with factory sirens and ships' horns and whistles wailing and blowing simultaneously.

President Garcia and members of his party are expected to arrive in Manila on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* late this evening after fulfilling a series of speaking engagements in Cebu and felicitating former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., on his 81st birthday anniversary.

This morning, while the Chief Executive and the First Lady were having breakfast, the passengers noticed a sudden reduction of the ship's speed. A quick check with the bridge disclosed that the ship had to be slowed down to permit a minor cleaning job. The operation took about 15 minutes after which the vessel resumed its normal cruising speed of 18 knots.

September 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia said today the Philippine Government will support whatever decision is adopted by either the United Nations or the SEATO with respect to the Laos situation.

The President's statement came on the wake of fresh aggressive Communist moves in Laos which were thoroughly discussed by President Garcia at a conference at his Quezon City residence with Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, and other Army brass.

Cabal and AFP key officers briefed the President on the Laos situation as well as on matters to be taken up at the SEATO military advisers' conference scheduled from September 22 to 25 at Bangkok.

Also present at the conference which lasted for more than two hours were Navy Capt. Heracleo Alano, AFP G-2; Lt. Cols. Uldarico Baclagon, Sofio Bayron, and Deogracias Caballero; and Capt. Silverio Dalugdug.

Earlier, the President and Mrs. Garcia debarked from the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* where they had spent the night after their arrival from Cebu, and motored to the residence, in Quezon City of Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez to felicitate him on his 52nd birthday anniversary.

The President and the First Lady had breakfast at the Romualdez' residence. About 9:30 a.m., the President and the First Lady motored to their own residence in Quezon City where ranking officers of the Armed Forces awaited the Chief Executive.

The President also received at his residence former Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, NP official candidate for senator, who reported after campaigning in six provinces of Northern Luzon that there are "encouraging signs that the Nacionalista Party will again sweep the North in November."

Quimson stumped the North together with other NP candidates for senators; namely, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Sen. Lorenzo Tañada, and former General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras.

Other callers included Reps. Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, Jose Aldeguer of Iloilo, Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, and Sen. Eulogio Balao.

September 12.—THIS morning, the President summoned Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, to his Quezon City residence and directed him to push through with more vigor the anti-graft campaign of the Administration.

At the same time, the President appealed to everyone, irrespective of party affiliation, to come out with concrete proofs against any venal official or employee of the government.

In his directive to the PCAPE to wage an all-out campaign against graft and corruption, the President reiterated his desire that erring government officials and employees be prosecuted “no matter who gets hurt.”

Justice Ocampo submitted a progress report on the cases investigated and brought to court by his office. Of the recent cases investigated by the PCAPE, Justice Ocampo told President Garcia that seven Central Bank officials are involved in the racket of salting dollars abroad.

These seven CB officials, Ocampo further informed the President, are also facing administrative charges.

The President also reiterated his previous directive to the PCAPE to investigate the complaints of poor tenants who after cultivating portion of public lands are now facing ejection proceedings after land patents were issued to rich people.

Ocampo blamed the laxity of Bureau of Lands personnel for recommending approval of land grants where land cultivated by poor people were included.

After receiving Ocampo and his assistant, Maximo Maceren, the President motored to the Central Officers’ Club in Camp Murphy to felicitate Undersecretary Mariano A. Yenke, Jr., on the occasion of his birthday anniversary.

Earlier, the President received NP candidates for senators, Juan C. Pajo, Sofronio C. Quimson, and Alejandro Almendras; Rep. Canuto Eñero of Zamboanga del Norte; and Susan Roces, who is leaving for the United States.

THIS evening President Garcia stayed late watching the proclamation of the senatorial candidates of his party on Plaza Miranda and listened to the NP leaders rake anew the stench of the discredited Liberal Party administration.

President Garcia has been the target of political attacks of the opposition candidates from the Liberal Party and from the Grand Alliance and, for once, heard the NP senatorial stalwarts defend his administration.

The President stayed at his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, where he watched the proclamation proceedings by television.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(37), ccclxxvii-ccclxxxii.

Official Week in Review: September 20 – September 26, 1959

September 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered an exhaustive inquiry into the resurgence of malaria in localities where it had long ago been declared freed of this dreaded disease.

The President expressed concern over reports that malaria had broken out afresh in certain sections of the country where the disease had long ago been prevalent but subsequently declared eradicated after prolonged and costly campaign. These localities include some provinces in Luzon, Mindoro, certain sections in the Visayas, and especially in Mindanao.

The Chief Executive instructed Chairman Jose C. Locsin of the National Economic Council and Secretary Elpidio Valencia of the Department of Health to have their technical men work, together with representatives of U. S. International Cooperation Administration and the World Health Organization, to undertake thorough studies aimed at preventing the recrudescence of the disease.

Chairman Locsin disclosed that his office has available P500,000 to form a counterpart fund under the NEC-ICA assistance program for this purpose.

Chairman Locsin recalled that as a special health activity, a malaria eradication campaign had been started with one pilot malaria control unit in 1953. Within one year, this one unit had been increased to 30 which has been maintained up to the present, he said.

The early average number of houses sprayed in the last four successive years is 1,179,490; and the population protected from malaria totalled 6.8 million, according to figures furnished by the NEC. The result, Chairman Locsin said, is marked reduction in both morbidity and death rates.

The death rate dropped from 32.44 per cent in 1953 to 9.74 per cent in 1958. The campaign for eradication of malaria costs the Philippine Government some P3 million every year, an average of \$450,000 annually as ICA aid, and a total of P2,300,000 as assistance from the WHO, Chairman Locsin said.

The President and the First Lady heard mass said in their Quezon City residence this morning.

After breakfast the President read the Sunday papers until nearly lunch. After a short nap in the afternoon, the President went over some pending matters with his junior aide-de-camp, Maj. Jose Estrella.

September 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today stated that the establishment of the Philippine National Cooperative Bank would go a long way towards accelerating the nationalization of the retail trade, especially in the rural areas.

The Chief Executive made this statement after the induction of the officials of the bank which had been created pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act No. 2023, better known as the Philippine Non-Agricultural Cooperative Act.

The President further stated that in line with the "Filipino First" policy of the Administration, the Government is doing its utmost to assist people to develop their enterprises on a co-operative basis to strengthen their economic independence and remove the conditions which hamper the growth of a rising standard of living with a view to promoting the general well-being and expanding the national economy.

He added that in furtherance of this policy, the Administration shall exert all its efforts in the establishment of a system of co-operative banks all over the country which shall provide banking facilities and reasonable credit for non-agricultural co-operatives and encourage the distribution of consumer requiring through co-operatives by the establishment of a system of co-operative wholesale societies all over the country.

To strengthen the capital structure of the new bank, the government put up P5 million on a fund-matching basis, pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act No. 2023.

Officers inducted by President Garcia and the co-operatives they represent are Gaudencio Hernandez, Batangas Teachers Savings and Credit Cooperative; Adelaida B. Brown, U. P. Credit Cooperative Association; Sophia Prudencio, Philippine War Widows, Parents, and Orphans Credit Union; Vicente Martires, Radiowealth Employees Credit Union; Benildo Hernandez, C.C.E. Employees Credit Union; Alexander Brillantes, Baguio Teachers Cooperative Credit Union; Marcelo Angeles, Department of Health Credit Union; Roman Carias, B.C.I. Consumers Cooperative Association; Floro Caritan, Cebu Cathedral Barangay Credit Union; Pedro Alit, Jr., Bacolod City Employees Credit Union; Domingo Ramos, Fabrica Cooperative Store; Jose Casiple, Lambunao Credit Union; and individual shareholders Raymundo Crystal, Amando B. Isip, and Maximina Jamias.

The President also received former Premier Joseph Laurent Rens of Belgium, who, as deputy director general of the International Labor Organization, is presently touring Asian countries. Rens was accompanied by Commerce Secretary Pedro C. Hernaez.

Earlier, the President also inducted the officers of the Council of Health Agencies in connection with the First National Health Week. The officers are Dr. Romeo Y. Atienza, chairman; Col. Dominador Santos, vice-chairman; Miss Carmen del Rosario, secretary; Mrs. Luisa Alvarez, treasurer; Gonzalo Santos Rivera, executive secretary; and Drs. Eleodoro Congco, Mariano Icasiano, Jose Y. Flores, Ambrosio Samia, Guillermo del Castillo, Arturo Reyes, Rosita R. Ramirez, Miss Dolores Francisco, Mrs. Lupicinio Campos, Otilio Arellano, and Angelina Ponce, board members.

Other presidential callers were Sen. Domocao Alonto, Sen. Pedro Sabido, Consul Yusup Abubakar, Gregorio Licaros, Ruperto Gaite, German Neri, and Jose Figueras.

The President today received NP senatorial candidates Juan C. Pajo and Sofronio Quimson who just arrived from Leyte, Samar, and the Bicol region.

Pajo and Quimson informed the President that the Administration candidates will score a landslide victory in Leyte and Samar. They also reported enthusiastic reception from the people of the Bicol provinces. They told the President that Nacionalista senatorial and local candidates will ride to victory on the strength of the issue of nationalism sweeping across the country.

The two senatorial candidates said that they campaigned in Leyte with Speaker Daniel Romualdez. In Samar Sen. Decoroso Rosales made the tour of the towns with them. Rep. Salvador Encinas and Govs. Nicanor Maronilla-Seva of Albay and Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon accompanied Quimson and Pajo in their respective provinces.

The President also saw Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema with whom he discussed local appointments.

IN the evening, the President received Dr. Cesar Filoteo, acting chairman of the Board of Medical Examiners.

Dr. Filoteo asked the President's opinion on whether or not the board would give a medical examination in November.

It was learned that under a new law passed by Congress and signed by the President, the board had been reorganized with six members.

It was pointed out that the approval of the new law, virtually dissolved the old board.

Other callers were Director Celestino Cortes of the National Development Corporation and former Bulacan Gov. Arturo Samaniego.

September 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia received “encouraging reports” on the political situation throughout the country from Nacionalista solons and provincial and city bets who trooped to Malacañang this morning.

Juan C. Pajo and Sofronio Quimson, NP senatorial bets, informed President Garcia that the NP senatorial ticket will win an overwhelming majority in the Visayas and Mindanao.

Mayor Elpidio Cudio, NP official candidate for mayor of Cabanatuan City, reported that all the Nacionalista senatorial candidates are conceded to win in his city.

Rep. Benjamin T. Ligot of the second district of Cagayan informed President Garcia that the Nacionalistas will top in his district because the Chief Executive has proven his sincerity and devotion to the masses and because of the concrete achievements of the Administration.

Rep. Pedro Trono of the first district of Iloilo said, “My district is sure to give the Nacionalista Party a landslide victory from senators down to the municipal level, as in the 1957 elections. It will also give former Sen. Jose C. Zulueta, LP official candidate for governor, a rude surprise.”

Rep. Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon reported that the “Liberals are ‘dead’ in Mindanao. Their senatorial bets can hardly attract 500 people in their rallies in the metropolitan centers.”

Major Arthur Sevilla, NP candidate for governor in Marinduque, informed President Garcia of an NP overwhelming victory in his province.

Rep. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan also reported that “All Nacionalista candidates will win in Bulacan, except four municipal mayors.”

Other callers who reported in the same vein were Reps. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, Apolinario Apacible of Batangas, Pedro Vinida of Camarines Norte, Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, Augusto Francisco of Manila, Justiniano Montano of Cavite, Marcelino Veloso and Dominador Tan of Leyte, Jose Legaspi of Aklan, Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, Domitilio Obordo of Iloilo, Eladio Balite and Valeriano Yancha of Samar, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Jacobo Gonzales and Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, and Emilio Cortez of Pampanga.

The President today directed National Treasurer Vicente Gella to increase the maximum amount of backpay certificates for redemption from P1,000 to P2,000.

At a conference held in Malacañang this morning, President Garcia also directed that only claims that are to be fully paid should be pre-audited while partial payments may be post-audited in order to accelerate the payment of the claims.

Present at the conference aside from Gella, were former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and former Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio C. Quimson, both NP official senatorial candidates.

Meanwhile, an avalanche of telegrams and personal letters swamped Malacañang, during the last two days, lauding President Garcia and Quimson for their “very noble move to redeem backpay certificates under Republic Act No. 304 the soonest possible time” and exhorting Quimson to help push through the deposit of P26 million by Gella for the immediate and faster payments of partial and final redemption of backpay certificates.

The required amount had been set aside a few days ago by order of President Garcia for the purpose.

Col. Conrado B. Rigor, secretary general of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines, pledged in behalf of 300,000 veterans members “to rally behind the President and Secretary Quimson in their efforts to solve the backpay situation, so as to alleviate the financial plight of veterans all over the country.”

Praising the President's gesture as "not only most generous but very exemplary and indeed statesmanlike," the Defenders of Bataan urged President Garcia to effect immediate deposit of said appropriation and to accelerate payments of applications for backpay through the national treasurer.

Individual letters from various backpay claimants, mostly from farmers and war widows urging more speedy backpay redemption, also reached the President.

September 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today reiterated his directive for the payment of strike duration pay to striking employees of the National Marketing Corporation (NAMARCO) pending resolution by a competent court of the question of whether or not the state marketing firm exercised proprietary functions.

The President previously directed the NAMARCO board of directors to pay the striking employees after having been informed by the strike leader that the Court of Industrial Relations had already decided the issue in favor of the strikers. However, at a subsequent Cabinet meeting, the President received another information that the CIR had made no such decision.

The President's directive was then held in abeyance pending verification by Secretary Castaño about the status of the controversy brought before the CIR. The President also had instructed Castaño to bring together representatives of the NAMARCO management and the striking employees to find out whether a provisional settlement could be reached whereby the strikers would return to work pending CIR decree on the controversy.

At the Cabinet meeting this evening, Secretary Castaño expressed confidence that the strike would be resolved tomorrow. He said he had already met Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, chairman of the NAMARCO board of directors Edgardo de Leon, president of the strikers' union; and the CIR judge handling the case. He said that the strikers would probably return to work tomorrow.

During his conference with NAMARCO General Manager Benjamin Estrella at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning, the President reiterated his directive for the payment of strike duration pay to the employees subject to refund in case the court decided that the NAMARCO exercised governmental functions.

The President expressed concern that a protracted strike might prejudice the essential public service that the state marketing firm was performing. He said that provisional payment of the strike duration pay might induce the employees to return to work.

With Estrella at his conference with the President this morning was Simeon M. Gopengco, government corporate counsel; Alfredo Liboro, NAMARCO auditor; and Adolfo Feliciano, legal counsel of the firm.

The President also received Gov. Esteban Bernido of Bohol, who reported on the political situation in his province.

In the afternoon, the President motored back to Malacañang where he accepted the credentials of John Arthur Pilcher, new English ambassador to the Philippines.

After the credential presentation ceremony, the President presided over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

President Garcia expressed optimism in the ability of the Philippines to bridge any gap or misunderstanding between the East and the West at a ceremony where John Arthur Pilcher, C. M. G., presented his credentials as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the United Kingdom to the Philippines at the Malacañang ceremonial hall this afternoon.

In presenting his credentials, Ambassador Pilcher declared that the traditional commercial ties between the two countries during the last 200 years has played an important part in the development of Philippine economy.

He pledged to do his utmost in promoting Anglo-Philippine understanding and cooperation in every field to the mutual benefit of both nations and that of other nations of the free world.

The President declared that Philippine culture and institutions have been so shaped that while the Filipinos are an Asian people, they are at the same time proud of their western cultural and religious heritage.

He recalled the cordial relationship existing between the countries and said that geography has not been a barrier in the development of mutually beneficial commercial ties and close friendship between them.

The Philippines and the United Kingdom have fought side by side in defense of democratic ideals and fundamental human freedoms, the Chief Executive said, and added that their association in the South East Asia Treaty Organization and in the Colombo Plan is an eloquent indication of the mutuality of interests of the two countries.

The British diplomat arrived at Malacañang shortly before 5 p.m., accompanied by Pedro Angara Aragon, foreign affairs protocol officer, and Capt. Eustaquio Meim, junior presidential aide.

After reviewing the military guard of honor made up of elements of the Presidential Guard Battalion, Ambassador Pilcher was met by Col. Jorge Delarmente, senior aide-de-camp to the President.

Toast in *basi*, were exchanged after the ceremony for the presentation of credentials. The diplomatic rite was witnessed by Cabinet members and officials of the UK Embassy.

The British envoy holds the rank of Commander in the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George. He replaces former UK Ambassador to the Philippines George Lisle Glutton, and he has served the British foreign office in China, Japan, Italy, and Spain before being assigned to the Philippines.

The Cabinet this evening approved a plan allowing Filipinos abroad to invest in development projects in the Philippines.

The Cabinet action was prompted by the President's desire to tap all available resources to shore up the country's shaky economy.

The Cabinet finally approved the controversial plan, proposed to the President by Filipino investors late last year.

Malacañang said the Cabinet stamped its approval on the plan after it was favorably endorsed to the President's advisory body by a Cabinet committee headed by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez. Other members of the committee were the secretary of justice, the secretary of commerce, and the chairman of the National Economic Council.

In approving the proposal, the Cabinet also ratified the rules and regulations to govern the participation of Filipino investors abroad in the country's development projects.

The Cabinet also endorsed the plan of Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano to resolve the current controversy over the United States plan to raise the dollar equivalent from P2 to P2.50 in the acquisition of raw cotton from the U. S.

September 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag to submit a complete report on the current investigations being conducted on reported dummies and delinquent forest concessionaires.

The President said that the Department of Justice faced a tough job in its current task of unearthing these malefactors but spurred the department to carry on with redoubled efforts, as these alleged irregularities were causing the government to lose several millions of pesos in uncollected concessionaires' fees.

The Chief Executive was irked on receiving reports that some 80 per cent of forest concessions all over the country were operated by alien-sponsored dummies and that delinquent concessionaires were behind in their fees could total P6 million.

The case of delinquent forest concession holders and dummies had been brought to the attention of the President by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency.

According to Ocampo, five concessionaires alone owed the government a total of P349,398.95 representing unpaid forest charges, in spite of repeated demands for payment by the director of forestry.

The PCAPE chairman reported there were many more such delinquent concessionaires to be verified from the records of the Bureau of Forestry and the Bureau of Internal Revenue and that the estimated unpaid forest fees could total P5.6 million.

Investigations conducted by PCAPE men also disclosed that in their recent inspection trips in the field, they had actually seen aliens operating machinery and supervising workers in logging operations and that during pay days, Filipino laborers received their pay direct from aliens.

The President cancelled his scheduled callers today, as he was slightly indisposed. He spent the day in his bedroom working over some papers and conferring with various Malacañang assistants who consulted him on routine matters.

In the afternoon, he had a brief conference with Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, who found him *atmerienda*. Nable said that the President's simple *merienda* consisted of chocolate, fried camote, and some biscuits.

Asked by his press secretary how he was, the President replied: "I'm feeling fine."

September 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning called upon customs collectors and appraisers all over the country to help the Administration ferret out anomalies and irregularities in the Bureau of Customs, which are entailing the government annual losses in revenue amounting to millions of pesos.

The Chief Executive made this appeal during the courtesy call in Malacañang of the customs collectors and appraisers who are in Manila for their fourth annual conference.

During the call the President urged the conferees to try their best to enforce the navigational laws of the country to avoid the unnecessary loss of lives and property by conducting a more rigid inspection of the vessels before allowing them to leave port.

Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas, who accompanied the group, informed the President that there is an increase in the collection of the bureau and that "the trend indicates a better outlook in the coming years."

The Chief Executive expressed gratification over the report but urged them to continue exerting more effort to further increase the collection, which he said will help a lot in financing some of the economic projects being initiated by the government.

Also with the conferees was Deputy Commissioner Pablo Mariano.

After receiving the customs group, the President conferred with PHHC Manager Bernardo Torres and Board Member Antonio Barredo regarding the sale to tenants of the government housing firm's Baesa property and the development of the Parañaque project.

The Chief Executive told them that in the sale of these pieces of property ample safeguard must be given the tenants in order that they will not fall victims to unscrupulous middle men.

Earlier the President received the officers of the SKAL (Philippines), the local affiliate of the SKAL International, an association of travel and tourist executives all over the world, who came to pay their respect prior to their departure for Hamburg, Germany, to participate in the convention of the international organization.

The association informed the President that they will work for the holding in the Philippines of the convention of the SKAL next year.

Officers of the association who called at Malacañang were Jose O. Cobarrubias, president; Ernest Parsons of the Pan American, vice-president; Jose Rodas of the Philippine Travel Bureau, secretary; Felipe Juico of the Philippine Tourist and Travel Association, Inc.; and Commissioner Modesto Farolan of the PTTA.

Other callers of the President were Philippine Consuls Jose Teodoro, Jr., for New Orleans, and Generoso Provido for Sidney, Australia, who came to pay their respect to the Chief Executive.

President Garcia today pushed through his project for the dispersal of industrial centers by directing the National Economic Council to conduct studies that would lead to the immediate implementation of this plan.

In a directive to NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, the President was specific in stating that the people should be given a fuller participation in the economic development of the country. He mentioned in particular the employment benefits that would be enjoyed by the people in the rural areas.

President Garcia also emphasized that the dispersal of industrial centers should be based on the suitability of the natural resources of the various regions, including the available manpower.

This approach to the economic development of the country would widen the economic base of our economic life, he stated.

The President emphasized an important point, that the NEC study various methods by which the government could provide for reasonable incentive and assistance to private enterprise in order to speed up the establishment of these industrial centers in the rural areas.

President Garcia underscored the importance of his project when he asked the NEC to give these studies top priority. He also directed the NEC to submit a report as early as possible.

THIS afternoon the President lashed anew at the opposition parties and branded as “foolish” the latter’s charges that the Chief Executive has misused his P10 million contingent fund for political purposes.

At his weekly press conference, the President reacted sharply to the decision of the Commission on Elections directing the General Auditing Office to review the disbursements in the P10 million contingent fund.

President Garcia stressed that all disbursements in his contingent funds pass through the GAO for auditing and his personal reaction was that of a man whose integrity was challenged by questioning the validity of his expenditures.

In branding as “foolish” opposition charges that the President has misused his contingent fund, President Garcia said the P10 million is being utilized for financial assistance to victims of public calamities.

“We cannot schedule typhoons, fires, and floods,” the President angrily retorted during the press conference.

He pointed out that disbursements for aid from his contingent funds are not covered by the 45-day ban against public work doles.

During his press conference, the President:

1. Scotched reports that the Philippine delegation to the military advisers' conference in Bangkok of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization has advocated an aggressive stand against the Laotian rebels;
2. Supported Sen. Arturo M. Tolentino's stand that civil service officials and employees could attend political rallies and help voters to exercise their right of suffrage during elections;
3. Admitted having been previously informed of plans to file charges against Gov. Jose Briones of Cebu and Mayor Ramon Duterte of Cebu City but denied having seen the formal indictment against these officials; and
4. Went on record against the imposition of death penalty for grafters in the government, it being "unreasonable, cruel and against the Constitution."

After his press conference, the President received the members of the presidential backpay committee composed of Pedro Aguilar, Ruben de Castro, and Rodolfo V. Ocampo.

President Garcia also received Dr. Jacob Schenkman, international aviation consultant, who is here in the course of his survey of Southeast Asian countries.

September 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning conferred with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano on the progress of the bases negotiations his department is undertaking with U. S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen.

Serrano formally reported to the Chief Executive that there has been an agreement in principle between him and Ambassador Bohlen on the shortening of the duration of the lease on the use of American bases in the Philippines from 99 years, as embodied in the 1947 agreement, to 25 years. This reduction agreement, he added, will be signed next week.

Other matters brought up during the two-hour conference were the question of consultation on the war time use of the American bases and other agreements which will be formally announced later.

Earlier, the President and the First Lady tendered a breakfast in honor of Philippine Minister to New York and Mrs. Raul Leuterio and Mrs. Sol Ramirez, wife of the Philippine Consul General in Los Angeles, California.

Present during the breakfast were Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, Secretary Serrano, and Mr. and Mrs. Fernando C. Campos.

President Garcia today renewed his assurance that the November elections will be clean and honest even as he issued another directive to Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, chief of the Philippine Constabulary, to maintain his troops on the alert to prevent election frauds and violence.

The reassurance was made at a conference held at the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* with Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, general campaign manager of the Nacionalista Party.

At the conference, Speaker Romualdez reported that "in desperation, many Liberal Party adherents are resorting to violence" in some localities.

The presidential directive to Gen. Campo described the political situation throughout the country in order to insure a clean, honest, and orderly election.

Speaker Romualdez also reported that NP senatorial candidates "working as a closely-knit team" are pulling ahead in the electoral race by batting for the Filipino First policy of the NP administration.

The Speaker asserted that he was sure that six or seven senatorial bets would be elected in November and added that if all the NP senatorial bets worked harder, it would be a clean sweep in the elections.

The President then received a progress report on the bases talks from Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, after which he received former President Sergio Osmeña, who was accompanied by Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia.

The Chief Executive today constituted a committee to study the proposed sale of estates acquired by the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation with the view to protecting the interest of tenant-occupants for whose benefit the estates had been expropriated.

The President directed the committee to devise ways and means of providing proper safeguards so that the tenant-occupants would not fall victim to unscrupulous speculators and middlemen.

The committee is composed of Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, and Economic Coordination Administrator Pablo Cruz.

The President referred particularly to the Gonzales estate located in Baesa, Caloocan, Rizal, with an area of 871,982 square meters which the PHHC had acquired through expropriation in 1954.

The PHHC proposes to sell the property to tenant-occupants for whose benefit it had been expropriated and to utilize the proceeds to finance projects currently being undertaken by the state housing firm but which had been brought to a standstill owing to lack of funds.

The Chief Executive was prompted to create the committee following a report submitted yesterday noon by PHHC officials that the tenant-occupants were offering to pay the purchase price to the PHHC in cash. Considering the huge amount involved, about P3 million, the President feared the possibility that the tenants might be forced to mortgage their lots to be able to pay for them, eventually making the property, if not redeemed, to be owned by one or two wealthy persons.

"Such circumstances will give rise again to the same problem which the government tried to solve by expropriation in 1954," the President said.

PHHC officials who called on the President at Malacañang yesterday noon to consult him on the proposed sale of the estate were former Gov. Bernardo Torres, general manager, and Antonio Barredo, director.

The President this afternoon received a telegram from the Confederation of Government Employees congratulating and thanking him for his endorsement of the liberal interpretation of the Civil Service law on the right of suffrage of government employees.

The interpretation was that it was right for civil service employees to discuss the merits of political candidates without endorsing and working for their respective candidates.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(39), cccxcvii-cdv.

Official Week in Review: September 27 – October 3, 1959

September 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia left this morning for a 10-day tour of Mindanao provinces.

Leaving on board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu*, the President will arrive tomorrow afternoon in Iligan City where he will confer with government officials and employees in the Iligan City auditorium. A rally is also scheduled on the same day.

President Garcia today announced REDECO discovery of oil in commercial quantities in Toledo, Cebu. He called it an initial step in the establishment of the Philippines as world producer and supplier of petroleum and petroleum products.

The revelation was made during a press conference held on board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* this morning as the vessel steamed out of Manila bay on the start of a ten-day Mindanao stumping tour.

Calling it seventeenth “first” of the Nacionalista administration, the President expressed the hope the country will soon be able to write off annual importation of oil worth \$76 million and even export petroleum and its by-products to neighboring states in the near future.

The Chief Executive told the press conference that he ordered Deputy Governor Andres Castillo of the Central Bank to extend all assistance to REDECO for procurement of needed materials and equipment supplies without prejudicing other oil exploration companies now engaged in prospecting for oil in other Philippine provinces.

President Garcia pointed out the great economic significance of this event to the country. He voiced his hope that further oil discoveries will be made in Panay and Mindoro.

Earlier this morning, the President and Mrs. Garcia and members of the presidential party to Mindanao heard mass celebrated before an improvised altar set up in the yacht dinning saloon.

The REDECO oil strike was the major topic of conversation during breakfast which immediately followed the mass.

After reading the morning newspapers, President Garcia called the press conference and made the announcement of discovery. The Chief Executive then proceeded to his cabin to work on pending state papers he brought along for study during the trip.

Late in the afternoon, President Garcia conferred with Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, chairman of Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, mostly on local political situation.

The President this morning also dispatched the following message to Vice-President Macapagal: “Mrs. Garcia and I wish you many happy returns on your 49th birthday anniversary.”

After supper, the President resumed work on various official documents and state papers.

September 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia and his party arrived at Iligan City at 4 o’clock this afternoon and was met by a large crowd that jammed the wharf.

The welcome party was led by Sen. Domocao Alonto, Rep. Laurentino Badilles, Gov. Salvador Lluch, City Mayor Mariano Badilles, and labor leaders and NP followers. Placards greeting the President and his party mushroomed at the wharf just as the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* dropped anchor.

When the President and Mrs. Garcia appeared at the yacht’s bridge, they were roundly applauded by the huge crowd, believed to be the biggest to turn out in the city.

After disembarking, the President and his party proceeded to the St. Michael church to hear a *Te Deum* mass.

From the church, the President went to the auditorium for a conference with city and provincial officials.

The President is scheduled to install the officers of the Iligan Lions Club at the Bascon Hotel at 7 o'clock tonight. At 8 o'clock President Garcia will speak at a political rally.

September 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia today assured the advancement of the Philippine Muslim population and announced the establishment next year of the proposed University of Mindanao.

He lauded Marawi City as the “center of Muslim culture,” and expressed hoped that the city will become the “Cairo of the Philippines.”

The President took the opposition to task on the issue of graft and corruption and said the Administration is “exerting all efforts to ferret out venalities in the government while the opposition forces do nothing but shout about them without presenting any evidence so that parties responsible can be punished.”

Explaining the Administration's Filipino First policy, the President said, “It calls for greater Filipino participation in the economy of the country. For the last four centuries, the nation's economic policies were defined by foreign rulers and were designed to serve their own interests.”

Early this morning, the President and the First Lady heard high mass at Saint Michael church in Iligan City.

After breakfast at the residence of Gov. Salvador Lluch of Lanao del Norte, the presidential party motored 36 kilometers to Marawi City in Lanao del Sur, where he and Mrs. Garcia inaugurated the P100,000 Lanao del Sur provincial capitol.

Lunch in his honor and his party's was served at the Constabulary officers' clubhouse in Camp Keithley. From the camp, the President addressed a big rally at Plaza Cabili and then returned to the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* in Iligan City.

The Chief Executive had supper on board the *Lapu-Lapu* and then worked until late at night on state papers with the assistance of Palace aides.

September 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning said at a press conference he gave on board the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* that the Nacionalista Party has sewed up the election in Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte.

President Garcia announced at the press conference he would take steps, including the possible re-examination of mining laws, to prevent the infant oil industry here from falling into alien control.

He made the announcement after he was informed of apprehensions in various quarters, including the press, that newly discovered oil wells may be gobbled up by alien monopolies.

President Garcia met newsmen aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* adrift on Iligan Bay preparatory to steaming to Cagayan de Oro City in the third leg of his 10-day Mindanao stump.

The Chief Executive likewise defended his brother's (Cosme Garcia) possession of oil shares in the Continental Oil Co.

“This is better than giving the shares to aliens,” President Garcia said by way of replying to reports questioning his brother's acquisition of stocks in that firm.

At the same time President Garcia lashed at the Liberals whom he charged with having awarded oil concessions to foreigners in the country.

However, he admitted the timidity of Filipino investors to venture in the vital minerals industry. But he indicated he would take steps to create a “favorable atmosphere” to attract Filipino capital to the enterprise.

In the press conference aboard the yacht *Lapu-Lapu*, President Garcia said:

1. The Philippines has received the nomination of outgoing United States Ambassador Charles Bohlen’s successor.
2. He will take up the thorny bases issue and American pledges in the mutual assistance pact with United States Secretary of Defense Neil McElfooy, who is expected here next week.
3. He would name a new chairman of the Commission on Elections sometime in November.

The President rested the whole day in preparation for his visit to Cagayan de Oro City. The *Lapu-Lapu* is expected to dock at 5 p.m. today in that city’s port. After military honors, a private reception will follow on board the yacht.

At 6 p.m. the Chief Executive will hold a conference with national, provincial, and municipal officials at the Boy Scouts social hall.

It will be followed by a rally at 9 p.m. at the city kiosk, where the President will be introduced by Vice-Mayor A. Chavez.

President Garcia is expected tomorrow at Maimbung, Camiguin Island. At 7 a.m. he will have breakfast at the residence of Ricardo Reyes and, at 8:30 a.m., there will be a rally. After lunch at the Cabaujan beach resort, he will leave for Nasipit, Butuan, where he is expected to arrive at 4 p.m.

After a conference with Agusan officials on board the *Lapu-Lapu*, the President will speak at a rally at Nasipit and Butuan City. He is expected to return to Nasipit at 11:00 p.m.

October 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia urged the people to vote for the entire Nacionalista senatorial ticket at Mambajao, Camiguin Island; sub-province of Misamis Oriental.

Entering the fourth day of a scheduled nine-day stumping tour of Mindanao, the President compared achievements of the Nacionalista administration with those of the Liberal regime and said that more has been accomplished for the people by the NP now than by the Liberals in eight years of LP rule.

The presidential party on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* arrived at Mambajao early this morning. They were met at the wharf by government officials headed by Lt. Gov. Jose Neri and a large crowd of townspeople eager to see and meet President Garcia, the first President who is not a candidate ever to set foot on that tiny island.

After breakfast at the residence of Ricardo Reyes, the Chief Executive addressed a big rally at the plaza of Mambajao together with Sens. Lim and Tolentino. The latter is the NP assistant general campaign manager this elections.

Mrs. Garcia, Mrs. Lily Quimson, and Mrs. Caridad Almendras spoke briefly at the rally. They appealed to the people to cast their votes for the NP senatorial candidates.

After the rally, the presidential party were honored at a luncheon-picnic at Cabuaan Beach Resort.

The *RPS Lapu-Lapu* weighed anchor shortly after one p.m. bound for Nasipit, Agusan, next stop on the President's itinerary.

After a *Te Deum* at the Nasipit church, the party proceeded to Butuan City and conferred with national, provincial, and local officials.

The President spoke at a well-attended rally on the plaza of Butuan City after attending dinner in his honor at the residence of Agusan Gov. Felixberto Dagani.

From Butuan City the presidential party returned to Nasipit where they spent the night on board the yacht.

October 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia landed at Surigao, Surigao, at 5 p.m. today, his entourage still reeling from a rough, dizzying seven-hour voyage aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* through choppy waves in the Mindanao Sea and the Surigao Strait.

The yacht rocked as it plowed through the Surigao Strait, forcing most of the passengers to slump in cabin beds. Except for the First Lady, Mrs. Amy Lim, and a few newsmen, most of the passengers failed to have their lunch.

Before taking to the shore, the Chief Executive faced newsmen and, during the interview, attacked the Liberal and Grand Alliance leaders who had charged his administration with jamming the mails to prevent circulation of their propaganda materials.

"Are the Liberals alone using the mails?" the President asked pointedly.

He also labelled as the "hypocrisy of some politicians," in spiking charges that intelligence men were being mobilized to gather information against Vice-President Macapagal for using a government car assigned to him in the latter's political stumps.

He hit back at Grand Alliance charges that he had utilized the oil strike in Cebu for political propaganda. "If the oil announcement has a propaganda value, then why blame me?" he asked.

On the fifth lap of his 10-day swing of Mindanao, the President motored to the town church for a *Te Deum* and then addressed a mammoth political rally in Surigao.

October 3.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia were given a rousing welcome by a huge crowd upon their arrival in Ozamis City at 4 p.m. on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* on the seventh stop of a nine-day stumping tour of Mindanao.

From the Ozamis City wharf where they were mobbed by the crowd, the President and the First Lady proceeded to the church for *Te Deum*. From the church, President and Mrs. Garcia inaugurated the new branch building of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

The President then proceeded to the city hall, where he conferred with local officials on the problems and needs of their respective municipalities.

In the evening, the President spoke at a well-attended rally. Other speakers at the rally were Sens. Arturo Tolentino and Rosseller Lim and Mesdames Lili Quimson and Caridad Almendras, who campaigned for their husbands, Sofronio Quimson and Alejandro Almendras, NP candidates for senator.

The President had supper at the residence of Ozamis City Vice-Mayor Rafael Gurbuxani.

At breakfast, the President noticed the conspicuous absence of several members of the presidential party. He inquired into their condition when informed that the missing passengers were still down with seasickness after a rough voyage last night across Surigao Strait.

After giving an informal press conference to newsmen members of the party, the President retired to his cabin and worked on state papers and other official documents, assisted by Palace aides.

At 10 a.m., the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* was cruising at 13 knots off Iligan City in calm smooth sea despite overcast sky.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(40), cdix-cdxii.

Official Week in Review: October 4 – October 10, 1959

October 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia urged the people to vote for the entire senatorial ticket and local candidates of the Nacionalista Party in a grand rally in Dipolog, Zamboanga del Norte.

The President enumerated the accomplishments of the Administration in Mindanao and all over the country with facts and figures in his appeal for popular support.

The presidential party arrived in Puluan on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* at about 4:30 p.m. after a six-hour trip from Ozamis City. The President and the First Lady were met by a huge enthusiastic crowd in Puluan and in Dipolog. People several feet deep lined the street to welcome the presidential party. The party arrived in Dipolog after motoring from Puluan for less than an hour.

The President and the First Lady and the rest of the presidential party left Ozamis City about 9 a.m. after hearing mass.

After mass, the President and the First Lady led the rest of the party in singing “Happy Birthday” on the occasion of the birthday anniversary of Francisco de Leon, *Manila Chronicle* reporter covering Malacañang.

The President then conferred with NARIC Board Member Ramon Enriquez and Assistant General Manager Jose Drilon on offers to export rice and corn. Two offers were approved at the conference.

October 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia was awarded today a citation by Mindanao Colleges for his courageous espousal of an independent policy on foreign and economic affairs, for the Administration’s progressive program of industrialization and for more equitable distribution of wealth.

After the award ceremony, the President and the First Lady were principal guests at a cornerstone laying ceremony of the new science and technology building of the school.

Earlier this morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass before an improvised altar in the dining saloon of the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

After breakfast on board the ship, the Chief Executive made a side trip to Dapitan town to view the reconstructed Rizal house. The President addressed a public rally on the town plaza before proceeding to Dipolog airport where he boarded the Fokker friendship plane for Davao City.

The presidential plane landed at Davao’s Sasa airport at 10:20 this morning, where he was met by Davao officials and people from all walks of life.

From the airport, the presidential party motored to San Pedro church in the city to attend a *Te Deum*.

After the luncheon given by the city and the province of Davao at the Boy Scouts building, the President conferred with national, provincial, and municipal officials.

In the afternoon, the President and the First Lady were honored at a *merienda* given by *Kaliwat sa Bohol*, an organization of Boholano residents in Davao, at the residence of Gaudioso Tiongco.

The presidential party had dinner at the residence of former General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras. After dinner, the Chief Executive motored to the Davao City plaza where he spoke at a rally.

October 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned today from his 10-day inspection tour of Mindanao equipped with fresh data with which to buttress plans of his administration for the development of that second largest island in the country.

Using sea, air, and land transportation, the President in 10 days covered eight provinces, informing the people what his administration had done and intended to do for the undeveloped localities.

The Chief Executive informed the people that thousands of kilometers of highways and feeder roads have already been constructed and are being constructed, crisscrossing vast areas of virgin lands to hasten their development. He also reported on progress being made on plans to put up an integrated steel mill in Iligan and to exploit the nickel mines in Surigao.

The people in all the provinces visited responded enthusiastically and pledged their support to the program of their government to make Mindanao contribute more effectively in the Administration's efforts to stabilize the nation's economy. Provinces covered were Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Agusan, Surigao, Misamis Oriental, Misamis Occidental, Zamboanga del Norte, and Davao.

On the political aspect of the trip, which was secondary in the 10-day tour, the President expressed optimism that Mindanao is all sewed up for the Nacionalista candidates.

The President, during the tour, also took occasion to inquire into the urgent needs of the localities, and authorized the release of about P200,000 for the construction of feeder roads, puericulture centers, schools, and waterworks, and for the repair of typhoon-damaged public markets.

Landing at Nichols airbase about 1 p.m., after a two-hour plane trip from Davao, the President motored direct to Malacañang and held a series of conferences with Palace assistants who consulted him on various pending matters.

In the evening, the President received U. S. Defense Secretary and Mrs. Neil N. McElroy, who called to pay their respects following their recent arrival in Manila in the course of a tour of defense installations in the Far East.

Later in the evening, President and Mrs. Garcia honored the McElroys with a formal dinner held in Malacañang.

October 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia today closeted himself with Malacañang officials in an effort to dispose of the pending state papers which had piled up while he was on a ten-day inspection tour of eight Mindanao provinces.

In his bedroom the President received Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, who consulted him on several state papers, and then Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser.

He likewise received Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta, who also brought several papers to the President.

During his meetings with these Palace officers, the President signed several proclamations. One of the proclamations signed by the President was the extension of the anti-TB fund drive to December 31, 1959. The President extended the period of the fund campaign to be able to reach the goal set for the drive.

He had stressed the importance of the fund campaign to check the spread of the so-called "white plague" which, the President said, is the No. 1 killer in the Philippines.

IN the afternoon, the President received Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez to take up party matters. The House leader appraised the Chief Executive of the intramural rifts within the Nacionalista Party which may endanger the changes of Administration candidates in the coming elections.

Romualdez is the national campaign manager of the NP.

The House leader also took up with the President, the latter's proposed trip to Tacloban, Leyte, to attend the annual celebration of the Leyte landing by the American forces of liberation some 14 years ago.

In the evening, the President received several Cabinet members who took up their individual problems with the Chief Executive.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable also saw the President.

After conferring individually with the Cabinet members, the President presided over the regular meeting of the Cabinet.

The Cabinet today approved the barter of surplus rice and corn with essential and non-essential commodities as a temporary arrangement to provide added impetus in the production of these staples.

President Garcia took up with the Cabinet this evening the expected surplus rice and corn production this year, which according to present estimates may exceed last year's crops by 20 per cent.

President Garcia had previously directed the National Rice and Corn Corporation to look for permanent foreign markets for the excess rice and corn production as the local prices are reported taking a downward swing and may discourage farmers from increasing their annual yield.

Reports reaching the President said that the expected production this year in rice is 250,000 metric tons.

The President, during his tour of Mindanao provinces, found out that rice and corn plants in the fields augur well for a second bumper crop this year.

The Cabinet this evening also agreed to barter the present surplus stocks of 24,000 metric tons of rice and 8,000 metric tons of corn.

Malacañang said that the President approved the exportation of the excess stocks at P480 per metric ton of rice and P180 per metric ton of corn.

The prices as approved by the Cabinet are believed above the prevailing prices in the local markets.

In authorizing the barter of these surplus stocks, the Cabinet ruled that the incoming goods should be proportioned as follows: 40 per cent non-essential goods and 60 per cent essential commodities.

Press Secretary Nable said that the arrangement is merely a provisional system pending the cultivation of permanent foreign markets for these staples.

The President said that the country should find permanent markets in order not to discourage the local farmers, as the price of rice in the market has followed a downward trend.

President Garcia had suggested Japan for the corn stocks and Hongkong or Ceylon for the country's surplus rice.

Meanwhile, the President also created a three-man committee to study ways and means of reconciling the industrial and agricultural aspects of the fertilizer problem.

Named to the committee were Chairman Jose Locsin of the National Economic Council, chairman; and Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez and Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez, members.

The President took up the fertilizer problem, as he recalled that in his ten-day tour of Mindanao provinces he was told that farmers had protested the high prices of fertilizer.

The farmers informed him that there is insufficiency in fertilizer stocks to meet their requirements.

However, the President, in tackling this problem of high prices, found out that fertilizer producers were faced with competition from importers of the commodity.

The producers said that while they paid 25 per cent margin in the importation of the raw materials which are converted into fertilizer, the importers of the commodity are exempt from the payment of this Central Bank fee in accordance with the statute.

The President pointed out he could not totally ban the importation of fertilizer, as local production was not enough to meet the demands of the farmers.

October 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia today announced that construction of the Manila Railroad Company extension line to Matnog, Sorsogon, the southernmost tip of Luzon, will start early next year.

The announcement was made during a conference with Gov. Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon in the President's residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, this morning.

The new line, the President said, will serve the rest of the Bicol region and also the provinces of Samar, Masbate, and Leyte. At present, he added, there is already a regular daily ferry service between Sorsogon and Samar, Masbate, and Leyte.

Gov. Frivaldo reported to the President on the current political situation in Sorsogon and expressed confidence in the victory of the entire NP senatorial ticket in the province.

Earlier in the morning, the President played host to visiting executives of the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company and their wives at a breakfast at Bohol Avenue.

Among those present were Donald M. Kendall, president, Pepsi-Cola International, Ltd.; Herbert Barnet, president, Pepsi-Cola Co., New York; Milward W. Martin, senior vice-president, Pepsi-Cola Co., N. Y.; Thomas Ebnezz, vice-president, Pepsi-Cola Co., N. Y.; Herman Schaefer, vice-president, Pepsi-Cola International, Ltd.; and William Moran, Jr., president, Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. (Phil.) and their respective wives.

Sen. Pedro Sabido and Roberto Sabido also attended the breakfast given by the Chief Executive in honor of the visitors.

Other presidential callers this morning consisted mostly of governors and mayors who reported on their local problems, the political situation in their respective provinces and municipalities, and on the progress of their campaign for the NP senatorial candidates.

Among them were Govs. Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan, Jose Dinglasan of Capiz, Feliciano Leviste of Batangas, and Maj. Arturo Sevilla, NP official candidate for governor of Marinduque.

President Garcia commuted today the death sentence of prisoner Prisco Pesimo, who had been convicted for robbery and homicide, to life imprisonment.

In commuting the death sentence to life imprisonment, the President took into consideration the following circumstances:

- (1) The prisoner Prisco Pesimo is a first offender, having had no previous criminal record;
- (2) He is illiterate, his schooling being only five months in grade one;
- (3) He was only 24 years old when he committed the crime;.
- (4) There was no marked determination on his part to kill the victim as evidently the purpose of Pesimo and his companion was to rob only but in so doing Pesimo met the strong resistance of the victim who grappled with him, resulting incidentally in the victim's death;
- (5) If the convict only voluntarily pleaded guilty, such plea could have been considered as a mitigating circumstance in his favor, in which case the maximum penalty that could be imposed on him is life imprisonment only; and
- (6) Since his commitment to prison on October 16, 1956, Pesimo's conduct has been excellent.

The commutation was favorably endorsed by Malacañang Legal Adviser Salvador V. Esguerra. Pesimo had been sentenced to death by the Court of First Instance of Camarines Sur. On review, the death sentence was affirmed by the Supreme Court.

The prisoner had been convicted for robbery and homicide for the killing of Alfredo Cabalquinto whose store in barrio Balonbon, Calabanga, Camarines Sur, Pesimo and a companion robbed on March 18, 1955.

October 9.—THE PRESIDENT today expressed gratification over a reported announcement of the United States Department of Agriculture that it will allow the importation of raw sugar in excess of 1959 quotas starting this month for refining and storage.

The President said this new development in the American sugar market will boost Philippine economy, as it will increase the country's dollar income and volume of trade and encourage local planters to increase production of this commodity.

The announcement was conveyed to the Chief Executive by Ramon Paguia, administrator, Sugar Quota Administration, who reported this morning on his recent trip to Washington, D. C., to work for an increase in the Philippines' sugar quota.

Paguia informed the President that the Philippines had already filled its 1959 sugar quota of 980,000 short tons amounting to \$110 million. In view of the announcement, the country planned to export an additional 50 to 75 thousand short tons, equivalent to \$5 to \$7.5 million, depending on the shipping facilities available, Paguia said.

Earlier this morning, President Garcia received Sen. Jiuji Kasai of Japan, who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang. A director of the Philippine-Japan Society, the Japanese solon was accompanied to Malacañang by Baguio City Mayor Alfonso Tabora.

A sterling silver Bible from Israel was presented to the Chief Executive by Max Abelman of Brooklyn, New York, who was another courtesy caller this morning.

Board Chairman Juan J. Carlos and Director Teofilo A. Zosa of the Manila Railroad Company reported to the President on routine matters affecting the MRR. President Garcia also received Director Manuel T. Leelin of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, who briefed him on the latest developments regarding the state housing firm's efforts to dispose of undeveloped PHHC property in the provinces.

Other presidential callers this morning were Cresencio Richards and Sebastian Ugarte, Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, Rep. Jose Leido of Mindoro Oriental, Rep. Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, Col. Constantino C. Navarro, and Mayor Manuel Varquez and ex-Mayor Arsenio Sayas, both of Balingasag, Misamis Oriental.

President Garcia sent today a message of felicitations to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek on the occasion of the 48th anniversary observance of the Republic of China tomorrow.

The message was handed by Foreign Secretary Felixberto Serrano this afternoon to Ambassador Tuan Mao-Ian of the Chinese embassy in Manila for transmission to Taipeh.

President Garcia today said his anti-graft campaign will “spare neither high nor low,” as he released what he called a “record conviction of 4,099” government officials and employees since he took over the reins of the administration.

During his press conference this afternoon, the President released a tabulated summary of his anti-graft drive in an effort to “correct any false impression which may arise in the public mind owing to patent distortions by the opposition parties.”

At the same time, he reiterated his challenge to the opposition parties “to show proof that any other administration, particularly the Liberal administration, can match my record in the relentless drive against corrupt elements in the government.”

According to the tabulated summary, a total of 11,870 cases of all types were prosecuted in court or administratively and 6,715 have already been decided resulting in the conviction of 4,099 officials and employees.

In his prepared statement, the President said the investigations were conducted without fear or favor. “The Administration’s broom has spared neither high nor low in an effort to make this government as free as possible from the taint of graft and corruption.”

President Garcia said that not much publicity has been given to these investigations before they were decided to protect the innocent and to give everybody ample opportunity to defend himself in court or before competent authorities.

The President appealed to the newsmen to give publicity to his record along the phase of stamping out corruption in the government in reply to the opposition charges that President Garcia has abetted graft in his administration.

President Garcia has been informed that the opposition candidates have been harping on the graft and corruption issue in Mindanao in an effort to rally the voters behind their minority standard-bearers.

At the press conference, the President:

1. Branded as “rash” the proposal to cut off diplomatic relations with the Taipeh government for its previous refusal to accept the undesirable Chinese elements here;
2. Refused to comment on the Guerrero-Robertson verbal tiff at a United Nations luncheon last week;
3. Said he may suspend Gov. Jose Briones of Cebu and Mayor Ramon Duterte of Cebu City if they are prosecuted in court;
4. Disclosed that United States Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy has promised to re-examine the assistance program his government had committed to the Philippines;
5. Announced he may resort to “tough measures” in the event the strike in the National Marketing Corporation would prevent the distribution of essential commodities during the Christmas season; and
6. Branded as intrigues fomented by the Liberals and opposition groups the so-called “junk Rodriguez” move among the Nacionalista senatorial candidates.

October 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia set the stage for the immediate establishment of an integrated steel industry in the country at a conference with officials of the National Steel and Shipyards Corporation (NASSCO) at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning.

Meeting with Nassco General Manager Bernardo Abrera and Director Ramon T. Jimenez, the President directed them to accelerate the completion of the necessary preliminary civil engineering works in the integrated steel mill in Iligan City.

The order to proceed with the initial construction phases in the establishment of this basic industry was pending completion of negotiations on the government's 51%-49% proposition to private groups interested in investing in the project.

At the hour-long conference, Abrera informed President Garcia of the progress of the Administration's ship-building program and reported the growing confidence of local shipowners in the ability and skill of Filipino naval engineers and technicians.

Abrera said that during the last few months they received eight orders for the lengthening of ships and that they are now working on the feasibility of mass-producing barges for interisland trade.

He said that final delivery of the first ship launched in the Philippines, the 1600-ton *M/V Gen. Roxas*, will be made to the General Shipping Co. sometime next month. Early next year, he added, the Bataan shipyards of the NASSCO will launch its second vessel, the *M/V Gov. Benito Lopez*, for the Southern Lines, Inc.

President Garcia also received Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, who reported on the overall political situation in Luzon, particularly in the Bicol region. The President also discussed the political situation in Batangas province with Sen. Claro M. Recto.

Philippine Consul to Kobe Hilario Llamas, here on home leave, also called on the Chief Executive to pay his respects.

The President this day ordered the immediate release of P120,000 appropriated in Republic Act No. 2608 for the payment of salary differentials owing to the adjustment of ranks of Army retirees.

The President issued the order upon the representation made by NP senatorial candidate Sofronio Quimson, who reported on the clamor of Army retirees for the implementation of the law.

Republic Act No. 2608, which was passed by Congress in its last regular session and approved by the President, adjusted the ranks of Army retirees to one rank higher upon retirement. The amount of P200,000 was appropriated to implement the law.

Quimson personally brought the order of the President to Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona. He was assured by Commissioner Aytona that the salary differentials will be paid as soon as a list of Army retirees is secured from Camp Murphy.

Quimson brought the matter to the President after receiving requests from Army retirees for the implementation of the law. The Armed Forces retirees requested Quimson to make representations with the President in their behalf.

Quimson said that he also made representations with the Armed Forces of the Philippines so that the list of Army retirees could be furnished the Budget Commission early next week.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening sought the assistance of the provincial press in drumming up interest and attention to his proposal for the dispersal of industrial centers to the rural areas.

The President made the appeal when he played as host and inducted the officers of the newly formed Provincial Press Association, at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

Heading the officers of the provincial newsmen's organization are Nick Enciso, Zoilo Dejaresco, and Manuel Mondejar.

In his appeal to the provincial newsmen and editors, the President said his proposal, when fully implemented, would distribute the country's wealth more equitably.

He pointed out that about 88 per cent of the country's dollar allocation is concentrated in Manila and only a small portion goes to a few provinces.

In terms of employment, President Garcia said, his proposal would ease the unemployment problem in the rural areas and help relieve the idle labor force in Manila and suburbs.

He said there was no reason why the manpower in the provinces should be depleted. The President also pointed out that freedom of the press in the Philippines was never higher nor more respected than now.

During his administration, he said, this principle would be safe. He recalled that during his 36 years of service in the government, he had not in one way or another curtailed freedom of the press.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(41), cdxvii-cdxxiii.

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October 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning declared that whatever trade and commerce agreement the Philippines concludes with Japan in the future will be one that will help boost the agro-industrial-economic progress of the Administration.

The Chief Executive made this statement to the visiting Special Committee of the Japanese Diet on the economic development of South East Asia headed by Hisato Ichimada, who called on him at his Quezon City residence, accompanied by Japanese Ambassador to the Philippines Morio Yukawa.

During the hour-long conference the President and the committee exchanged views on the economic development of their respective countries as well as the conditions obtaining locally.

The Japanese committee informed the Chief Executive that there is a mark increase in the volume of trade between Japan and the Philippines. They expressed the hope that the volume of trade will continue to increase for the mutual benefit of both countries.

Members of the committee who called on the Chief Executive were Mr. Ichimada, member of the House of Representatives and former minister of finance and governor of the Bank of Japan; Saburo Endo, member of the House of Representatives and former minister of construction and parliamentary vice-minister of finance; Daisuke Akita, member of the House of Representatives and former minister of agriculture and forestry and director-general of the economic planning agency; Tokuji Tokonami, member of the House of Representatives and former parliamentary vice-minister for foreign affairs and governor of Takashima prefecture; Masao Sawaki, chief, economic cooperation bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Isamu Takagi, director, research bureau of the Bank of Japan; Hideo Sudo, member of the House of Representative and former minister of agriculture and forestry and director-general of economic planning agency; and Takashi Oyamada, deputy chief, Middle East section of the Economic Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The special committee has just arrived from Indonesia, where it made a survey of the political and economic situation. It will hold a series of conferences with local officials and then return to Japan.

After his conference with the Japanese missionaries, the President and the First Lady motored to the V. Luna General Hospital to visit Gov. Salvador Lluch, who is confined in the hospital for gangrene.

The President was informed by Majors Generoso Esguerra and Andres Montano, attending physicians, that the condition of the governor is “much improved.”

The President and the First Lady expressed gratification over the medical pronouncement and hoped for the early recovery of Gov. Lluch. On hand to greet them were Mrs. Toribio Lluch, wife of the Lanao del Norte governor.

From the room of Gov. Lluch the couple dropped at the ward where Agent Epifanio del Rio, of the Presidential Security Unit is confined for injuries he suffered in an accident.

From the V. Luna Hospital the President and the First Lady returned to their Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, residence where they had lunch.

THIS evening the President directed the Armed Forces of the Philippines to extend all possible help to the squatters of Kamuning Road and South Avenue in Quezon City who want to transfer to a new site.

In answer to the request of the squatters who were ejected from their places by court order, President Garcia instructed Col. Jorge Delarmente, presidential senior aide-de-camp, to contact AFP headquarters so that the squatters could have all the help needed.

Meanwhile, President Garcia continued working this evening on pending state matters. He signed an executive order creating the municipality of Valenica in the province of Bukidnon. He also sent a wire to the Mayor of Zamboanga City declaring October 12 a special public holiday in that City.

October 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia directed Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to release P20,000 in order to step up the distribution of torrens titles to about 42,000 small farmers in rural areas.

In his directive President Garcia pointed out that the distribution of titles in the barrios will bolster the credit facilities of the small farmers.

The directive was issued at a conference with Commissioner Antonio H. Noblejas, Assistant Commissioner Gregorio Bilog, Jr., and Special Investigator Cesar Vergara, all of the Land Registration Commission.

President Garcia said that with the release of the P20,000, the LRC can send field teams to distribute certificates of titles direct to the respective owners in the barrios.

The new procedure has paid off, as owners have already paid the registration fees and assurance fund premiums, with a marked increase in government revenue from P3,759,201.94 in 1957 to P4,417,944.25 in 1958, according to Noblejas.

Earlier, the President received Prince Sadrudin Aga Khan, son of the late Aga Khan and brother of Aly Khan. The Prince is representing the United Nations high commissioner for refugees and will confer with Philippine Government officials on Philippine participation in refugee problems.

Prince Sadrudin came from Geneva and arrived yesterday. He is leaving on Thursday for Tokyo to enlist also the aid of the Japanese Government on the refugee problems.

He was accompanied to Malacañang by SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor; Paul Edwards, UNICEF resident representative; and Julius Maloles of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Manuel G. Zamora of Malacañang, protocol officer.

The President also conferred with Col. Urbano Caldoza, CAA administrator, on the problem of land expropriation for the extension of the jet runway of the Manila International Airport.

Property owners affected by the extension of the runway, led by Jose Lopez, informed President Garcia that the appraised value of their land was not enough to pay their obligations with the Development Bank of the Philippines. However, they were willing to turn over their land with a little increase in the purchase price.

The President also directed Administrator Manuel Castañeda of the Land Tenure Administration to look into the petition of the occupants of the Garcia Estate in Davao City for the expropriation of the estate and its resale to the occupants.

Members of the Board of Directors of the Manila Hotel Company also saw President Garcia to bring to his attention the problems facing the state firm. Those who saw President Garcia were Sofronio G. Rivera, vice-chairman and general manager, Jose M. Roces, Geminiano Yabut, Alfredo A. Lozano, and Baltazar M. Pascual.

October 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today was assured by Rep. Faustino Tobia that the candidates of the Nacionalista Party from the senatorial down to the municipal level have the biggest chance of winning in November in the province of Ilocos Sur.

The Ilocos Sur solon informed President Garcia that a strong factor in the NP victory in his province is the improvement of the economic condition of the masses due to the benefits they derive from the Virginia tobacco industry.

Rep. Tobia also informed President Garcia that the peace and order situation in his province “is improving.”

The Nacionalistas in Ilocos Sur are solidly behind Rep. Godofredo Reyes, who is running for the top provincial post as NP official candidate, Tobia reported.

The President also received Gov. Romulo Garrovillo of Zamboanga del Norte, Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Sen. Domocao Alonto, Reps. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, Ramon Mitra of Mountain Province, Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, and Felix Fuentebella of Camarines Sur.

Earlier this morning, the President conferred with NP senatorial candidates who expressed optimism over the outcome of the November elections after having covered about three-fourths of the country in their campaign stump.

Their optimism was based on estimates gathered during their tour that 42 out of 56 gubernatorial posts would be won by Nacionalistas.

Senatorial candidates present at the conference which lasted about two hours were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Rep. Genaro Magsaysay, former General Services Secretary Alejandro Almendras, and Senator Lorenzo Tañada.

Former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who is currently campaigning in the North, former Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, who is now in Sulu, and Senator Edmundo Cea were unable to attend the conference.

Also present were Speaker Daniel Romualdez and Rep. Constancio Castañeda, campaign manager and assistant campaign manager, respectively, of the NP; Sen. Arturo Tolentino; Press Secretary Jose C. Nable; Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Logarta; and Antonio Arquiza, NP secretary.

In the evening, the President presided over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

President Garcia today sent a message of felicitations to President Dwight D. Eisenhower of the United States on the occasion of the latter’s 69th birthday on October 14.

PRESIDENT Garcia and the Cabinet this evening blocked a new move of the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation to dispose of its 129-hectare land in Parañaque, Rizal. The price had been set at only P3 a square meter for Earthwealth (Philippines), Inc., a subdivision firm.

The President took into account reports that there were higher offers.

He returned the PHHC plan, and told the firm to study the other offers. He also warned the PHHC against any negotiated sale.

The President also ordered an investigation of the PHHC’s housing program in Iloilo City, Roxas City, Tagaytay City, and Tacloban City, where the houses have not been occupied or bought, and are rotting.

The President and the Cabinet also took stock of the warehousing shortage in view of the expected bumper crop of rice and corn this year.

The President ordered the NARIC to make a rush study of bonded warehouses which the government may use for storing plentiful grain which will be gathered before the end of the year.

The government plans to export soon an excess of 24,000 metric tons of rice and 8,000 metric tons of corn. Owing to decreasing domestic grain prices, the President and the Cabinet are offering some incentives to prospective exporters; such as, allowing them to bring in finished goods equivalent to the dollars earned by their rice and corn.

Of the dollars earned in the rice-corn sale overseas, 70 per cent will be earmarked by the Central Bank for essential goods; 20 per cent for semi-essential; and 10 per cent for non-essential luxury items.

Malacañang received reports that in some places in the country rice that has just been harvested is being abandoned in the fields owing to lack of storage facilities.

Besides using bonded warehouses, exportation of rice and corn is considered effective measure to alleviate the situation created by bumper crop.

The Cabinet tonight paused from its deliberations on state matters to approve unanimously a resolution expressing condolence in the death of former Health Secretary Antonio Villarama.

President Garcia and Mrs. Garcia sent a separate personal note of condolence to the bereaved family.

October 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia received today a letter from Rep. Manuel A. Zosa of Cebu chiding Sen. M. J. Cuenco for the latter's stand in requesting the postponement of the investigation of the criminal charges for alleged falsification of public documents and estafa against Gov. Jose Briones and Cebu City Mayor Ramon Duterte.

"If Senator Cuenco were to live up to his reputation as a crusader for a clean and honest government, he should not ask for the deferment of the investigation," Zosa said in his letter.

The Cebu solon also said that the charges are not preconceived and its filing now is a mere coincidence. Zosa stated that formerly there was an iron curtain shielding all the public records in the Capitol and the City Hall, but recently those who were enjoying the confidence of Briones and Duterte left them.

"If Senator Cuenco, during his stay in the City of Cebu, had only taken pains and devoted part of his time to taking a look at the public documents which have been forged and falsified by both Briones and Duterte, in connivance with their co-accused, his conscience as a crusader, if a crusader he is at all, would have dictated to him not only to request for postponement but also to demand from the proper authorities for the immediate prosecution and incarceration of these public officials," Zosa said in his letter to the President.

Before receiving Rep. Zosa, the President saw U. S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen, who is leaving tomorrow for Washington via Tokyo to assume his new post as special assistant on Soviet affairs to Secretary of State Christian Herter.

Other callers were Rep. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Mariano Perdices, NP official candidate for governor in the same province, and Sen. Eulogio Balao.

In the evening, President and Mrs. Garcia gave a farewell state dinner in honor of U. S. Ambassador and Mrs. Bohlen.

Ambassador Bohlen and his family are returning to Washington, D. C., for reassignment after the U. S. envoy had completed his tour of duty in the Philippines.

Guest list at the affair which started at 8 p.m. follows: Apostolic Nuncio Salvatore Siino, Secretary and Mrs. Felixberto Serrano, Secretary and Mrs. Alejo Mabanag, Secretary and Mrs. Florencio Moreno, Secretary and Mrs. Angel M. Castaño, Secretary and Mrs. Alejo Santos, Secretary and Mrs. Elpidio Valencia, Secretary and Mrs. Pedro Hernaez, Honorable and Mrs. Paulino Garcia, Administrator Amparo Villamor, Press Secretary and Mrs. Jose Nable.

Sen. and Mrs. Lorenzo Sumulong, Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs and Mrs. Fructuoso Cabahug, Minister and Mrs. George H. Abbott, Minister Paul D. Summers, Lt. General and Mrs. Manuel Cabal, Maj. General and Mrs. William H. Nutter, Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. T. Koron, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Brodie, Mr. Albert B. Hudes, Mr. Manuel G. Zamora, Col. Jorge Delarmente, Major Jose Estrella.

President Garcia today released the following statement on the departure of Ambassador Bohlen:

“It has been our good fortune to have Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen as the American representative to the Philippines during this significant epoch of our history when the Government has decided to clarify certain aspects of the relationship between the Philippines and the United States as reflected in the Bases Agreement. The task involved is indeed most delicate and if handled by less capable hands could have imperilled the long-standing friendship between the Philippines and the United States, a relation established through six decades by the sincere collaboration of Americans and Filipinos and which passed through the acid test during the first and second world wars.

“By bringing to bear on his task his rich diplomatic background and pleasing personality as a career diplomat, Ambassador Bohlen has played his role creditably. In his sincere desire to know more about the Philippines and better feel the pulse of the Filipino people, he has traveled widely visiting many points in the Islands of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. He has made several important speeches in which he has interpreted the thought and attitude of the American people for the understanding of the Filipino people.

“Aside from official duties, Mrs. Avis Bohlen has been active in charitable endeavors and other community projects which have endeared her in the hearts of many and thus contributed to greater friendship between the Filipinos and Americans.

“It is with pride, therefore, that I recall some of the highlights of Ambassador Bohlen’s official acts:

“1. Purchase of rice under U. S. Public Law 480 amounting to \$3.6 million, after the signing of the Agricultural Commodities Agreement on June 3, 1953;

“2. His affirmation by public recognition of the legitimacy of nationalism in the Philippines;

“3. Effective assistance in making the State Visit of President Garcia to the United States in June, 1958, a great success;

“4. Agreement in principle to establish the Cultural Center in Manila;

“5. Turn-over of the Manila Port Area Reservation to the Philippine Government;

“6. Creation of the Mutual Defense Board and installation of Filipino Liaison Officers in the Bases;

“7. Relinquishment of base areas, definition of metes and bonds of areas to be retained, and relinquishment of Olongapo community; and

“8. Agreement reached on the reduction of the term of lease, the system of consultation on the uses of bases, and automatic action in the event of attack.

“I take this occasion also to express the hope that the question of criminal jurisdiction may be ultimately settled in the near future to the mutual satisfaction of both the Philippine and American Governments.

“Ambassador Bohlen has contributed much in promoting closer and friendlier ties between the Philippines and the United States. He will leave our shores with the genuine satisfaction that he has done his duty well. On our part, he will long be remembered by a grateful people. I wish him continued success in his future undertakings.”

October 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia defended the “Filipino First” policy of the Administration in a keynote address at the opening ceremonies this morning of the 11th national convention of Philippine Jaycees in the St. Louis auditorium here.

The President and his party, including Rep. Ramon Mitra, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, PAF chief, and CAA Administrator Urbano Caldoza arrived in Baguio at 9:10 a.m., aboard the presidential Fokker Friendship plane.

They were met at Loakan airfield by Baguio City officials led by Mayor Alfonso Tabora, Jaycee national officers headed by Antonio Meer, Jaycee national president, and President Dionisio Claridad of the Baguio Jaycees, host organization.

After a brief rest at the Guest House, the President and his party proceeded to St. Louis auditorium for the opening ceremonies of the convention.

During the ceremonies President Garcia, assisted by Meer, presented awards to seven outstanding young men of the country who had distinguished themselves in their respective fields.

Awardees included Joaquin R. Roces—Journalism, Aurelio Estanislao—Music, Leandro V. Locsin—Architecture, Napoleon V. Abueva—Sculpture, Jose O. Juliano—Nuclear Science, and Dr. Benjamin A. Belmonte—Surgery.

Addressing the 11th national convention of the Jaycees at the St. Louis College auditorium in Baguio, the President claimed that the Nationalista Party has chalked up considerable achievements to back up his new appeal “for a re-affirmation of your confidence in this administration.”

In his speech the President listed 11 achievements of his administration, including what he called the “happy solution” to the stalemated bases question which he labelled as the “common triumph of two good friends—the Philippines and the United States.”

He was introduced by Antonio Meer, Jaycee national president.

The President listed the following achievements of his administration:

1. The recent discovery of oil mines in Cebu;
2. Increasing value of the peso indicated by its Hongkong dollar equivalent in the money counters in the Crown Colony as of October 14, 1959;
3. Rising level of the dollar reserves which was quoted at \$168 million as compared to its lowest point two years ago which was assessed at \$130 million;
4. Increased gross national product by over \$2 billion as compared to the figures chalked up by the Liberal regime four years ago;
5. Economic growth in the fields of agriculture, manufacturing, and mining;
6. Noticeable pickup of economic activity evidenced by the establishments of new business enterprises;
7. Establishment of more commercial and rural banks which have expanded the credit resources of the country’s economy;
8. Achievement of a favorable balance of trade in the amount of P95.2 million as of July 31, 1959;

9. Attainment of self-sufficiency in food with the bumper crops in rice and corn;
10. Establishment of a Philippine merchant marine under Republic Act No. 1407; and
11. Solution of some of the major knotty issues in the long-drawn bases negotiations.

The President cited the achievements of his administration in a bid to draw continued confidence from the nation in the Nationalista Party.

“I submit,” the President said, “that the Nationalista Party has chalked up considerable achievements, the most outstanding of which I had succinctly summarized. In all humility,” he added, “I submit to you the plea for re-affirmation of your confidence in this administration which I assure you will lead our beloved country to new frontiers of progress and vaster horizons of accomplishments.”

At the same time, the President lambasted opposition quarters for their “negative thinking” which he traced as the still remaining “vestige of colonial times when many of us accepted in resignation what we were taught in all subtlety that we were capable of only so much, and so far, and that we could not stand on our own without mentor or protector.”

He branded the opposition’s bleak outlook of the country’s future as “voices of despair. They seek to weaken our faith, undermine our courage, and sap our determination. They spread dissension and promote strife in the willfull and deliberate effort to wreck the very foundations of the house of the nation,” he added.

He called these critics as “false prophets” who “find themselves fore-rebuffed by incontrovertible realities.”

After the program, the President chatted with various groups of Jaycees and jokingly remarked that the “most popular Jaycee today is Jaycee Pajo.” President Garcia was luncheon guest of the Jaycee delegates at the Pines Hotel this noon.

From the hotel, the presidential party motored to Damortis to board the presidential coach for the return trip to Manila.

October 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today cancelled his appointments and spent the day quietly with members of his family on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*. It was the birthday of his only child, Mrs. Linda Garcia-Campos.

Early in the morning, the President and the First Lady, together with their children, Mr. and Mrs. Campos, heard mass said at the ship’s dining room. Also at the mass were a few close friends and relatives.

Later in the day, the President retired to his room and worked on some papers. He issued an executive order promulgating rules and regulations governing the investment of Filipinos residing in the United States who had signified their desire to invest their savings in the economic development program of the country.

In the evening, the Chief Executive returned to Malacañang to officiate in the kick-off ceremony marking the start of the first educational and fund campaign for the “Foundation of Gifted Children,” a project put up by civic spirited citizens to sponsor the education of talented and gifted children.

October 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia today authorized the release of P55,000 to finance the demolition of illegally constructed dams and dikes along Manila Bay which is depriving hundreds of small fishermen in Bulacan of their means of livelihood.

In a directive issued today, the President asked Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to appropriate the required amount out of any available fund so that demolition work could start without further delay.

The President also directed Defense Secretary Alejo Santos to utilize the engineer corps of the Armed Forces for the job. It was learned that the undertaking would be no small task, as the dikes originally made up of loose stones had been concretized by clams and other water creatures which had made the place their home for many years.

The dikes were said to have been constructed by rich fish pond owners who had been awarded leasehold rights in certain portions of the fishing areas. Some of these constructions had since been found illegal and the President had to order their demolition to restore to hundreds of families of small fishermen their means of livelihood.

The President directed the Department of Public Works to help in the work by providing whatever equipment it had for the demolition work. The money to be appropriated would be used for the purchase of explosives and other needed materials.

The President did not receive any callers today but went over pending state papers to clear his desk in preparation for his seven-day tour of Leyte and Albay province starting tomorrow night.

President Garcia is scheduled to leave tomorrow night for Leyte where he will address the annual landing rites in Tacloban City.

From Tacloban, the President is scheduled to push through the coastal towns of Leyte to campaign for Nacionalista candidates.

He conferred with Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta and took up political matters, including the recent attacks of Mayor H. Lacson against him and former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, President Garcia's political protégé.

In the evening, the President received Benjamin F. Estrella, general manager of the National Marketing Corporation, who reported on the rising trend in the prices of essential commodities in the market.

Estrella said that there has been a pre-Christmas buying spree which has been responsible for the upward trend in the prices of essential commodities.

President Garcia directed Estrella to import additional prime commodities and, if possible, flood the market to stem the upsurge of prices of these items.

President Garcia issued the following statement on the death of General George C. Marshall;

"The Philippines joins the democratic nations of the Free World in grieving for the death of General Marshall. He served his country with distinction in times of peace as well as in war and his greatest contribution to the cause of world peace is the Marshall Plan for which he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. In life, he was a tower of strength whenever and wherever democracy was threatened. In death, he will be long remembered for his untiring and unselfish efforts to make this world a better place to live in."

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(42), cdxxvii-cdxxxiv.

President's Week in Review: October 18-24, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia was invited to visit Indonesia by Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister R. Subandrio during a breakfast-meet in Malacañang today.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the invitation was not official and that Minister Subandrio merely sounded off the President on the possibility that he would accept the invitation of Indonesian President Sukarno.

No definite dates were mentioned.

President Garcia also exchanged views with Minister Subandrio on Communist China. The latter had recently arrived from an official tour of Red China as guest of that country.

Minister Subandrio gave his impressions of his trip to Communist China.

Present during the hour-and-a-half meeting were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Sen. Claro M. Recto, and Indonesian Ambassador Nazir Dt. Pamontjak.

Earlier this morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass in the Malacañang chapel.

After lunch, the President went over reports and various papers that he will take with him on his inspection trip to Leyte and the Bicol region.

President and Mrs. Garcia honored Rear Admiral and Mrs. Edgar Allen Cruise at a despedida dinner in Malacañang this evening,

Admiral Cruise is returning to Washington, D. C., after completing his tour of duty in the Philippines as commander of the U. S. naval forces here.

The guest list at the affair follows:

Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Felixberto Serrano; Minister and Mrs. George M. Abbott of the TJ. S. Embassy; Defense Undersecretary and Mrs. Mariano Yenko, Jr.; Lieut. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff; Rear Admiral and Mrs. A. F. Spring; Maj. General and Mrs. William H. Nutter; Maj. General and Mrs. Thomas S. Moorman; Commodore Jose Francisco, Navy chief; Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, Air Force chief; Capt. and Mrs. J. E. Smith—He, chief of staff, ComNavPhil; Capt. and Mrs. Jack B. Dawley—He, Naval Attache, U. S. Embassy; Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos; Lt. Comdr. and Mrs. J. E. Gregory—He, Aide to Admiral Cruise; Mr. Manuel G. Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer; and the aide-de-camp to the President.

After the dinner, the President and the First Lady motored to Pier 3 to board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for the South.

October 19.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia left Manila on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* this morning bound for Tacloban City where the Chief Executive will be the principal guest at rites commemorating the 15th anniversary of the return of American armed forces to the Philippines.

The party expected to arrive tomorrow morning in Tacloban where elaborate preparations have been made for appropriate celebration of this momentous event in Philippine history.

Tomorrow's activities include unveiling of historical marker on the house which was designated as Seat of the country's provisional government, in the morning, and a civic and military parade in the afternoon.

The President also scheduled to hold a conference with national provincial, and municipal officials of Leyte and address a public rally later in the evening.

This morning members of the presidential party heard mass celebrated before an improvised altar in the ship's dining saloon.

After breakfast, the Chief Executive gave a press conference to representatives of Manila newspapers covering the trip and then recounted to them some incidents during the early days after the Leyte landing when, as Philippine senator, President Garcia went to the island from Bohol to confer with the then President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., who called for him.

After lunch, President Garcia went over the speech he will deliver during the program at the commemoration rites.

He retired early in the evening in anticipation of a hectic and strenuous schedule of appearances and speaking engagements during succeeding days after arrival in Tacloban tomorrow.

At noon today, the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* was cruising between Bondoc Peninsula and Masbate at a steady 15 knots despite adverse weather reports that typhoon *Dinah* was brewing in the Pacific.

Early in the morning the ship encountered slight swells and inclement weather, but both weather and sea improved considerably later in the day.

October 20.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia and their party were accorded a warm and rousing welcome upon their arrival in Tacloban City at 10 a.m. today to attend the 15th anniversary celebration of the return of American forces to the Philippines.

Among those who met the President at the Tacloban wharf were Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, PC Chief Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, Commodore Jose Francisco, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Rep. Dominador Tan, Minister George Abbot, U. S. Embassy charge d'affaires, ICA Director Paul D. Summers, and provincial officials led by Gov. Ildefonso Cinco and city officials headed by Mayor Artemio Mate.

After acknowledging military honors tendered by Constabulary honor guards at the wharf, President and Mrs. Garcia proceeded to the house of Assistant Provincial Fiscal Zoilo Redona to unveil the historical marker indicating that the house was the temporary residence of then President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., and members of his Cabinet when they returned to the Philippines after four-year exile in the United States.

After the unveiling ceremony, the President motored to the site of the proposed PNB branch building in Tacloban and laid the cornerstone of the building there.

Tacloban Lions Club honored the President and party at a testimonial banquet held at St. Pauls College gymnasium.

In an after-dinner speech, Speaker Romualdez lauded the Administration for its courageous and independent foreign policy and its nationalistic domestic policy.

President Garcia described the Leyte landing as a momentous event with far-reaching consequences. The President said that it marked the first decisive step towards the liberation of the Philippines and led to the eventful liberation of other Asian countries.

After a civic-military parade commemorating the occasion, the Chief Executive delivered the principal address at the program which followed. He was introduced by Speaker Romualdez.

Earlier, the President and Minister Abbot of the U. S. Embassy placed a floral offering at the symbolic tomb of American and Filipino soldiers who died in the fight for the Leyte liberation.

Antonio V. Benedicto, president of the Tacloban City Lions Club, gave the opening remarks.

Late in the evening, the President addressed a huge political rally at Plaza Rizal in Tacloban.

After the rally, the President and his party boarded the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for Maasin, their next stop.

October 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today disclaimed any knowledge of an alleged agreement seeking Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez to take leave as Nacionalista Party president until after the 1959 elections. Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said President Garcia had no personal knowledge of such agreement and that if there were any it could have been possible that it was only an understanding between Senate President Rodriguez and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez.

President Garcia today received with jubilation the report that a second oil strike has been made in Toledo, Cebu.

Perfecto Mendoza, acting president of the Republic Resources and Development Company, reported that the second well was some 30 meters from the first oil strike and indicated it would be a bigger source of “black gold.”

Flushed by the new oil discovery, President Garcia told newsmen flippantly: “Every time I go South we always hit oil.”

He said government geologists were supervising the oil exploitation and disclosed the production test will be undertaken next week.

The President’s announcement was expected to boost the Redeco stocks which have remained at appreciable level since the original oil strike in the Manila Stock Exchange.

The second oil well was discovered after digging some 14,000 feet, a thousand feet deeper than the first well.

President Garcia said he had given the Central Bank orders to give the necessary dollar support to the oil firm to encourage it in the exploitation of the “black bonanza” discovery in hilly Toledo.

President Garcia arrived in Maasin, Leyte, at 5 p.m., after 12 hours sailing from Tacloban City where he addressed a huge political rally and defended the acquisition of the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*. He cited the Administration’s achievements, including the new favorable balance of trade.

In his political rally tonight, President Garcia was expected to read the telegram reporting to him the second oil strike.

He told newsmen at a press conference held after breakfast that, if he had received the report earlier last night, he would have read it at the rally in Tacloban City.

October 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ended a successful three-day stumping tour of Leyte after addressing public rallies in Baybay and Ormoc City.

During the past two days the President had spoken before record crowds in Tacloban City, Maasin, Matalom, and Hilonggos.

In his speeches the Chief Executive mentioned the results of the Administration’s intensive campaign against graft and corruption and defended himself against the opposition charge that he is taking advantage of his position to enrich himself.

Speaking on the allegation that the Dollar Margin Law had caused prices of prime commodities to rise, President Garcia explained that the price rise was due to the world-wide inflationary trend.

He said this condition has brought about corresponding increase in prices of Philippine exports and has benefitted local producers of copra, hemp, coconut oil, and desiccated coconut.

The President also declared that the implementation of the currency stabilization measure has resulted in bolstering the country's dollar reserves and has strengthened the peso position in the world's currency market.

Latest achievement of the Nacionalista administration, President Garcia said, was the achievement of favorable balance of trade amounting to ₱95 million for the first time since the end of the war. He stated that this amount is expected to top the ₱100 million mark before the end of this year.

As in other towns of Leyte which he had visited, President Garcia received a warm and vigorous reception in Baybay and Ormoc City from large crowds composed mostly of people who had come all the way from their homes in distant barrios just to see and listen to their President.

Among those who met the Chief Executive upon his arrival at Baybay were Leyte Gov. Ildefonso Cinco, PHHC Board Chairman and General Manager Bernardo Torres, Rep. Dominador Tan, and Baybay Mayor Paterno Tan.

After luncheon in the Baybay town hall, the President held a short conference on local administrative problems with municipal and barrio officials and then left aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for Ormoc City.

President Garcia left Ormoc City shortly after midnight for Legaspi City on the last leg of his five-day tour of Leyte and the Bicol region.

October 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia concluded a five-day barnstorming tour of Leyte and Albay in behalf of Nacionalista senatorial and local candidates today after appealing to mammoth crowds in rallies in Polangui and Legaspi City to vote for the entire NP ticket.

The President and his party arrived in Legaspi City at 2:00 p.m. aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*. After acknowledging military honors tendered by a Constabulary honor guard at the wharf, the President motored 40 kilometers to Polangui to fulfill a speaking engagement there.

The presidential party then returned to Legaspi City late in the afternoon. After supper the Chief Executive addressed a huge public meeting on the plaza of Legaspi City.

President Garcia and party spent the night on board the *Lapu-Lapu*. They will enplane tomorrow morning for Manila to attend the thirteenth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

Earlier this morning the *Lapu-Lapu* encountered moderate swells while cruising in San Bernardino Strait, forcing many passengers to forego breakfast and stay in their cabins. The sea improved later after the ship had entered the Albay Gulf.

October 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Manila shortly before noon today bringing with him the assurance of local leaders of the victory of a straight Nacionalista Party senatorial ticket in Leyte and the Bicol region where he had conducted a five-day information campaign.

The President's party included the First Lady, Sens. Arturo M. Tolentino and Lorenzo Sumulong, and Mesdames Sofronio Quimson, Alejandro Almendras, and Roseller Lim. Places visited were Tacloban City, Maasin, Hilongos, Baybay, Ormoc City, all in the Island of Leyte, and Legaspi City and Polangui, Albay.

The President and his party landed at the Nichols Base Operations at 10:50 a.m. He was met by friends and members of the family headed by Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos and NP senatorial candidate Sofronio Quimson.

In the afternoon, President Garcia received the delegates to the Second Biennial Conference of the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines at the Malacañang ceremonial hall. He congratulated the recipients of awards in cultural fields, especially impresario Alfredo Lozano, for bringing in world musicians.

The recipients of the UNESCO Cultural Awards were Alfredo Lozano, music; Fernando Amorsolo, painting; Mrs. Francisca A. Aquino, folk dancing; Lope K. Santos, literature; and Guillermo Tolentino, sculpture.

Later in the evening the President motored to the Manila Hotel to speak at the United Nations Day dinner under the auspices of the United Nations Association of the Philippines.

PRESIDENT Garcia today pledged anew the full support of the Philippines to the United Nations which he said is the "best guarantee for ultimate peace" among nations.

The President was the guest speaker at the UN dinner in connection with the fourteenth anniversary of the formation of the world organization at the Manila Hotel this evening.

He observed that UN was celebrating its 14th anniversary amid "the thickening shadows of continued mistrust among nations and the grave implication of recent incursions into outer space as part of the huge armaments race among nation's broods over the world."

However, President Garcia observed that "if one were to examine the balance sheet of the achievements of the United Nations, one is heartened by the important gains it has made in all fields of human endeavor in spite of the serious setbacks the organization has met on political levels."

He pointed out that the UN has "given meaning and validity to the true concept of universal harmony: a shared kinship among the human race irrespective of the barriers erected by men."

In pledging the Philippines' support to the UN, the President stressed that the country, being a small nation, "has special stake in the UN."

"Incapable of defending ourselves adequately in the event of a nuclear war," he added, "we look to the organization to check the evil forces that threatens our way of life."

The President also cited the UN achievements in averting the crisis in Laos, Lebanon, and Jordan from engulfing the world in a total war.

"Also relatively recent," he recalled, "was the systematic despoliation of fundamental human rights in Tibet and which moved the governments of Ireland and Malaya to sponsor a resolution condemning Communist China's violation of fundamental human rights of the Tibetan people."

He likewise averred that the UN, as "potent instrument of peace," has helped the backward areas to strengthen themselves socially and economically.

He said that the UN has drawn attention to the farsighted wisdom of removing existing trade obstacles and the development of inter-regional commercial cooperation.

He explained that the UN expanded program is geared towards helping the under-developed countries "to strengthen their national economies through the development of their industries and agriculture, with a view to promoting their economic and political independence in the spirit of the charter of the United Nations, and to insure the attainment of higher levels of economic and social welfare for their entire populations."

The President expressed the belief that UN Day is not so much an occasion for recapitulating achievements as it is for the re-affirmation of faith in the principles and objectives for which the organization stands.

“We in the Philippines,” he stressed, “are cognizant of the overriding necessity for an effective “foreign policy geared towards security and economic self-sufficiency in consonance with the principles enunciated in the charter of the United Nations. We are equally aware that as member of the brotherhood of nations, our best guarantees for ultimate peace lie in the harmonious blending of our ways of life with those of others in the spirit of tolerance and comprehensive humanity,” he added.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: October 25-31, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 25.—THIS morning President Garcia received from the officers of the Student Council Association of Cebu (SCAC) a resolution endorsing the Filipino First policy of the Administration and pledging all-out support for the Nacionalista candidates in Cebu.

The Chief Executive upon receiving the resolution said that he is glad an association such as the SCAC with members coming from the different colleges and universities believes in the importance of the Filipino First policy and recognizes the accomplishments of the Nacionalista Party as basis for their all-out support for its candidates in the coming November elections.

The SCAC delegation, composed of presidents of their respective colleges and universities, that called on the President were Celso Q. Amante of the University of San Pablo, SCAC president; Rolando Alvez of Colegio de San Jose; Licerio L. Cabahug of the Cebu City College; Eulalio P. Cortes of the Cebu School of Arts and Trade, SCAC PRO; Ramon R. Erasmo of Southwestern Colleges, SCAC vice-president; James Young, Jr., of the Cebu Institute of Technology, SCAC treasurer; and Alexander P. Laure of the Cebu Normal School, SCAC secretary. The group was accompanied by Casimiro Madarang, Jr., Victoriano M. Realino, and Juanito Bitang all of the Nacionalista Youth Movement, Cebu Chapter.

After receiving the Cebu student delegation, the President conferred with Labor Secretary Angel Castao on the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority strike.

Secretary Castaño informed the Chief Executive about the negotiations between the NAWASA management on some fundamental questions. He reported that he was calling to a conference at his office tomorrow the NAWASA labor and management representatives to thresh out their differences to pave the way for the early settlement of the strike.

Earlier this morning the President and the First Lady heard mass at their residence, together with their household help.

October 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia was heartened today by news reports that former President Sergio Osmeña had issued a statement urging the Cebuanos to junk his son, Sergio, Jr., in the coming elections.

Young Osmeña is running for the Cebu City mayoralty.

After reading the newspapers, the President wrote a message to the Grand Old Man of Cebu and congratulated him for his unequivocal stand against what the President called “fake Nacionalistas who wear the NP mask for political convenience to destroy the party.”

It was learned that the President who is a die-hard party man, expressed optimism that other “fake Nacionalistas” may be exposed in due time.

President Garcia motored to the University of the Philippines this afternoon where he addressed the students, faculty, and alumni of the state university on the political issues being, waged between the contending parties for the coming November 10 elections.

The President arrived at the NP campus at 3:45 o'clock in the afternoon.

President Garcia discarded a prepared speech and spoke extemporaneously on politics, having been seasoned by his stumping tour of Mindanao, Eastern Visayas, and the Bicol regions.

In defending his acquisition of the *Lapu-Lapu*, the President hit a member of Congress whom he called an “aged senator” for allegedly criticizing the yacht even before it was constructed.

The “aged senator,” according to the President, had compared the *Lapu-Lapu* with the “luxury yacht” of the Queen of England, which the latter has not yet seen.

“How can this aged senator” the President said, “compare the *Lapu-Lapu* which he has not yet seen?”

The President addressed the crowd for almost two hours and was applauded several times as he drove home his point in citing what he called “first-time achievements.” He referred to the favorable balance of trade and to the exportation of rice by a self-sufficient Philippines.

President Garcia was welcomed to the UP campus by Dean H. R. Reyes, president of the UP Alumni Association, and was introduced by Vicente G. Sinco, UP president.

Reyes said that President Garcia was the “main-eventer” in the series of public forums being conducted by the UP alumni to enable the public to know the issues being fought in the current political campaign.

Last week, the UP alumni had Vice-President Macapagal, LP president, as its speaker.

October 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today went over pending state papers to clear his desk before he takes off tomorrow for a week-long political swing from Northern Luzon to Mindanao.

It is the President’s most hectic schedule to cover as wide a territory as possible with barely two weeks before elections.

President Garcia will cover tomorrow three northern Luzon provinces, known to be Liberal Party bailiwicks, in an effort to soften the LP expected avalanche in these areas. He will cover La Union, Ilocos Norte, and Cagayan.

During the conference with his aides today, the President signed the *ad interim* appointments of Assistant City Fiscal Guillermo Dacumos as judge of the court of first instance of Apayao, Mt. Province.

Dacumos’ appointment was recommended by Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag.

IN the afternoon, the President received the credentials of Ebbe Munck as minister for Denmark to the Philippines in ceremonies held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

The new envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Denmark was accompanied by protocol officers of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

In accepting the Minister’s credentials, the President expressed the hope for expanded economic and cultural ties between the Philippines and Denmark.

Minister Munck, aside from his duties in the Philippines, is also his country’s representative to Thailand where he resides.

He will replace Minister Gunnar Seidenfaden, who was recalled by his home government for reassignment.

The new envoy was met at the Malacañang stairways by Col. Jorge Delarmente, senior aide to the President.

After the presentation ceremony, *basi*, the Philippine ceremonial wine, was served.

Present at the ceremonies were members of the Cabinet. The President was assisted by Major Ciriaco Hocson, junior aide.

The President today expressed gratitude to the *Bayanihan* Dance Troupe dancers for celebrating his 63rd birthday anniversary on November 4 by dedicating its forthcoming performance at the United Nations in New York on Monday.

The President also expressed gratification over the fine showing of the troupe which, he said, was performing its role most creditably as cultural ambassadors of goodwill.

October 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia left for San Fernando, La Union, at 7 this morning on board his *Fokker* plane. He arrived at the La Union capital at 9:30 a.m.

Upon arrival, the President toured the scene of a recent devastating fire which hit the commercial district of San Fernando. He was accompanied by Gov. Bernardo Gapuz, Godofredo Rilloraza, and Rep. Francisco I. Ortega.

After touring the fire-ravaged area, President Garcia promised additional financial assistance to help the fire victims. He also addressed a political rally at the town plaza.

The President then enplaned for Laoag where he was welcomed by government officials headed by acting Gov. Toribio Peralta.

President Garcia addressed a rally at high noon at the town kiosk before an unusually big crowd that gathered in spite of the noon-day heat.

After a late lunch, the President again took to the air on board his *Fokker* plane for Tuguegarao, his third stop in the “Solid North” drive.

President Garcia concluded tonight the first hectic day of a week-long cross-country stump aimed at insuring the victory of administration senatorial bets in the November 10 elections.

The President and party landed at dusk at the Tuguegarao airport for a final rally of the day. He came from San Fernando, La Union, and Laoag, Ilocos Norte.

He spent the night in Tuguegarao and then will enplane early tomorrow for Manila, where he will stay briefly before taking off for Zamboanga.

The President cancelled his scheduled speaking engagements tomorrow in Abra and Isabela.

October 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned this morning from a two-day tour of Ilocano provinces, optimistic that he had shattered the so-called “Solid North” of the opposition.

Political leaders of Cagayan province, led by Sen. Eulogio Balao, assured the President that Cagayan would give from 70 to 80 per cent of its voting strength to the Nacionalista senatorial ticket.

In the 1957 senatorial elections, this province gave the Nacionalistas 53 per cent and only 22 per cent went to the Liberals. Over 320,000 voted for senatorial candidates in this province during the 1957 polls.

In Ilocos Norte, the President said the Nacionalistas are expected to put up a better showing than the 1957 elections. In that year, 37 per cent voted Nacionalista while 45 per cent voted Liberal out of the 450,000 votes that were cast.

In La Union, in the same year, 36 per cent voted Nacionalista and 45 per cent went Liberal out of the 430,000 votes cast. Rep. Francisco Ortega assured President Garcia of a better showing come November 10 by the Nacionalistas.

The President took the opportunity to strengthen political forces and discuss political strategy with top party leaders representing Cagayan, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Isabela, and La Union.

Sen. Quintin Paredes accompanied the President in addition to Sen. Balao, both being NP political stalwarts in the North.

Before his departure from Tuguegarao, President Garcia directed the immediate release of ₱500,000 for the purchase of native tobacco by the ACCFA. The presidential directive was made on the recommendation of Sen. Balao and Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela. The President was the house guest of Mr. and Mrs. Mariano Manaligod in Tuguegarao.

THIS afternoon President Garcia ordered Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to release immediately ₱50,000 from his contingent funds for the purchase of building materials to help rehabilitate the homes of the Malate fire victims.

The Chief Executive issued the order after making an ocular inspection of the fire area this afternoon immediately before enplaning for Mindanao for the last lap of his barnstorming tour of that region for Nacionalista candidates.

During his inspection of the fire area the President, accompanied by Mrs. Garcia and PCAPE Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren, inquired into the conditions of the 500 families rendered homeless as a result of the conflagration. The President was informed that Social Welfare teams have been working since last night distributing rice, sardines, blankets, mosquito nets, and other badly needed items.

According to Mrs. Felicidad D. Gatos, chief of the division of field services, the Social Welfare Administration has two teams working in the area since midnight last night, and a total of 40 sacks of rice, 30 cases of sardines, 200 pieces of blankets, 100 pieces of mosquito nets, 200 pieces of assorted children's dresses have already been distributed directly to 300 families. The SWA is conducting a screening of the real fire victims so that additional aid could be extended to them.

President Garcia received warm welcome on his arrival in Zamboanga City at 5 p.m. today after a three-hour flight from Manila aboard the new *Fokker Friendship*.

The welcoming group included delegations, not only from Zamboanga del Sur, but also from nearby provinces, including Zamboanga del Norte, Basilan City, and Sulu.

Among those with the presidential party were Nacionalista senatorial candidates Sofronio Quimson and Alejandro Almendras, Sens. Arturo Tolentino and Lorenzo Sumulong, and Mrs. Roseller Lim.

After acknowledging cheers at the airport, the President was whisked at the head of a long motorcade to the city where a *Te Deum* was sung in his honor in the local cathedral.

He then conferred with provincial, city, and national officials who presented him with pressing problems of their respective localities.

In the evening, President Garcia addressed a mammoth rally at the local plaza. He was scheduled to shove off aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for Pagadian at 2 a.m. tomorrow, arriving there at about 4 p.m.

October 30.—EARLY this morning the President boarded his yacht in Zamboanga City, where the night before he spoke at a rally at the city plaza.

He arrived in Pagadian at 4 p.m. today. He was met at the shoreline by a fluvial parade, as the yacht stayed out on sea unable to dock owing to shallow waters.

The Chief Executive was scheduled to leave the yacht tonight to address a big political rally at the Pagadian town plaza.

President Garcia today directed Eduardo Romualdez, Philippine National Bank president, to assume the chairmanship of the PNB board of directors.

The President told Romualdez to take over the board chairmanship pending final disposition of the resignation of former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo as PNB board head.

President Garcia said he has been informed of Pajo's resignation, but has not actually received the reported offer to quit the bank.

The Chief Executive told newsmen on board the yacht that he would summon Pajo, now a Nacionalista senatorial candidate, for a conference upon his return to Manila next week and discuss the latter's resignation.

Also campaigning with the President in the current stump are senatorial candidate Sofronio Quimson and Sens. Lorenzo Sumulong, Arturo M. Tolentino, and Roseller Lim.

The President is scheduled to leave Pagadian early tomorrow morning for Parang, Cotabato, where he is also scheduled to deliver political speeches for the NP candidates.

From Cotabato the President will make it to Talibon, Bohol, where he will spend All Saints' Day and visit the graves of his parents.

October 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia today eyed a malignant aspect of Philippine politics as he warned aliens against meddling in the political affairs of this country.

The President spoke out against alien intervention in PI politics in a talk with newsmen on board the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* which took him and his party to Parang, Cotabato, from Pagadian, Zamboanga del Sur.

President Garcia said his attention was called to alien politicking by Mrs. Remedios Fortich, a Mindanao NP leader, who denounced a certain "Yap" in Cotabato for offering his trucks to LP campaigners.

The yacht *Lapu-Lapu* steamed into Parang at 4:30 p.m. today. The President immediately debarked. He was met by Cotabato officials led by Rep. Salipada K. Pendatun (N-Cotabato).

The presidential party immediately proceeded to the capital town of Cotabato, some 30 kilometers away from Parang, where he addressed a political rally late this morning.

The President ended last night his two-day stump at Zamboanga del Sur. He addressed a rally in Pagadian and left the town at 1 a.m.

The yacht pulled off the Pagadian waters at 6 a.m. today and headed straight for Parang.

The President is scheduled to fly from Cotabato to Tagbilaran, Bohol, early tomorrow morning to join the First Lady in a stump of his home province.

They will proceed to Talibon where they will spend All Saints' Day.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Official Week in Review: November 1 – November 7, 1959

November 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning was accorded a hero's welcome by thousands of cheering Boholanos who jammed the Tagbilaran Airport to witness the arrival of the "local boy who made good."

After a brief but colorful welcome ceremony at the airport, the Chief Executive was borne on the shoulders of his welcomers, amidst the cry of "*Mabuhay*," to a waiting car that took him to the Tagbilaran church for a *Te Deum*.

On hand to meet the President were national, provincial, and local officials headed by Reps. Natalio P. Castillo and Maximo Garcia, Gov. Esteban Bernido, and Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, who arrived earlier to join the President in his annual pilgrimage to the tomb of his parents who were buried in Talibon, hometown of the President.

The Chief Executive upon arrival in Bohol expressed optimism over the Nationalista Party's victory in the November election.

The President had to travel more than 1,500 miles by land, sea, and air since October 29 on a barnstorming tour for NP candidates that took him to La Union, Ilocos Norte, and Cagayan in the North, the bailiwick of the opposition. The President's visit is expected to minimize considerably the strength of the Liberals in those provinces, while his tour of the southern provinces, touching Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, and Cotabato, will serve to solidify the already well-entrenched Nacionalista.

In the last 1957 senatorial elections, the Nacionalista Party received 56 per cent while the Liberals only got 21 per cent of Cotabato's polling strength of 590,000 votes.

In Zamboanga del Sur the Nacionalista received 67 per cent while the Liberals, 23 per cent of the province's 230,000 votes. In Zamboanga del Norte the Nacionalista fared even better by getting 74 per cent compared to the Liberals' 16 per cent of 200,000 ballots.

The President's home province, with a voting strength of almost 900,000 in the last elections, is expected to give a landslide support of the straight Nacionalista ticket.

President Garcia will spend his 63rd birthday on Wednesday, November 4, at Malacañang.

The President and the First Lady will be "at home" to receive well-wishers from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

In order that the President and the First Lady may be able to receive all those who may wish to call on them in Malacañang, a schedule of visits has been arranged by Manuel G. Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer.

November 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took time out from his inspection tour of the southern provinces and visited his hometown, Talibon, to pay homage to his departed parents on the occasion of All Souls Day.

Accompanied by Mrs. Garcia, the President spent a few minutes at the local cemetery and offered prayers before the grave of his beloved forebears.

Wherever he was and whenever he could, the President always made it a point to come back to his hometown at least once a year "to spend a few moments to honor the memory of his dear predecessors."

His father was Policronio Garcia while his mother was Ambrosia Polistico, both interred in a common grave at the local cemetery. Among the relatives present at the cemetery rites were Primitiva Garcia, the President's elder sister, Rep. Maximo Garcia, Agapito Garcia, Emilio Garcia, and Talibon Mayor Lazaro Evardo, all cousins of the President.

The President and the First Lady arrived in Talibon about 8 a.m. today following a 100-kilometer motor ride from Tagbilaran. The townspeople turned out en masse, lined along the streets, and followed the President's party wherever they went, in rousing welcome to their favorite son.

The presidential party proceeded direct to the town church where a *Te Deum* was sung by the parish priest. After mass the President and members of the party had breakfast at the house of Inocencio Obenza, town's chief of police, where he briefly conferred with local officials. The President awaited a slight drizzle to subside before motoring to the nearby cemetery. The party took lunch also at the police chief's home after the simple rites at the cemetery.

About 1:30 p.m., the President and party left Talibon and motored back to Tagbilaran, passing along the eastern coastal towns and making unscheduled stops in a number of municipalities owing to large crowds which would not let the presidential car pass unless the President alighted and say a few words on improvised platforms set up by townspeople.

This morning, the presidential party passed along the western coastal towns enroute to Talibon. The President also had to make unscheduled stops in response to popular clamor. The President is due to arrive in Manila by plane before noon tomorrow, after a six-day information tour of Mindanao provinces. After fulfilling engagements in Manila, the President is scheduled to visit Pangasinan, Negros Occidental, and Cebu. Then he will go back to Tagbilaran where he and the First Lady will vote on election day.

November 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Manila at 1 p.m. today from a six-day inspection tour which took him as far north as La Union, Ilocos Norte, and Cagayan to the provinces of Zamboanga del Sur and Cotabato in the far south.

The President arrived on board the Fokker *Friendship Plane* together with the First Lady, who had joined him in Bohol where the President had taken time off from his tour to pay homage to his late parents on All Souls' Day at his hometown, Talibon.

In his Mindanao visit the President was assured by NP leaders of a landslide victory for the official candidates of the majority party.

In his tour of the Ilocos provinces the President expressed confidence that the NP will again emerge triumphant in this year's election. In Ilocos Norte he expressed confidence that the Nacionalista Party will be able to crack "the last remaining bailiwick of the Liberals."

Sen. Eulogio Balao, together with Gov. Marcelo Adduru, Rep. Benjamin Ligot, and other Northern Luzon leaders, assured the President of another victory of the Nacionalistas. They said the fight for the gubernatorial post in Cagayan is limited to Nacionalista candidates who support the NP senatorial ticket.

In all his speeches during his six-day tour, the President reviewed some of the notable achievements of the Nacionalista Party administration. He also explained the issues involved in the November elections

THIS evening, the President received I. John Billera, a business executive of the U. S. Industry. Billera was accompanied by Eduardo Romualdez, president of the Philippine National Bank, and by Gil Carlos, a Manila lawyer.

Billera, incidentally, greeted the President on the eve of his birthday.

The President likewise received a birthday greeting from Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez.

Malacañang was in a festive mood this evening as the government officials staged an asalto on the eve of the President's 63rd birthday at the social hall.

At the “asalto” arranged by ranking officials from the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the government, the President was presented with a portrait of the Chief Executive and the First Lady by the Cabinet members and their ladies.

Dances were performed by a group from the University of the East that is also seeking recognition in the fashion of the *Barangay* and the *Bayanihan* troupes.

November 4.—THOUSANDS of people from all walks of life streamed to Malacañang today to greet President Garcia on the occasion of his 63rd birthday.

President and Mrs. Garcia were “at home” after hearing mass at the Manila Cathedral. Earlier, they also heard mass at the Malacañang social hall and then had breakfast with some of the callers, among them Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

Former President Sergio Osmeña led the well-wishers who greeted the President as well as the First Lady during the reception at the Malacañang social hall.

Following Don Sergio were members of the House of Representatives, among them Rep. Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan, Eugenio Baltao of Nueva Ecija, Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental, and Emilio Cortez of Pampanga.

Other well-wishers included Justices of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals with their ladies, members of the Council of State, Cabinet members and their ladies, Department Undersecretaries, members of the judiciary, ranking Philippines and United States general officers, bureau directors, and members of the Board of Regents and faculty members of the University of the Philippines.

The diplomatic corps, led by Papal Nuncio Msgr. Siino, offered a toast for the continued health and well-being of the President, who in turn responded with a toast to the health of all heads of states represented in the diplomatic corps.

Members of the Fourth Estate formed a separate delegation and greeted the President and the First Lady.

The President received gifts only from intimate friends and relatives. The First Lady gave several books, among them *History of English Speaking Peoples* by Sir Winston Churchill, *Golden Crown—Life of Pope Pius XII*, *Winston Churchill—The Era and The Man*, and *Life of Jesus* for meditative reading.

The First Lady also presented the President with a birthday card with a long handwritten inscription.

Members of the Malacañang Newsmen’s Association gave the President a cigarette case and a lighter.

After receiving newspapermen and radiomen, the President and the First Lady received the general public, after which officials and employees of Malacañang and members of the Presidential Guard Battalion also greeted them.

A group of Boy Scouts from the Far Eastern University, accompanied by Jorge B. Vargas, gave the President a unique gift, three cheers and a birthday song *Maligayang Bati*.

A well-wisher who created a stir in Malacañang was a former employee of the government, Bonifacio Tecson, who was wearing a T-shirt proclaiming that he was for the reelection of President Garcia in 1961.

THIS afternoon President Garcia called on the Armed Forces to safeguard the rights of voters on election day regardless of party affiliation.

Speaking during the loyalty parade held in his honor at Camp Murphy, the President was thrice warmly applauded by officers and enlisted men in the course of his speech.

President Garcia underscored the duties of the Armed Forces and pointed out that one of their primary tasks is the guarding of the ballot boxes at the risk of their lives, if need be, to preserve the sanctity of the ballot.

The President also took occasion to announce that he had approved the payment of salary differentials to the enlisted men as recommended by the Chief of Staff and Defense Secretary Santos, and as provided for in Republic Act 1831.

Ad libbing towards the end of his speech, President Garcia also took the occasion to hand over a check to Secretary Santos for P500,000 for the construction of pre-fabricated school buildings.

Accompanied by the First Lady, the President warmly received a medley of “happy birthday” airs by the composite band of Army, Air Force, and Navy musicians. The musical show was warmly applauded.

November 5.—THIS day the President stayed in his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, to rest after a hectic day yesterday when he observed his 63rd birthday.

However, several callers poured into the President’s private residence. Among them were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez, senatorial candidate Sofronio Quimson, and Gil Garcia of Cebu.

Secretary Hernandez conferred with the President over the controversial powers of Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino Calinawan, Malacañang prober of customs officials and venalities.

The President had previously been quoted as upholding Calinawan’s powers to investigate cases and “go over the department head if necessary.”

President Garcia clarified his statement and assured Hernandez that the latter should have the authority over cases in his department.

The issue flared up recently with Hernandez gaining the support of Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, the Bureau of Civil Service, and the commissioner of internal revenue.

Quimson also conferred with the President on the scheduled political drive to be launched tomorrow afternoon by the Chief Executive in the former’s bailiwick, Pangasinan.

Gil Garcia of Cebu discussed with the President the “fluid situation” in that province, where the President is staking his political prestige in an effort to subdue the Osmeña-Cuenco combine.

The President also received Ruperto Galvez, Nacionalista candidate for mayor of Pasay City.

Galvez reported to the President his fears that his leaders and followers might be molested on their way to the polling places during election day.

The President assured the NP mayoralty candidate that he had blue-printed a program to insure clean, free, and orderly elections throughout the country.

Galvez also expressed the fear that the snatching of ballot boxes committed during the 1953 elections might be repeated in Pasay during the Tuesday balloting.

IN the evening the President received Dennis Chavez, Jr., son of a U.S. senator of New Mexico, who arrived here recently. The young Chavez paid a courtesy call on the President.

Other callers were Victor Dahan, Frank Kastel, and C. Lorenzo.

Genaro Salvador Merino, vice-president of the Compania General de Tabacalera, also called on the President. He was accompanied by Francisco Cantarell, Fernando Gari, Ramon Barata, Alfonso Dampierre, and Ricardo Macias.

November 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today led the nation in mourning the death of former President Jose P. Laurel, who died at 1 o'clock this morning.

Upon being informed of Dr. Laurel's death, the President and the First Lady motored to the Laurel residence in Mandaluyong, Rizal, to pay homage to his former colleague in the Senate whom he extolled as "the greatest apostle of Filipinism."

The President also signed a proclamation directing all flags to be flown at half-mast until the date of burial on Sunday.

At the Laurel residence, the President and the First Lady condoled with the bereaved widow and also with the Laurel children, including former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr.

Earlier in the morning the President and the First Lady heard mass at an improvised altar at their private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City. The President also had communion, having taken confession earlier.

The President usually receives communion every first Friday of the month.

IN the afternoon, the President took off from the Nichols Airbase aboard the *Fokker Friendship Plane* for Lingayen, Pangasinan, to fulfill his commitment to bolster the NP candidates in that province.

Before his departure, the President conferred with Carlitos P. David, independent mayoralty candidate in Quezon City.

Despite an inclement weather, the President proceeded to Lingayen, accompanied by senatorial candidate Sofronio Quimson, Benjamin F. Estrella, manager of the National Marketing Corporation, and Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke.

The President decided to stump in Pangasinan following reports of party dissension in that province.

President Garcia landed at the Lingayen airstrip at 3:25 o'clock this afternoon and was met by a big crowd headed by Sen. Cipriano Primicias and Gov. Estrella.

From the landing field, the President proceeded to the track and field stadium where he addressed a political rally.

The President delivered an inspired political speech, lashing at the Liberals and Grand Alliance candidates, and had to be reminded repeatedly by Appointments Secretary Agerico Palaypay that the Chief Executive was taking off for Manila before sundown.

President Garcia had to cut short his speech but took off shortly before the sun set. He returned to Manila at 6:30 p.m., and after a brief rest, motored to the Manila Hotel to address a labor convention.

November 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia today embarked on his homestretch drive to assure victory of the Nacionalista candidates in Tuesday's elections.

The Chief Executive took off from Manila for Bacolod City from where he was expected tonight to mount a drive to woo the potential sugar votes in favor of the administration candidates.

Arriving at Bacolod at 4:30 p.m. on board his *Fokker Friendship Plane*, the President was greeted by a big delegation of officials and NP follower led by Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez and Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao.

Hernaez and Gatuslao assured the President of the overwhelming NP voters in Negros Occidental. They said the NP voters had supported the Chief Executive against former Sen. Jose Yulo in the 1957 presidential elections.

In a conference with government officials, he stressed that the country's economy was improving, a favorable balance of trade.

After dinner in the governor's residence, President Garcia is scheduled to address a political rally at the plaza and then he will steam to San Carlos for another rally early tomorrow.

President Garcia arrived with Mrs. Leonila Garcia, the First Lady. They were headed for Tagbilaran, Bohol, where the President and Mrs. Garcia will cast their votes Tuesday.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1959). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 55(45), cdlxiii-cdlxvii.

President's Week in Review: November 8-14, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia made a final appeal to the country's voters to elect the candidates of the Nacionalista Party at a mammoth *miting de avance* held at the NP provincial headquarters of Cebu City.

The rally in Cebu Province where opposing factions are pitted in a bitter struggle marks the end of the President's personal campaign for the national and local candidates of the Nacionalista Party.

The President will proceed tomorrow to his home province of Bohol to cast his ballot in Precinct 3-A of Tagbilaran on Tuesday.

Shortly before the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* arrived at San Carlos, Negros Occidental, with a voting population of 14,000 voters, the President and the First Lady, as well as members of the presidential party, heard an early morning mass celebrated before an improvised altar in the dining saloon of the ship.

San Carlos Mayor Sofronio Carmona and other municipal officials headed a huge crowd of welcomers at the wharf, and spontaneous cheers and shouts of *Mabuhay* greeted the President and Mrs. Garcia as they stepped down the gangplank and waved at the welcomers.

After a two-hour long speech at the plaza where he clarified charges and accusations hurled by the opposition and enumerated the achievements of his administration, President Garcia returned to the *Lapu-Lapu*. Then the ship left for Cebu City.

The President and his party arrived at Cebu City at 7:30 p.m. and were met by a large throng of torch-bearing welcomers led by NP loyalist leaders, Reps. Manuel Zosa and Ramon Durano and Casimiro Madarang, the last two being the faction's candidates for governor of Cebu and mayor of Cebu City, respectively.

After the reception at the wharf, President Garcia headed the torch parade and marched to the NP headquarters near the wharf. After the successful rally, the President returned to the ship and conferred with the leaders of the NP Loyalist faction on the latest development in the local political situation.

President Garcia summed up the case for the Administration in Tuesday's elections in a nation-wide radio-TV chat to the nation this evening.

Prior to his departure for the South yesterday, the President recorded on film and taped a two-fisted, slashing attack against the opposition parties and a vigorous defense of his administration, particularly its bold Filipino-First orientation.

The President was seen on TV and heard on practically all radio sets all over the country in a nation-wide hook-up.

Television viewers watched him over DZAQ-TV (Channel 3) and DZXL-TV (Channel 9) from 8 to 8:30 p.m. this evening.

He was also heard over the following radio stations: DZXL, DZAQ, DZMY, DZQL, DZRH, DZMB, DZPI, DZBB, and DZFM in Manila; DZRI in Dagupan City; DZRB in Naga City; DZAA in Legaspi; DYRC and DYBU in Cebu City; DZVA in Butuan City; DYXL in Bacolod City; and DYPL in Iloilo City.

The President emphasized in his final appeal to the voters that Filipino interests can go forward; only under the Nacionalista Party while alien domination will continue if the oppositions triumphs.

In his radio address the President said: "We have laid down the issues and explained our platforms of good government. We sought overwhelming support of our economic policies which are based on our desire to break the alien strangle-hold on our economy."

The President lashed out at the opposition parties for their "do nothingness and spreading of the cancer of McCarthyism."

He made the appeal that "as our people will go to the polls Tuesday it is both my prayer and wish that they once more give the Nacionalista Party a fresh mandate."

In stressing the NP bid to achieve economic freedom, the President said that the NP stands four square on nationalism.

"The NP stands four square on nationalism and on this plank it has been upheld by our people through over half a century," he said.

November 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia today gave permission to the government employees to return to their respective provinces in order to vote on election day.

The President, however, cautioned government officials to take care that government services would not be impaired or disrupted.

The President's consent was given upon requests from government officials to allow their employees the time to return to their respective provinces on election day.

President and Mrs. Garcia arrived in Tagbilaran, Bohol, this afternoon on the eve of election. The President will cast his vote in Tagbilaran while the First Lady will motor to Talibon, the President's home town more than a hundred kilometers away, where she had last registered.

The RPS *Lapu-Lapu* shoved off from Cebu City wharf at 10:30 this morning for Bohol. En route, the President and Mrs. Garcia dropped in at nearby Opon, Mrs. Garcia's home town, where they spent a few hours talking with old friends and relatives at the Dimataga residence.

On being informed of a large crowd gathered in front of the house, President and Mrs. Garcia appeared at the window and each spoke a few words urging the townspeople to vote straight Nacionalista.

About 1 p.m., the *Lapu-Lapu* pulled out for Bohol, arriving at Tagbilaran at about 4 p.m. The President and the First Lady spent the night at their Tagbilaran residence.

TONIGHT the President urged the nation's voters to go to the polls on election day.

Arriving at Tagbilaran this afternoon to cast his own vote in his home province, President Garcia said "the right to choose our leaders is the highest privilege within our democratic form of government."

He, however, counseled his countrymen "on a norm of conduct that would assure peaceful and orderly elections."

The full text of President Garcia's statement issued on the eve of election day follows:

"I urge my countrymen to go out and vote on election day. The right to choose our leaders is the highest privilege within our democratic form of government. In sharp contrast to the millions in Communist-held countries who have temporarily lost this right and privilege, we in the Philippines have cause to rejoice over the fact that we have kept this sacred privilege through the years.

“In the exercise of their right of suffrage, I take this occasion to counsel my countrymen on a norm of conduct that would assure peaceful and orderly elections.

“On the part of the government. I reiterate that all necessary measures have been taken to assure the voter a free and honest election regardless of party affiliation. The voter can go to the polls confident that his right of suffrage will be held inviolate.”

November 10.— PRESIDENT Garcia today led the nation in going to the polls to vote for their favorite local and senatorial candidates.

Accompanied by Malacañang aides and Manila newspaper representatives on the Malacañang beat, President Garcia cast his ballot in Precinct No. 3-A of Tagbilaran located in the Tagbilaran Central School.

Other voters in nearby precincts flocked to Precinct No. 3-A to watch the President cast his vote and then shook his hands and cheered him as he came out of the polling place.

Before proceeding to his precinct, President Garcia chatted briefly with newspapermen at his residence and expressed his confidence in the victory of the NP local and senatorial bets.

Earlier this morning, Mrs. Garcia motored to the town of Talibon, birthplace of President Garcia, to vote in Precinct No. 1.

After casting his vote, President Garcia inspected feeder roads and barrio community development projects in the following barrios of Tagbilaran: Taloto, Ubujan, Manga, Taptap, and Gabok. The barrio leaders took advantage of the President’s surprise visit to present their requests for the installation of artesian wells, the construction of additional roads linking their communities to neighboring barrios, and the continuation of other self-help projects of the PACD.

After his barrio inspection trip, the President proceeded to the interior towns of Coralla and Sikatuna and then took a side road leading to Albuquerque and Paglayon, and from there motored back to his residence in Tagbilaran.

All along the way, President Garcia was cheered by the barrio people and townsfolk gathered in front of polling places.

Arriving at his residence about noon, the President had lunch and then retired to his room to rest. Later in the evening, the President awaited the arrival of partial election returns and reports from various provinces as compiled by the Commission on Elections and the Department of National Defense.

November 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia today left Tagbilaran about 4 p.m. aboard *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for the return voyage to Manila after five days tour of the Visayan provinces.

President and Mrs. Garcia had arrived in Tagbilaran, Bohol, Monday afternoon from Negros Occidental and Cebu.

The President voted yesterday in Tagbilaran while the First Lady motored to Talibon, birthplace of the President, more than 100 kilometers away, where she has been registered and voted since her husband was still governor many years ago.

President Garcia stayed up until 3 a.m. today as he sat beside the radio at the living room of his residence hearing broadcasts on election results. He expressed satisfaction over the large turnout of voters who had gone to the polls and over the orderly and peaceful manner with which election was conducted.

Waking up early this morning, the President had a light breakfast. Then after chatting with some friends and local political leaders who called on him at his home, the President retired to his study room where he went over some state papers he had taken along with him from Manila.

Earlier, President and Mrs. Garcia received news that they are now grand-parents, their only daughter Linda having given birth to a girl at the Manila Doctors' Hospital.

The President and the First Lady boarded the ship at the local wharf shortly before 3 p.m. He is expected to arrive in Manila tomorrow evening.

November 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia, on his return trip to Manila, kept pretty much to his cabin today to catch up on paper work he had taken along on his six-day tour of the Visayan provinces.

Waking up early this morning, President Garcia went down to the dining saloon and had breakfast with the First Lady and the few remaining members of the presidential party. Most members of the party had enplaned from Cebu last Monday to vote in Manila and suburbs where they reside.

The RPS *Lapu-Lapu* was encountering rough seas and heavy swells most of the day. The ship kept rocking and rolling to the discomfiture of the passengers. At 7 a.m., the passengers were awakened by an announcement put through the ship's public address system advising them to take breakfast right away.

Meanwhile, Commander Manuel Mandapat, skipper of the ship, thoughtfully slowed down the ship to a virtual standstill and maneuvered it close to a towering promontory on Tablas Island to shelter the ship from the brisk northwesterly wind, believed to be the after-effects of typhoon Emma, to enable the passengers to take their breakfast in comfort.

With breakfast over, the passengers scampered back to their cabins as the ship moved out of its shelter and resumed its battle with the steady wind and battering waves.

Again, at noontime, the passengers were given a chance to take lunch in comparative peace as the ship cruised along close to the eastern coast of Mindoro. At 1:30 p.m. the ship was proceeding at seventeen knots off Batangas and was scheduled to dock in Manila about 8 p.m.

President and Mrs. Garcia arrived at the Manila South Harbor's Pier 3 at 8 o'clock this evening on board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu*.

Immediately after their arrival, they motored to the Manila Doctor's Hospital to visit their daughter Linda and take their first look at their first grandchild.

Earlier this morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass in thanksgiving for the safe delivery of Linda. Fr. Juan Tugadi presidential chaplain, said the mass before an improvised altar in the ship's dining saloon.

After breakfast President Garcia chatted briefly with representatives of Manila newspapers on the latest election results and said he expected the majority party candidates to pick up as soon as the rural votes and the Visayas and Mindanao returns are reported.

The Chief Executive said that former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo had already moved up to eleventh place and expressed confidence that Pajo will be included among the eight winners.

President Garcia retired to his cabin to work on pending state papers, pausing from time to time to listen to radio broadcasts on the latest election results. The departure of the *Lapu-Lapu* from Tagbilaran was delayed for a few hours to avoid the backlash of typhoon Emma. The ship shoved off at 4 p.m. and encountered only slight swells during the whole night.

November 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed today in his bedroom in Malacañang and did not receive callers.

It was not because today is Friday, the 13th, but the President kept himself busy going over the stack of state papers which had piled while he was out of town last week.

He conferred with Malacañang officials, including Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta, and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

Now and then, the President and Malacañang officials would receive reports on the trend of election returns in the senatorial race. The President was still optimistic that more Nacionalista candidates would make the grade.

President Garcia also cancelled the weekly press conference this afternoon. The President decided to cancel his weekly meeting with the press, as he wanted to finish action on several pending state papers.

As the President went over the pending state papers, he came across a letter from a poor and cancer-stricken widow, who sought presidential assistance for her medical treatment.

The widow, Mrs. Rufina S. Cruz of Pampanga who is a school teacher, appealed to the President to be given free medical treatment and care at the V. Luna General Hospital. She is teaching at the Dau Elementary School in Mabalacat, Pampanga. She said that she had spent her entire life's saving for an operation.

Touched by the letter, the President ordered his aides to arrange for the free treatment of the school teacher at the V. Luna General Hospital.

President Garcia today offered to place the entire government machinery at the disposal of the Commission on Elections to maintain the high standard of elections achieved in the November 10 polls.

In a telephone conversation with elections Commissioner Gaudencio Garcia, the President emphasized for the Commission on Elections to adopt all necessary measures to prevent the commission of election frauds and anomalies.

President Garcia's offer to the Commission was precipitated by news reports that all three political parties, Nacionalista, Liberal, and Grand Alliance had swamped the Commission with protests based on election anomalies.

So far we have conducted the most peaceful and best elections in post-years, President Garcia said. "I will not have this record smeared now" he emphasized.

The President issued today a proclamation declaring Monday, November 16 of this year, a special public holiday in Ilocos Sur, native province of the late President Elpidio Quirino, in commemoration of the latter's birthday.

The proclamation was issued on the request of the people of Ilocos Sur who had expressed their desire to be given full opportunity to celebrate the day with appropriate ceremonies.

November 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent the day in his bedroom in Malacañang where he awaited late tallies which might tilt the fortunes in favor of his candidates.

While awaiting for late election returns, the President received a telegram from Rep. Manuel Zosa, his chief political lieutenant in Cebu City, who reported of alleged irregularities in the reading of ballots in his area.

Zosa claimed that votes cast in favor of Casimiro Madarang and Ramon Durano were read in favor of Sergio Osmeña, Jr., and Gov. Jose Briones, respectively.

Incensed by this report, the President immediately called up Elections Commissioner Gaudencio Garcia to check on this charge.

Zosa also sought the suspension of the proclamation of both young Osmeña as mayor-elect and Briones as re-elected governor of the province.

The President also received similar reports from various areas, including Quezon City where his private residence is situated. Reports reaching the President said that there were also cases of misreading of ballots in Quezon City allegedly by henchmen of Mayor Norberto S. Amoranto.

President Garcia had offered the full resources of his administration to the Commission on Elections to check up on reports of frauds. Commissioner Garcia had assured the President that the Commission on Elections would expedite action on these reports.

The President also conferred with Max Maceren, vice-chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, and took ^{UP} the pursuit of the government campaign against graft and corruption.

He had previously announced that he would carry on his campaign against grafters even after the elections, as he felt that the people had reacted sharply against the issue of corruption in the government.

IN the afternoon, the President motored to Quezon City and visited his dentist, Dr. Rufino Achacoso. He saw the dentist for a routinary examination of his denture.

The President did not receive anybody the whole day. He stayed in his Private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, for the night.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: November 15-21, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 15.—THIS morning the President stayed in his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, and read newspaper reports on the political developments.

Despite the defeat of his candidates, the President sought consolation in the victory of five NP senatorial candidates as a "clear-cut endorsement of the Nacionalista administration."

The President, after reading the newspapers early in the morning, heard mass at an improvised altar at his private residence. He was joined by the First Lady and a few intimate friends.

After his breakfast with the members of his family, the President complained of a toothache. It was diagnosed as "tooth infection."

Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's physician, advised the Chief Executive to enter the Veterans Memorial Hospital for a thorough medical check-up.

President Garcia was also complaining of a recurrent cough. The President's physician asked the hospital doctors to give the Chief Executive a thorough medical check-up.

President Garcia is expected to stay in the hospital until tomorrow morning.

The President today issued the following statement.

"Through the ballot, our people have unmistakably registered their will for the retention of the Nacionalista Party at the helm of government and for this party to continue with its administration of the affairs of state. The victory of five Nacionalistas in the senatorial race is a clear-cut popular indorsement of the Nacionalista administration. It is also a clear-cut rejection of the sort of propaganda consisting of systematic vilification and distortion of facts.

"My warmest congratulations, therefore, goes to the five victorious Nacionalistas.

"To the three opposition winners also goes my congratulations. From them I expect the kind of criticism and fiscalizing that would redound to the benefit of the entire country. I presume that the election has taught most candidates the lesson of truth prevailing over mere mud-slinging as an election stunt.

"This election also showed that the adventure of a few political renegades who attack political bossism in one breath and in the next breath practice the worst kind of bossism by nominating themselves to senatorial posts without even the semblance of a convention can only end in failure and their popular rebuff. This election has also served to emphasize to Nacionalistas the need for better discipline and deeper sense of collective responsibility. The result of the elections reminded the Nacionalista leaders of bitter lessons in the past that lack of discipline starts the crack of division that ultimately leads to defeat.

"On behalf of the Filipino people, I take this occasion to express my thanks to the Commission on Elections and the Philippine Constabulary for their untiring efforts in assuring our people an honest, clean, and free election. But it is our people themselves who should receive the highest accolade because it was they who made possible a comparatively peaceful and orderly election.

"While the Nacionalista Party lost its foothold in some provinces, still the victory of an overwhelming majority of Nacionalistas in the local elections proves beyond doubt the solid indorsement of the rural folks.

“With the elections over, there is so much to do by way of nation building. I invite the opposition to set aside partisan sentiment and consideration and join hands with the majority party in our five major tasks which are:

“First, to minimize and if possible eradicate graft and corruption in the public service;

“Second, to complete our economic independence through the adoption of the Filipino First policy and similar measures;

”Third, to establish our dignity as a free people by dealing with sovereign powers on terms of sovereign equality;

”Fourth, to achieve a balanced economy by providing equal impetus to agriculture and industry; and

“Fifth, to promote the general welfare of the masses.”

November 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia is expected to be discharged from the Veterans Memorial hospital tomorrow morning after undergoing a thorough routine medical check-up and having been pronounced “physically fit” by the hospital staff.

The President had entered the hospital yesterday morning on the advice of his physician, Dr. Antonio Guytingco. He had complained of an abscessed tooth and a slight cough.

Routine Laboratory examinations of urine and blood, as well as an electrocardio test, were found negative. The cough which had since considerably improved was diagnosed by the medical staff as the result of numerous speeches and strenuous schedules which the President had followed during his recent trips to the provinces.

The President had shown impatience to go out of the hospital. He expressed eagerness of buckling down to work, adding that he had many things to do.

Early this morning the President ordered a wreath placed on the tomb of the late President Elpidio Quirino at the South Cemetery in Makati, Rizal. He also ordered a unit from the Presidential Guard Battalion to stand honor guard at the mausoleum from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. today on the occasion of the late President’s 69th birthday.

President Garcia had previously proclaimed today as a special public holiday in Ilocos Sur, the home province of President Quirino, in order to give the people there an opportunity to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies.

November 17.—THE PRESIDENT sent a wire to Press Attaches Eddie Martelino and Jose Guerrero in the United States congratulating them for taking to task a *New York Times* correspondent for his allegedly slanted account on the elections.

The U. S. newspaper had printed a story of the last Philippine elections and pointed to the alleged “waning prestige of President Garcia.”

The President rested the whole morning preparatory to buckling down to work as soon as he leaves the hospital tomorrow morning. He had expressed impatience about leaving the hospital, saying he had many things to attend to.

IN the afternoon the President received Press Secretary Jose C. Nable who conveyed the invitation of the National Press Club to the President to address the annual awards-for outstanding journalists sponsored by the Stanvac.

The President accepted the invitation scheduled for November 26. This afternoon the President led the welcomers to the World Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Fatima at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

During the welcoming ceremony, the President was visibly touched on arrival of the distinguished Pilgrim Image during a lull in the strong winds that lashed the city and suburbs.

From the main entrance, the Holy Image was taken in a long process to the different hospital wards, in order to give the bedridden patients a chance to offer their prayers.

At the President's ward, the Chief Executive placed the crown on the Holy Image and offered silent prayers.

Rev. Fr. Patrick J. Moore, who is accompanying the Image of Our Lady of Fatima in her world tour, also offered prayers for the early recovery of the Chief Executive.

November 18.—THIS morning the President honored SEATO Secretary General Pote Sarasin with a breakfast at Malacañang.

Members of local diplomatic corps, as well as ranking officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs, were invited to the occasion.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano represented President Garcia, who was still confined at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

President Garcia spent the whole day in his quarters at the Veterans Memorial Hospital despite announcements he was checking out yesterday morning. It was the second time the President was reported leaving the hospital.

From his hospital quarters, the President went over state papers.

During the day, the President also received former President Sergio Osmeña, who reported on the Cebu political developments which resulted in the victory of anti-administration candidates.

Other callers of the President were Sen. Roseller T. Lim, Major General Pelagio Cruz, acting chief of staff of the Armed Forces, and Undersecretary of Defense Mariano Yenke.

The President issued today a proclamation declaring Thursday, November 26 this year, as a special public holiday for national thanks giving.

In his proclamation the President said that it is fitting that a day be set aside on which to dedicate "our noblest thoughts in prayer and thanks giving to God for all the blessings He has showered upon us."

He called upon all the people "to turn their thoughts on that day to the Lord and offer Him a prayer of thanks for all the blessings He has bestowed upon us."

The President signed today the *ad interim* appointment of Ernesto R. Oxciano as assistant city fiscal of Manila.

The President also approved the promotions of eight assistant city fiscals of Manila.

Recommended by Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag and favorably endorsed by the City Fiscal of Manila, the promotions were occasioned by the vacancy created by the recent appointment of former assistant city fiscal Guillermo Dacumos to the Court of First Instance of Cagayan.

The promoted fiscals were Eulogio S. Serrano from ₱10,000 to ₱11,000 per annum; Rafael A. Jose from ₱9,000 to ₱10,000 per annum; Arsenio B. Alcantara from ₱8,400 to ₱9,000 per annum; Artemio H. Cusi from ₱8,100 to ₱8,400 per annum; Ramon V. Jabson from ₱7,600 to ₱8,100 per annum; Bernardo G. Tiongco from ₱7,200 to

₱7,600 per annum; Rodolfo A. Nocon from ₱6,600 to ₱7,200 per annum; and Luis A. Peña from ₱6,000 to ₱6,600 per annum.

President Garcia released today the initial amount of ₱50,000 for immediate relief to the victims of typhoon *Freda*.

The President at the same time ordered Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, who is acting chairman of the Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee, to fly to Albay and Catanduanes, together with members of the committee, to make a survey of the extent of the damage.

At a meeting of the committee, presided over by Secretary Quema the Council of State Room of Malacañang this afternoon, individual report from the Social Welfare Administration, the Philippine National Red Cross and the Armed Forces, indicated that Albay, Catanduanes, Sorsogon, and Camarines Sur bore the brunt of the typhoon.

SWA Administrator Amparo P. Villamor informed the committee that emergency relief work in the areas affected was going on smoothly with the cooperation of local relief groups, PNRC chapters, and local officials.

She said, however, that actual census of sufferers will take some time owing to the wide areas hit by the typhoon, which covered 16 provinces. She requested the NARIC to make available to the SWA on credit at least, 500 sacks of rice to supplement present relief stocks.

November 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano with whom he discussed urgent official matters, among them the present status of Chinese deportees.

The conference was held behind closed doors in the Veterans Memorial Hospital where President Garcia underwent a routine medical and physical checkup.

Secretary Serrano asked for a conference with President Garcia in view of the request of the British Government to exempt Hongkong Chinese residents from the new policy banning the entry of new Chinese visitors into the Philippines.

In the afternoon President Garcia received Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., who visited the Chief Executive. During the call the President extended his personal congratulations to “Amang” for his reelection last November 10.

This is the first time President Garcia and Senate President Rodriguez met since the elections were over.

Other presidential callers this afternoon were Rep. and Mrs. Salipada Pendatun, Rep. Lorenzo Teves, and Rep. Lamberto Macias.

On the advice of attending physicians, President Garcia postponed his departure from the hospital to enable him to rest a bit more. He probably will remain there until Sunday.

The President this day designated six members of the Board of Medical Examiners as provided for in the Medical Act of 1959 passed during the last regular session of Congress.

The new law increased the membership of the medical board from three to six to be appointed by the President for a term of one year. Designated were Dr. Cesar Filoteo, Dr. Edgardo Caparas, Dr. Antonio Guytingco, Dr. Oscar Chacon, Dr. Jose Cocjin, and Col. Pedro M. Cruz.

November 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent his sixth consecutive day at the Veterans’ Memorial Hospital today. No announcements were available from the Malacañang press office on the date of the President’s plan to leave the VMH.

Despite his confinement at the hospital, however, the President continued receiving callers.

Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, vice-president of the Nacionalista Party, conferred with the President, and there were speculations that the House leader took up political matters with the Chief Executive.

The President also received Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, who returned recently with a presidential committee which surveyed the extent of the destruction wrought by typhoon *Freda*.

Aytona flew to Legaspi City and to Catanduanes and reported to the President the damage in those two areas.

During the conference, the President directed Aytona to release the amount of ₱200,000 from the Malacañang contingent funds for the reconstruction of houses blown down by the recent typhoon.

Reports of extensive damage in Northern Luzon were also received by President Garcia in his hospital quarters today.

Sen. Eulogio Balao and Rep. Ben T. Ligot of Cagayan informed the President on the destruction in Northern Luzon.

Sen. Claro M. Recto, president of the Nationalist-Citizens Party, also saw the President.

Sen. Cipriano Primicias likewise saw the President and reported on the results of the last elections in Pangasinan.

Primicias had denied charges hurled recently by Vice-President Macapagal, Liberal Party president, that election returns were tampered with in Pangasinan.

Other presidential callers were Capiz Gov. Jose Dinglasan and former Rep. Carmen Dinglasan-Consing.

President Garcia today declared the existence of a state of public calamity in Catanduanes as a result of the tremendous destruction wrought by typhoon *Freda* which is threatening the people of that province with famine, disorder, and epidemics.

The President's action steamed from his desire to protect the inhabitants of Catanduanes from unscrupulous individuals who would take advantage of the abnormal situation to profit from the disaster at the expense of the masses.

In his proclamation the President cited the provisions of Act No. 4164, entitled "An Act to prevent the excessive increase in the price of certain prime necessities of life on the occasion of a public calamity and penalizing the violation thereof." The law made it unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation in a province where a state of calamity is declared:

(1) To sell or offer for sale palay, rice, corn, cloth, milk, canned goods, sugar, and other foodstuffs, building and construction materials, at prices higher by 25 per cent or more over and above the average current local price of such commodities one month previous to the occurrence of such public calamity, and

(2) To aggravate the crisis by refusing for the purpose of profiteering to sell at the legal price or by hiding, concealing, or hoarding the goods or commodities for the same purpose.

President Garcia ordered a Philippine Navy LST to leave tomorrow for that province carrying prefabricated buildings and relief supplies.

The Chief Executive also directed the NAMARCO, through Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, to send NAMARCO goods to Catanduanes in order to stabilize prices of these commodities.

The President also declared a state of emergency in the province of Albay after receiving reports of the damages caused by typhoon *Freda* in Catanduanes and Albay from Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez and Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez.

Sen. Gonzalez who arrived last night from a tour of the devastated Bicol provinces reported to the President that thousands were left homeless and that damages caused to crops were estimated to run up to millions of pesos.

In Catanduanes, according to the report submitted to President Garcia by Sen. Gonzalez, houses and school buildings had their roofs blown away. The wind of gale intensity also blew away the fruits of coconut trees in the province.

President Garcia also directed the AFP Corps of Engineers to rush special units to help in the rehabilitation of houses and the reconstruction of damaged school buildings.

The President directed the corps to give top priority in rushing prefabricated school buildings to the provinces devastated by the typhoon. He expressed concern over the welfare of hundreds of children whose schooling had to be interrupted because of wrecked classrooms.

November 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today completed a week-long confinement at the Veterans' Memorial Hospital.

He did not receive any caller, except his personal barber, who was summoned to the hospital for the routinary haircut.

The President, however, conferred with some Malacañang officials to catch up with the backlog of pending state papers which have piled up.

President Garcia stayed throughout the day in his bedroom. He had been advised to rest until tomorrow morning.

The President today issued an executive order creating provincial, city municipal, and municipal district census boards to act as consultative bodies and assist the Bureau of the Census and Statistics during the preparation and actual enumeration work within their respective jurisdictions in the 1960 census.

The provincial census board, as constituted, is composed of the provincial governor as chairman, and the provincial treasurer, division superintendent of schools, and district engineer, as members.

The city census board is composed of the city mayor as chairman, and the city treasurer, city superintendent of schools, and city engineer as members.

The municipal census board is composed of the municipal mayor as chairman, the municipal treasurer, and the supervising principal teacher as members.

The municipal district census board is composed of the municipal district mayor as chairman, and the municipal district treasurer and the supervising or principal teacher, as members.

The President, in his executive order, charged the census boards with the responsibility of recording and safekeeping of all census materials in their respective jurisdiction assembling and consolidating the census returns and forwarding them to the Bureau of Census and Statistics.

The President signed today the *ad interim* appointments of three justices of the peace and a chairman of the board of assistant appeals of Butuan City.

Appointed justices of the peace are Jeremias A. Castro for Uson, Masbate, Tolomeo C. Galarrita for Sumilao, Bukidnon, and Asterio A. Gadiane for Valencia, Negros Oriental.

Juanito A. Sagaral was named chairman of the board of assessment appeals of Butuan City.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: November 22-28, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, who reported that striking workers of the NAMARCO will allow the withdrawal of some 400,000 cases of evaporated milk from the piers to relieve the present acute shortage of this commodity.

The President was informed that the milk had been declared as “not cargo” by the Associated Workers Union, an affiliate of the Katipunang Mangagawang Pilipino (KMP), and has been lying exposed in the piers for some time.

According to Secretary Castaño, the indentors will pick up the milk from the piers and distribute them to the different NAMARCO outlets some time this week.

Castaño also said that the early solution to the NAMARCO strike is now in sight with both parties to the controversy studying a formula submitted for consideration.

Earlier this morning President Garcia, accompanied by Malacañang aides, heard mass celebrated at the VMH chapel.

After breakfast the Chief Executive read the morning papers and later received Labor Secretary Angel Castaño with whom he conferred until almost noon.

In the afternoon Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia visited the President upon her arrival from Cebu where she had attended the town fiesta in Opon, her hometown.

The President issued today a proclamation declaring the period from December 7 to 12 this year as Government Employees' Week with the view to focusing public attention on the invaluable services rendered by government employees and encouraging them to achieve greater efficiency in the public service.

The President, in his proclamation, called upon all citizens and residents of this country, as well as all schools and civic organizations, to turn their thoughts to the honest, loyal, and devoted government employees in grateful appreciation for the services rendered by them.

The Chief Executive said that the week should likewise be devoted to the attainment of maximum service efficiency and the highest degree of harmony and cooperation between the public and the employees.

The proclamation was issued on the recommendation of the Philippine Government Employees Association.

November 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered the holding of a special election for municipal officials in Olongapo, Zambales, after the formal turnover of this US naval base to the Philippine Government soon.

The President's decision to hold a referendum in this municipality was the result of a resolution presented this morning by the heads and members of various social and civic organizations in Olongapo objecting to the choice of municipal officials recommended by Zambales provincial officials, among them Gov. Manuel A. Barretto, to the Chief Executive for appointment.

Lamberto Gomez, member of the Zambales Lawyers' League and spokesman of the group that called on President Garcia at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, emphasized that residents of Olongapo objected to the appointment of Barretto's candidates for mayor, vice-mayor, and four of the eight municipal councilors.

The President decided to let the people of the new municipality choose their own officials in a plebiscite to be held for the purpose.

Earlier this morning, the President sent a letter of condolence to the family of Mrs. Melitona Aldea Sanchez and had a wreath sent to the funeral parlor where the body lay in state. Mrs. Sanchez was the mother of Col. Joaquin Sanchez, director of the VMH.

Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno also called on the President requesting the release of public works funds to repair the extensive damage caused by typhoons that hit the Philippines recently.

Other presidential callers this morning were Defense Secretary Alejo Santos and Reps. Maximino Garcia, Leon Guinto, Jr., and Agaton Ursua.

The President today authorized Philippine participation in the fifth session of the Facilitation Division of the International Civil Aeronautics Organization.

At a conference with Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema held in his Veterans Memorial Hospital quarters, the President also approved the trip to Singapore of Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, upon invitation of the British Far East Land Forces.

The trip will last from December 7 to 11. Gen. Cabal will be accompanied by Commodore Jose Francisco, Philippine Navy chief; Brigadier Generals Isagani Campo, Philippine Constabulary chief; Pedro Q. Molina, PAF chief; Capt. Heracleo Alano (PN) AFP G-2; and Lt. Roman Gavino, Jr.

Eduardo Crisostomo, assistant chief appraiser of the Bureau of Customs, was appointed chairman of the Philippine participation to the fifth session of the Facilitation Division of the ICAO.

Other delegates are Vicente Reyes, acting chief of the division of consular services of the Department of Foreign Affairs; Tirso Santillan, chief of the division of immigration of the Bureau of Immigration; Elias A. Vega, revenue operations executive of the Bureau of Internal Revenue; Eligio Y. Manalo, assistant chief, legal and economic affairs division and acting ICAO coordinator of the Civil Aeronautics Administrations; Leandro Tobias, Philippine Air Lines; and Jesus Razon, technical assistant of the exchange control department of the Central Bank.

November 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed at the Veterans Memorial Hospital for the eleventh consecutive day today and, unless plans miscarry, he may check out tomorrow.

President Garcia is scheduled to give a cocktail party for the delegates to the world tourists conference being held in Manila. The party was originally scheduled for last Saturday, but owing to the continued confinement of the President at the VMH, it was postponed until tomorrow afternoon.

The President was still resting at the hospital. There were reports that the Chief Executive was complaining of back pains.

Dr. Antonio Guytingco has advised the Chief Executive to have some more days of rest.

At the hospital, however, the President continued receiving some callers.

Gov. Manuel A. Barretto of Zambales saw the President and requested the postponement of the proposed special elections in Olongapo and Subic towns, which are at present parts of the U.S. naval reservations.

The President had previously announced he will order a special election in these two towns as soon as they are turned over to the Philippine Government.

Barretto said that while he was not against a special election, he wanted to give the politicians of Zambales a “breathing spell” after what he called a “hotly-contested elections last November 10.”

The President seemed to be sympathetic to Barretto’s suggestion.

Reparations Commissioner Juan M. Alberto also saw the President and briefed the President on the so-called “reparations anomalies.”

Alberto has been staying in the Manila office while two other commissioners, Rodolfo P. Maslog and Gregorio Abad, stayed in Japan.

Maslog and Abad have been recalled to Manila to shed light on these reported anomalies.

Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda also saw the President and reported the victory of the Nacionalista Party candidates in Tarlac.

Other presidential callers were Sen. Roseller T. Lim; Reps. Marcelino Veloso, Francisco Sumulong, and Nicanor Yniguez of Leyte; Rep. Laurentino L. Badilles of Lanao; and Gov. Miguel Manguera and Maasin (Leyte) Mayor Alfredo Bantug.

President Garcia observed today that the provisions of the new medical act limiting the appointment by the President of members of the board of medical examiners to recommendees of the Philippine Medical Association was merely recommendatory in nature and not absolutely binding upon the President.

In a communication dispatched from Malacañang this afternoon to Dr. Alberto Z. Romualdez, PMA secretary-treasurer. Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema said: “To accept the proposition that he (the President) cannot appoint persons outside of those proposed by the Philippine Medical Association would be reducing him to a veritable “rubber stamp” of the association.”

Secretary Quema continued: “The President’s power of appointment is not a mere ministerial act but one involving the exercise of his sound judgment and expression. The appointing power must determine the fitness of the person whom he is to appoint and not simply accept that which is foisted upon him.

“It cannot be contended that Congress limited his authority in this respect because Congress has no power to encroach upon the exercise of an executive power or deprive the President of his discretion in a matter over which he is empowered by the Constitution to act.”

He added: “To hold that Congress wanted to tie the hands of the President in the matter of choosing the six members of the board of medical examiners by simply appointing those proposed by the Philippine Medical Association would be an insult to the intelligence of that body, as it could not have contemplated any impairment or degradation of the President’s power of appointment by giving him no room for discretion in the selection of the persons who are to share with him in the exercise of the executive power of the government.”

The communication was in reply to a letter addressed to the President from the PMA official informing him of the association’s decision to go to court on the recent appointment of Col. Pedro M. Cruz, chief of the V. Luna General Hospital, as member of the board of medical examiners. The association had contended that the appointment of Dr. Cruz was contrary to Republic Act No. 2382 passed by Congress during the last session limiting medical board members to recommendees of the association. Col. Cruz was not among 12 names submitted by the association for appointment to the board.

Others appointed were Drs. Cesar Filoteo, Edgardo Caparas, Antonio Guytingco, Oscar Chacon, and Jose Cocjin. All the appointees, except Dr. Cruz has been recommended by the PMA. They took their oaths of office before Secretary Quema at Malacañang this morning.

November 25.—DESPITE speculations to the contrary, the President stayed at the Veterans Memorial Hospital today. This was his twelfth day at the hospital.

It was learned that the President's physicians had advised him to rest for some more days at the VMH. He was said to be suffering from recurring back pains.

The President, however, went over pending state papers. He was reported planning up the reorganization of the government offices under him.

Today he received the courtesy resignation of Defense Secretary Aleio Santos, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, and Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta.

He had previously received the verbal offer of Reparations Commissioner Juan Alberto to resign his position in the war indemnity body.

The President said he will hold in abeyance Alberto's resignation until the two other commissioners have submitted their letters offering to quit the Reparations Commission.

Shortly before noon, however, a large delegation of political leaders from Albay, including 18 victorious reelectionist mayors, turned up at the presidential quarters to renew their pledge of support to his administration following their reelection. Headed by Gov. Nicanor Maronilla-Seva, victorious reelectionist of Albay, the group was accompanied by Sens. Pedro Sabido and Pacita M. Gonzalez.

The President thanked them for their pledge.

This afternoon President Garcia gave a cocktail party in Malacañang in honor of the delegates to the International Union of Official Travel Organization (IUOTO) who had just concluded their 14th conference in Manila.

In welcoming the delegates from some 65 members nations, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who represented the President, expressed regrets that the President could not be personally present because he was confined at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

Secretary Serrano told the delegates that travel and tourism is the best way to promote world understanding because peoples come into close contact with each other and become more familiar with the mores and traditions of their brothers in other parts of the world.

Dr. Paul Bernecker of Australia, president of the IUOTO, thanked the President and the Filipino people on behalf of the delegates, for the warm hospitality accorded them during their stay in the Philippines, the host country for the conference this year.

Also present at the cocktails were Mrs. Serrano, who represented Mrs. Garcia, Commissioner Modesto Farolan of the Board of Travel and Tourist Industry, and others prominent in the tourist and travel industry in the Philippines.

November 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia received today the courtesy resignation of Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia to give the President a free hand in the projected reorganization of his Cabinet.

Valencia's resignation brought to four the number of Cabinet members who had placed their positions at the disposal of the Chief Executive.

The President received very few callers this morning at his quarters in the Veterans Memorial hospital in Quezon City.

Lit. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, Armed Forces chief of staff, briefed the President on latest developments regarding the implementation of the U.S. military assistance program in the Philippines.

Gen. Cabal also reported on his observations as representative of the Philippines to the 1959 CINCPAC Weapons Demonstration in Okinawa which brought together army top brass from 16 nations, to observe the fighting power display of the United States Armed Forces, which lasted for nine days.

Other callers of the President included CAA Administrator Urbano Caldoza who briefed the President on this year's "air show" in observance of Aviation Week, which will be participated in by acrobatic teams from five nations, including the Philippines.

November 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received Sen. Domocao Alonto, who described the last elections in Mindanao as the most peaceful and cleanest ever held so far in the history of that island. Alonto called at the Veterans Memorial Hospital this morning.

President Garcia also received Senator-elect Alejandro Almendras, who conferred with the Chief Executive on proposed legislation to be presented at the next session of Congress.

The President today received very few callers. He spent most of his time working on pending state papers.

Among the papers which demanded the Chief Executive's attention was a petition for commutation of sentence to life imprisonment in behalf of Legario Llagos, Aniceto Marañillas, Jacinto Mejio, Paterno Adame, and Maximino Cabrera.

The accused had been sentenced to death for multiple murder committed in Bo. Lamitan, Kidapawan, Cotabato on April 23, 1950. The reprieve previously granted by the President expires on Monday, November 30.

President Garcia today received the biggest number of offers of his Cabinet members to quit their posts in order to give him a free hand to reorganize his official family.

Those who tendered courtesy resignations this day were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, Education Secretary Jose Romero, Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, Social Welfare Commissioner Amparo Villamor, Budget Commissioner Dommador Aytona, Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique Quema, and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug.

Late in the evening, the President received Quema and acting Secretary of Labor Agapito Braganza.

November 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered the NAMARCO to sell imported milk to its distributors at the pre-strike price of ₱15 per case and assured the buying public that all purchases of milk from abroad will be exempt from the dollar exchange premium.

In another directive, the President instructed Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno not to impose the 25 per cent premium on all foreign exchange used for the importation of milk into the country.

The state marketing firm had decided to increase the price of imported evaporated milk to ₱19.25 a case following the denial by the Monetary Board of its petition for the exemption of the corporation's milk purchases from the imposition of the 25 per cent margin.

Expressing grave concern over the adverse effects of the price increase of milk on the people, particularly those in the low-income families, the Chief Executive said the Monetary Board's action is not in keeping with the spirit in which the dollar margin bill was passed by Congress.

President Garcia cited the opinion given by the Department of Justice that local filled milk is not a substitute for evaporated milk and, as such, evaporated milk should be among the items excluded from the imposition of the margin fee.

In his room at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, the President received Lt. Comdr. Marcelino Calinawan, head of the presidential fact-finding committee, and Roberto Oca, president of the *Katipunang Manggagawang Pilipino*, who reported that the first of the strike-bound milk importations of the NAMARCO, totalling some 400,000 cases, had started rolling from the piers this morning.

The Chief Executive expressed his appreciation to the leaders of the NAMARCO workers' union for agreeing to a 15-day truce in the national interest, thus averting a serious crisis.

President Garcia, meanwhile, continued receiving courtesy resignations tendered by ranking government officials in order to give him a free hand in implementing his reorganization plans.

Among those who submitted their letters of resignation to the Chief Executive this morning were Ramon G. Gaviola, Jr., acting administrator of the Social Security System, and Director Martiniano Abad of the National Marketing Corporation.

Governor-elect Constantino C. Navarro of Surigao, accompanied by Rep. Reynaldo P Honrado, called on the President to request the assignment of an engineering construction battalion in his province to help the district engineer in the construction of feeder roads.

The President received resolution signed by 38 of the 53 recently elected mayors of Cebu expressing their unstinted loyalty and unqualified support to his administration.

The resolution was presented to the Chief Executive by Paul Tumacay, former vice-mayor of Miguellin, Cebu.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: November 29- December 5, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 29.—WAKING up early in the morning, the President heard mass said by Fr. Juan Tugadi, Philippine Navy chaplain, at the ante-room of his hospital quarters.

Also at the mass were Mrs. Garcia; Major Ciriaco Hocson, junior military aide; Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician; and some members of the hospital staff.

On the insistence of his physicians, President Garcia continued his forced confinement at the Veterans Memorial Hospital to complete the healing of his strained back.

He was scheduled to address the opening of an air show marking the opening of this year's Aviation Week at the Manila International Airport.

President Garcia was prevailed upon to give it up and allow a representative to deliver his opening speech. The task fell on Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano.

However, Mrs. Garcia managed to attend the spectacular air show staged by crack units of air forces specially sent in by friendly foreign countries.

President Garcia spent a relatively quiet Sunday today receiving only one caller in the evening in the person of Rodolfo Andal, who offered to resign from all his government positions.

Andal called on the Chief Executive and tendered his courtesy resignation as general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, as member of the board of trustees of the same firm, and as a commissioner of the Social Security System.

November 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia received today the courtesy resignations of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno Board Chairman Juan Chioco of the National Rice and Corn Corporation, and Board Director Manuel Leelin of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation to give the Chief Executive a free hand in the projected reorganization of the executive branch of the government.

These latest resignations brought up to 11 the number of Cabinet members and to seven the number of key officials of the government-owned and controlled corporations who had placed their positions at the disposal of the appointing power in connection with the general clamour for a revamp of government offices and agencies.

In submitting his resignation, Secretary Moreno emphasized that he was merely renewing the resignation he had filed on President Garcia's assumption of office in 1957. He also expressed deep appreciation for the confidence reposed in him when President Garcia allowed him to continue serving after the death of the late President Magsaysay and after President Garcia's election in November of the same year.

President Garcia did not receive any callers the whole day today. He kept himself to his quarters at the Veterans Memorial Hospital going over some important papers brought over to him from Malacañang by Lcdr. Melchor Fronda.

Waking up early this morning, the President ordered Manuel G. Zamora, Malacañang Protocol Officer, to send a wreath at the foot of the Bonifacio monument at the Rotonda in Caloocan, Rizal, where appropriate ceremonies had been held in commemoration of Bonifacio Day, with Defense Secretary Alejo Santos as the guest speaker.

Only visitor allowed to see the President today was Mrs. Garcia, who arrived at the hospital shortly after 5 p.m. The President retired early in the evening.

December 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia received today the resignation of two more members of his Cabinet, one undersecretary, four heads of government corporations, and two directors of government firms.

The two Cabinet members whose resignations were shown to the President today were Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez and Commissioner Lugum Oka of national integration. Secretary Hernandez had wired his resignation from Naga City last Saturday, but the wire had not been shown to the President until today.

Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke, Jr., also offered his position at the disposal of the President in connection with the latter's desire to reorganize the executive branch of the government.

Others who submitted courtesy resignations today are Chairman Gregorio Licaros of the Development Bank of the Philippines, General Managers Bernardo Torres of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, Eugenio Santos of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, Bernardo Abrera of the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation, Chairman Juan J. Carlos of the Manila Railroad Company board of directors, and Col. Vicente Tiongson, member of the board of trustees of the Government Service Insurance System. Col. Tiongson also offered to resign his post as financial assistant in the Office of the President.

These latest resignations brought up to 13 the number of Cabinet members, to four the number of undersecretaries, and to 15 the number of general managers and board directors of government corporations who had decided to give the President a free hand in the projected government revamp.

Cabinet members who had previously resigned are Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Justice Alejo Mabanag, Education Secretary Jose Romero, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, Chairman Jose C. Locsin of the National Economic Council, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo, and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

Officials of undersecretary rank who had likewise resigned are Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug, and Assistant Executive Secretaries Enrique C. Quema and Mariano Logarta.

December 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received the courtesy resignations of two more undersecretaries, two directors of the National Development Company, and the commissioner and associate commissioners of the Veterans Claims Commission in connection with the projected revamp of government offices.

The two undersecretaries are Enrique Fernandez of the Department of Justice and Daniel Salcedo of the Department of Education. This brings to six the number of officials of undersecretary rank who have offered to place their positions at the disposal of the appointing power.

Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug, Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke, Jr., and Assistant Executive Secretaries Enrique C. Quema and Mariano Logarta had previously tendered their resignations.

Two corporate directors whose offers to resign were received by the President today were Agustin Caseñas and Genaro Sarmiento, both of the National Development Company.

Others who offered to resign today are Commissioner Margarito Torralba and Associate Commissioners Rafael R. Estrada and Francisco Ofemaria, all of the Veterans Claims Commission.

Except for former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., who paid a social call at the Veterans Memorial Hospital this morning, the President did not receive any caller today. The Grand Old Man from Cebu was accompanied by his son-in-law, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia.

Working on some pressing state papers at his VMH quarters today, the President issued an administrative order dismissing from office Mayor Primo Panti of Virac, Catanduanes, who had been found guilty of dishonesty and misconduct in office in an administrative investigation.

The investigation had been conducted by the provincial board and subsequently elevated to Malacañang for review. The mayor's dismissal from office was made effective as of the date of his suspension on September 5, 1957.

The President today also referred to Education Secretary Jose Romero the charge of Rep. Luciano Millan of Pangasinan against the division superintendent of his province, Marcelino Bautista, who was allegedly soliciting contributions of eggs, chickens, and pigs from teachers and school children.

The Chief Executive instructed Secretary Romero to investigate the charge and to report to him his findings as soon as possible.

December 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia is considering new measures to improve present techniques and procedures of tax collection and accelerate the present pace of tax drives for recommendation to Congress when it convenes late next month.

The proposed measures were the subject of a conference between the President and BIR Commissioner Melecio R. Domingo this morning in the presidential suite at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

The President is taking advantage of his forced stay at the hospital to formulate a legislative program which he will incorporate in his state-of-the-nation address to Congress.

Commissioner Domingo expressed to the Chief Executive his opinion that if his proposals are implemented, government revenues would be sufficient to cover budgetary needs of the government even if the 25 per cent marginal fee on foreign exchange is scrapped.

The BIR official saw the President only briefly. He had to submit most of his proposals in writing.

Among his recommendations, Domingo said, is the need for additional personnel to replace treasurers who are not BIR employees and who cannot be forced to step up the pace of their tax collections.

It was understood that the internal revenue chief had also assured President Garcia that no new sources of taxes need be tapped and present tax rates need not be increased, if the present tax collection machinery could be improved.

The pain in the lower back which has been bothering the President for some time has eased considerably, it was announced by Dr. Antonio Guytingco today.

The President's personal physician would not, however, say when he expected the President to be discharged from the Veterans Memorial Hospital, where the Chief Executive had been under force confinement since November 15. He said that he and assisting doctors would like to have the ailment completely cured before they discharged the patient.

Attending physicians had advised the President not to move around too much to facilitate his recovery. They had urged him to cut down on paper work which had necessitated his sitting up for long periods and also to avoid receiving callers.

The President's ailment had been diagnosed as *spondylolisthesis* caused by a displacement of the lumbar vertebra which was said to be pressing on some nerves. The only cure prescribed is rest and to let nature make the adjustments.

Attending physicians are unanimous that, aside from this, the President is in sound physical condition.

Assisting doctors are Dr. Alejandro Gaerlan; Col. Luis Martinez, former commanding officer of the V. Luna General Hospital; Dr. Benjamin Tamesis, director of the National Orthopedic hospital; Dr. Gilberto Games, neurologist of the University of Sto. Tomas; Dr. Valentin Fidelino, chief of the medical service of the VMH; and Dr. Catalino Hocson, orthopedic surgeon of the VMH.

December 4.—THIS morning, the President received Sen. Lorenzo M. Tañada and former Public Works Secretary Sotero Baluyut.

President Garcia observed a 15-minute meditation for the Sacred Heart. He confessed and then received Holy Communion during a mass said at the Veterans Memorial Hospital by Fr. Niebres.

President Garcia today heard plans of his special public relations man in the United States for improving the Philippine information drive in the US.

He received Abelardo L. Valencia, head of the Philippine Information Services in Washington, D.C., who came home upon summons of the President for consultation.

Valencia reported to the President that a group of American newsmen will visit the Philippines soon to get a better picture of the country for relay to the US public.

Valencia conferred for well over an hour with the President. He was the only evening caller.

December 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took steps to insure an adequate supply of cheaper foodstuffs in the rural areas as he ordered the presidential assistant on community development to prepare the ground for the organization of barrio stores to handle the distribution of NAMARCO goods and NARIC rice.

In his conference with Ramon Binamira, PACD head, whom he had summoned to his quarters at the Veterans Memorial Hospital this evening, the President expressed his desire to have foodstuffs funneled directly to the barrios and made readily available to farmers and other low-income groups in remote communities of the country.

The President revealed that, he had previously instructed Chairman Jose Locsin of the National Economic Council to draw plans whereby sizable stocks of the NAMARCO and NARIC could be distributed directly to these barrio stores without the intervention of middlemen.

This stores, the President said, would be a project of the whole barrio and operated under the direct supervision of barrio councils headed by barrio lieutenants. He said that the plans are nearing completion by the NEC.

The Chief Executive did not receive any callers this morning. He spent most of his time inside his room at the hospital where he worked on some pending papers brought over to him from Malacañang by Lcdr. Melchor Fronda, junior presidential aide.

In the afternoon, the President received Ambassador Francisco Javier Conde of Spain, who called to say goodbye prior to his return to his home country for reassignment following his tour of duty in the Philippines. Ambassador Conde informed the Chief Executive that Minister Ramon Sanz Heredia would be charge d'affairs of the Spanish Embassy pending the appointment of his successor.

President and Mrs. Garcia honored Ambassador and Mrs. Conde this morning with a despedida breakfast at Malacañang. The President was represented by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano at the affair where some members of the diplomatic corps headed by Msgr. Salvatore Siino, the Apostolic Nuncio, were invited.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: December 6-12, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

December 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia kept much to himself today in an effort to have the much-needed rest which his doctors have prescribed to cure his recurring back pains.

He woke up early this morning and then heard a mass said by Fr. Juan Tugade at the ante-room of the President's suite at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

The mass was also attended by Mrs. Garcia; Lt. Cmdr. Melchor Fronda, naval aide; and members of the hospital staff.

President Garcia did not receive any callers. He leisurely scanned the Sunday morning papers.

He took a nap after lunch and then got up to follow the proceedings of the Family Rosary Crusade at the Luneta by listening to a transistor radio at his bedroom.

The President was originally scheduled to lead the nation in attending the crusade, but it was evident he was not ready to leave the hospital as yet.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano represented him. Mrs. Garcia, however, attended the religious gathering in her capacity as first Lady.

December 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia today stayed at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, where he was advised to take a complete rest in order that his back ailment may heal rapidly.

There were many visitors who sought audience with the Chief Executive, but they were not able to see him. A Palace aide told them that the President was resting and could not receive callers.

Those who were able to see the President were Auditor General Pedro Gimenez and Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez.

While the President was resting at the VMH, Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia received boy and girl councilors who went to Malacañang for a call on the Chief Executive. The First Lady congratulated the boy and girl officials who took over the City Hall this day.

During the day, the President signed the appointments of Assistant Fiscal Milagros A. German and Solicitor Roman Cansino as municipal court judges.

German will take over a new court created by the new city charter. Casino, on the other hand, has been holding judicial chores in the municipal court as reliever of Manila judges who are on vacation.

In the evening, the President received Sen. Roseller T. Lim, who succeeded in getting into President Garcia's room. The conference was reported to have been brief. No details were available from Malacañang press office on the subject taken up at the meeting.

December 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia today stayed at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, was reported to have walked about, indicating that he has picked up in his fight against the mysterious back ailment which has confined him at the VMH.

As reports on the President's condition swept the city, agitation for a detailed analysis on President Garcia's state of health mounted.

It was pointed out that the state of health of the President was the nation's concern and a detailed report on his condition should be released to the public.

The President had previously told newsmen he was suffering from some back pains brought about by a dislocation in his backbone, known as the "dog collar." The dislocation was traced by X-ray films to have been caused 20 years ago.

President Garcia today received Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, who returned the other day from a five-day goodwill visit to Taipei.

Nable reported on his meetings with President Chiang Kai-shek, Vice-President and Premier Cheng Seng, the foreign secretary, and other Chinese officials. He also reported on his dangerous flying trip to Quemoy where he had a peep at the Chinese mainland through powerful binoculars.

The President today directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, to submit summary reports of investigations of government offices and personnel that may be needed in the revamp of the government machinery.

In another directive, the President also ordered the PCAPE chairman to coordinate investigations of alleged ACCFA anomalies regarding the purchase of native tobacco and the upgrading of Virginia leaf tobacco.

President Garcia today gave his assurance to Japanese officials that the remains of two Japanese holdouts in Lubang Island would be shipped to Japan when found.

The presidential gesture of goodwill was made as he recalled his state visit to Japan one year ago in the implementation of his policy to bring about closer relations with the Philippines' Asian neighbors.

President Garcia emphasized that the government had extended full cooperation to Japanese representatives in their mission to locate the reported Japanese stragglers in Lubang Island.

He expressed deep sympathy to the relatives of the Japanese soldiers when he was told that the Japanese mission had officially given up all hope of finding the two Japanese stragglers in the island.

According to Japanese Embassy officials, the Japanese mission was headed by Toru Itagaki and eight others, including the brothers of the Japanese stragglers who were identified as Lt. Hiroo Onada and Sgt. Kinshicki Kotsuka. In the groups were also two close friends of the Japanese holdouts.

The mission undertook the task of locating the stragglers from May to December, 1959.

December 9.—EARLY this morning, the President went over pending state papers which were brought to his quarters by Lcdr. Melchor Fronda, junior presidential aide.

While going over the state papers, the President issued a proclamation transferring the administration of a parcel of land located in Bongabong, Nueva Ecija, previously reserved for rural reconstruction purposes, from the Social Welfare Administration to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

He said the transfer was necessary to "carry out more effectively the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the rural areas."

Shortly before noon, the President received briefly Dr. Jacob Schekman, international aviation consultant, who is in Manila for a brief visit. Dr. Schekman is an old friend of the President. President Garcia met him in Geneva, where the Chief Executive represented the Philippines in international conferences previously in his capacity as Vice-President and, concurrently, secretary of foreign affairs.

President Garcia also signed a Family Rosary card pledging to recite the Family Rosary every night with the members of his family.

A press release said that the President and the members of his family, including his son-in-law, Fernando Campos, were among the first to sign the Rosary pledge cards in the archdiocese of Manila.

The President signed the card inside his suite at the VMH.

President Garcia today ordered Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chair of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, to file charges against records custodians of the Public Service Commission for the loss of important documents.

The PCAPE Chairman reported to the President that the loss of important documents involving 434 cases was holding up the adjudication of cases and has caused a loss of several hundred thousand pesos to the government in the form of fines and penalties.

Justice Ocampo said Major Teodulo Natividad, his chief investigator and legal officer, will file charges against the records custodians involved for infidelity in the custody of public documents.

Justice Ocampo reported to the President that all efforts of the PCAPE team to locate the missing records have proved futile. He expressed fear that the records which were voluminous and involved important cases had been intentionally lifted and stolen from the files.

The PCAPE Chairman also informed the President that the Public Service Commission has a total of 37,000 cases pending and stands to collect ₱471,138.50 in fines and penalties long overdue.

In the meantime, the PSC reported to Justice Buenaventura that seven employees responsible for the loss of the documents in question had already been dismissed from the service.

December 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today left his quarters at the Veterans Memorial Hospital for a brief stroll around the hospital grounds.

Putting on a maroon-colored robe over his pajamas, the President spent some 15 minutes walking along the hospital driveways and wandering into the nearby golf course where he surprised golfers with his sudden appearance among them.

With him during the stroll were Speaker Daniel Romualdez, President Eduardo Romualdez of the Philippine National Bank, Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte, Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan, the President's personal physicians, and some members of the hospital staff.

Waking up early this morning, the President had a light breakfast. Then he spent some time reading the morning newspapers and working on a pile of state papers brought over to him from Malacañang.

Shortly before 10 a.m., the President asked his physicians whether he could go out for a walk around the hospital premises. The doctors readily consented. He was accompanied in his walk by government officials who happened to be calling on him at the time.

During the stroll, Speaker Romualdez briefed the President on what transpired at the executive session of the national executive committee of the Nacionalista Party held the day before at the office of Senate and NP President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr.

The President did not receive any caller the rest of the day. He spent most of his time in his room where he resumed work on state papers.

In the evening, the President received Drew Pearson, noted American columnist, who called to pay his respects following his arrival in Manila yesterday noon. Pearson was accompanied to the President by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable and Al Valencia of the Philippine Information Agency in Washington.

December 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received the courtesy resignations of Manuel Elizalde as chairman of the Peace and Amelioration Fund Commission and Jose Corominas as treasurer and member of the Music Foundation of the Philippines.

In the course of his informal talks with Malacañang newsmen who called on him at the Veterans Memorial Hospital this morning, the President hinted the wish that he receives more such courtesy resignations soon from other ranking officials in the executive branch of the government to give him a free hand in the projected revamp of the government machinery.

Referring to those who had already tendered their resignations, the President remarked: "It is a credit to those officials that they had volunteered to resign without any prompting from the President."

The President this morning again left his quarters at the VMH and had his second stroll around the hospital premises. Accompanying him on his walk were Reps. Domitilo Abordo of Iloilo, Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental, and a group of newsmen covering Malacañang who turned up at the hospital early this morning to say hello to the President.

Reps. Gustilo and Abordo called to say goodbye prior to their departure on an official mission abroad. They informed the President they would be away about one and one-half months.

Other callers at the VMH this morning included Senator-elect Alejandro Almendras, Gov. Bado Dangwa of Mt. Province, Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte, and General Manager Rodolfo Andal of the Government Service Insurance System.

In the afternoon the President had another 15-minute stroll around the hospital grounds during which he came upon another patient, Alejandro Jimenez, 60, from Mt. Province, who had sustained a gunshot wound in one arm in 1955 and had been in the hospital since then. The President had a long chat with Jimenez. The two patients called each other *compañero*.

In the evening the Chief Executive conferred with Education Secretary Jose E. Romero, who called at the hospital to consult him on matters pertaining to his department.

December 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia will renew his bid to Congress in the next regular session for an anti-graft measures to help eradicate venalities in the government service.

The President is now restudying the portion of his state-of-the-nation speech before Congress last year where the Chief Executive asked for the creation of an anti-graft court independent from the Executive and the Legislative branches of government. The President did not say whether he would press anew for the creation of the anti-graft court, but he made clear that he wanted a powerful and effective measure from Congress to combat the malady in the government structure.

The President is now formulating his state-of-the-nation speech which he will deliver before a joint session of Congress late next month.

The President's restudy of the proposal to create an anti-graft court is a continuing action on the Administration's campaign against graft and corruption.

It was pointed out that the victory of five Nacionalistas out of eight senatorial candidates is a categorical indorsement by the people of President Garcia's efforts towards giving the country a good government.

President Garcia today continued his early morning stroll along the driveway of the Veterans Memorial Hospital. He negotiated a distance of 1,200 yards.

It was the third consecutive day the President went to the road to shake off his bedridden feet since he was confined in his suite at the VMH last November 15.

Mrs. Garcia watched the President move about during his stroll and evoked a satisfied smile as President Garcia's steps became firmer and firmer every day.

Reports from the hospital physicians indicated that the President may leave the hospital next week.

After the stroll the President entered his room and went over state papers.

In the afternoon the President received Ramon Jimenez, director of the National Steel and Shipyards Corporation and concurrently acting chairman of the committee on Philippine omnibus claims with the United States.

Jimenez reported that Eduardo Quintero, Philippine ambassador to Korea, who is committee chairman, had already left for the United States on board the S.S. *President Wilson*.

It was learned that other members of the committee may follow Quintero to the United States to follow up the Philippine claims which have been rejected by the U.S. State Department.

Jimenez said that Col. Vicente Tiongson, Malacañang finance officer, is scheduled to leave shortly to help Ambassador Quintero in his mission.

The President also inquired from Jimenez about the progress of the government plans for the establishment of the multi-million integrated steel mills in Iligan City.

Jimenez said that the contract for the construction of the steel mill building amounting to ₱200,000 has been awarded to the C & A construction firm.

The NASSCO Director also said that the construction firm has already started hauling equipment to Iligan City to start work.

President Garcia said he is interested in the early operation of the steel mills, which he said would be the mother industry of the other steel factories which may crop up in the future.

He, however, said that he wanted private capital to join the government in the operation of the proposed integrated steel mill.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: December 13-19, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

December 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today chalked up a record of more than one-kilometer walk in his efforts to shake off his wobbly legs as a result of his long confinement at the Veterans Memorial Hospital. The President strolled along the VMH driveway.

Doctors looking after the President have prescribed the early morning walk to strengthen the presidential legs which have weakened as a result of indoor confinement since last November 15.

Earlier, the Chief Executive heard mass said at the anteroom of his suite at the VMH.

Mrs. Garcia heard the mass with the Chief Executive. Also present were Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician, Major Ciriaco Hocson, junior aide, and members of the VMH staff.

In the afternoon the President received only one official visitor in the person of Defense Secretary Alejo Santos. The Secretary was accompanied by his wife.

Malacañang announced it was a purely social call. However, sources close to the President indicated Santos explained his side of the controversy raging around his recent trip to Borneo.

Santos has been accused of having violated customs, quarantine, and port regulations on his recent trip to the British colony in connection with smuggling between Borneo and Philippine southern ports.

A Philippine Navy ship, the RPS *Pangasinan* ferrying Santos and a party of 45 persons, including three Bulacan matrons, reportedly was laden with huge purchase from Borneo when it docked at the Philippine Navy wharf last Sunday.

The opposition led by Vice-President Macapagal has demanded a full-dress investigation of the Santos case. Macapagal has addressed a letter to the President asking for the probe.

It was understood that Santos, in his conference with the President, explained his side of the controversy.

Sources indicated that the defense secretary also turned in his findings on alleged rampant smuggling going on between Borneo and the southern ports of the Philippines.

December 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received the letters of credence of the ministers of Belgium and Sweden to the Philippines at simple ceremonies held in his quarters at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

In both occasions, toasts and the reading of prepared speeches were dispensed with.

The first envoy to be received was Albert Nys, Belgian Minister, who pointed out the excellent relations between his country and the Philippines for over a century.

Minister Nys stated that independent Belgium opened its first consular office in the Philippines in order to assist Belgian missionaries.

Minutes after Minister Nys had left, the President received Tord Goransson, who also presented his letters of credence as minister of Sweden to the Philippines.

The Swedish envoy said that the rapid progress in many fields, which has characterized the development in the Philippines in recent years, has been followed with great interest and admiration in Sweden.

In both ceremonies, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano and Minister Manuel Collantes were present.

After the rites, President Garcia conferred briefly with Secretary Serrano. The Chief Executive was briefed on the latest developments on PIUS relations as well as some important matters pertaining to the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The President conferred today the personal rank of minister to Manuel G. Zamora, presidential protocol officer, in recognition of his long years of service and to give him the necessary prestige commensurate with the position he holds inasmuch as he has to deal also with members of the diplomatic and consular corps.

The conferment of the rank had been recommended by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who pointed out that Zamora had "served continuously and with unblemished record in Malacañang under several Presidents since President Quezon."

Zamora has been in the public service for 36 years. He started in 1922 as secretary to the late Resident Commissioner Pedro Guevara in Washington, D. C., a post he held for 12 years. He studied law in Washington and was subsequently admitted to the District of Columbia bar and the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1924, he was admitted to the practice of law in the Philippines on his return here. He has since served as Malacañang protocol officer under Presidents Quezon, Osmeña, Laurel, Roxas, Quirino, Magsaysay, and now President Garcia.

THIS EVENING the President ordered the investigation of Defense Secretary Alejo Santos on charges of smuggling dutiable goods into the Philippines from the free port of Sandakan, British North Borneo, last week.

The charges were filed with the President several days ago by Vice-President Macapagal and Rep. Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte.

The President decided to have Santos investigated after receiving Santos' letter asking for an inquiry into the Vice-President's complaint.

The President was considering the formation of a Cabinet committee to hear the charges against Santos.

The President may name the following Cabinet members to the committee to investigate Santos: the secretaries of foreign affairs, finance, justice, and commerce, and the PFFC chairman.

The President was reported at first as studying an alternative plan of drafting non-partisan men of good reputation to investigate the charges.

Macapagal and Raquiza complained that Santos and the 45 members of his party who made a seven-day trip to Sandakan brought in merchandise without passing through customs and that the RPS *Pangasinan*, which was used during the trip, did not obtain quarantine clearance for reentry into the Manila harbor.

Santos saw the President last Sunday at the Veterans Memorial Hospital during which they discussed Macapagal's charges.

A Malacañang source said the President was apparently dissatisfied with Santos' explanation.

December 15.—THE Binga hydroelectric project in the Mountain Province will have a trial run next week, President Garcia was informed Tuesday morning December 15 by Juan J. Carlos, president of the Philippine Engineers Syndicate, Inc., contractors of the project.

The President was further informed that the project, whose completion is expected to solve the Meralco brownout in Manila and suburbs, will have an initial output of 50,000 kilowatts. Carlos also said that the project will be finished ahead of schedule.

The President was pleased to note that out of the \$21 million borrowed from the World Bank to meet the dollar requirements of the project, only \$18 million was spent.

The President told Carlos that with the completion of the Binga hydroelectric plant, the government will give top priority to the construction of the Angat hydroelectric project. The Angat project, the biggest in the Philippines, will provide Manila and its suburbs with 150,000 Kw.

The President was particularly interested in the construction of the Angat hydroelectric project in, order that it could supply power to new industries to be established soon in the Philippines. Among these new industries, the President told Carlos, are the Shell, Stanvac, and Philoil refineries, and the Bataan Paper and Pulp mills.

The President also received Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno at his quarters at the Veterans Memorial Hospital. He discussed with the CB head the establishment of the integrated steel industry in Iligan City by next year.

The President was assured by Cuaderno that two European groups were willing to finance the project which is estimated to need \$70 million for the purchase of machinery and equipment.

The President told Cuaderno to study the feasibility of the government maintaining control of the industry during its initial stage but under private management.

Other callers of the President were Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, who discussed with him several projects to be undertaken with a loan to be secured from the Development Loan Fund, National Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke, Rep. Nicanor Yniguez of Leyte, Rep. Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, and Gov. Nicanor Maronilla-Seva of Albay.

December 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia was literally on his own today as his physicians removed the braces supporting his back.

Physicians attending the President were confident that he has definitely reached the road to recovery and given a few more days, he would be in "tip-top shape."

After his usual morning stroll, the President received former President Sergio Osmeña, the Grand Old Man of Cebu, who stuck it up with the Chief Executive through thick and thin in Cebu during the last elections.

The former President was accompanied by his son-in-law, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia.

Senator-elect Alejandro Almendras also conferred with the President. It was learned that the former secretary of general services took up with the Chief Executive the proposed reorganization of the Cabinet. Almendras recommended the appointment of men from Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan to Cabinet positions.

After meeting these callers, the President was advised to rest and was later given the Hubbard tank treatment (hot bath).

The President also received Sen. Quintin Paredes, who took up the proposed creation of Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

In the evening the President did not receive any caller except Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, who discussed routine matters with the Chief Executive.

A three-man Cabinet committee to investigate Defense Secretary Alejo Santos was created by President Garcia this evening.

Composing the group are Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, chairman, and Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, and PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo, members.

President Garcia picked Cabinet members because, according to Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, he wants Santos to be probed by his peers.

“The President means business,” Nable said. There will be no whitewash. It will be thorough and impartial.”

President Garcia refrained from naming members of the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeals to the committee because in the event, of any finding that may warrant court action, the members of the judiciary on the committee will be disqualified to judge.

Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal and Rep. Antonio V. Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, both opposition leaders (Liberal) could not be on the committee because they are the complainants. It was explained the opposition cannot be both prosecutors and judges.

The defense chief faces raps for alleged violation of customs, quarantine trade, travel, immigration, and Central Bank laws during the trip of his party to Sandakan and Jesselton, Borneo, from November 29 to December 7.

The Santos party of 45 used the Philippine navy *RPS Pangasinan*. It included three matrons from Bulacan, home province of the secretary. Santos went on an official mission.

December 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia today joined the Veterans Memorial Hospital patients in listening to the Araneta University choral group which spread Christmas cheers to the inmates of the VMH.

The President was invited by Maria Lina Araneta and Tomas Avendaño of the Araneta University to witness the AU Yuletide show at the hospital.

The show was climaxed with a prayer for the early recovery of the Chief Executive, who has been confined in the hospital since November 15.

Earlier in the morning, the President conferred with Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, chairman of the Senate social justice committee, on the feasibility of expanding the barrio store program of the Administration in line with the Filipino First policy.

The barrio sari-sari store program entails the channelling of more goods from the different government agencies to the barrios to peg down the prices of commodities.

Utmost utilization of barrio councils to serve as the basic unit of these cooperative stores was promised by Ramon Binamira of the Presidential Assistant to Community Development Office.

The Senator told the President that Bernardo Bantegui, head of the statistics division of the National Economic Council, was elected chairman of the coordinating body in charge of the program.

Other callers this morning were Sen. Eulogio Balao; Ambassador Mariano Ezpeleta; Govs. Vicente Duterte of Davao and Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac; Reps. Benedicto Padilla of Rizal, Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo, and Salapida Pendatum of Cotabato.

Col. Nicanor Jimenez, chief of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, and Col. Jose Lukban, head of National Bureau of Investigation, also called on the President to report on the proceedings of the recently-concluded SEATO Security Experts Committee meeting in Bangkok, Thailand.

Those who saw the President this afternoon were Gov. Jose Dinglasan of Capiz, who accompanied his sister, Mrs. Carmen Dinglasan Melencio. Mrs. Melencio recently was elected vice-governor of Nueva Ecija.

Col. Vicente O. Tiongson, Malacahang finance officer, saw the President and reported on his coming trip to the United States in connection with the Philippines omnibus claims with the U.S.

In the evening the President wired Mrs. Esperanza Limjap Osmeña, wife of former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., congratulating her on her birthday.

This evening the President called on all Filipino citizens and residents, irrespective of race or creed, to give to the fourth Philippine Cancer Society educational, membership, and fund drive.

In his short message which was read by Health Secretary Elpido Valencia at the kick-off ceremonies in Malacañang's social hall, the President appealed to all national, provincial, city, and municipal officials to extend their full cooperation to make the drive a success.

Later during the ceremonies Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia presented the President's contribution of ₱1,000 cash to start the ball rolling for the fund drive.

The President pointed out that contrary to popular belief, cancer which ranks eight among the killer-diseases in the Philippines, is curable if detected at the early stage.

He said that usually the person who has cancer does not know it and neglects to consult his physician until the disease has become incurable.

Carlos Palanca, Jr. general campaign chairman, thanked the President for endorsing the drive and said the society is sorely in need of funds to expand its services to the cancer patients and to conduct researches to combat the disease effectively.

Palanca reported that in its two years of existence, the society has serve over 5,000 patients, without cost to them.

Donations were also turned in to Palanca by Secretary Valencia, local professionals, businessmen, civic groups, executives, and other sectors of the community at the end of the ceremonies.

December 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia summoned members of the Cabinet committee and instructed them to plunge immediately into the investigation of Secretary of Defense Alejo S. Santos in connection with his controversial trip to Borneo recently.

The three Cabinet members headed by Secretary of Justice Alejo Mabanag saw the Chief Executive at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, where President Garcia has been confined for more than a month now.

The President told the Cabinet committee members to start the inquiry immediately and conduct the investigation in public in order to dispel any suspicion that the case is headed toward a "whitewash."

Other members of the committee are Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, and Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano.

The President likewise received Rep. William Chiongbian, Governor-elect Gideon Quijano of Misamis Occidental, and Mayor Alfonso Tan of Tangub, Misamis Occidental. They saw the President to register their opposition to the proposed division of Tangub, Misamis Occidental.

Rep. Francisco Sumulong and Eranio Manalo also saw the Chief Executive at his suite at the VMH. They reported the plight of the residents of Varsity Hills in Quezon City who are being evicted from their premises. The President said he will study their plight.

This morning the President alerted all government relief agencies to be able to rush assistance to typhoon victims in provinces which may be hit by typhoon *Gilda*.

He issued the alert after reading newspaper reports that the off-season typhoon was heading towards Central Philippines and possibly the Bicol regions.

President Garcia also had a brief stroll along the drive-way of the hospital. Then he received Sen. Cipriano P. Primicias and Rep. Godofredo Reyes, who urged him to organize immediately the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

They said that harvest season would soon set in and that the PVRTA should be able to absorb the Virginia leaf tobacco produce.

President Garcia also received visiting Rep. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii, who arrived Thursday night. He was accompanied by Minister George Abbott of the U.S. Embassy.

Inouye conveyed to the President the greetings of about 75,000 Filipinos living in Hawaii. After the courtesy call, the Hawaiian solon said he had a pleasant meeting with the Chief Executive, who had presented him with a *Barong Tagalog*.

Other callers were Governors-elect D. O. Plaza of Agusan and Carlos Robles of Quezon.

December 19.—THIS morning the President was informed of the organization of a British naval task force with headquarters in Sandakan, British North Borneo, that will coordinate its activities with Jolo task force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in order to cope with the rampant piracy and smuggling in southern Philippines and Borneo.

The information was given by Lt Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff at a conference held at the presidential quarters in the Veterans Memorial Hospital Saturday noon.

Gen Cabal, who headed a group of AFP brass on an observation tour of British army navy, and air force installations in Singapore and Malaya at the invitation of British military authorities also informed the President that officials and the people of Malaya are looking forward to the proposed state visit of President Garcia to Malaya to return the state visit the Philippines of the Prime Minister of Malaya.

Cabal moreover, informed the President that during their stay in Malaya the British military authorities allowed them to witness the jungle operations³ the Combined British and Malayan armed forces against communist terrorists.

Gen. Cabal was accompanied by Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, chief of the Constabulary; Com. Jose Francisco, chief of the Navy; Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, chief of the Air Force; Capt. Heracleo Alano (PN), AFP G-2; and Brig. Gen. Ramon Aguirre.

Other callers of the President were Sens. Decoroso Rosales and Domocao Alonto, Reps. Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte and Manuel Zosa of Cebu, and Governor-elect Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur.

This afternoon the President was allowed to return to Malacanang to join a quiet family gathering on the occasion of the baptism of his one-month old granddaughter, Maricar (Maria Carlos Josefa).

Putting on a white gabardine suit and a combination black and white shoes, the President left his suite at the Veterans Memorial Hospital at 4:27 p.m. Asked how he was, the President replied: "I am feeling fine. The doctors have at last granted me a parole.

Accompanied by Mrs. Garcia, the President proceeded direct to Malacañang where he found Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, the baby's parents, getting ready for the church rites. The President accompanied his granddaughter and the sponsors to the nearby San Miguel Pro-Cathedral, where the baptismal ceremony was held at 5:15 p.m.

After the ceremony, the group returned to Malacañang for a family dinner commemorating the affair. It was a quiet family affair with only close relatives and friends invited.

The President spent the night at the Palace His doctors said that although he was practically free from his low back; pains and discomforts, it was, however, held advisable that he continue with physiotherapy while he gradually returns to full activity.

The doctors did not say when the President is returning to the hospital.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: December 20-26, 1959

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

December 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia who had been allowed by his physicians to leave the Veterans Memorial Hospital, spent the day quietly at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He did not receive any caller.

Waking up early this morning at Malacañang where he had spent the night after the family gathering held there yesterday afternoon on the baptism of his granddaughter, Maricar, the President heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. Also at the mass were Mrs. Garcia, their children Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, and a few relatives and friends.

About 9:30 a.m., the President boarded his car and motored to the V. Luna General Hospital, where he visited Gov. Salvador Lluch of Lanao del Norte. Gov. Lluch had been confined at the hospital for some time.

Then the President proceeded to his Quezon City residence where he took his regular morning stroll on the lawn of his home. He was accompanied on his stroll by Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan, personal physicians, and Maj. Ciriaco Hocson, junior military aide.

The doctors did not say how long the President would be on "parole" from the hospital. He is, however, required to continue with his daily exercises and to report to the hospital every other day for his Hubbard Tank water treatment (hot bath).

In the afternoon, the President had another stroll around his lawn. This time he was accompanied by Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, who called to render further reports on his recent trip to Malaya with the group of Philippine military leaders headed by Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, which had toured army, navy, and air force installations in Malaya on the invitation of the British Government.

The Chief Executive retired early this morning.

President Garcia today ordered the immediate dissolution of a Malacañang security unit denounced recently by Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson for conducting "harrassment" raids on Filipino and alien businessmen in Manila.

The President also directed Maximo A. Maceren, vice-chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE) to investigate the matter and file appropriate charges against the guilty parties.

The President was incensed when, PCAPE Vice-Chairman Maceren informed him of reports about the unit's 'alleged activities, especially since this particular group had specific instructions to confine their security work to insuring the Chief Executive's physical safety.

In a letter to Mayor Lacson, Maceren sought his assistance in the investigation of the unit by furnishing the PCAPE with further particulars and more information about the alleged raids.

The President today proclaimed the period from January 1 to June 30 next year as the World Refugee Year fund campaign in the Philippines.

The President declared the period World Refugee Year in order to enable the Philippines to meet her commitment as a member of the United Nations, by contributing to the common fund for world refugees and participating in the celebration of World Refugee Year.

By resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations of December 5, 1958, World Refugee Year was set for observance from June 1959 to June 30, 1960, in order: (1) to focus more interest on the refugee problem; (2) to encourage financial contributions • from government, voluntary agencies, and the general public; and (3) to enhance

opportunities to settle refugee problems through voluntary repatriation, resettlement, or integration on purely humanitarian basis.

In his proclamation, President Garcia authorized all government officials and employees to accept fund-raising responsibilities for the fund campaign to insure the success of the celebration.

December 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today acted to provide immediate relief to victims of typhoon *Gilda* in Samar, Masbate and Leyte.

Following a conference at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning with Sen. Decoroso Rosales and Reps. Valeriano Yancha, Felipe, Abrigo, and Eladio Balite, all of Samar, the President called up Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema and:

(1) Instructed that a Philippine Air Force plane be readied tomorrow to ferry Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez to Leyte, Rep. Emilio Espinosa to Masbate, and the Samar solons to their home province, together with SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor and members of the President's contingent fund committee, to help supervise the distribution of relief supplies and make a rough estimate of the damage wrought by typhoon *Gilda*;

(2) Authorized the NARIC to open its bodega in Laoang, Northern Samar, for requisitions of rice for relief purposes by SWA and the Red Cross;

(3) Directed SWA Administrator Villamor to meet immediately with the presidential relief committee to gather relief supplies needed;

(4) Ordered the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* made available for transporting the relief supplies; and

(5) Called Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona to a conference this afternoon at the President's Bohol Avenue residence on numerous requests received from different provinces for financial releases.

The Samar legislators also informed President Garcia that approximately 30,000 persons had been rendered homeless by the storm and that many public buildings had been blown down.

Meanwhile, in a wire to the President, Masbate Gov. Jesus Almero reported that his province suffered an estimated ₱2 million damage to public and private property. In the capital alone, he said, approximately ₱500,000 was lost and 2,000 persons rendered homeless.

Gov. Almero requested the expeditious release of funds to help his province "get back on its feet."

From Bohol Avenue, the Chief Executive and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Veterans Memorial Hospital where he had a final medical check-up.

After receiving a clean bill of health from his doctors, President Garcia returned to Bohol Avenue.

A medical bulletin issued by the doctors on the discharge of the President states: "The latest clinical evaluation permits the termination of President's confinement in the Veterans Hospital. He is practically free from his low back pains and discomforts. However, it is considered advisable for him to continue physiotherapy while he gradually returns to full activity."

According to the medical records, the President had only nine days enforced rest in bed of the 25 days he had been at the hospital. He had been admitted to the hospital last November 15 and went out last Saturday afternoon, December 19.

Those who attended the President during the five weeks confinement were Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan, his personal physicians; Col. Luis Martinez, former commanding officer of the V. Luna General Hospital; Dr. Benjamin Tamesis, director, National Orthopedic Hospital; Dr. Gilberto Gamez, neurologist of the University of Santo Tomas; Dr. Valentin Fidelino, chief, medical service, VMH; and Dr. Catalino Jocson, orthopedic surgeon, VMH.

Among those who paid a social call on President Garcia this morning were Reps. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato and Lucas Paredes of Abra and PHHC Director Manuel Leelin.

The President today ordered Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, to look immediately into the case of some 80 commercial agents who refuse to turn in their used accountable forms to the central office of the Bureau of Commerce.

The President ordered the investigation upon request of Commerce Secretary Pedro Hernaez and acting Commerce Director Rizalino Pablo, whose suspicions were aroused over the firm refusal of the commercial agents to return triplicate copies of official receipts issued by them since 1951.

Acting Director Pablo disclosed that audit and check-up of discrepancies in the accounts of the agents will be completely disrupted by the absence of the triplicate copies of some 600 booklets consisting of 50 official receipts per booklet.

Each commercial agent is issued a booklet of official receipts by the bureau from time to time to receipt for collections representing registration of firms names, fees for bonded warehouses, and copra inspection fees which ran into millions from 1951 to 1953.

Each official receipt consists of three copies, the original being issued to the paying public, the duplicate attached by the commercial agent to his monthly report, and the triplicate remaining in the book to be kept at the central office for purposes of verification.

As there is no way of verifying discrepancies in the agent's collections, the Bureau of Commerce in its Circular No. 6, issued in 1955, made such non-remittance subject to administrative action and stoppage of pay of the officers concerned.

Severino Ortega, administrative officer of the Bureau of Commerce, told Natividad that he had made repeated demands on the agents to return the accountable forms to the bureau but they said that some provincial auditors called for them whenever the officers submitted their monthly collections.

Ortega, however, claimed that the officers would not explain why they would not surrender the forms after the provincial auditors had been through with them.

Ortega said it is possible some of the official receipts still in their hands had not been used at all and that they might be used later on to the great prejudice of the government and the paying public by unscrupulous agents, especially so because some of the commercial agents involved had since been out of the service.

Justice Ocampo immediately ordered Major Teodulo Natividad, chief investigator and legal officer, to work on the case without let-up during the Christmas season so that corresponding administrative action against the persons can be taken.

Working on the case with Natividad are Teodulo Bias and Alfredo G. Cruz, who had been detailed by Director Pablo to cooperate with the PCAPE in the investigation.

Meanwhile, Malacañang announced that the security unit which had been ordered disbanded by the President was a group assigned to the "outer perimeter" protection of the President headed by Maj. Leopoldo Blanco. The

disbanding and investigation of this group which has nothing to do with the immediate security of the Chief Executive had been ordered after a denunciation made by Mayor Lacson of Manila of alleged irregularities being perpetrated by this group.

December 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received NASSCO General Manager Bernardo Abrera, who reported on his recent trip to India where he was the lone Philippine delegate to the UN-sponsored seminar on management of public enterprises among ECAFE countries held in New Delhi.

He informed the President that it is the consensus among member countries of the ECAFE that in the initial stage the government should have strategic control of basic industries like steel, power development and railways.

The private sector, Abrera said, should take the initiative in the development of secondary and tertiary industries.

The NASSCO Executive also informed President Garcia about the remarkable progress made by India in the development of its steel industry. He said that India will soon manufacture rails, locomotive, and rolling stock for domestic consumption and possibly for export in the future.

There is a plan afoot, Abrera added, to turn out a complete steel plant built by India engineers and technicians in Indian mills out of ore taken from Indian mines.

To date, this country already has six steel mills and their output next year is estimated to reach more than six million tons, he said.

Capiz Gov. Jose Dinglasan and former Rep. Carmen Dinglasan-Consing requested President Garcia the release of ₱50,000 from the presidential contingent funds for the repair of public works in Capiz which were damaged by typhoon *Gilda*.

Manuel Leelin, president of the Philippine Association of Battery Manufacturers, conferred with the Chief Executive on problems of the battery industry. Leelin also briefed the President on routine matters regarding the PHHC of which he is a member of the board of directors.

Other presidential callers this morning were House Majority Floor-leader Jose A. Aldeguer, and Reps. Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, Wenceslao Rancap Lagumbay of Laguna, and Luciano Millan of Pangasinan.

December 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia received Mrs. Remedios Fortich, NARRA board chairman and general manager, who briefed him on the progress of the Administration's resettlement program, at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning.

Mrs. Fortich also took up with the Chief Executive problems encountered by settlers in the NARRA's 17 resettlement projects, among them, the procurement of fertilizers and seeds, lack of agricultural implements, and the acute need for storage and liberal credit facilities.

The government resettlement agency head was accompanied by Vicente Taray, private secretary to Mrs. Fortich, and Bruno Apare.

Angel Santos, president of the San Jose Cement Corporation, called on President Garcia and informed him about the progress in the establishment of the firm's proposed multi-million-peso cement plant in San Jose, Mindoro.

Santos said they had hoped to be producing at the plant's peak capacity by 1961 to help in the government's economic development program and provide business and employment opportunities to the country's army of idle and unproductive labor force.

The proposed plant would also enhance the development of one of the sparsely populated provinces in the Philippines and elevate the standard of living of the residents there, he added.

Santos told the President that, according to the findings of competent local and foreign geologists, the corporation has an ideal source for raw materials, for it is located near the site of the proposed cement plant and the necessary ingredients are found in unlimited quantities.

These factors, the San Jose Cement Corporation executive said, will enable them to cut down production costs and produce high quality cement whose selling price can compete with those of other brands made in the Philippines and abroad.

Other callers this morning were Sens. Lorenzo Sumulong and Pedro Sabido, Rep. Reynaldo Honrado, and Rep. Gaudencio Abordo.

December 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia dispatched Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan to attend to former Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida who fell ill after a coughing fit as he was boarding his car for Malacañang to pay a courtesy call on the Chief Executive this morning.

Members of his party, accompanied by Japanese Ambassador Morio Yukawa, were received by President Garcia at the music room in Malacañang. Ambassador Yukawa conveyed to the President the deep regrets of ex-Premier Yoshida at being unable to join the group that called at Malacañang.

Informed of the reason for Yoshida's absence, President Garcia expressed concern over the condition of the visiting dignitary and offered the facilities of the Philippine Government to insure his speedy recovery.

Members of the Yoshida party that went to Malacañang were Zentaro Kosaka, former minister of Labor; Kiichi Aichi, former minister of International Trade and Industry, former minister of justice, and ex-chief secretary of the Cabinet; Naokichi Kitazawa, former deputy chief secretary of the Cabinet; and Tominosuke Imai, a businessman.

Aside from Ambassador Yukawa, they were also accompanied by Minister Shigezo Yoshikawa and Yoshio Yasui of the Japanese Embassy. Also present was Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano.

During the courtesy call, the visitors presented an 18-inch costumed Japanese doll to the President and were given a box of Philippine cigars and an embroidered piña tablepiece in turn.

After the Japanese visitors had left, the President received His Excellency, Salvatore Siino, Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines.

Earlier this morning, President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass at the Malacañang chapel.

Among those present at the mass and who joined the breakfast later were Sen. Claro M. Recto, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Ocampo, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Cong. Maximino Garcia, and Bulacan Gov. Tomas Martin.

President and Mrs. Garcia led the faithful of the country in hearing the traditional Christmas midnight mass. Together with Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, Cabinet members, relatives, close friends and Malacañang aides, the first couple of the land heard mass said by Fr. Nicolas Ortega, chief of the AFP chaplain corps, at the Malacañang chapel.

December 25.—THE PRESIDENT spent a quiet Christmas at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City with members of his family. He did not receive any caller the whole day except a few immediate relatives and close friends who wished him and members of his family a Merry Christmas.

The President and his family motored to their Quezon City residence about 9:30 a.m. after spending Christmas eve in Malacañang, where they heard the traditional midnight mass at the Palace chapel.

He received his few visitors as he strolled around the lawn of his Quezon City home for his walking exercises.

About 1 p.m., the President had lunch with Mrs. Garcia, his daughter Linda, son-in-law Nanding Campos, and a few relatives.

President Garcia received today a communication from 10 Nacionalista councilors-elect of Manila expressing their desire to take their oath of office before him on January 1.

Those who signed the communication were Francisco de Dios Gatmaitan of the first district; Eriberto A. Remigio, Apolonio V. Gener, and Francisco Yuseco of the second district; Ernesto M. Maceda and Vicente G. Cruz of the third district; Gonzalo Santos Rivera, Pablo V. Ocampo, F. Reyes Cabigao, and Alfredo R. Gomez of the fourth district.

December 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia relaxed this morning after the Christmas holidays and stayed the whole day in his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

The President did not receive callers in the morning although he continued with his daily walking exercises on the lawn of his private house.

In the afternoon the President received Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Razak Tun of Malaya, who is concurrently the defense minister of his country. The deputy prime minister of Malaya was accompanied by his wife, Malayan Charge d'Affaires and Mrs. Hussain Osman, Sen. Domocao Alonto, and Minister Manuel G. Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer.

The President also received Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, who reported on his series of conferences with U.S. officials in Washington.

In the course of his trip Castaño visited Guam, Honolulu, and California farms where Filipino workers have emigrated.

He recommended to the President the sending of Filipino farm hands to these places to relieve unemployment in the country.

Castaño was joined in his conference with the President by Ildefonso Remolona, local labor leader and commissioner of the Social Security System.

The President spent the night at his private residence.

THIS evening President Garcia gave Labor Secretary Angel Castaño the go signal to implement the program for the emigration of Filipino farm hands to California and other agricultural states of the United States, at a conference held at his Quezon City residence.

The President, however, cautioned Secretary Castaño to adopt measures to avoid private recruiting agencies to fleece applicants. In this connection he directed Castaño that recruiting of Filipino farm hands should be done directly by his department.

At a conference attended by Ildefonso Remolona, local labor leader and SSS commissioner, Secretary Castaño informed President Garcia that the first batch of emigrants has been fixed at 1,000.

The target, according to Secretary Castaño, is 10,000 Filipino farm hands a year. Secretary Castaño pointed out that about 500,00 farm hands emigrated yearly to the United States from neighboring countries to help harvest agricultural products.

The President told Secretary Castaño that, in selecting the applicants, care should be taken to pick experienced agricultural workers.

Secretary Castaño also reported the result of his series of conferences with U. S. officials at Washington. He arrived on Christmas eve.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: December 27, 1959 - January 2, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

December 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today spent a quiet day in his Quezon City residence together with Mrs. Garcia.

After breakfast, the President and the First Lady heard mass at an improvised altar set up in the hall of their residence.

Others who heard the mass were Col. Jacobo Zobel, Lt. Commander Melchor Fronda, and household help.

Then the President received Ambassador Trinidad Legarda, who was accompanied by her husband, Benito Legarda. The lady Ambassador arrived recently to spend here the Christmas season.

For the rest of the day, the President retired to his study room to go over some speeches he is scheduled to deliver soon, as well as his state-of-the-nation address when Congress convenes next month.

President Garcia today issued instructions to different government agencies for the formation early next year of non-agricultural producers and consumers cooperatives as a means of checking the rising cost of prime commodities and improving the standard of living in the rural areas.

The President underscored the need for the speedy formation of these cooperatives which will provide an effective method of distributing NAMARCO goods and NARIC rice and making cheaper prime commodities available to farmers in remote areas.

Another function of these cooperatives will be to promote the production of cottage industries and take charge of the standardization and marketing of their products, the President said, adding that the exploitation of local industries will give rural folks an added source of income and improve their standard of living.

To avoid possible anomalies in their operation and management, the cooperatives will be under the constant supervision and control of the Bureau of Public Schools and the national cooperatives office of the Bureau of Commerce, as well as provincial, municipal, and barrio officials.

As provided for under Republic Act 2033, organization of the cooperatives will be undertaken jointly by the National Marketing Corporation, the National Economic Council, and the office of the Presidential Assistant on Community Development with the assistance of the National Cooperatives Bank and the Development Bank of the Philippines.

The President had previously instructed the NEC to draft plans for the early creation of the cooperatives. The plans had subsequently been completed and submitted to the President by NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin.

December 28.—SHORTLY before lunchtime, the President motored to Malacañang. He spent the week-end at his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

Before going to the Palace, the President had his daily morning stroll along the lawn of his private residence.

This afternoon the President received Eugenio Santos, general manager of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes, and discussed the possible aid to be extended to the different hospitals and puericulture centers.

The President said that these different medical institutions have been helping the people in ministering to the needs of those in far-flung areas.

Santos said he will study possible measures in doling out some amounts to puericulture centers and hospitals.

Before receiving the PCS manager, the President conferred with Director Pedro Mayuga of the Bureau of Medical Services.

Mayuga reported on the accomplishments of his office in connection with helping the people, especially in the barrios.

This evening the President received Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, Philippine envoy to Washington, at the music room of Malacañang.

The President exchanged views with Romulo, who returned in Manila shortly before Christmas Day to attend the coming wedding of his son early next year.

The Philippine envoy to Washington presented a Christmas gift to the President which was reported to be a portable television set.

"It's the most modern TV set in the United States, Romulo was heard to have told the President in presenting his Christmas present to the Chief Executive.

December 29.—THIS morning the President expressed gratification over a plan of Japanese and Filipino capitalists to export coconut fibers to Japan, saying that the utilization of coconut by-products will give an additional income to Filipino farmers and be an added boost to one of the dollar producing industries of the country.

At a conference held in Malacañang, the President was informed by Kunitoshi Tezuka, president of the Tezuka Hydraulic Press Co., Ltd.; Mike S. Miura of the Toho Industrial Co., Ltd.; and Francisco R. Santos, prominent Filipino businessman, that there is a ready market in Japan for coconut fibers which at present go to waste in the Philippines.

The Japanese businessman further informed President Garcia that Japan is at present importing coconut fibers from Ceylon at the rate of 50,000 tons a month. The plan to import Filipino coconut fibers is favored by Japanese interests in view of lower costs and freight charges.

The Japanese capitalists proposed to install coconut defibering plants in coconut-producing areas throughout the country.

The Japanese businessman also extended to President Garcia the personal greetings of Japanese Premier Kishi, who sent the Chief Executive a table clock.

Earlier, President Garcia received municipal officials of Quezon province who asked his support to a plan to convert the second district of Quezon into a regular province to be known as Tayabas.

The group was led by Mayor Yumul of Lopez, who is the president of the Mayors' League of Quezon. Other members of the delegation included Mayors Alpay of Alabat, Egordo of Calauag, Roldan of Guinayangan, and Tan of San Marcos.

President Garcia today appointed the members of the Philippine panel to negotiate a treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation with Japan.

The panel which is bipartisan in nature will be composed of former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., chairman; Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong (N) and Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa (L), Rep. Ramon P. Mitra (N, Mt. Province) and Rep. Antonio V. Raquiza (L, Ilocos Norte), Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto E. Laguio, Deputy Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo, and Minister Juan Arreglado of the Department of Foreign Affairs, members.

Negotiations will start as soon as Japan has formed her negotiation panel.

Conclusion of a treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation with Japan will mean the expansion of foreign markets for Philippine products, especially raw materials, and the establishment and maintenance of better relations between the Philippines and Japan.

Although the Philippines has already concluded trade protocols with Italy and Germany, it has failed to reach formal trade agreement with Japan.

Philippine trade with Japan under the cash-and-carry system which was adopted on August 1, 1957, totalled ₱162,345,416 in exports and ₱156,932,668 in imports, in 1958.

Previously, trade with Japan was carried on under an open account system of payment under the trade and financial agreements signed between the Philippines and SCAP, (and later Japan).

In the evening the President met the three reparations commissioners and took up proposed amendments to the law on war indemnity payments by the Japanese Government to the Philippines. Present at the conference held at Malacañang were Reparations Commissioners Rodolfo Maslog, Juan Alberto, and Gregorio Abad.

Maslog and Abad were summoned to the Philippines from Japan following a continuing expose of alleged irregularities in the transactions of the commission involving war indemnity materials. Alberto is in charge of the Manila office.

The President has asked the commission members previously to submit their courtesy resignations in order to give him a free hand to reorganize the body.

Only Alberto has so far complied with the President's request. Maslog and Abad up to press time this evening had not yet submitted their courtesy resignations.

The President discussed with the commissioners proposed amendments which the Chief Executive intends to submit to Congress at the opening session of Congress late next month.

President Garcia said he plans to submit the proposed amendments to the reparations law to plug all possible loopholes and prevent transactions from falling into the hands of middlemen.

December 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered the investigation of the charges aired directly to him by Gov. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas against Director Vicente de la Cruz of the Commission of Parks and Wildlife for alleged harassment of a landowner.

The President's order to investigate was given to the Presidential Complaints and Administration Performance Efficiency following the call at the President's residence in Quezon City shortly before noon today of Gov. Leviste, who sought the suspension of Director de la Cruz pending investigation of the charges.

The parks director allegedly caused the suspension by the Department of Agriculture of a certificate of private woodland registration issued to one Pascual M. Perez despite an opinion previously issued by the Secretary of Justice and a subsequent ruling by the court of first instance of Camarines Norte affirming the validity of the certificate of title.

The President spent the day at his residence in Quezon City. He did not receive any caller except Gov. Leviste, who found him strolling around his lawn for his prescribed daily exercise.

Waking up early this morning at Malacañang where he had spent the night, the President had breakfast with Mrs. Garcia and other members of his family. Then he stayed for some time in his bedroom where he went over the morning newspapers and some state documents which he kept at his bedside table for study.

The President also ordered an aide, Maj. Ciriaco Hocson, to contact Minister Manuel G. Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer, and check up whether the latter had already sent a wreath to the Rizal monument on the Luneta in commemoration of the death anniversary of the Philippines' martyr-hero.

About 9:30 a.m., the President put on a maroon polo shirt and motored to his Quezon City residence where he spent the day.

President Garcia today granted a 30-day reprieve to Alejandro de la Cruz, who had been set for execution on January 4 to give himself more time to study a petition for commutation to life imprisonment filed with Malacañang in behalf of the condemned prisoner,

De la Cruz had been imposed the death penalty by the Pangasinan court of first instance on February 25, 1957, for the crime of robbery with homicide and double serious physical injuries. He had been charged with the killing of one Amadeo Miranda and the wounding of two others in barrio Malabago, Calasiao, Pangasinan, on July 2, 1956.

The death sentence meted out to the prisoner was subsequently affirmed by the Supreme Court on April 30, 1959.

In issuing the reprieve order, the President said that he had just received a petition for commutation to life imprisonment of the death penalty imposed upon De la Cruz and that some time was needed for a thorough and careful consideration of the merits of the petition.

December 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia today alerted all relief agencies to be ready to extend immediate assistance to victims of typhoon *Harriet* reported to be raging in the Bicol region with center winds packing 140 miles an hour.

Alerted by the President were the Social Welfare Administration, the Constabulary, the Department of Health, the Department of Public Works, and the Philippine National Red Cross. Southern and Central Luzon are expected to experience stormy weather starting today.

The President spent the day at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, clearing his desk of important pending papers before the New Year comes around.

At 10 a.m. the President received Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, who brought along three Christianized Ilongots, one of them the chief of police of the Ilongot reservation in Nueva Ecija by the name of Dionisio Canauan.

The Ilongots informed President Garcia that the majority of them want to live in peace but some members of the tribe still persisted in headhunting.

President Garcia instructed Secretary Santos to look after the welfare of the Ilongots, whose main grievance is that after cultivating a piece of land it is grabbed away from them by their Christian brothers. He told the defense secretary to apply the policy of attraction, to deal with Ilongots with understanding and to avoid the use of violence if possible.

In the evening President Garcia left his Bohol Avenue residence and motored to Malacañang where he joined Mrs. Garcia and their children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, at supper.

After supper, close relatives and intimate friends of the presidential family dropped in at the Palace for an impromptu get-together.

Shortly before midnight, President and Mrs. Garcia, their children, and guests went down to the Malacañang chapel and heard mass.

After mass the guests gathered once more in the family dining room and had light refreshments while the President retired to his room.

This evening President Garcia paid tribute to the late President Roxas, saying that the latter's birth 68 years ago had come as a precious gift to his people and as a timely response to a national need.

In a statement issued on the eve of the late President's birthday, which coincides with New Year's Day, President Garcia said:

"While the perspective of time will render a definite answer to the role of President Roxas in history, I have, as one of his contemporaries, an impelling duty to state that the patriotic virtues and achievements of this leader and friend had been motivated by his ever resolute and inspired dedication to the interest and welfare of his people.

"I am happy to join our people in remembering his distinguished life as a public servant," President Garcia added.

The President this evening ordered Minister Manuel G. Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer, to send a wreath to the tomb of the late President and have a unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion stand guard at the Mausoleum at the Manila North Cemetery, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. tomorrow.

President Garcia is the recipient of an intricately made Christmas lantern in the form of a big green parrot sent to him by one Rogaciano C. Cuevas, an insular prisoner assigned at the AFP Disciplinary Barracks, Ft. William McKinley.

The beautiful lantern which was made in exactly 11 months during the "free" hours of the prisoner was sent to the President to show his appreciation and gratitude for the "great service our President is doing for our people and country."

In a letter addressed to Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Mr. Cuevas expressed his faith and loyalty to the President and added that the criticisms hurled against President Garcia by his political enemies is caused by the misunderstanding of the philosophies being strictly followed by the Chief Executive both in his private and public life.

Cuevas ended his letter with the wish for the continued health and happiness of the President and his family.

The Christmas lantern is now hung at a conspicuous place at the Malacañang Social Hall.

January 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning offered a toast for the success of "the universal effort for peace" at the traditional exchange of toasts with the local diplomatic corps during the New Year's Day reception at Malacañang.

The President also offered a toast for the health of the chiefs of states and the prosperity of the peoples represented by the local diplomatic corps.

In the name of the diplomatic corps, the Papal Nuncio as its doyen, in turn offered a toast for the health of President Garcia and for the prosperity of the Filipino people.

President and Mrs. Garcia were "at home" in Malacañang for official callers from 11 a.m. to past high noon.

The first callers to greet President and Mrs. Garcia were Vice-President and Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal. Immediately following the Macapagals were Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., and Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, together with Sens. Lorenzo Sumulong, Pedro Sabido, and Pacita M. Gonzalez, and Reps. Salipada Pendatun, Justinano Montano, Francisco Sumulong, Inocencio Ferrer, Emilio Cortez, Pedro Trono, and Fausto Dugenio.

The diplomatic exchange of toasts were made after the President and Mrs. Garcia had received the members of the Supreme Court and the Cabinet.

Other callers included high U.S. officials led by Secretary of the Army and Mrs. Wilbur Brucker, U.S. Charge d' Affaires George Abbott, the heads of the major commands of the U.S. Armed Forces and Federal Agencies in the Philippines, and the Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal and high officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Meanwhile, President Garcia authorized the advanced spot relief of ₱50,000 for construction material for the victims of typhoon *Harriet*.

After the reception, President Garcia administered the oath of office to the first woman member of the provincial board of Negros Oriental, Mrs. Maria A. Diaz, in the presence of Education Secretary and Mrs. Jose Romero, Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, and Miguel Diaz.

The President woke up early and called for his confessor, Fr. Domingo Nebres. After a short meditation and confession, the President heard mass, together with Mrs. Garcia, relatives, and close friends. The President also received Holy Communion.

After mass the President and Mrs. Garcia had breakfast with those who heard mass with them. The same group also had lunch with the President and the First Lady.

The President ordered a wreath laid at the tomb of the late President Roxas at the new La Loma Cemetery. He also had a unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion stand guard over the late President's mausoleum from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

President Garcia renewed his pledge for an early and definite solution to the problem of graft and corruption in the government in his remarks shortly after swearing in 10 Nacionalista councilors of Manila in Malacañang this afternoon.

Those who took their oaths before the President were Francisco D. Gatmaitan, first district; Apolonio V. Gener, Eriberto A. Remigio, and Francis P. Yuseco, second district; Vicente G. Cruz and Ernesto M. Maceda, third district; and Felicisimo R. Cabigao, Alfredo R. Gomez, Gonzalo Santos Rivera, and Pablo V. Ocampo, fourth district.

Sounding a call for the cooperation of the NP members of the Manila municipal council in the Administration's task of house-cleaning, the Chief Executive said the people of this city have reiterated their confidence in the majority party by electing to office IMP city mayor and majority of the NP candidates to the municipal board.

The ceremony was attended by relatives, of the inductees, ward leaders of the different districts, and their friends and admirers.

After the oath-taking, the new city councilors introduced their ladies to President Garcia. Councilor Ernesto M. Maceda, the youngest among the group, presented his mother, Mrs. Antonio Mecedo, to the Chief Executive explaining that he is still single.

Most of the councilors wore barong Tagalog with the exception of Councilors Francis P. Yuseco and Pablo V. Ocampo who came in dark suits. 50 points in more than an hour.

President Garcia was scheduled to administer the oaths of office to 40 “loyalist” mayors of Cebu but the ceremony was postponed until a later date, as the majority of the newly-elected town executives we’re unable to come to Manila because of typhoon *Harriet*.

January 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia today started playing billiards at his private residence, and from all indications the First Lady, who has frowned upon chess, is succeeding in weaning the Chief Executive away from the Kings’ pasttime.

Mrs. Garcia has purchased a billiard table and presented it to the President as her Christmas present.

The First Lady, it was learned, wanted to interest the Chief Executive in the game and make him forget chess.

Mrs. Garcia has blamed the President’s addiction to chess for his recent ailment—low back pains—which had confined him at the Veterans Memorial Hospital for more than five weeks.

“I get a kick out of it,” the President remarked as he handled the cue and played three-ball billiards.

He recalled that, when he was young, he used to play the game and could rack up a record 20 points. He believes he could still make that mark.

As he started on his new pastime, the President was able to string up 50 points in more than an hour.

Excited over the game, the President invited his only caller, Sen. Claro M. Recto, to a game of billiards.

However, the Senator excused himself by saying he did not know how to play the game.

Malacañang said the Senator’s visit was purely a social call. Recto was reported to have greeted the President, as he was not able to see him in Malacañang on New Year’s Day.

With nobody to play with, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, who was then at the President’s private residence, came in handy as a playmate.

The President, despite his weak right leg and long lay-off from the game, was reported to have beaten the Malacañang press secretary.

In the afternoon the President motored to the Palace to induct the Cebu NP “Loyalist” mayors who won in the last election.

However, after finding out that not all the pro-Garcia mayors had arrived, the President decided to postpone their scheduled induction until some other day, perhaps tomorrow or Monday.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: January 3-9, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

January 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet day at his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, today, working mostly on the draft of the state-of-the-nation message he will deliver before both Houses of Congress when this body convenes on January 25.

Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Ocampo was the Chief Executive's only caller today. The PC Chief briefed the President on the peace and order situation in the country during 1959 which he described as "generally satisfactory."

Earlier this morning President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass celebrated before an improvised altar in their home.

After breakfast the President went over the Sunday newspapers and then invited Dr. Alejandro Gaerlan to a game of billiards which he easily won. While they were playing, Gen. Ocampo arrived.

After the game the President and the Constabulary chief went to the library where they conferred until noon.

President Garcia started working on the draft of his speech shortly after lunch and continued until late in the afternoon. Taking a short break from his work, the President went out to the yard of his residence and strolled around the premises, inspecting the fruit trees and plants.

After partaking, of a light supper, the Chief Executive closeted himself in his room and resumed work on his speech. President Garcia today said that he may ask Congress for a more realistic program on the question of tobacco production.

Emphasizing that there is now a surplus of about 20 million kilos of tobacco, the President pointed out that a new tobacco harvest is due: from February to May this year which will add up to the surplus, on hand.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the President may present this problem squarely in his state-of-the-nation speech at the opening session of Congress on January 25.

The President, according to Nable, may reiterate his recommendation to Congress to limit the production of tobacco' only to high grade Virginia tobacco, and as much as possible, to discourage the planting of low grade tobacco.

This recommendation had been mentioned by the President in his report on the nation before Congress last January, Nable recalled.

President Garcia took occasion to reiterate his stand for the continuation of price support on this commodity.

President Garcia, however, is considering seriously a proposal submitted to him which calls for the transfer of the marketing phase of tobacco to private enterprise, and pulling out of the government from this venture. It was pointed out to the President that it was precisely this problem of marketing which has given rise to the reported irregularities.

In connection with the extension of easy credit to tobacco farmers, the President is also considering a sister proposal which calls for the farmers to draw their credit through rural banks.

January 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia swore in an elected town official belonging to the opposition party in a ceremony held at his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, this morning.

Carmelo Cimafranca, Jr., duly-elected vice-mayor of Dauis, Bohol, a die-hard Liberal, took his oath of office before the President. The brief ceremony was witnessed by Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, ex-Rep. Luis Y. Clarin of Bohol, Edilberto B. Galiates, PCAPE Vice-Chairman Maximo A. Maceren, Mrs. Felicisima Cimafranca, and Bril Clarin.

Cimafranca had figured prominently in a shooting incident between NP and LP followers in Bohol on November 1, 1957, during the height of the presidential campaign. At the time of the shooting, President Garcia had just left the Tagbilaran airport for Talibon, his hometown, to make his annual visit to his parents' graves on all Saints' Day.

After the oath-taking ceremony, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to Malacañang where the President devoted the rest of the day working on state papers that had piled up during the holidays.

In Malacañang the President again received the 39 elected Cebu mayors who ran under the pro-Garcia wing of the Nacionalista Party during the last elections.

The President inducted the mayors last night at a ceremony attended by Reps. Ramon Durano and Manuel Zoza and Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Logarta,

The elected Cebu mayors saw President again today and renewed their pledge of loyalty to him and to his administration.

They assured the President that in the current political controversy in Cebu, they would stand behind the Chief Executive.

The President thanked them for their renewed pledge of loyalty and said he would cooperate with their administration for the welfare of their constituents.

The Cebu mayors saw the President before they left for their respective stations late this day.

The President also received Dr. Leopoldo T. Ruiz, president of the Silliman University, who is leaving for abroad shortly. The President once studied at Silliman University.

January 5.—THE Chief Executive spent the day in Malacañang working on pending state papers. He received very few callers.

Among this visitors whom he received shortly before noon included Reps, Felix A. Fuentesbella of Camarines Sur, Emilio P. Cortez of Pampanga, Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, and Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur. The solons called to request financial assistance for the rehabilitation, of their typhoon- and fire-ravaged localities.

The last caller this noon was Rep. Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, who likewise sought relief for fire victims in his hometown, Asingan.

The President did not receive any caller in the afternoon.

President Garcia set a meeting of his Cabinet for Thursday, January 7, it was announced by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable today. It will be the first Cabinet meeting to be held by the President this year.

The Cabinet, at its Thursday meeting, will consider only those items left on its agenda last meeting with the exception of certain, urgent matters the President might want to take up with his official family.

President Garcia today also summoned five department secretaries to a conference at Malacañang tomorrow morning for the purpose of assessing the extent of damage wrought by recent destructive typhoons and discussing the immediate reconstruction of destroyed public buildings, roads, and bridges.

Called to the conference which was set for 9 a.m. tomorrow are Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Education Secretary Jose Romero, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, and Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor.

The President expressed concern over persistent reports of widespread destruction left in the wake of the last typhoon *Harriet*, particularly in the provinces of Albay, Camarines Sur, Sorsogon, Mindoro Oriental, Marinduque and Quezon.

He will also inquire into the extent of relief extended to millions of people rendered homeless in the typhoon-ravaged areas.

The President stressed the necessity for the early reconstruction of to delay the schooling of children and the restoration of health and trans-public buildings, such as schools, health centers, and bridges so as not portation facilities in these areas.

January 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia took steps to expedite the distribution of relief goods to typhoon victims and the rehabilitation of public works installations, especially roads, bridges, and school buildings, at a conference with five Cabinet members at Malacañang this morning.

During the conference the President organized an inter-departmental committee to attend to details of the task composed of Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona, chairman; and Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Education Secretary Jose Romero, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, and SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, members-President Garcia instructed Commissioner Aytona and Secretary Moreno to release all budget items for public works due the areas affected by recent typhoons and to make use of his contingent funds to take care of places not covered by previous appropriations.

Secretary Romero was likewise instructed to use his discretion in the release of funds under Republic Act 836 for the rehabilitation of school buildings so that schoolchildren in affected areas can return to classes as soon as possible.

The President told Secretary Santos to establish factories for the construction of pre-fabricated schoolhouses and other buildings in areas where lumber is abundant. Santos was also asked to speed up the manufacture of pre-fabricated school buildings to meet the needs of areas hit by storms and to deploy men of the AFP corps of engineers in these areas to put them up.

The necessity of a “priority system” for distributing aid was also underscored by the President, who expressed his wish that the assistance given out be responsive to the needs of the victims.

He suggested, among other things, the determination of priority in ‘the construction of schoolhouses and municipal buildings, in the re-establishment of communication lines, as well as in the maintenance of peace and order in the devastated areas.

SWA Administrator Villamor reported to President Garcia that her office had, of this date, distributed emergency aid amounting to ₱100,000 among the different localities hit by typhoons.

Later in the morning, President and Mrs. Garcia received delegates to the 45-nation UNESCO—Pax Romana conference currently being held in Manila who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang.

In brief remarks before the delegates, the Chief Executive said he is looking forward to the early realization of the aims and objectives of the conferences. Pie expressed hope that this year will be one of world peace and that it will mark the beginning of centuries of universal peace.

Other speakers were Mrs. Geronima Pecson, chairman of the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines; Fr. Miguel Nuguid, national director of the Student Catholic Action of the Philippines, the host organization; and Tom Kerstiens, secretary general of the Pax Romana International graduate movement.

Minister Maurc Baradi, Philippine envoy to Somaliland, who also called on the President, reported that the Philippines was highly instrumental in helping Somaliland achieve its independence.

He also relayed Somaliland's invitation to President Garcia to attend their independence rites scheduled for July 1 this year. During their meeting, the President designated Minister Baradi as his personal representative to the Somaliland independence ceremonies.

The President appointed today former Justice Pompeyo Diaz as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

At the same time, the President also signed the appointment papers of the six members of the Board of the PVTA.

The board members are the following: Perfecto Faypon of Ilocos Sur, Rizal de Peralta of Ilocos Norte, Marcelino Florentine of La Union, Jose del Castillo of Pangasinan, Zacarias Crispin of Abra, and Gualberto Besa of Tarlac.

The newly appointed PVTA officials will take their oaths of office soon.

Creation of the PVTA is provided under Republic Act No. 2265 passed during the last regular session of Congress.

President Garcia this afternoon formally, accepted in the name of the government of the Philippines the Asian Labor Education Center of the University of the Philippines, which was made possible by a grant of the Asian Economic Development Fund of the government of the United States through the International Cooperation Administration.

High government officials of both countries, members of the diplomatic corps, and officials of the state university attended the turnover ceremonies.

The building was officially turned over to the Philippine Government by Minister George M. Abbott, charge d'affaires of the U. S. Embassy.

Mrs. Vicente Sinco, assisted by Mrs. Cornelio V. Crucillo, cut the ceremonial ribbon, while Mrs. Angel M. Castano, assisted by Mrs. John F. McConagle unveiled the plaque.

John K. Meskimen, ICA director of labor affairs, spoke after the invocation by Rev. Fr. Pacifico Ortiz, S.J.

The institution is the first of its kind in this part of the world and has Dr. Calderon as project director with Sol Davison and David Levintow as senior advisor and advisor, respectively.

The Philippines is the only country in Asia which has an extensive program of workers' education. Last year the Asian Seminar on Workers' Education was held here in cooperation with the UNESCO, the International Labor Organization, and the ICFTU in order to share our experience in this field and assist other countries in Asia in setting up their own program of workers' education. Nine Asian countries participated in the seminar.

This evening the President gave three reparations commissioners until Monday to explain questioned reparations transactions in which the government reportedly lost ₱15.5 million through alleged overpricing of seven Japanese vessels.

The President issued the directive to Reparations Chairman Rodolfo Maslog, who was instructed to transmit the order to the other two commissioners; namely, Juan Alberto and Gregorio Abad.

President Garcia's action was prompted by the charges aired recently by Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco, who accused reparations officials of "dishonesty and sheer inaction" for allegedly not protecting the interests of the government in these transactions.

Cuenco wrote President Garcia recently and denounced the reparations officials for allegedly allowing the overpricing of war indemnity items.

The Cebu solon today pressed for the immediate investigation of these transactions after having allegedly received a report from Minister Caesar Z. Lanuza admitting the overpricing but blaming defects in the reparations law for it.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the President had previously given Maslog 72 hours within which to explain the disputed transactions.

However, the Chief Executive extended the time given to the commissioners to Monday, upon the representations of the reparations chairman that he would need "voluminous documents from Tokyo to explain the transactions.

January 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia convened his Cabinet today and discussed the report of the special Cabinet committee on the establishment of an integrated steel plant in the Philippines. This was the President's first meeting with the members of his Cabinet this year.

The report was submitted by the committee composed of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, chairman, and Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, NSDB Chairman Paulino Garcia, NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin and acting OEC Administrator Pablo Cruz, members.

In effect, the committee declared that the private sector is agreeable to the condition that the government retain a controlling share of the stocks of the proposed joint venture provided that they will handle the management and of the corporation with the government interfering only when public interest so requires.

Earlier this morning, the Chief Executive received former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., in a social call. They exchanged belated greetings of the season.

President Garcia also conferred with Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, chairman of the Senate's foreign affairs committee, on the foreign policy portion of the state-of-the-nation message he will deliver before a joint session of Congress when this body convenes on January 25.

Gov. Claro Robles of Quezon led a delegation of municipal officials to Malacañang to pay a courtesy call on the President and ask for financial assistance from the contingent funds for the rehabilitation of government buildings and public works installations damaged by the recent storms that hit the country.

With Gov. Robles were ex-Rep. Narciso Umali, Lucena Mayor Casto Propogo, Candelaria Mayor Venancio Dia, Pitogo Mayor Vicente Martinez, San Antonio Mayor Juanito Waga, and members of the municipal council of San Antonio.

Before going to the Council of State room to preside over this afternoon's Cabinet meeting, President Garcia inducted into office Galo Meliton as general manager of the National Abaca and other Fibers Corporation. The oath-taking ceremony was attended by officials of the NAFCO and friends and relatives of the inductee.

Other presidential callers today were Tarlac Gov. Arsenio Lugay, who requested additional fund releases for the repair and maintenance of national and feeder roads in his province, and Rep. Felipe Abrigo, who asked for the construction of more prefabricated school buildings in Samar in place of barrio schools destroyed by typhoons.

January 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia received today several requests for financial assistance for the repair and rehabilitation of schools and public works installations damaged by recent typhoons.

These requests were submitted by solons and provincial officials of Leyte, Albay, Laguna, and other regions ravaged by off-season storms shortly before the end of the year.

The President informed the group that during the Cabinet meeting last night, he had already approved the allocations of a total of ₱4 million for the rehabilitation of typhoon victims and the repair and reconstruction of public buildings, roads, and bridges in the devastated areas.

Rep. Marcelino Veloso reported that, in the 17 towns of the first district of Leyte alone, more than 102 buildings had been destroyed and damaged by recent successive storms.

Rep. Veloso also informed the President that the local copra industry, the main source of livelihood of the people, had suffered heavily and that coconut trees in the affected areas will be useless for the next five or six years.

Sens. Pacita M. Gonzalez and Pedro A. Sabido accompanied Gov. Nicanor Maronilla Seva and other provincial officials of Albay to present resolutions seeking relief of typhoon victims and the rehabilitation of the province.

Gov. Seva also presented a resolution of the provincial board asking for assistance from the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office for the establishment of hospitals and puericulture centers in the different towns of Albay.

With Gov. Seva were Vice-Governor Jose Esteves, Board Members Faustino Nuyda, Jesus Salalima, and Apolonio Bocalbos, and ex-Board Member Teodorico Lawenko.

Rep. Wenceslao Rancap Lagumbay of Laguna also expressed the need of his province for financial rehabilitation of typhoon-damaged areas in his district

Earlier this morning, President Garcia received Anthony Brooke, visiting Rajan Munda of the former state of Sarawak, who arrived to attend the UNESCO-Pax Romana conferences.

Exchanging views with the Chief Executive on the need for peace in the world, they agreed that spiritual and moral regeneration is essential to the realization of world peace.

President Garcia also expressed to the visiting dignitary the desire of the Filipinos to live in peace among their fellowmen.

Before calling a noon-break, the President administered the oath of office to Ricardo Castro, NP board member of Capiz. The simple and brief ceremony was witnessed by Maj. Fred Salcedo, PCAPE chief of communications and liaison. The President also signed the appointment of Naga City Engineer Marcial Honrado.

President, Garcia had extended executive clemency to a total of 80 prisoners now serving terms at the national penitentiary in Muntinlupa, Rizal, on the occasion of the Christmas and New Year holidays.

All the prisoners had been extended clemency on the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

Of the 80 prisoners, 70 were granted conditional pardons, eight commutation of sentences, and two absolute pardons.

THIS afternoon the President appealed to Filipino and Asian student leaders to lend a hand in the concentrated effort to achieve a real and enduring world peace.

At the same time, he hailed the execution of a cultural and goodwill exchange agreement among the youth and students of Hongkong, the Republics of China, Korea, Vietnam, and the Philippines.

Speaking before student leaders of Ghana, Nepal, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Philippines, China, and Hongkong who recently attended the Asian Forum in Baguio City, the President asked the Asian student leaders to cooperate with the forces working towards the achievement of world peace.

Student leaders should lead the way in the formation of a strong public opinion towards this end in their respective countries, the President said.

The Philippines in a small way, the President continued, is lending support to the movement towards world disarmament which is one way to achieve world peace.

The President said that the Philippine Government is convinced that the holding of student conferences is the best means for Asian countries to have understanding and goodwill.

Referring to the recent conference in Baguio, President Garcia said the student delegates have established a friendship that will last a lifetime. The Chief Executive also took the occasion to quote Dr. Rizal in describing "the youth as the fair hope of the Fatherland."

Earlier, the President received foreign and Filipino physicians who recently attended the Pax Romana International Conferences. The Pax Romana group was led by Dr. Mariano Alimurong, president of the Catholic Physicians' Guild.

Later, the President and the First Lady motored to their Quezon City residence where they gave a party for Malacañang household help.

At the party President Garcia awarded a medal to Ramon V. Pobre for his dedicated and devoted security service to the Presidents of the Philippines extending over a long span of thirty years.

January 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia sat down with Congress leaders in a ten-hour conference which started at breakfast and broke up shortly before dinner time this morning at his private residence in Quezon City.

It was the first straining conference which the President attended since his confinement for almost five weeks at the Veterans Memorial Hospital because of low back pains.

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer.

The President and Congress leaders touched on President Garcia's choices to be named into his Cabinet in his projected shake-up of his advisory

body.

The President and Congress leaders took up a number of varied subjects including his legislative program and President Garcia's plan to intensify the government drive against grafters in the public service.

The President and Congress leaders evolved a plan of creating a graft-busting commission, a tribunal-like body which will try cases of graft in

the public service.

President Garcia said he would invite the Liberal elements to join the Administration campaign in ferreting out grafters in the government.

The President and Congress leaders also discussed the proposal of Senate President Rodriguez to scrap several government corporations.

President Garcia said he will screen the transactions of the government corporations, indicating that he is planning to reorganize several agencies in an effort to step up the efficiency of these offices.

The President and Congress leaders agreed to meet again presumably next Saturday to resume their discussions on various other matters.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: January 10-16, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

January 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia assured members of the Quezon City Council that he will support all measures and projects undertaken by the new council that will redound to the benefit of the residents of the capitol city.

The assurance was given about 10 o'clock this morning during a two-hour conference the Chief Executive had with the Quezon City aldermen, which was originally scheduled as a courtesy call, at his Quezon City residence.

During the conference the councilors, headed by former Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason presented to the President some of the measures the council plans to undertake this year, such as:

1. Re-organization of the Quezon City police department;
2. Construction of parks, playgrounds, and other recreation centers;
3. Beautification of the city as a whole;
4. Placement of squatters of the city;
5. Re-assessment of real property located in the city; and
6. Purchase of motor vehicles for use of police, fire, and health departments of the city.

The Chief Executive approved the requests for the release of funds for the purchase of equipment and the redemption by the national government of the backpay certificates not exceeding ₱2,000 in value per certificate now in the hands of the city treasurer as payment for taxes and other fees.

The President also expressed his full backing of the plans of the council to effect the re-organization of the different departments of the city, particularly the police department, so that the "best service to the people could be rendered."

Members of the city council who called on the President were former Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, former Ambassador Proceso Sebastian, former U. P. President Vidal Tan, former Navy Captain Carlos Albert, Victoriano Diamonon, and Dean Conrado Benitez.

The President did not receive any caller the whole day.

Earlier this morning the Chief Executive heard mass before an improvised altar at his Quezon City residence. After mass he took a brief stroll in the garden, had breakfast, and then read the morning papers.

President Garcia today capped his first working week this year by replacing all the officials of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration.

It was a complete overhaul of the ACCFA board, including the replacement of Ernesto T. Jimenez as general manager and chairman of the board of governors.

He appointed Vicente Araneta, well-known agriculturist, as general manager and chairman of the board of governors. Araneta, ACCFA administrator in President Magsaysay's time, replaced Ernesto Jimenez.

The new governors named by the President are:

Dr. Leopold Uichangco, retired dean of the UP College of Agriculture in Los Baños;

Lorenzo Sarmiento, abaca farmer of Davao;

Rafael Piguing, agricultural scientist;

Celestino Paulin, businessman and former Cebu City official; and

Jose Mapa Gomez, sugar planter, who is present president of the National Federation of Sugar Planters.

The ACCFA governors who were replaced were Hilario de Pedro, Arcadio Matela, Joaquin Ortega, and Nicolas (Nick) Enciso. There was one vacancy in the board because of the resignation of Joaquin Ortega late last year to run for governor of La Union.

The sweeping changes made by President Garcia will not preclude any action that may be taken later in court against any individual, if information warrants, as a result of the investigation being conducted into ACCFA deals.

January 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia appointed today Hans Menzi as technical adviser on aviation matters in connection with his policy of accelerating the development of air transportation in this country.

In appointing an aviation adviser, the President said that the rapid development of air transportation would hasten the economic progress of this country.

The President honored this morning Menzi, the “flying publisher,” at breakfast in his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

Publisher of the *Manila Daily Bulletin*, Menzi recently distinguished himself as a pilot by flying across the Pacific, from Honolulu to Manila, in a light twin-engine plane. The feat was said to have brought once again the Philippine Air Force uniform to the attention of the aviation world. Menzi is full colonel in the reserve corps of the PAF.

Present at the breakfast were Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, chief of the Air Force; Col. Urbano Caldoza, administrator of the Civil Aeronautics Administration; Alfredo Carmelo, the first Filipino pilot; Ramon Zosa and Miguel Campos, president and past president, respectively, of the Philippine Aviation Association.

Also at the affair were Ford Wilkins and Felix Gonzales of the *Manila Daily Bulletin*.

President Garcia today told newly inducted members of the Board of Directors of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration to exercise strict supervision over the operation of the PVTA in order to eliminate possible anomalies in Virginia tobacco trading.

“You cannot be too careful in supervising the tobacco operation of the PVTA. Anything anomalous perpetrated by the smallest employee of your office will be blamed on the Administration,” the President told the PVTA board members.

The President directed them to adopt foolproof rules and regulations to obviate such anomalies, particularly in the classification of Virginia tobacco.

The President expressed his concern for the survival of the Virginia tobacco industry and enjoined the PVTA officials to exert all efforts so that the industry will continue to progress.

The President also instructed the PVTA officials to study ways and means to dispose of the Virginia tobacco surplus which will be augmented by 20 million kilos in this year’s harvest.

The PVTA officials were told that the disposal of the Virginia tobacco surplus is important in order to generate funds to continue the trading operation of the state firm.

Officials inducted by President Garcia at Malacañang were former Justice Pompeyo Diaz, as board chairman, and former Gov. Perfecto Faypon, Dr. Rizal de Peralta, Jose G. del Castillo, Marcelino Florentino, and Zacarias Crispin, as board members.

After the conference with the President, the PVTA board members held a meeting and appointed retired Gen. Juan Relosa as general manager, and Angel Blandres as assistant general manager of the new firm.

Present at the induction ceremonies were Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, Sen. Cipriano Primicias, Labor Undersecretary Agapico Braganza, Sixto Brillantes of the Commission on Elections, and Abra Vice-Gov. Carmelo Z. Barbero.

Then the President received Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who consulted him on matters pertaining to the Department of Foreign Affairs; J. N. Corry, resident representative of the United Nations in Manila, who paid a courtesy call; and Remedies N. Gatmaitan, commissioner of the Court of Agrarian Relations.

In the evening the President received members of the Jose Rizal Centennial Commission.

Those who saw the President were Luis Montilla, Santiago de la Cruz, Vicente Y. Orosa, Leoncio Lopez Rizal, Gabriel Daza, Sergio Bayan, Emilio Abello Arsenio Luz, and Ellas L. Ablaza.

January 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today came out in favor of the early implementation of the plan to extend the railroad lines to Cagayan and Sorsogon.

At a conference with Cagayan, Lanao, and Sorsogon solons, the President stated that the early completion of the project will contribute to the overall prosperity of the country, adding that it is an essential phase of the industrialization program of the Administration.

The President made the statement at a conference with Sens. Eulogio Balao and Domocao Alonto, and Reps. Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, Laurentino Badilles of Lanao del Norte, and Salvador Encinas and Vicente peralta of Sorsogon.

The early implementation of the project was backed by Sen. Alonto and Rep. Badilles, who saw in its completion the start of a railroad line in Mindanao.

The President promised to give the railroad extension project his preferential attention. The bids for the construction of the railroad lines to Cagayan and Sorsogon had recently been submitted to Malacañang by the board of directors of the Manila Railroad Company.

Meanwhile, solons who saw President Garcia hailed his selection of new officials of the ACCFA and the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

The President also received telegrams congratulating him for the complete reorganization of the ACCFA and for his proposal to create a multiparty anti-graft commission.

Mayor Cesar Climaco of Zamboanga City sent his congratulations to the President for his proposal to create an anti-graft commission, pledging his support as a Liberal to the proposal. Rep. Inocencio Ferrer of Negros Occidental and former Vice-Mayor Ramon Abellanosa of Cebu City congratulated the President for revamping the top echelon of the ACCFA. Abellanosa informed the President that his choice of new ACCFA officials had been hailed by the people of Cebu.

The President signed two proclamations creating the municipalities of Linamon and Salvador, both in Lanao del Norte. Present on the occasion were Sen. Alonto, Rep. Badilles, and prominent leaders of the province.

Other callers were Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, who in his breakfast-conference with President Garcia renewed his courtesy resignation and then reviewed the PI-US relations with him; Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez; Reps. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Jose Moreno of Romblon, and Jose Legaspi of Aklan; and Gov. Tomas Martin of Bulacan.

In the afternoon the President received the members of the visiting German economic trade mission who arrived yesterday. President Garcia tendered a cocktail party for the trade mission members.

Among those who saw the President were Dr. Hans Musa, Dr. Karl-Heinz Imhausen, W. Pauly, E. B. Unger, Dr. Jose Ma-Hunck, Emil Lindor, Ernst Lobbecke, K. H. Kauth, J. Eicher, and W. W. von Kap-herr.

With the German traders were Filipino businessmen; namely, Marcelo Balatbat, Jose P. Marcelo, Antonio de las Alas, Generoso Tanseco, Primitivo Lovina, Judge Guillermo B. Guevara, and Daniel Me. Gomez.

The President exhorted the Filipino businessmen to profit from the visit here of the German economic mission in an effort to expand the country trade with Germany.

The President also received the officials of the Jaycees who reported to the Chief Executive that their project this year is community development.

Among those who saw the President were Antonio Meer, vice-president of the Jaycee International for Asia; Gregorio Araneta II, president of the Philippine Jaycees; and Benjardi Crame, president of the Manila Jaycees.

This afternoon the President took issue with Vice-President Macapagal in regard to the Santos Sandakan case.

President Garcia wrote Macapagal a long letter rejecting the Veep's petition for a complete change in the composition of the Cabinet committee created to investigate the case. The Vice-President had accused the Cabinet committee members of "partiality."

The Santos case has assumed political complexion and from all indications it would be an issue in the 1961 presidential elections.

The President bluntly told Macapagal that "if you cannot have faith and confidence in the committee I created and you have evidence that Defense Secretary Alejo Santos has violated the law, the course of action to take the case directly to the courts of justice is open to you."

Late in the evening, the President inducted Rodolfo Nazareno as technical assistant assigned to Malacañang.

Present were Mrs. Nazareno and Gonzalo Villaverde of the Malacañang press office.

January 13.—THE PRESIDENT stayed this morning at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He spent most of his time in his private study going over some state papers and the draft of his state-of-the-nation- message to Congress when it convenes on January 25.

In the morning the President received Secretary of Commerce Pedro Hernaez. Malacañang did not release the subjects taken up at the conference which lasted more than two hours.

President Garcia also received Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, who took up with the President the legislative program which the Chief Executive intends to refer to Congress in its opening session on January 25.

President Garcia today granted commutation of sentences to four out of five prisoners who had been imposed death penalties following their conviction for robbery with multiple murder by the court of first instance of Cotabato.

Those whose sentences were commuted to life imprisonment were Maximino Cabrera, Paterio Adame, Aniceto Maravillas and Jacinto Mejio. Their co-accused, Legario Llagas, is scheduled to burn in the electric chair on Friday following the expiration of the 45-day reprieve previously granted the prisoners by the President.

The five prisoners had been convicted of robbery and murder in band of a Chinese storeowner and six members of his family in barrio Lamitan, Kidapawan, Cotabato, on April 23, 1953.

Llagas, alone, will be allowed to burn, as he had owned full responsibility for the crime.

In the afternoon the President motored to Malacañang to receive the credentials of John Dewey Hickerson, the new U. S. Ambassador to the Philippines, in a presentation ceremony held at the ceremonial hall.

President Garcia today expressed confidence that readjustments in the relationship between the Philippines and the United States will not affect the close friendship between the two countries.

The Chief Executive made this statement in his response to the remarks delivered by United States Ambassador to the Philippines John Dewey Hickerson after the latter had presented his letters of credence to the President in a ceremony at the Malacañang ceremonial hall this afternoon.

The new American envoy arrived in Malacañang at exactly 4: 59 p.m., with Minister Pedro Angara-Aragon, acting chief of the foreign affairs protocol division, and Maj. Ciriaco Hocson, military aide-de-camp to the President.

Members of the US Embassy staff headed by Minister George M. Abbott also came to witness the ceremony.

After acknowledging military honors tendered by an honor guard made of elements of the Presidential Guard Battalion, Ambassador Hickerson was accompanied up the Palace where he was met at the head of the stairs by Col. Jorge Delarmente, senior presidential aide-de-camp.

The Texas-born diplomat entered his name in the official guest book of Malacañang and then proceeded to the ceremonial hall, where President Garcia and the members of his Cabinet were waiting.

After the presentation ceremony, the President and Ambassador Hickerson exchanged toasts with *basi*, which has become the ceremonial wine in Malacañang.

A graduate of the University of Texas, Ambassador Hickerson joined the US foreign service corps in 1920 as vice-consul to Tampico, Mexico.

Rising through the ranks, he was US ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Finland before his recent appointment to represent his country in the Philippines.

From the ceremonial hall, President Garcia and members of his official family went to the state dining room for the regular weekly Cabinet meeting.

President Garcia told the Cabinet this afternoon to reduce their 1961 budgetary estimates sharply to save the nation from getting deeper in the red.

He rejected outright the budget proposals submitted by the Cabinet members as impractical, unsound and against his austerity policy.

The President warned against the danger of getting indebted to the tune of ₱132 million next year unless Cabinet members revise their figures to keep within the expected income.

The appropriations sought by the Cabinet for the fiscal year total P1,127,536,820. This represents an overall increase of P226 million over the current appropriations. This does not include the appropriation to be made by the Senate and the House.

Budget Commissioner Dominador Aytona reported during the meeting that the estimated total revenues for 1981 will be P955 million.

This expected income, set against the Cabinet proposals of P1,127,536.620 as received by President Garcia and the Budget Commission, will result in a national budgetary indebtedness next year in the amount of at least P132 million.

President Garcia and the Cabinet will resume discussion of the fiscal program next week. By that time the President expects his Cabinet to have pared down their estimates.

The departments that seek increases in appropriations are as follows: Education, P78 million increase; Finance, P43 million; National Defense, P29 million; Public Works and Communications, P21 million; Labor, P1 million; Agriculture and Natural Resources, P11 million; National Science Development Board, P1 million; University of the Philippines, P2 million; Land Tenure Administration, P8 million.

January 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia reiterated today his directive to the officials of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration to keep close supervision in the classification of Virginia tobacco and devise the best procedure to avoid possible anomalies in tobacco trading. At the same time, he lauded the officials of the new government firm for accepting the challenge of government service and stated that he chose them on the basis of merit and proven integrity in their respective fields.

The President made this statement at a conference in the Malacañang music room following the induction this morning of PVTA General Manager Juan C. Relosa, Assistant General Manager Angel Belandres as Board Member Gualberto Besa.

In lauding the officials of the PVTA, the President said that they going in the government service “not for what they can get but for what they can give.”

He especially lauded Board Chairman Pompeyo Diaz for accepting the job and added that all the members of the PVTA board, who are from tobacco-producing provinces, have stakes in the development of the Virginia tobacco industry.

Earlier this morning, in the Malacañang reception hall, the President administered the oath of office to the three PVTA officials in the presence of top government officials, close relatives, and friends of the three inductees.

After the conference with PVTA officials, the President received provincial and municipal officials who presented certain problems of their respective localities and requested aid, especially in the case of provinces hit by recent typhoons.

As for Catanduanes which was devastated by consecutive typhoons, the President told Reparations Commission Juan Alberto, Rep. Jose Alberto Gov. Jorge Almojuela, Vice-Gov. Delfin Posada, and Provincial Board Member Andres Torres that he favors the introduction of a special legislation during the coming congressional session to extend relief to the provinces.

Among the callers were three provincial governors belonging to the Liberal Party; namely, Jose C. Zulueta of Iloilo, Atila Balmes of Capiz, and Melanio Singson of Isabela.

Another Liberal Party member, Senator Estanislao Fernandez, also called on President Garcia to present the municipal officials of Majayjay, Laguna, most of whom belong to the Nacionalista Party.

The Nacionalista municipal officials of Pateros, Rizal, also called on President Garcia to request aid in the completion of several projects. They were Mayor Estaeio Flores and Councilors Jose Reyes, Perfecto Pascual, Leoncio Castillo, and Lazaro Cruz.

Other callers included Sen. Quintin Paredes, Rep. Lucas Paredes, Gov. Jose Valera, Vice-Gov. Carmelo Barbero, all of Abra; Gov. Godofredo Ramos of Aldan; Iloilo City Mayor Rodolto Ganzon and Councilor Cecil Hecha-nova; Gov. Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan; and Vice-Gov. Rodolfo Albano, Jr., of Isabela.

Despite heavy pressure of official work, President Garcia took time out, even delaying his luncheon, to extend help personally to a dying boy. He mobilized the government agencies to help rush much needed medicine to the dying boy in Cebu City today.

The President's aid was sought by Paul Wood, president of International Harvester Company of Philippines, at noon today. A 16-year old boy, Jose Ignacio Rosello, Jr., son of Jose Rosello, an employee of the IH branch office in Cebu City was hovering between life and death as a result of an accident. The medicine needed to stop the internal hemorrhage was not available in Manila or in Cebu. Wood had phoned the IH office to be on board a PAL plane arriving in Manila in the evening.

Wood sought the help of the President to speed the release of the medicine from the Customs on the arrival of the PAL plane so that it could be placed in another PAL for Cebu at midnight.

When appraised of the situation, the President deferred his luncheon to get in touch with Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas to expedite release of the medicine.

Wood said officials and employees of Harvester Philippines were deeply touched by the President's kindness and sent IH PRO Tony Arizabal to thank him for all the help he extended to save the life of the dying boy.

This afternoon the President told newly inducted officials of the ACCFA their work would be a challenge to their ingenuity and capabilities improving the way of life of thousands of farmer.

The President specifically instructed the new ACCFA officers to study A improve the present system of processing loans so that the farmer will receive the money at the right time.

The Chief Executive gave this instructions shortly after administering the oaths of office to the members of the revamped ACCFA board of governors led by Vicente Araneta, administrator and chairman of the board.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said President Garcia's conference with the ACCFA officials immediately after they were sworn in was an unusual procedure and it showed definitely the President's keen interest in the welfare of the rural folks.

In his conference President Garcia expressed his belief that the problems facing the ACCFA are not insurmountable. He urged the officials to greater efforts in their new task.

Manager Araneta gave his assurance to President Garcia that he would do his very best. The other board governors likewise gave their individual assurances to the Chief Executive.

President Garcia thanked Manager Araneta and the board of governors for accepting their posts and new responsibilities. He referred to Araneta as the "father of the ACCFA law."

President Garcia also brought out the fact that he was being congratulated for his choice of ACCFA officials.

Others sworn in by the President at the oath-taking ceremony held in the Malacañang reception hall were Dean Leopoldo B. Uichanco, Rafael Piguing, Celestino Paulin, Lorenzo Sarmiento, and Apolonio V. Marasigan. Jose Mapa Gomez, president of the National Federation of Sugar Planters, was unable to take his oath.

Earlier this afternoon, President Garcia received Col. Generoso Tanseco, president of the Filipino Shipowners' Association, and Antonio Botelho, member, who presented problems of the Philippine shipping business.

Presidents and managers of seven local shipping companies comprising the United Philippine Lines reacted sharply to claims of alleged overpricing of reparations vessels which appeared in certain sectors of the press recently.

In their letter to President Garcia, which was delivered personally by Col. Generoso Tanseco, president of the Filipino Shipowners' Association, and Antonio A. R. Botelho, member of the FSA, the shipping executives informed the President that the difference in prices between ships built in Japan for Japanese users and reparations ships for the Philippines was justified.

They said that reparations vessels, unlike those for Japanese users, are built with the most rigid classification standards of the American Bureau of Shipping and Lloyds Register of London, as well as of the stringent revised Philippine Merchant Marine regulations.

January 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received a plaque of appreciation from the National Federation of Women's Clubs of the Philippines. The plaque was presented at a simple ceremony held at the Malacañang study room by Mrs. Minerva Laudico, president of the Federation.

Present were ranking officials of the Federation, including Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, honorary president.

The plaque cited the help extended by President Garcia to the First Women's World Conference held in Asia under the auspices of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the First Asian Women's Conference also held in Manila from June 19 to 26, 1959.

President Garcia appealed to the NFWC officials to help arouse public interests in the work of the Rizal Centennial Commission.

The President cited the role that women are now playing in the government. He mentioned the fact that the first women ambassador of the Philippines, Mrs. Trinidad F. Legarda, is acquitting herself admirably in her present post. He added that Filipino women have in the past represented the country with distinction in several world conferences.

Present at the ceremony were Mrs. Florence Cadwallader and Doña Concha Rodriguez, advisers; Mrs. Enriqueta Benavidez, first vice-president Mrs. Punfacion Lopa, treasurer; Mrs. Julita Benedicto, secretary Mrs. Paz Reyes, assistant treasurer; Mrs. Carmen Bunda, Mrs. Salud Unson Mrs. Pilar H. Lim, Mrs. Maria O. Casas, Mrs. Asuncion Asistio and Mrs. Aurelia Castro, directors; and Mrs. Paz M. Catolico and Miss Nenuca Lopez.

Earlier, the President received Chinese Ambassador Tuan Mao-Ian Gov Esteban Bernido of Bohol, Tourism Commissioner Modesto Farolan, accompanied by Miss Cita Trinidad, GAB Commissioner Manuel Nieto, Jr. Leonides Virata, Miss Conchita Sunico, Francisco Ortigas, Bob Phillips, CDA Head Alfredo Eugenio, Mr. and Mrs. Andres Mature, NARRA Board Chairman and General Manager Remedies Fortich, and NARRA board members.

IN the evening the President received officials of the Republic Resources and Development Corporation. The REDECO officials who saw the President and briefed him on the progress of oil exploration in Cebu were Jose Tiong, Austin Taylor, Dr. Perfecto Mendoza, and Robert Schnabel.

The President also had dinner with the officials and members of the Mindanao-Palawan-Sulu bloc otherwise known as Minsupala.

The Minsupala leaders urged the President to name two members of his Cabinet from their regions.

They also asked the President to give them representation in every government corporation,

Those who were invited by the President were Sens. Domocao Alonto, Roseller T. Lim, and Alejandro Almendras; Reps. Reynaldo Honrado and Gaudencio Abordo; Gov. Constantino Navarro of Surigao; and Pedro Suarez, Pablo Sarmiento, Lorenzo Sarmiento, Fernando Silvosa, and F. B. Acebedo.

January 16.—TODAY the President conferred for the second time with Congress leaders at his private residence in Quezon City to take up major administration problems, including the reorganization of the Cabinet.

In contrast with the first meeting, the President met the Congress leaders who compose the Council of Leaders of the Administration only briefly. Their first meeting lasted ten hours.

Malacañang said the President cut short the conference, as he was busy going over the draft of the speech he delivered before the members of the Manila Overseas Press Club this evening.

However, the President said he will call Congress leaders again either Tuesday or Wednesday to finalize his legislative program and the new composition of his Cabinet.

The President took up with the Congress leaders the status of government corporations.

He said he was planning to sell most of the government corporations which have already outlived their usefulness.

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda, and House Majority Floor Jose Aldeguer.

Rep. Bartolome C. Cabangbang of Bohol was also present at the conference.

After his conference with Congress leaders, the President received Sen. Eulogio Balao and Rep. Benjamin T. Ligot of Cagayan. Ligot was reported to have explained his recent tiff with Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema. The Cagayan solon was reported to have almost come to blows with the assistant executive secretary over appointments. In the evening the President motored to the Manila Overseas Press Club, where he was the guest of the MOPC at the traditional "President's flight" dinner.

In his speech at the traditional "President's Night" dinner of the Manila Overseas Press Club on Dewey Boulevard, the Chief Executive declared:

"As long as this condition persists, we shall remain in many ways a colonial country."

President Garcia deplored that alien control of the country's economy was making a "mockery of our independence, compromising the future of our Republic, and posing an ever-present threat to the stability of the social order."

The President underscored the nationalistic policy of his administration and pledged to implement it "with malice towards none and with fairness to all."

"We will do it with full understanding of our international obligations to all our friends of the Free World with whom we have treaties of friendship," President Garcia declared.

"We will do this within the framework of our treaties with the United States to whose citizens we have granted until 1974 by constitutional provision equal rights as Filipinos in the exploitation of our lands, mines, forest and other

natural resources, and public utilities to whom we also granted by the provision of the Laurel-Langley Agreement, parity with Filipinos in Philippine trade.”

“In this light, therefore, I can give full assurance that the Philippine economic nationalism as a national policy is not anti-alien, much less anti-American,” he added.

He emphasized that the policy is “an honest-to-goodness effort of the Filipino people to be the master of their own economic household for exactly the same natural reasons that Americans would be masters of the United States national economy”

He asserted that the last elections proved that “for the first time since the Philippines became independent, nationalism became a burning issue at the polls.”

The President observed that in the evolution of the economic life of the country, “we have reached the state . . . where to temporize further with our present problem would result in the perpetuation of conditions which make for economic vassalage. Unless we moved decisively today,” he added, “it would well’ mean compromising the future of our Republic.”

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: January 17-23, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

January 17.—THE PRESIDENT was kept busy today with a tight schedule although it is Sunday.

After hearing mass at an improvised altar at his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, the President received an eight-man delegation of Korean community development trainees.

President Garcia told members of the eight-man delegation of the Republic of Korea community development trainees that they can make use of any government facility available to help them in the furtherance of their studies in community development.

The Chief Executive made the statement during a courtesy call by the delegation at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning. The trainees are under the NEC-ICA regional training program on community development.

Hyung Mo Lee, head of the delegation and a member of the Korean National Assembly, informed the President that they were very much impressed by the methods adopted in this country on community development, so much so that, upon their return to Korea, they will recommend the application of Philippine systems on community development.

Accompanied by Ramon Binamira, presidential assistant on community development, the group was composed of Hyung Mo Lee, reconstruction committee chairman of the Korean Assembly; Yong Soon Yoon, chief secretary to the minister of health and social welfare; Bom Ho Lee, economic planning official of the Reconstruction Ministry; Han Won Cho of the National Council of Community Development; Hak Chin Kim, economic editor of the *Seoul Daily News*; Jung Seon Seo agricultural specialist; Byung Kyoo Suh, chief of social affairs section; and Dong Sik Chae, also of the National Development Council.

President Garcia likewise received Dr. Vidal Tan, Earl Carrol, and Mrs. Oscar Ledesma, members of the Philippine-American Cultural Foundation board of trustees who called on the Chief Executive to request him to donate a parcel of land for the site of the foundation building.

In the afternoon the President received Secretary of Health Elpidio Valencia, who reported on the progress of his investigation on recently uncovered anomalous practices within his department.

In the evening the President, accompanied by the First Lady, motored to the Sky Room of the Jai Alai on Taft Avenue, where he addressed the closing conference of the Pax Romana.

President Garcia this evening justified anew the nationalism movement in the Philippines as a crusade to achieve "economic autonomy."

He defended his nationalism policy in an address before the delegates to the Pax Romana conferences at the Sky Room of the Jai Alai.

It was the second time in two days that the President defended the nationalism movement.

The President also lauded the Pax Romana movement "because it rejects the principle embodied in the atomic bomb 'that might is right'."

He said it is his personal conviction that the great drawbacks to peace are ideologies which "discard faith in God, that annul human freedom and human dignity, and those that are rooted on gross materialism."

After lauding the Pax Romana movement, the President went on to explain what he called “another crusade in our country—the nationalism movement”

He deplored the fact that the movement, has been “unjustly criticized as bigoted, nearsighted, conceived in hatred, unjust, and uncharitable.”

President Garcia stressed that his concept of nationalism is that movement which reflects the maturity of the Filipino people as a free and sovereign people.

He denied charges that it is “anti-alien.” It is not “isolationistic or chauvinistic,” he stressed.

The President explained that no nation can now live in a vacuum of economic, cultural, or political isolation.

“If we desire what is good for the country,” he said, “certainly we should strive to assimilate the best that the world has to offer in culture science, and progress. We need not be afraid that we will lose our individuality,” he declared.

January 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia will recommend the enactment of appropriate legislation to facilitate the exportation of surplus Philippine rice in his state-of-the-nation message to Congress when this body convenes early next week.

The President expressed his great concern over this problem to a large delegation from rice producing provinces in Luzon which called at Malacañang this morning to request the continued enforcement of the government price-support program in order to encourage farmers to produce more.

Dr. Florentino Chioco and ex-Gov. Herminio Algas, spokesmen for the delegation, told the Chief Executive that rice producers are losing money because of the high cost of production and the low market price of this commodity.

President Garcia explained the NARIC’s inability to continue the program because of lack of funds. At present, he said, the government rice agency owes the PNB P60 million for its operations during the past years and cannot now get additional loans until this obligation is settled.

He also said that the NARIC has three million cavanese of rice from the 1958 crop in its bodegas which it cannot dispose of except at a loss because this stock was purchased at the authorized support price of P10 per cavan. Efforts are now being exerted for the disposition of this stock through barter, he added.

Ex-Gov. Algas also submitted to President Garcia a resolution of the delegation endorsing the appointment of Juan O. Chioco as agriculture secretary and Genaro Visarra as executive secretary,

Earlier this morning, ex-Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., and Batangas Gov. Feliciano Leviste called on the President at his residence on Bohol Avenue to ask for financial assistance for the repair of public works installations in their province damaged by typhoon *Harriet*, which hit Batangas last New Year’s eve. Also with the group were Lipa City Mayor Miguel Lina and Talisay Mayor Amando Laurel.

In Malacañang the Chief Executive received members of a South Korean educational mission to Southeast Asia who paid a courtesy call. The delegation was composed of Dr. Louise Im, president of Chungang University, Seoul; Byung No Kim, principal, Chunchun High School; Tacshki Shin, deputy dean, Kaesung College, Tsegu; Chung Woo Kim, principal, Teajon Commercial High School; Chung Dei Im, principal, Ewangju High School; Mal Am Chang, principal, Soochang Elementary School; Duk Kevin Choo, principal, Yungnam High School; Bong Joon Cha, principal, Tonghum Elementary School; Kwang Ho Pyo, principal, South Pusan Girls Commercial High School; Chung Kyung Kim, superintendent, of Samchok Education District; and Suk Bum Kang, principal, Cheju Commercial High School.

They were accompanied to Malacañang by Pompeyo Gregorio, executive assistant to the secretary of education.

The municipal council of Ilagan, Isabela, headed by Mayor Venancio P. Gangan, also paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive and presented a request of the town council for assistance in the form of necessary equipment for essential services for the town.

Members of the council who saw the President were Vice-Mayor Pedro S. Mamuri and Councilors Nicholas P. Boggao, Bernard B. Talattad, Antonio D. Tarampi, Crispulo A. Nuñez, Teodulo E. Mirasol, and Justito Madduma.

Other callers this morning were Mr. and Mrs. Eligio Herrera, Justo Ibay, and Cipriano S. Gonzales.

THIS afternoon the President motored to the Wack Wack Golf Club to inaugurate the newly constructed clubhouse.

Upon returning to Malacañang, the President received Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, who accompanied leaders from Samar and Leyte. The House leader took up problems of the two provinces during his conference with the Chief Executive.

THIS evening President Garcia boarded the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* to put the finishing touches on his state-of-the-nation message to Congress.

Malacañang said the President will remain on the *Lapu-Lapu* for almost a week. He is not expected to receive any visitor during the time he is aboard the yacht in order that he could concentrate on polishing his message to Congress.

The President will also go over the names of prospective Cabinet appointees while he is in seclusion. He is expected to release the names of the new members of his Cabinet on his return from his cruise.

January 19.—THE Chief Executive granted new leases on life to three convicts who had been sentenced to die this week shortly before embarking on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* this morning.

The death penalty on Wagia Mado, who was scheduled to be electrocuted tomorrow, was commuted to life imprisonment while a 30-day reprieve was granted to Maximo Caandi and Felicisimo Cabaobao. The reprieve will end on February 21.

Mado had been found guilty of robbery and murder committed in April 1953, in Pikit, Cotabato, while Caandi and Cabaobao were convicted by the Agusan court of first instance for robbery and quadruple homicide committed on March 16, 1956.

The President signed the commutation and reprieve papers upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

Lt. Cdr. Manuel Mandapat, skipper of the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, gave the order to shove off at 11 o'clock this morning after Mrs. Garcia boarded the ship accompanied by daughter, Linda, and granddaughter, Maricar. The President had boarded the vessel late last night.

Also on board the ship were Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta and a few Malacañang aides and secretaries.

The President started work on his speech shortly after breakfast and continued working on it until noontime. He returned to his cabin after lunch and resumed work on the 47-page draft of the message.

Taking a respite from his task, President Garcia went out to the deck and exercised his legs by walking briskly several times around.

After supper the Chief Executive retired to his cabin and continued working until late this evening.

January 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia remained on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* today to polish up in the quiet seclusion of his cabin the state-of-the-nation message he will deliver before a joint session of Congress early next week.

The vessel is moored to a bouy breakwater a few hundred yards behind the Independence grandstand on the new Luneta.

Helping the Chief Executive in his task of finishing this speech is former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who boarded the ship late last night.

After having early breakfast, the President went over the morning papers and then called for his former executive secretary to assist him in his work.

Going over the preliminary draft, the two kept working until shortly before noon when they took a break for lunch. They continued working after a brief rest and stopped in the late afternoon to take a walk around the ship's deck.

They returned to their task after supper and stayed up until late in the evening.

President and Mrs. Garcia today extended their condolences to Paulo Fruelan and sent a personal donation of P500 for the care of the quadruplets whose mother died of heart failure Tuesday.

Earlier, the President sent P100 worth of milk for the motherless infants and instructed the Cebu city health officer and attending physicians at the Perpetual Succour Hospital and the Cebu Maternity House to do everything to save the motherless babies.

The quadruplets, Paulo Jr., Ana Maria, Lucia Maria, and Juliana Maria were born prematurely, according to the attending physician. Two girls are still in incubators at the Perpetual Succour Hospital while the boy and another girl are being cared for at the Cebu Maternity House.

Tragedy dampened the jubilation over the birth of the quadruplets last Monday, when their mother failed to survive the labor pains and died of heart failure the next day.

A wave of sympathy over her death touched off a fund drive not only in Cebu but also in Bohol, where the body of the deceased was taken home to Talibon for burial by her husband.

THE Cabinet decided this evening to eliminate all new items proposed for the budget of fiscal year 1960-61.

This general policy was adopted to keep the budget within the estimated income and thus present to Congress a balanced budget.

The meeting was presided over by Finance Secretary Jaime Hernandez.

The Cabinet went over the proposed expenditures by departments to find out which items could be deferred. It decided to make the following exemptions to the general policy:

Finance—Items of bureaus and agencies concerned with the collection of revenues. The exemption was in line with the government plan to intensify collection of taxes.

Justice—The creation of ten additional court branches as provided in R.A. No. 2613.

Public Works—Items concerned with the expansion of the communications system.

Education—The creation of 5,000 additional elementary classes and the salary adjustments of teachers.

Agriculture and natural resources—Items for improved operations of the Bureaus of Plant Industry, Forestry, Fisheries, and Mines.

Health—Improvement of existing hospitals.

January 21.—FOR the third consecutive day President Garcia stayed today on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* cruising in Manila Bay to work on state-of-the-nation address he will deliver before Congress at its session on Monday, January 25.

Assisting him in this task are former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who has been with the President since late Tuesday evening, and Malacañang Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta.

Waking up early this morning, the Chief Executive ate his breakfast and skimmed over the morning papers brought over to him from Malacañang.

Reminded that it was the 77th birthday anniversary of Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., President Garcia directed Major Ciriaco P. Hocson, his military aide-de-camp, to wire his felicitations and that of Mrs. Garcia.

After taking a cold shower toward noon, he sent for Pajo and worked on the speech until lunchtime. After resting briefly after lunch, President Garcia resumed his task, stopping only late in the afternoon to stretch his legs and follow the advice of his physicians to take daily exercises.

After supper the President retired to his cabin and continued working on his message to Congress until late in the evening.

January 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took time out from work on his state-of-the-nation message to play host to officials of the UNESCO attending the Asian commission conference currently being held in Manila and to officiate at the cornerstone-laying ceremony held at the site of the first Nuclear Research Center in Southeast Asia to be established in Quezon City.

Disembarking from the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* at Pier 3 shortly before noon today, the President motored to Malacañang where he honored the UNESCO officials at luncheon. His guests included Sir Ben Bowen Thomas, chairman of the UNESCO executive board; Dr. Vittorino Veronese, director general of the board; Malcolm Adiseshia, assistant director general; and former Senator Geronima T. Pecson, head of the Philippine delegation and chairman of the UNESCO-sponsored conference.

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady motored to the U.P. campus in Diliman, Quezon City, where they were guests of honor at the proposed site of the Nuclear Research Center. They were fetched from Malacañang by Paulino J. Garcia, chairman of the National Science Development Board, Commissioner Pedro G. Afable of the Philippine Atomic Energy Commission, and President Teodoro Evangelista of the Far Eastern University.

The President woke up early this morning on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, where he had been staying for the last three days working on the state-of-the-nation message he would deliver before Congress when it convenes in its annual regular session on Monday.

After taking a light breakfast, he started dictating an eight-page speech which he delivered at the cornerstone-laying ceremony in the afternoon.

The President was the guest of honor and principal speaker at the cornerstone-laying ceremonies of the Philippine Atomic Research Center held in Diliman, Quezon City.

For the first time in cornerstone-laying ceremonies held in the country, President used a mechanical device triggered by radioactive contraption in laying in place the cornerstone.

Members of the local diplomatic corps led by Papal Nuncio Salvatore Siino, high U. S. officials in the Philippines led by Ambassador John Dewey Hickerson, and key Philippine officials led by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano and Paulino J. Garcia, chairman of the National Science Development Board, witnessed the ceremony.

The Center will house an atomic research reactor which will be used as a source of radiation for important biological and industrial experiments.

The research program of the Center gives preference on applied researches that will contribute greatly to the improvement of the Philippine economy. In agricultural research the atomic reactor will be used in the study of, and battle against, destructive plant diseases like the *cadang-cadang* infesting coconut plantations and the mosaic disease infesting abaca plantations, as well as in the improvement of crops by induced mutations.

The Center will be completed by the middle of 1961 at its site near the campus of the University of the Philippines by the Bureau of Public Works.

Under the Philippine-American bilateral agreement of July 27, 1955, the United States made available the amount of half million dollars for the purchase of the atomic reactor.

The Philippines, in turn, pledged to construct the laboratories and a reactor building with an initial outlay of P1.4 million, as well as provide for the annual operating and maintenance cost of about P500,000.

After the cornerstone-laying ceremony, President and Mrs. Garcia led the guests to the U.P. Asian Labor Education Center where cocktails were served.

January 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took time out from work on his state-of-the-nation message to sign the *ad interim* appointments of 24 national, provincial, and municipal officials and to officiate at the inauguration of the first of a chain of Filoil service stations to be set up all over the country by an all-Filipino multi-million-peso enterprise.

Those whose appointments were signed by the President were two directors, one provincial treasurer, a chairman and five members of city and provincial board of assessment appeals, nine justices of the peace, a clerk of court, a chairman and a member of the board of accountancy, one member of the board of examiners for customs brokers, a city assessor and an assistant director for operations of the Bureau of Plant Industry.

Aside from Rep. Natalio P. Castillo of Bohol, with whom he conferred briefly this morning, and Pakistan Minister of Education Habibur Rahman who paid a courtesy call, the President did not receive any visitor on board the *Lapu-Lapu*. He spent most of his time closeted in his cabin polishing off the final draft of his message with the assistance of former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo and Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta.

Minister Rahman is here in the course of a goodwill tour of Southeast Asian countries. He gave President Garcia replicas of the Modenjodaro seals dating back to 2300 B.C., a gift of the Department of Archaeology of the Pakistani Government. The Pakistani Cabinet member was accompanied by Ambassador Pir Mohammed Rashdi of Pakistan.

About 5 p.m., the President disembarked from the *Lapu-Lapu* at Pier 3 and motored to Malacañang to fetch the First Lady. Together, they proceeded to Cubao, Quezon City where they were guests at the inauguration of the Filoil station.

Ad interim appointments signed by the President this morning were those of Gregorio S. Licaros as member of the board of trustees of the Government Service Insurance System, for another term of three years expiring December 3, 1962; Juan Duazo as provincial treasurer of Sorsogon; Norberto de la Rea as chairman of the board of assessment appeals of Pasay City; Restituto N. Ascaño as member of the board of assessment appeals of Pasay City; Miguel G.

Mansod as member of the board of assessment appeals of Pasay City; Maximo del Rosario as member of the board of assessment appeals of Pasay City; Tomas Vasquez as member of the board of assessment appeals of Pasay City;

Castulo V. Caballes as clerk of court of Negros Oriental; Joaquin E. Montenegro as justice of the peace of Bais, Negros Oriental; Hilarion Maaclua as justice of the peace of Tayasan, Negros Oriental; Jufelinito Pareja as justice of the peace of Sibulan, Negros Oriental; Uldarico Ramirez as justice of the peace of Pamplona, Negros Oriental; Ricardo B. Cerin as city assessor of Cabanatuan City; Aguedo J. Alcazar as chairman of the board of assessment appeals of Bataan; Serafin Ramenta as justice of the peace of San Miguel, Leyte; Francisco Guerrero as auxiliary justice of the peace of Kawit, Cavite; Bernardo B. Natanawan as justice of the peace of Talisay, Batangas;

Rodolfo G. Hermoso as justice of the peace of Villaverde, Nueva Vizcaya; Wilfredo G. Cainglet as justice of the peace of Malangas, Zamboanga del Sur; Primo A. Honrado as assistant director for operations of the Bureau of Plant Industry; Filadelfo Inocentes as chairman of the board of accountancy, for a term expiring November 27, 1961; Juan S. Ong as member of the board of accountancy, vice Filadelfo Inocentes for a term expiring November 27, 1962; Hilarion Henares, Jr., as member of the board of directors of the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation, for another term of three years expiring October 23, 1962; and Protacio Cañalita as member of the board of examiners for customs brokers, for another term expiring October 23, 1961.

In the evening the President held a conference with his Council of Leaders aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* and consulted them on the final draft of the message he would deliver before a joint session of Congress when it convenes for its annual regular session on Monday.

President's Week in Review: January 24-30, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

January 24.—THE President conferred with Secretary of Commerce Pedro Hernaez this morning.

The President informed the commerce secretary of the decision of the Council of Leaders to name him Philippine ambassador to Spain.

During the conference Secretary Hernaez, wrote the President a letter giving the Chief Executive a “free hand” to “fill the post I presently occupy as secretary of commerce and industry.”

Later this morning, the President and the First Lady motored to the residence of Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez to felicitate the Speaker's wife on her birthday.

From the Speaker's residence, the President and the First Lady returned to the yacht *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

This evening the President inducted five new members of his Cabinet and told newsmen he was ready to give the remaining two years of his administration a “new look in public service.”

Inducted aboard the *Lapu-Lapu* were Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Administrator Juan O. Chioco of the Office of Economic Coordination, and Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo

A fifth Cabinet member, Rep. Cesar Fortich, failed to show up to take his oath as secretary of agriculture.

Aytona was the only new appointee who took his oath in polo shirt. The former budget commissioner said he did not know of his appointment as finance secretary. He was contacted by a Malacañang aide at the Bureau of Printing supervising the preparation of the new budget.

Before inducting the new Cabinet members, the President also swore into office the new officials of the National Marketing Corporation.

Inducted were Marcelo Balatbat as general manager of the NAMARCO and the flowing directors: Dean Belen Enrile Gutierrez, Jose Y. Orosa, Jose Fernandez, and former Rep. Felix Opimo. Two other newly-appointed directors, Crispin Malonzo and Eriberto Aguinaldo, were reported out of town.

After the oath-taking ceremonies, the President conferred with the new NAMARCO officials and directed them to look into problems confronting the agency.

The President said the main problem of the NAMARCO is the system of distribution. He said he has received complaints that NAMARCO goods were siphoned to the “wrong channels.”

January 25.—AT ABOUT 10 o'clock this morning, the President left the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, where he spent the night going over the state-of-the-nation speech he would deliver at the inaugural session of Congress and proceeded to Malacañang to receive the committees of Congress to inform him that Congress had convened.

President Garcia was congratulated this morning by two minority members of the House of Representatives for selecting men of proven integrity, experience, and ability to fill important positions in the Cabinet and government corporations.

Reps. Felicisimo Ocampo of Nueva Ecija and Ramon Bagatsing of Manila informed President Garcia that there was favorable reaction not only from the press but also from the public over the recent appointments made by President Garcia.

Reps. Ocampo and Bagatsing were members of a committee created by the Lower House to inform the President that it had convened and was ready for business. Others composing the committee were Reps. Salipada Pendatun, chairman, and Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna and Eladio Balite of Samar, members.

The President received the Lower House committee at the Malacañang music room at about 10:45 am. He exchanged views for more than an hour with the congressmen.

At about 4 pm., President Garcia received the Senate committee composed of Sens. Fernando Lopez, chairman, and Lorenzo Tañada, Pacita M. Gonzalez, Rogelio de la Rosa, and Estanislao Fernandez, members.

In the afternoon the President motored to the Legislative Building where he delivered his annual message before a joint session of Congress.

President Garcia this afternoon addressed a joint session of Congress with his traditional state-of-the-nation message and recommended a 22-point legislative program which he said would give the country a “bigger tomorrow.”

The President, dressed in a white linen suit, with a blue-gray tie to match and black shoes, arrived at the session hall at exactly five o'clock in the afternoon.

Unlike on previous occasions, the President arrived alone, unescorted by members of Congress.

The First Lady, however, who motored to the Legislative Building ahead of the President, was accompanied by Mesdames Eulogio Rodriguez, Daniel Romualdez, Constancio Castañeda, and Jose Aldeguer.

It was a big day in Congress. The President delivered his message for fully an hour and two minutes.

The President's message was punctuated by 27 rounds of applause. He was cheered and congratulated by Congress leaders. However, Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal only applauded politely. He was not among those who congratulated the Chief Executive for his state-of-the-nation message.

While he advanced his legislative program, the Chief Executive also defended the enactment of the controversial dollar margin law which he said has averted a “national catastrophe” by halting the increasing momentum of last year's inflation and had “signaled away forced devaluation.”

The President exhorted the two chambers of Congress in a joint opening-day session to:

1. Enact measures implementing the “Filipino First” policy of the Administration;
2. Re-examine present statutes giving price supports to farm products, like rice, corn, and tobacco;
3. Explore the possibility of price adjustments of Philippine products in order that they could develop new foreign markets;
4. Find legislative solution to the problems posed by barter trade;
5. Consider carefully the recommendations which the Tax Commission will submit within ten days from today;

6. Give legislative support to scientific research activities brought about with the establishment of the Nuclear Research Center in the country;
7. Approve measures directed towards the multi-phase utilization and exploitation of the abundant water resources of the country not only for power but also for water supply, flood control, and irrigation;
8. Study how to facilitate laborers to participate as shareholders in the firm where they work;
9. Re-study the Civil Service Act passed by Congress in its last session which has “vague and uncertain” provisions that have given rise to conflicting interpretations;
10. Adopt measures to boost tourism, such as the promotional and publicity services abroad, the improvement of hotel and transportation services, the modernization of airports for jet planes, and the preservation and development of tourist attraction spots which are in abundance in the Philippines;
11. Encourage the early development and exploitation of the Surigao laterite mineral reserves, estimated to be worth more than ₱270 billion;
12. Enact measures to facilitate the sale of government corporations to private enterprises whenever their pioneering objectives have been basically accomplished;
13. Approve measures calculated to improve and strengthen the foreign service corps;
14. Consider proposals to amend the Constitution providing for an election every four years and electing senators by districts;
15. Amend the present Reparations Law to plug the loopholes which spawned anomalies in transactions involving war indemnity goods from Japan;
16. Re-examine the present method of financing elementary and secondary schools with a view to placing them on a stable basis;
17. Expand the scope of activities of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes so that its proceeds could be utilized to provide rural areas with artesian wells, barrio waterworks, public toilets, and other sanitary and health facilities;
18. Adopt a statute authorizing the revocation of timber licenses of concessionaires who are found guilty of violating the forest conservation laws;
19. Abolish the capital gains tax which has worked as a deterrent to the expansion of investment;
20. Act on pending bill in the Senate on reclamation projects for the Manila port;
21. Create a graft-busting commission empowered to make investigation at its own initiative or by superior order of all cases of graft and corruption in government offices and to prosecute such cases directly before the competent court; and
22. Create a bi-cameral special congressional committee to under-take a comprehensive study on integrated gradual decontrol program with the assistance and cooperation of the Central Bank, the Tariff, Customs, and Budget commissions, and also with the participation of the chambers of commerce, industries, and agriculture.

This evening President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the residence of Speaker and Mrs. Romualdez to attend the traditional dinner given by the House leaders to members of House of Representatives and their ladies.

January 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning tendered a breakfast in honor of W. E. Murray, visiting Far Eastern manager of Caltex, who is here for an annual inspection tour of the different installations of the company in the Philippines.

Present during the breakfast were local Caltex executives headed by R. J. Monecal, managing director of Caltex (Philippines); W. E. Menefee, director for marketing; R. R. Tillotson, director; and J. P. Roxas, public relations manager and director.

After the affair, the President received prominent Ateneo alumni, accompanied by Fr. Francisco Araneta, rector, and Fr. Miguel Bernard.

The group invited the President to the ceremonies converting the Ateneo de Manila into a university on July 31 this year. Other members of the group were Chairman Paulino Garcia of the National Science Development Board, former Justice Secretary Jose Bengzon, Teodoro Evangelista, president of Far Eastern University, Emerito Ramos, and Daniel M. Gomez.

Earlier, President Garcia dispatched a radiogram congratulating General Douglas MacArthur on the occasion of his 80th birthday. The radiogram sent to New York reads as follows:

THE FILIPINO PEOPLE JOINS ME AND MRS. GARCIA IN CONVEYING WARMEST FELICITATIONS ON YOUR EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY STOP FREEDOM LOVING PEOPLES PARTICULARLY IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD WILL ALWAYS HOLD YOU CLOSEST TO THEIR HEARTS AND REMEMBER YOUR SPLENDID PERFORMANCE AS A SOLDIER CMA AS A GENTLEMAN AND AS A FRIEND STOP WE SINCERELY PRAY THAT GOD WILL CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU WITH MANY MORE FRUITFUL YEARS.

In the afternoon the President cancelled all his appointments, for he was advised by his physicians to rest after a busy week climaxed by his address at the opening of the regular session of Congress.

January 27.—THIS MORNING the President said that he will submit to the Cabinet the offer of German industrialists to finance the projected integration of the Iligan steel mill.

The statement was made at his Quezon City residence at a conference with Filipino industrialists and members of a visiting German economic mission.

President Garcia was informed that Filipino capital is willing to come in the government plan to integrate the steel industry.

Present plans call for Filipino private investors to put up 49 per cent of the total capital of the project with a free hand in management while the government will retain the controlling 51 per cent.

The retention of the controlling stock by the government is considered advisable as the steel industry is regarded a vital factor in the industrialization program of the country.

The German offer includes the manufacture of the necessary machinery on a deferred payment plan, making available German technical know-how.

German steel manufacturers present at the conference pledged to train Filipinos in all levels of the industry.

They informed President Garcia that the integration of the steel industry will help exploit and develop the natural resources of the country.

Present at the conference were German Ambassador Friedrich L. Freiherr von Furstenberg, Cesar M. Lorenzo, Gaudencio Antonino, Toribio Teodoro, Dominador Cepeda, Dr. Karl-Heinz Imhausen, Dr. Hans W. Musa, Ernest L. W. Loebecke, Erich F. Bussmann, Dr. Caspar, Edward B. Unger, and Johannes Eicker.

Earlier, the President received Rear Adm. Charles Tribble, commanding officer of the U. S. Amphibious Forces in the Pacific who paid a courtesy call. He was accompanied by U. S. Embassy Minister George Abbott. Also present during the call was Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff.

Another caller was Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental, who discussed with the President several problems affecting his province.

THIS AFTERNOON President Garcia reaffirmed the strong ties of friendship binding the Philippines with Cambodia during the presentation of credentials of Poc Thieun as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Cambodia to the Philippines.

The President motored to Malacañang from his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City in time for the ceremonies and immediately proceeded to the Malacañang ceremonial hall for the presentation ceremonies scheduled at 5 p.m.

In accepting Minister Thieun's letters of credence, the President pledged the sympathetic cooperation of the Filipino people and government in the maintenance of strong friendly relations with the Khmer republic.

The President also thanked the new Cambodian minister for his sincere wishes for the welfare of the Filipino people.

In his presentation address, Minister Thieun pledged the dedication of his king, country, and people to the policy of co-existence and neutrality, especially with the Philippines, which, he said, occupies a choice place in the heart of the Khmer people and country.

Minister Thieun, who was envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Australia, succeeded Minister Ty Kim Sour, who had been recalled by the home office in Phnom-Penh for reassignment.

Present at the presentation ceremonies were high government officials led by Executive Secretary Natalio Castillo and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug.

Immediately after the ceremonies, the President received Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo in his study.

Ambassador Romulo paid a call on the President for consultations, accompanied by Minister Benito Bautista who called for final instructions before leaving for his new post as Philippine consul general in Seattle, Washington.

THIS EVENING the President convened his regular weekly Cabinet meeting under what he termed "the best auspices" due to the favorable indorsement of the people of the new members of the official family.

In welcoming the new members, President Garcia expressed the hope that all of the Cabinet members, individually and collectively, will continue to receive the plaudits of the people. He urged them to continue serving the best interests of the country.

The new members of the Cabinet who attended the meeting for the first time in their present capacity were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, and OEC Administrator Juan O. Chioco.

The President likewise announced that the sweeping reorganization of government corporations, such as the National Marketing Corporation (NAMARCO) and the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration (ACCFA), were popularly received by the people.

January 28.— PRESIDENT Garcia said today he will extend the all-out campaign of the Administration against graft and corruption to the provinces and remotest towns:

The statement of President Garcia was made before provincial, city, and town executive who called on him at Malacañang.

The President appealed to Congress for help in the prosecution of the total war against graft and corruption.

He told the provincial delegations that the approval of a graft-busting commission would greatly help the government's effort to stamp out graft and corruption in the government.

At the same time, the provincial governors and city mayors pledged support to the Filipino-First policy of the Administration.

The President gratefully acknowledged the pledge of support of the provincial and city executives in his fight to attain the economic emancipation of the Filipino people.

Dr. Antonio Mayuga and Dr. Livy Romero, Liberal governor and board member, respectively, of Romblon, who were among the callers, also offered their support to the Chief Executive's all-out war against graft and corruption in the government.

Callers of the President were Gov. Isidro Rodriguez and members of the Provincial Board of Rizal, Mayor Norberto Amoranto and Vice-Mayor Vicente Novales of Quezon City, Gov. Claro Robles and 20 mayors of Quezon province, San Pablo City Mayor Lauro Dizon, Gov. Bado Dangwa and Reps. Ramon Mitra, Sr., and Luis Hora of Mountain Province, Gov. D. Q. Plaza of Agusan, Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Olongapo Mayor Ruben Geronimo, Vice-Mayor Purisimo Ramos, and councilors Pacita de Guzman, Damaso Bartin, Carlos Mucio, Marcial de la Cruz, Jose Cristobal, Jose Pacheco, and Leon Rodriguez.

Other callers included Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, DBP President Gregorio Licaros, PNB President Eduardo Z. Romualdez, CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno and Finance Secretary Dominador. Aytona, who accompanied the following officials of the International Monetary Fund: Tun Thin, assistant director of the Asian Department; John Woodley, chief of the multiple currency practices division, and C. G. Chang, economist.

In an administrative order President Garcia today ordered the removal from office of a justice of the peace of Cotabato who had been found guilty on four counts in two administrative complaints upon the recommendation of the secretary of justice.

The extreme penalty in administrative cases was imposed on Vicente Fontanosa, justice of the peace of Pikit, Cotabato, in line with the Administration's policy of weeding out the unfit from the government service.

The Chief Executive concurred with the findings of the district judge and the conclusions of the secretary of justice that Fontanosa had (1) used his office to wreak vengeance on his political enemy; (2) abused his authority; (3) tampered with his official records to cover up the irregularities he had committed; and (4) failed to keep regular office hours.

The two administrative complaints were filed against Fontanosa by Datu Udtog Matalam and Pikit Mayor Doroteo Palencia.

President Garcia, moreover, designated Lt. Col. Tomas Karingal, Iloilo PC provincial commander, as acting chief of Police of Quezon City, vice Col. Bibiano Viña, who will be given a new assignment.

The President acted on the recommendation of Gen. Isagani V. Campo, chief of the Constabulary.

The new Quezon City police chief has had almost 20 years of commissioned service in the Armed Forces of the Philippines. He is a graduate of the Provost Marshall General School at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, USA, and a graduate of the advance course at Ft. Benning, Georgia, USA.

His last position as Iloilo provincial commander has been particularly noted for impartiality and the fearless prosecution of peace and order during the last election.

THIS EVENING the President called on all sectors of the population to give full hearted support to the Peace and Amelioration Fund campaign in order to insure greater success for 1960 during the PAFC presentation of awards at the Malacañang Social Hall.

At the same time, the President congratulated some 679 awardees, consisting of group and individual donors and individual solicitors for their efforts to make the last drive for funds a success.

In his brief extemporaneous remarks the President traced the creation of the PAFC from the time the country was undergoing the dangers of internal rebellion following the last world war.

The President said that while the main purpose of its creation was to help preserve peace, it was instrumental in creating internal peace by fighting poverty and penury and uplifting the living standards of the masses.

The President underscored the importance of continuing with the drive from year to year because the after-effects of the last world war, he said, were still with us although much has been achieved to alleviate the lot of the less fortunate and remove all causes of discontent; such as, poverty and penury.

The President, assisted by Manuel Elizalde, PAFC chairman, and Basilio Hernandez, executive officer and emcee, distributed the 679 certificates of merit to individual and group awardees, during the latter part of the ceremonies.

Among recipients of certificates of merit were 81 individual donors and 100 solicitors; 36 government corporations (donors) and 54 solicitors; 48 private organization donors; 25 schools and colleges, 273 business enterprises and 22 theater donors; three embassies (solicitors); seven folk dance troupes, and 30 municipal mayors and treasurer solicitors.

Present at the award ceremonies were Yu Khe Thai, vice-chairman; Francisco Delgado, secretary; Antonio de las Alas, Marcelo Balatbat, P. E. Domingo, Navalrai Jethmal, Sy En and Albino Sycip, members.

Don Manuel Elizalde, PAFC chairman, welcomed the awardees and presented them to the President.

The President this evening received Sen. Domocao Alonto, who reiterated his invitation that the President induct the officers of the Min-su-pala-(Mindanao-Sulu-Palawan) to be held after February 14.

Other evening callers were Sen. Pedro Sabido and Gov. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas.

January 29.—THIS MORNING the President came out in favor of the establishment in the Philippines of a permanent management education center as corollary of the Asian labor education center.

The President made this observation in the course of a courtesy call of Dean Stanley Teale and Professor H. Hansen of the Harvard Business School.

The Chief Executive said that, with the rapid industrialization of the country, there is a potent need to train able executives. The management education center, the President said, should be able to train for executive positions citizens not only of this country but also of neighboring Asian countries.

Present during the courtesy call were Mrs. Dorothy Teale, Larry Marquez, Oscar Arellano, Ernesto Escaler, Jose Ma. Ansaldo, and Angel Limjoco, Jr.

After the courtesy call, President Garcia motored to the Araneta University in Grace Park on the occasion of the institution's Foundation Day. He was accompanied by the AU president and former secretary of agriculture and natural resources, Salvador Araneta.

After receiving full military honors upon his arrival, the President was shown the exhibits by AU President Araneta.

The President was particularly interested in the researches being undertaken by the Araneta radio-isotope laboratory on the effects of radio-active isotopes on plants and animals.

He was also impressed by the wheat research of the Araneta Institute of Agriculture, which has been engaged in the introduction of hundred of varieties of wheat. Araneta told President Garcia that the varieties that give good performances will be used for extensive propagation and commercial production by cooperative farmers and plantation owners after they have been sufficiently multiplied.

President Garcia today ordered the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE) to institute immediate criminal action against two fake Malacañang agents who were nabbed in the act of extorting money from an Army officer.

The President was angered by newspaper reports about the two Army sergeants who posed as Malacañang agents. He immediately ordered PCAPE Chairman Justice Buenaventura Ocampo to file criminal charges against the pair.

The two Army sergeants, Victor Baliong and Luis Balignasay, claimed that they were special agents detailed to Malacañang and were reported to have tried to impress their victim with their supposed Malacañang connections.

The victim of the two fake agents was Capt. Amado Pablo of the finance service in Camp Murphy. He sought police aid when the pair threatened to expose a dossier against him unless he paid for their silence.

THIS AFTERNOON the President lashed at Congress for starting too many investigations, which, he charged, merely die down with the din of fiery denunciations that go with the opening days of these probes.

At his first press conference this year the President called upon Congress to finish the investigations they have begun.

"Congress had started too many probes," the President observed, "and nothing happened after that."

The President hit at Congress after he was asked to comment on the charges aired by Rep. Manuel Cases (L-La Union) challenging the Chief Executive to investigate the alleged overpricing of landed estates purchased by the Land Tenure Administration.

Seemingly peeved by what he called "fiery speeches," the President said he wanted to see Congress bring to conclusion their investigations.

He recalled that one of the estates mentioned by the La Union solon had already been probed by the House committee on good government. He referred to Luisita estate in Isabela.

During his press conference, the President:

1. Said he was not satisfied with the explanation of the Reparations Commission officials in connection with charges of overpricing of seven vessels from the Japanese reparations;

2. Refused to comment on the sudden departure of Ambassador Jose Fuentebella for his station in Jakarta;
3. Indicated that Rep. Cesar Fortich will take his oath shortly as secretary of agriculture and natural resources after he has cleared the papers of his private land holdings in Mindanao;
- 4 Favored the establishment of more air transportation firms and the placing of commercial aviation on a competitive basis.
5. Defended the Cabinet's approval in principle of the sale of the 139-hectare estate of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation to the Earthwealth, Inc.; and
6. Pointed out that lack of funds has stymied his campaign against grafters in the government.

After his press conference which lasted for almost an hour, the President received Ramon Jimenez, director of the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation, for final instructions before his departure for the United States.

Jimenez is joining the Philippine mission headed by Ambassador Eduardo Quintero in connection with Philippine claims against the U.S. Government.

President Garcia also received Col. Jose Lukban, director of the National Bureau of the Investigation, and conferred with him behind closed doors. No details were available from the Malacañang press office, but it was hinted that Lukban reported on the NBI findings on the case of Ted Lewin, American promoter, who is facing charges before the Deportation Board.

January 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took steps to provide rural areas with more and better health facilities as he ordered Philippine Charity Sweepstakes General Manager Eugenio E. Santos to build barrio community centers out of the sweepstakes proceeds.

The President took this step to implement his message to Congress in which he envisioned the wider participation of the Sweepstakes Office in the uplift of the barrio people by providing them with more artesian wells, waterworks, public toilets, and other health facilities.

This important function of the sweepstakes is provided for under its charter (R. A. 1169) which sets aside the unencumbered charity fund for use "in work for indigent Filipino masses in this country and abroad."

The President said, however, that the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office should continue giving financial support to Worthy charitable projects.

The plan drafted by Manager Santos and his aide, Capt. Camilo Balisnomo, upon instructions of the President includes:

- (1) A center building costing ₱2,500 and consisting of a reading room equipped with a radio set, books and newspapers, and a clinic room for the rural health officer;
- (2) An artesian well costing from ₱2,000 to ₱5,000; and
- (3) Bath house-toilet with laundry facilities, costing ₱1,500. Manager Santos said he will take personal supervision of the project in order to avoid delay and that he will send survey teams to Laguna and Pampanga next week to locate sites for pilot plants, preferably in well populated barrios with poor or no health facilities.

Santos informed the President he will extend the project to other areas as fast as sweepstakes proceeds become available, and expressed hope for the approval by Congress of a bill authorizing weekly sweepstakes draws to bolster the program.

The President stayed the whole day today at his private residence where he relaxed in the morning after a hectic week last week.

After his breakfast and reading the morning papers which carried his outbursts against Congress for its many investigations, the President shifted to his new hobby billiards.

He asked a Malacañang press office personnel to play with him. It was learned that the President has shown improvement in the game.

After a two-hour game of, billiards, the President retired to his room where he went over pending state papers.

He had lunch with the First Lady at their residence.

After a brief nap in the afternoon, the President went over pending state papers.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: January 31- February 6, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

January 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia today led the nation in observing “Aid to the Blind and Other Handicapped Week” by personally sending a 12-year old blind boy to the hospital for an operation to restore his eyesight.

Breaking his Sunday rest, the President received at “his Quezon City home, Getulio Jersey, Jr., 12-year old blind boy from Casiguran, Sorsogon, together with his mother, Balamera Jersey.

Deeply touched by the presidential gesture, both mother and blind child profusely thanked the President. The boy was sent to the V. Luna Hospital on orders of the President

The attention of President Garcia was first called when he spotted Getulio singing, in a local television program.

President Garcia had recently signed an executive order proclaiming an “Aid to the Blind and Other Handicapped Week” which was formally ushered in today.

Today President Garcia commuted to life imprisonment the death penalty imposed on Alejandro de la Cruz, convicted for robbery with homicide and double serious physical injury.

In granting commutation of sentence, the President took cognizance of the findings of the Board of Pardons and Parole that the prisoner had no previous criminal record and was not a notorious criminal and that the crime was not characterized by extreme wickedness or brutality as in the case of hardened criminals.

De la Cruz was convicted of the crime charged by a Pangasinan court of first instance whose decision imposing the death penalty and an indemnity of ₱4,735 was affirmed by the Supreme Court.

The President, however, granted De la Cruz a reprieve from January 4 to February 2 to give the Board ample time to study the case.

February 1.—THIS MORNING the President held a closed door conference with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

The lengthy conference which started at 9:30 a.m. lasted about two hours during which the President was consulted on problems of the foreign office:

Serrano also reported to the President certain points the Secretary had recently discussed with Chinese Ambassador Tuan Mao-lan on the overstaying Chinese issue.

Motoring to Malacañang after the conference, the President inducted into office the officials of the Philippine Safety Council, among them Alfredo Eugenio, president; Col. Crisanto Alba, vice-president; Horacio San Luis, secretary; Hyman M. Levine, treasurer; Frank S. Tenny, founder and executive director; and Henry A. Brimo, Victor Lim, Senen de la Costa, G. S. Hamilton, Alan M. Razovsky, and Perfecto Sison, directors.

The council which represents some 216 industrial, business, mining, and transportation Companies informed the President that they are closely cooperating with government agencies in the adoption of safety measures in factories and other establishments.

Among, the morning callers were Gov. Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, who headed a delegation of cassava growers; Maj. Fred Salcedo of the PCAPE, who. briefed the President on security measures at the pier and harbor;

and Davao City Vice-Mayor Fermin Abella, who saw the President on a ₱1 million loan from the GSIS for the construction of school buildings.

Former Gov. Romulo Garrovillo of Zamboanga del Norte also called on the President to report crop failure due to rat infestation in his province.

President Garcia directed today Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim and Marcelo Balatbat, chairman and general manager, respectively, of the NAMARCO, to look into the possibility of helping farmers and millers dispose of their cassava stock in order to save the industry.

The President also asked Secretary Lim to discuss plans with Salvador Pacis on the organization of the Industrial Promotions Bureau in order to promote industries in the rural level.

In his letter to the NAMARCO officials the President stressed the necessity of helping the farmers sell their cassava produce which is far below the 10 per cent allocation in the domestic flour consumption.

The President took this step in answer to the petition of a nine-man delegation composed of cassava growers from Lanao, Cotabato, Albay, and Leyte, headed by Gov. Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte.

The delegation complained to the President of laxity in the NAMARCO supervision and told the Chief Executive of rampant buying of cassava flour invoices by flour importers, particularly aliens.

Under the law, the Central Bank does not allow the importation of wheat flour unless the importer can show that he has purchased 10 per cent of his requirements in cassava flour from the local millers.

The creation of the Industrial Promotions Bureau is a pet project of the President and has been under study for sometime by Pacis, a Malacañang technical assistant,

The Industrial Promotions Bureau, according to plans, will take care of standardizing local industrial products, advertising and marketing them locally and abroad.

Pacis said that one of the drawbacks in the sale of Philippine-made products is the lack of uniformity in the quality, as well as the unsteady supply because big orders from abroad cannot be handled by one or a few home industry operators.

Pacis informed the President most of the locally-produced towels, blankets, mosquito nets, abaca, slippers, bags, ceramic products, school and office supplies, plastics, and other articles will find ready market with the establishment of this bureau.

THIS EVENING the President distributed certificates of merit to 50 deserving employees of the government, and called on all other government employees to emulate them in order to render loyal and honest service to the taxpayers.

The awards of merits were distributed at a ceremony held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall under the auspices of the Philippine Government Employees' Association (PGEA) led by Mrs. Nieves Baens del Rosario.

The President lauded the model employees and expressed the hope that their efficient, loyal, and honest work will serve as a "beacon light" to other government employees.

While lauding the model employees of the government, the President served a stern warning that his administration will intensify this year its campaign against graft and corruption in the government.

He pointed out his recommendation to Congress in his state-of-the-nation message for the creation of an anti-graft commission in order to weed out corrupt employees from the government service.

The most outstanding model employees of 1959 of the government, According to the PGEA, are the following:

Miguel Albano, Bureau of Public Schools; Emilio Bruan, Bureau of Printing; Eriberto Caasi, Office of Economic Coordination; Vivencia Campbell, Manila Health Department; Romana Cruz, Bureau of the Treasury; Maximo G. Pedro, Bureau of Posts; Gloria Cruz, SWA; Pablo Arevalo, Department of Labor; Libertador G. Filoteo, Supreme Court; Pedro Martinez, DANR; Norma Cruz-Melo, Veterans Memorial Hospital; Emeterio Pasion, General Auditing Office; Hermenegildo Quintana, Bureau of Census and Statistics; and Consuelo Retugal, Philippine Atomic Energy Commission.

February 2.—THIS MORNING the President held a closed door conference with Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, with the view to exploring possibilities for the expansion of Philippine international trade.

In another conference with Sen. Roseller T. Lim and Oscar Arellano, organizer of the Jaycee-sponsored Operations Brotherhood, the President expressed interest in the Jaycee plan to organize an O. B. project in Tawi-Tawi.

In his conference with Senator Lim and Arellano, the President invited the two Jaycee executives to breakfast tomorrow so that they can discuss the plan more thoroughly.

President Garcia today renewed his proposal to a group of congressmen callers to synchronize elections beginning 1965 in order to save time and money which can be devoted to more constructive work.

In his talks with group of congressmen who came to Malacañang this morning to seek fund releases and typhoon damage aid, the President stressed the importance of holding synchronized elections in order to have more time for constructive effort.

The President said frequent elections are not only costing the people too much money and effort but they have also bred “professional leaders” who do nothing the year round except to plan and campaign for favorite candidates.

The President suggested early introduction of amendments to the Constitution in Congress in order to reduce the term of senators to be elected in 1961 to four years each, and to extend the tenure in office of all elective officials due to expire in 1963 and 1965, so that all elective officials can be elected in 1965.

The President also expressed himself in favor of recreating the old senatorial districts.

Among those who called on the President were Sen. Arturo M. Tolentino, Reps. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Delfin Albano of Isabela, Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, Salvador Enemas of Sorsogon, Jose Alberto of Catanduanes, Jose Nuguid of Bataan, Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Ramon P. Mitra of Mt. Province, and Manuel Enverga of Quezon.

Rep. Albano, who was accompanied by former Gov. Felix T. Caro, requested the release of ₱200,000 for payment of tobacco purchased but not yet paid by the Philippine Tobacco Administration, and ₱20,000 from the contingent fund for repair of typhoon-damaged San Agustin-Jones Bridge in Isabela.

Several other delegations called on the President to request releases of funds for repair and reconstruction of typhoon-damaged public buildings, for rural improvement and for additional school-houses.

Among these delegations was the Quezon delegation headed by Rep. Manuel Enverga, and composed of Mayors Crispulo A. Tena of Panuculan, Florentino Veloso of Dipaculao, Bernardino Angara of Casiguran, Amado A. Clemente of Mauban, and Manuel Molina of Baler.

Another group was headed by Rep. Marcelino Veloso of Leyte and included Provincial Board Member Enrique Granados, Sr., and Leyte town Mayor Enrique Granados, Jr.

In the evening the President received F. F. Santiago, manager of the Manila Railroad Company. He was accompanied by MRR Director Teofilo Zosa and Chairman J. J. Carlos.

He also received Sens. Eulogio Balao and Domocao Alonto and took up with the solons and MRR officials the proposed extension of the railroad lines to the Cagayan Valley.

President Garcia also received Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, chief of the Constabulary. The meeting was held behind closed-doors. No details were released on the subject taken up at the conference.

February 3.—THIS MORNING President Garcia urged passage of a bill in the current regular session of Congress to declare all important and vital positions in the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs confidential and highly technical in nature.

In a two-hour breakfast conference at Malacañang, the Chief Executive told Sen. Reseller T. Lim, chairman of the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee, and Oscar Arellano, overall director of Operations Brotherhood, that he favored:

- (1) The early creation of the Anti-Graft Commission; and
- (2) The launching of Operations Brotherhood projects in this country, but initially at Tawi-Tawi, Sulu.

President Garcia told Sen. Lim that the executive and the legislative branches of government should collaborate in the fight against graft and corruption.

He emphasized that if all sensitive positions in the BIR and the Bureau of Customs were declared highly technical and confidential, it will be much easier to remove grafters and corrupt officials, unlike in the present set-up where technicalities hinder and delay prosecution of some guilty officials.

In the case of confidential and technical positions, the President said, all he needs for the removal of certain corrupt officials would be a declaration of loss of confidence in the person concerned.

The President told Sen. Lim of the immediate need to create the Anti-Graft Commission so that spade work preparatory to the prosecution of erring public officials could be started right away.

In the same conference the Chief Executive told Oscar Arellano to proceed with plans to launch Operations Brotherhood projects in Tawi-Tawi, Sulu.

Arellano in turn informed the President that while the primary objective of the OB project will be to extend medical aid to the inhabitants, it will at the same time carry on a survey of the socio-economic conditions of each locality served, which will be of value to the different government agencies concerned.

As envisioned by Arellano, Operations Brotherhood of the Philippines will be run and operated by civic organizations in cooperation with business firms, on a non-profit basis.

Operations Brotherhood, which gained universal recognition for its work in South Vietnam, was organized during the time of the late President Magsaysay through the encouragement given by President Garcia, who was then Vice-President of the Philippines and concurrently secretary of foreign affairs.

President Garcia today directed Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno to give Ruben Villaluz, chief of the Motor Vehicles Office, 72 hours to answer charges of irregularities in his office.

The President was visibly irked when told by PCAPE Vice-Chairman Max A. Mecerén and the PCAPE chief investigator and legal officer, Major Teodulo Na'tividad, that Villaluz's answer to the Roces charges was not satisfactory and tended to confirm the existence of venalities in the MVO.

The President commended PCAPE Chairman Justice Buenaventura Ocampo and his assistants for their good work and said that the PCAPE will form the nucleus of the Anti-Graft Commission which he had proposed to Congress.

The President also indicated that he will use the PCAPE findings in the revamp of at least ten other offices besides the MVO, and hinted that some officials holding high positions will soon get the axe.

Villaluz had been charged by Congressman Joaquin R. Roces, chairman of the House committee on good government, with irregularities, especially in the submission of backpay certificates to the Treasury which amounted to ₱8 million, and in other venalities in the MVO.

When summoned by Justice Ocampo last week to explain his side of the case and to answer the PCAPE findings, Villaluz denied the Roces charges.

However, Villaluz admitted that the MVO had not been audited since 1912, and that an internal audit of the MVO revealed an undercollection of ₱375,973 for Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Pangasinan, Tarlac, and Zambales.

Villaluz also admitted accepting about ₱683,000 worth of backpay certificates (negotiable certificates of indebtedness) in the names of third parties, which is explicitly prohibited by a ruling of the Department of Justice.

Upon request of Justice Ocampo, the President extended full powers to the PCAPE to conduct investigations, summon witnesses, administer oaths, and take testimony on evidence in accordance with sections 71 and 580 of the Revised Administrative Code.

This day the President directed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor to send immediately rice, food, and clothing to some 200 Ilongot evacuees in Pantabangan, Nueva Ecija.

The President learned of the plight of the evacuees when he heard over the radio the resolution of the municipal council of Pantabangan petitioning the President to send relief to the Ilongot Christians during the current PC operations against the headhunters which are expected to last for three months.

The evacuees were forced to leave their farms in the hinterlands and move to barrios Conversion and San Juan at the height of the head-hunters' depredations.

Getulio Jersey, Jr., a blind ten-year old who had been sent by the President to the V. Luna Hospital for treatment, was sent back to school in order to complete his studies in March.

Getulio was taken to the Tamesis clinic for examination by Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician. Dr. Jesus Tamesis, who performed the examination, said the boy is suffering from congenital cataract of the right eye and will be able to see clearly again after undergoing an operation in March when school is over.

THE CABINET this afternoon went over proposals of private traders to export surplus rice which would give the government almost ₱1 million in profits.

The Cabinet, presided by President Garcia, also studied the proposal of the NARIC to increase the amount of surplus rice for exportation from 64,000 metric tons to 83,000.

The Cabinet had previously approved in principle the export of 64,000 metric tons of surplus rice through barter.

Under the Cabinet resolution, the exporters would be able to bring in goods from the proceeds of their exportation as follows: 40 per cent, essential goods; 20 per cent, semi-essential; and 40 per cent, non-essential.

The Cabinet had previously authorized the Producers-Philippines to export 24,000 metric tons.

The Cabinet, however, went over the offer of the Vital Enterprises which won the public bidding held last December.

The Vital Enterprise, it was learned, will be authorized to export 12,000 metric tons of rice.

It was not known where the rice would be exported to. NARIC officials told the Cabinet that the transactions would give the government almost ₱1 million in profit.

The Cabinet, up to press time this evening, was also scheduled to go over the proposals of the Demerco Enterprises, which had been awarded, through negotiations, 4,000 metric tons of rice for exportation.

President Garcia summoned retired General Leoncio Tan and Clemente Uson, NARIC officials, to the Cabinet this afternoon in order to shed light on the offers of private traders.

The President and the Cabinet recently approved the exportation through barter of surplus rice as an incentive to the farmers to increase their production of the cereal.

This is the first time the Philippines, which has always suffered from shortage of the stocks, will export the staple crop.

February 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia today said Congressman Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon would take his oath of office as Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources as soon as his nomination is confirmed by the Commission on Appointments.

The announcement was made following a conference between the President and the Mindanao solon at Malacañang this morning.

Fortich cannot assume the agriculture portfolio until his appointment is confirmed by the Commission on Appointments, but in the case of the other Cabinet members, their oaths were administered by the President before Congress convened for its regular session last January 25, it was pointed out.

The President had a heavy schedule of callers today, composed mostly of big provincial delegations headed by congressmen, governors, and mayors.

The President invited to breakfast this morning Senate and House reporters, an event which is now a tradition occurring shortly after Congress begins its regular session.

Romblon Gov. Antonio Mayuga and Vice-Gov. Jovencio Mayor called and complained to the President that the Governor's residence in Romblon, which had been donated to the provincial government, was transferred by the past provincial board to the municipal government of Romblon.

The Romblon executives alleged that the house which had been donated by an Englishman and proclaimed the official residence of the governor of Romblon by the late President Magsaysay, was leased to a naturalized Filipino who is utilizing it for trade and commercial purposes, contrary to the conditions of the donation.

The President instructed Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, to study the case and report to him on the matter.

A Batangas mayors' delegation, headed by Rep. Apolinario R. Apacible, Gov. Feliciano Leviste, and Vice-Gov. Bonifacio Masilungan, also called on President Garcia to pledge their support to the President's "Filipino First" policy and anti-graft drive. They lauded the Chief Executive for his efforts in cleaning house.

Among the members of the delegation were Mayors Luis T. Ramos of Balayan, chairman of the mayors' league in the first district of Batangas, Pablo Hernandez of Calaca, Daniel de Gracia of San Luis, Olimpio Sayo of Calatagan, Pedro Tolentino of Batangas, Teodoro Mayuga of San Nicolas, Vicente Maligalig of Agoncillo, Pacito Lejano of Lian, and Mariano Venturanza of Lemery.

Another delegation composed of Davao mayors, headed by Sen. Alejandro Almendras and Rep. Gavino Sepulveda, called on the President.

They sought the President's immediate assistance against the rat and locust infestation which has been, hitting Davao for the sixth consecutive years. President Garcia told the delegation that he had precisely released funds for the purpose of combating this plague.

Members of the delegation were Gov. Vicente Duterte, Provincial Board Member Proculo Fuentes, and Mayors Nonito Llanos of Digos, Alfredo Salutillo of Hagonoy, Dominador Bendigo of Sta. Cruz, and J. Ganadi of Capulong of Dayao.

President Garcia today issued fresh orders to the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency for a renewed drive against influence peddling even as a Manila court made its first convention of an influence peddler charged by the PCAPE.

The President specifically directed the PCAPE to concentrate along the following fields:

- (1) To look into the activities of some 450 Filipinos in Japan reportedly using his name to obtain business privileges and concessions; and
- (2) To require a former governor and Malacañang technical assistant to explain his alleged issuance of badges and identification cards bearing the President's signature, according to the findings of PCAPE and Criminal Investigation Service.

The presidential instructions were issued to Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator.

Convicted by the Manila court of first instance was Inocencio Tan, who was charged with having used the name of the President and that of former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo in collecting ₱25,000 from the Laureano Brothers for the release of ₱250,000 loan from the Philippine National Bank.

Upon receipt of the demand made by Tan on the Laureano Brothers, the PCAPE baited him with marked money and nabbed him in the act of receiving the marked bills from Major Fernando Ricafort.

In a report submitted by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo to the President, the PCAPE chairman reported that at least seven separate groups of influence peddling had been taken to court and are pending trial.

Among the cases reported by the PCAPE were:

- (1) An army colonel charged with estafa for misrepresenting himself as technical adviser to the President and appointing many persons as his supposed special agents;
- (2) A businessman who misrepresented himself as confidential agent of the President in order to get favorable business transactions, charging ₱150 per ID he issued, supposed to be signed by the President;

(3) A former Army major using the First Lady's name to get appointments for clients, and receiving large amounts therefor;

(4) Two individuals with ID's and badges allegedly issued by a former governor and Malacañang technical assistant;

(5) A "promoter" who used the name of the President, the First Lady, and various Cabinet members to solicit funds illegally;

(6) The case of Sgts. Victor Baliong and Luis Balignasay charged with estafa; and

(7) The case of Inocencio Tan, who was sentenced to one year and one day *prision correctional* by the Manila court of first instance,

President Garcia ordered surveillance of the 450 Filipinos living in Japan whose activities had attracted the attention of the Japanese Government and are giving the Philippines a bad reputation in that country.

The President was informed that these Filipinos were living ostentatiously with no visible means of income. These Filipinos face cancellation of their passports upon proper recommendation by the PCAPE,

The President also directed Max A. Maceren, vice-chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, to check on the cassava invoice peddling racket which is adversely affecting the country's cassava industry.

The President, upon representations of a group of cassava millers from different provinces who called on him Monday, directed Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim and NAMARCO General Manager Marcelo Balatbat to crack down on the culprits and exercise closer supervision in the distribution of flour.

Under Republic Act 657, which was enacted to encourage growth of the cassava industry, all wheat flour importers are required to purchase at least ten per cent of their normal requirements in cassava flour.

However, it was found that cassava invoices being submitted to the Central Bank, which normally should reflect the total production of cassava, showed that cassava purchases were far greater than local cassava flour production.

The cassava millers who called on President Garcia said that the cause of this discrepancy, was the rampant buying of cassava flour invoices from non-producers by alien wheat flour importers.

February 5.—THIS MORNING the President explored the possibilities of saving the Philippine sugar industry through increased U. S. sugar quota and opening new markets in Asia.

In a long conference with officials of the Philippine Sugar Association, the President suggested a general discussion of the problems of the industry with all the other agricultural and industrial groups in the next few days.

Rep. Vicente Gustilo, who had just returned from a survey of sugar possibilities in the United States, informed the President that the U.S. sugar quota system faces an immediate overhaul owing to increasing sugar consumption, and that this was the best time for the Philippines to request an increased sugar quota.

Jose Mapa Gomez also informed the President that a Japanese sugar purchase mission is coming to the Philippines next week to explore the possibilities of concluding a long-term arrangement whereby the Philippines will export to Japan 200,000 tons of sugar on a regional trade basis.

Another solution to the problem proposed by the President is the utilization of sugar cane by-products in other industries; such as, bagasse, vinegar, and wine. ,

Among those who called on the President were Gerald Wilkinson, Arsenio Jison, Gerry Rodriguez, Ramon Nolan, and Ernesto Escaler.

The President also approved the sending of a Philippine delegation to the 12th Congress on Scientific Management to be held in Melbourne and Sydney, Australia, beginning February 22.

In giving his approval, the President told the delegation that there is a big need for management experts due to the rapid industrial and economic development.

He said managerial skill is something that can be attained only through years of experience and training, and that the availability of young men with managerial skill must keep pace with the rapid strides the country has gained in industry.

Three Filipinos have been recommended for international award during the Congress, for their achievements in scientific management:

- (1) Dr. Cesar H. Concio, chairman of the delegation and president of the Philippine Council on Management;
- (2) Maj. Fernando E. Ricafort, secretary of the delegation and vice-president of Laureano Brothers; and
- (3) Antonio Delgado, president of the Management Association of the Philippines and Delgado Brothers.

The delegation which was accompanied to Malacañang by Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto E. Laguio included Hilarion Henares, Jr., Edgardo Villavicencio, Pablo Gabriel, Joaquin Gonzales, and Artemio Raymundo.

Earlier in the morning the President had a briefing on the Cabinet technical committee deliberations on the proposed establishment of an integrated steel mill in Iligan City.

Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno also briefed the President on:

- (1) Peso financing of major public works projects supported with foreign loans which the President obtained from the U. S. and Japan in his state visits, among which are the Manila International Airport modernization for the jet age and the nationwide telecom network obtainable from Japan;
- (2) Marikina multi-purpose project; and
- (3) Mindanao highways network and completion and paving of seven highways connecting all parts of Mindanao. The paving of the Sayre highway has already begun.

Secretary Moreno was accompanied in his call by Rep. Jose D. Moreno and Romblon Mayor Isidro Mallorca, who presented his side in the alleged transfer of the official residence of the provincial governor to the municipal government.

The President had summoned National Economic Council Chairman Jose C. Locsin, Economic Coordination Administrator Juan O. Chioco, GSIS General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal, PHHC General Manager Bernardo Torres, and NARIC General Manager Leoncio S. Tan to a conference.

Owing to the big number of callers, however, the President was able to see only NEC Chairman Locsin, who briefed the President on NEC assistance to industry.

In the evening the President inducted the newly elected officers of the Press Photographers Association of the Philippines headed by Jose Dungo.

President Garcia also received the five congressmen of Iloilo who briefed the President on the political situation in their province. Those who saw the President were Reps. Jose Aldeguer, Ricardo Y. Ladrado, Pedro Trono, Pascual Espinosa, and Domitillo Abordo.

Allen Kline of the Committee on American Remittance Everywhere saw the President and reported that the government of Columbia has been impressed by the self-help projects in the Philippines.

Other callers were Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela, Gov. Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, and Assistant Director Mariano G. Almeda of the National Bureau of Investigation.

February 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia and the Council of Leaders this morning ruled out the holding of a constitutional convention and instead decided to convene a joint session of Congress for the purpose of amending the Charter.

In a conference which lasted through breakfast and luncheon in the President's Quezon City residence, the congressional leaders voiced their support of President Garcia's proposed six constitutional amendments which he enumerated in his state-of-the-nation address.

While the exact date of the joint session was not fixed, the conferees agreed that the historic meeting will be held at anytime during the current regular session of Congress.

The conferees also discussed the different aspects of several offers made by American and European financial groups which speed up the implementation of the Administration's major industrial and economic projects.

The American and European offers include loans, credit lines, and deferred payment plans.

Four major projects of the Administration would be favorably affected by these, namely:

- (1) Completion of the railroad lines north and south of Manila to stimulate commerce, and the opening up of new agricultural lands, not to mention the improvement of transportation facilities;
- (2) Construction of modern airports to take in commercial jet airplanes thereby stepping up the tourist trade in this country;
- (3) Financing and development of the proposed gigantic steel industry which will in turn give birth to allied smaller industries which depend on the basic steel industry; and
- (4) Financing of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority's projects.

President Garcia told congressional leaders he would submit to them the full details of the American and European offers.

He emphasized that these offers from abroad are highly significant because it means confidence in the stability of the government, in our finances, and, more important still, confidence and trust in our economic policies and planning.

Moreover, Congress leaders had agreed to push through the overhaul of government corporations in support of the President's campaign against graft and corruption in the government service. The conferees did not single out any specific government corporation, but the discussion was rather made on a general tenor.

Senate President Rodriguez and Speaker Romualdez congratulated President Garcia on his current campaign against graft and corruption. They also express their support of the President's campaign.

In the course of the conference President Garcia briefed the solons on the annual and confidential report of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency on its accomplishments for 1959.

President Garcia likewise informed the Congress leaders that Rep. Cesar Fortich of Bukidnon had accepted to take over the secretaryship of agriculture and natural resources as soon as his nomination is confirmed by the Commission on Appointments.

The Chief Executive read a telegram from Rep. Fortich. His announcement spiked reports that Fortich had rejected the agriculture portfolio. Rep. Fortich was reported in Cagayan de Oro.

As enunciated by President Garcia in his state-of-the-nation address the following are the proposed amendments to the Constitution:

- (1) The synchronization of national and local elections every four years to halt the holding of frequent and expensive election campaigns which detract from, rather than add to, the stability of our democratic institutions;
- (2) The election of senators on the basis of specific senatorial districts and the extension of the terms of its members to eight years, one half of whom shall be elected every quadrennial election;
- (3) The creation of a Presidential Electoral Tribunal, to be a constitutional body completely independent from the Executive and the Legislative branches of our government, to hear and decide protests that may arise as a result of presidential elections;
- (4) The 30 day period within which time the President vetoes or approves a certain bill should be counted from the date of the bill's submittal to the President and not from the date marking the adjournment of Congress;
- (5) In the event the annual appropriation act for an ensuing year is not approved, the general appropriation act for the current fiscal year should be deemed continued in force until such time as the new fiscal year's budget is passed; and
- (6) The provision on the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus may be reexamined to attune it more to the spirit of democracy.

In the evening the President directed the Airforce to rush a mercy plane to Cagayan de Oro City and airlift to Manila 25 sick delegates who attended the National Public Schools Secondary Press conference held in that city.

The President issued the directive upon being informed that the 25 student delegates were bedridden owing to flu.

At the same time, President Garcia directed the authorities of the North General Hospital to prepare accommodations for the sick delegates.

The secondary' school press conference ended today and the delegates were supposed to return to Manila by boat.

Request for the mercy flight was made in a telegram to Press Secretary Jose C. Nable from Mrs. Luz R. Melendrez, official of the secondary press conference.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: February 7-13, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

February 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed gratification over the report that members of the three-man mission of the International Monetary Fund which came to the Philippines last month had been much impressed with the economic progress of the country.

According to a report submitted to the President this morning by Gov. Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank, the IMF mission during its stay here had arrived at the following over-all conclusions:

- (1) That a very favorable environment exists for the rapid economic development of this country;
- (2) That the Philippine economy during the last year showed significant gains in production;
- (3) That the Administration had successfully reduced expenditures from planned levels by postponing several public projects and by other forced savings;
- (4) That in spite of the restrictive credit measures imposed by the Central Bank, credit to private sector has increased by nine per cent in the nine months ending October 1959, a rate about twice that of 1958; and
- (5) That the external position of the country improved greatly during 1959.

The mission observed that the Philippines has an abundance and a large variety of natural resources for both industry and agriculture. It saw the emergence of a vigorous business leadership and believed that the economy seemed poised for a take-off into a period of particularly rapid economic development.

The mission found that the rate of growth had increased and that supplies available from domestic sources had risen sharply. Unemployment decreased, the improved supply of domestic foodstuffs lowered food prices significantly and was responsible for keeping the general price level relatively stable during the year by offsetting increases in other prices.

The three-man IMF consultation team was in the Philippines last month. Headed by Tun Thin, assistant director of the Asian department of the IMF, the mission was composed of Hohn Woodley, chief of the multiple currency practices division of the Asian department of the IMF, and Ching-Gwan Chang, economist of the fund.

The President stayed in his private residence in Quezon City the whole day yesterday where he went over his proposed budget message in between games of billiards.

The President did not receive any caller, as he devoted the whole day to polishing his budget message which will accompany his proposed general appropriations for the next fiscal year.

President Garcia is expected to send his proposed budget to Congress not later than tomorrow, which is the deadline fixed by law.

Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona and Deputy Commissioner Faustino Sychangco were both unavailable on the total amount of the proposed budget.

Early estimates indicated that the proposed budget would amount to close to ₱1.1 billion, including appropriations in Budget "B" which is for economic development.

A few minutes after his breakfast, the President invited his aide, Lt. Melchor Fronda, to a game of billiards. After about an hour-and-a-half of billiards, the President went to his room and started going over his budget message.

The President spent the night at his private residence.

February 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received an official copy of the memorandum of understanding among the Government of the Philippines, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Ford Foundation for the establishment in the country of the International Rice Research Institute.

The copy was submitted to President Garcia by Juan de G. Rodriguez, who signed it for the Philippines last December in his capacity as secretary of agriculture and natural resources.

The Institute to be established in close association with the College of Agriculture of the University of the Philippines received a grant of \$200,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation and \$250,000 from the Ford Foundation.

The Institute will have the following activities:

- (1) Basic research in the rice plant and applied research in all phases of rice production, management, distribution, and utilization;
- (2) Publication and dissemination of the research findings of the Institute;
- (3) Distribution of improved plant materials to regional and international research centers where they might be of significant value in breeding;
- (4) Development of promising young scientists primarily from South and Southeast Asia;
- (5) Establishment and operation of an information center and library which will maintain for interested scientists everywhere a collection of the world's literature on rice; and
- (6) Organization of periodic conferences, forums, and seminars on current problems and developments in rice research.

Earlier, the President received Finis Davies, first vice-president of the Lions International who was accompanied by his wife, and Lions District Governor Eladio Legaspi, Lions International representative George Barrenengoa, Lions Cabinet Secretary Victor S. Pheng, and Lions PRO Domingo Siason.

Bertham Tower, president of the American Cable and Radio Corporation, together with John Gibbons, general attorney of the same corporation, and W. H. Phillips, vice-president of the Globe Wireless, also paid a courtesy call on President Garcia.

Other callers were Camarines Sur Vice-Gov. Jack Arroyo, Naga City Mayor Jose Ojeda, and Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon.

At 12:30 p.m. President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the residence of Senator and Mrs. Claro M. Recto on Leveriza in Pasay City to congratulate the Senator on his 70th birthday. The President and the First Lady returned to Malacañang about 2:30 p.m.

The President urged today Philippine textile manufacturers to consider seriously the cultivation of cotton locally as a permanent solution to the shortage of raw materials.

In long conference with members of the Textile Mills Association of the Philippines in Malacañang this afternoon, the President said that the integration of the whole industry should be the prime objective in the attainment of the country's self sufficiency in clothing.

The President urged the cultivation of cotton in Mindanao, which, he said, is ideal for the raising of cotton and other fibers because it is outside the typhoon belt.

The Chief Executive said that experiments in the raising of cotton, especially in Cotabato, have proved a tremendous success, and that a private corporation is actually engaged in the production of cotton in Mindanao.

The textile manufacturers had a one-hour conference with the President during which they pledged their support to his economic policy.

After the conference the President inducted the newly elected officers of the association, namely: Jesus S. Yujuico, president; P. L. Lim, 1st vice-president; Delfin Buencamino, 2nd vice-president; Jose D. Aspiras, executive secretary; Vicente Yupangco, treasurer; Moises Malca, assistant treasurer; and Basilio Lirag, Danilo Laserna of Lirag Textiles, C. B. Lim, Pablo Floro, Joseph Mycook, Hermie Atienza, Jr., Benigno Zialcita, Domingo Castillo, Benedicto Dakanay, Benjamin Teodoro, Felix Assad, Rufino Dee Unhong, A. Lobrin, Arthur Tan, and Willie Co, board members.

Earlier in the afternoon the President had a two-hour conference with Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona on the President's Budget Message which will be submitted to Congress tomorrow.

In the evening the President gave a state dinner in honor of the surviving members of the Philippine Constitutional Convention at the Malacañang social hall, during which the President also awarded the Philippine Legion of Honor (Chief Commander) to Sen. Claro M. Recto, president of the convention.

February 9.—THIS morning the President directed the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources to step up its anti-rat campaign in Mindanao, particularly in Zamboanga del Norte and Zamboanga del Sur where infestations were said to have destroyed one-half of the present crops.

After separate conferences this morning with Reps. Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur and Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte who reported on the infestations in their respective provinces, the President instructed acting Agriculture Secretary Jose Trinidad to find the necessary funds to step up the rodent campaign.

At the same time, the Zamboanga solons requested that certified seeds be distributed free to the rice planters in their provinces before the planting season. The Zamboanga solons were among members of Congress that saw President Garcia this morning to request national aid for their respective provinces.

Other Congress members who saw the President were Sen. Quintin Paredes and Reps. Jose Laurel, IV, of Batangas, Ricardo Ladrado of Iloilo, Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, Emilio Espinosa, Jr. of Masbate, Felix Fuentebella and Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, William Chiongbian of Misamis Occidental, Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan, Dominador Tan of Leyte, Manuel Agudo of Batanes, Felipe Abrigo of Samar, and Jose Moreno of Romblon.

Another caller was Councilor Mamerto Surara of Bulan, Sorsogon, who requested aid for the rehabilitation of the Bulan High School, which had been extensively damaged by typhoons.

At noon the President signed the proposed national budget for the next fiscal year and immediately sent it to Congress.

Present on the occasion were acting Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco and ranking budget officials, including Fernando Dizon, Nathaniel Tablante, Juan Agcaoili, Enrique Taccad, Benjamin Veloria, Alfredo Marchadesch, Melecio Yutuc, Luis M. Topacio, Florencio Dalucong, Francisco Legaspi, and Jose Lansan.

Defense Secretary Alejo Santos also called and discussed with the President the details of the “Operations Brotherhood” for Tawi-Tawi, Sulu, and “Operations Enlightenment” for the Ilongots.

President Garcia directed Secretary Santos to enlist the aid of the Jaycees, particularly of Oscar Arellano, in both operations to insure their success.

In the afternoon the President received Gen. Peng Meng Chi, chief of staff of the armed forces of the Republic of China, who paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive in Malacañang.

General Peng was accompanied to the Palace by Chinese Ambassador Tuan Mao-Ian; Admiral Ma Chi-Chuang of the Chinese Navy; Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, AFP chief of staff; Brig. Gen. Alfredo M. Santos; Col. Wu Ping-Ching, secretary to the Chinese general staff; and Lt. Peng Yin-Hsuan, son and aide of the general.

During his call the Chinese army top brass conveyed to the President the deep appreciation of the Chinese people in the signal success of the Philippine Government in stamping out communism and promoting general peace and prosperity in this country.

President Garcia thanked President and Mrs. Chiang Kai-shek and the entire people of China for some paintings presented to him and the First Lady and expressed admiration for the Chinese determination to fight the communist menace that has threatened the free world for years.

The paintings given to President Garcia by President Chiang consisted of two volumes of reproductions of original paintings by Chinese masters of the 7th century which had been retrieved from the Chinese mainland.

The President later received Frank Kaftel, an American oil magnate, who is on a brief stop-over in Manila.

In the evening the President received Secretary of Justice Alejo Mabanag, who consulted him on some matters pertaining to the Department of Justice.

February 10.—THIS morning, the President and the First Lady motored to the Quiapo parish church to hear mass in connection with the silver wedding anniversary of Sen. and Mrs. Gil J. Puyat.

From the church, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Manila Hotel, where he attended the breakfast party given by the celebrants.

The President and Mrs. Garcia returned to their private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, where he received German scientists; namely, Ewald Kipper and Hilmar Wilmans. The two visiting German scientists from the Der Asta-Erke A-Z Chemische Favriki, presented two boxes of the new wonder drug which could cure cancer. The drug is called *Cytoxan*.

The President donated the drugs to the Philippine Cancer Society.

Those who accompanied the German scientists were Dr. Hospicio Solidum, Dr. T. Salacup, William Garguelo, and Gregorio Sycip.

President Garcia also received Felipe and Chito Monserrat, who showed the Chief Executive their locally-made car.

At lunchtime the President invited Cebu political leaders at his private residence. Those who had lunch with the President were former President Sergio Osmeña, Reps. Ramon Durano, Manuel Zosa, Maximino Noel, and Miguel Cuenco.

The President discussed the political developments in Cebu with his guests.

Before presiding over the regular Cabinet meeting, the President received the credentials of Ditlef Knudsen, Norwegian minister to the Philippines, in a ceremony held at Malacañang.

In accepting the letters of credence of Minister Knudsen, the President pledged the full cooperation of the Philippine Government in the promotion of cultural and commercial relations between the two countries.

The Chief Executive also thanked the new Norwegian minister for his good wishes and, in turn, requested him to convey to the King of Norway his best wishes for his continued health and the happiness and prosperity of the people of Norway.

At the Cabinet this afternoon; President Garcia declared 1960 as “cleanup year” and spurred department secretaries to help the Administration in weeding out grafters in the public service.

The President discussed the anti-graft campaign before he proceeded with discussions of subjects on the Cabinet agenda.

He created a committee to study amendments to the civil service law which would give department secretaries more power to weed out grafters and misfits in the public service.

President Garcia created the Cabinet committee to study defects in the civil service law which have entrenched corrupt officials and misfits.

Named to the committee were Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, Education Secretary Jose Romero, Justice Ocampo, and Deputy Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco. Mabanag is head of the committee.

The President decided to seek the amendment of the civil law in order to speed up the ouster of government officials who are found to have violated the public trust.

President Garcia stressed the need for giving department secretaries the authority to lay off presidential appointees.

This aspect was believed brought about by the case of Ambassador Jose Fuentebella, who had defied Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano. Fuentebella pointed out that as a presidential appointee, only the President “can fire me.”

President Garcia had also announced plans of making all important position in the Bureau of Customs and the Bureau of Internal Revenue confidential in nature to facilitate the dismissal of men who are involved in irregularities.

The President said he is determined to weed out all corrupt officials in the government.

The President told the Cabinet he would furnish them copies of the PCAPE report for their guidance in the anti-corruption campaign.

At the same time, the President lauded the efforts of the PCAPE and Secretary of Finance Dominador Aytona in their all-out drive against grafters.

The President stressed that the PCAPE has achieved laudable results in its investigations of several government offices.

President Garcia singled out Secretary Aytona, who he said, has started cleaning the mess in the two vital collecting agencies of the government; namely, the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs.

He urged the different Cabinet members to conduct parallel investigations in their own offices in an effort to purge those who have been recreant to the public trust.

President Garcia today took a direct hand in bolstering the fundraising campaign of the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission when he urged all provincial governors and city and municipal mayors to step up the collection of funds so as to reach its goal before the end of the present year.

In his personal telegram to the provincial, city, and municipal officials the President set quotas for contributions of each division. Quotas for the provincial governors and city mayors have been set at ₱5,000 each; the municipal mayors, at ₱1,000 each; and the barrio lieutenants, at ₱100 each.

The Chief Executive also urged these officials to stress to the people in their respective provinces the importance and significance of the construction of the National Cultural Shrine.

In his appeal the President directed the provincial officials and councils to inform the people that their contributions will only be solicited once and for a good cause, which is to celebrate the centenary of the birth anniversary of the country's national hero with the inauguration of the shrine dedicated to his memory.

The President also asked the provincial officials to exert all efforts within their power to fill their respective quotas and to remit same to the commission's office.

The Chief Executive also requested the provincial officials to submit progressive reports of their activities from time to time.

February 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the officials of the National Power Corporation to expedite action on the Kinali Hydroelectric project in order to hasten the industrialization program in the province of Albay.

The Presidential directive was issued at a conference with Gov. Nicanor Maronilla Seva of Albay.

The Albay hydroelectric project will harness the waters of the Kinali River and is expected to furnish electricity to the entire province of Albay and lower the electric rates which actually average ₱0.40 per kilowatt.

At the same time, Gov. Seva requested aid from the contingent fund of the President for the third congressional district of Albay which suffered extensive damages owing to typhoons.

Gov. Jorge Almojuela of Catanduanes, accompanied by former Gov. Lino Azicate, Gigmoto Mayor Francisco Sarmiento, and Gigmoto Vice-Mayor Rafael Tubalinal, likewise requested additional aid from the contingent funds owing to the extensive damages caused by typhoons in Catanduanes.

The President transmitted all requests for aid due to damages caused by typhoons to the Presidential Rehabilitation Committee headed by Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona with instructions to expedite the release of available funds.

The President accepted the invitation extended by Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte to be guest of honor at the inauguration of the new province of Southern Leyte scheduled for July 1, 1960.

Rep. Yñiguez was accompanied by six mayors of Leyte; namely, Nemesio Mosqueda of Pintoyan, Conrado Gompendio of Macrohon, Graciano Capili of St. Bernard, Alfredo Bantug of Maasin, Gil Japson of Hinundayan, and Teodorico Esclamado of Padre Burgos.

Other callers were Gov. Miguel Mariguerra of Marinduque, Mayor Rafael Lasic of Mogpog, Marinduque, Rep. Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, former Mayor Tereso Kangleon of Macrohon, Leyte, and Eufasio Mara-on.

Before noon, President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Lourdes church in Quezon City to hear a high mass said at 12 noon in honor of the Feast of the Apparition of the Blessed Virgin in Lourdes, France.

February 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today conferred with foreign affairs officials and the chairmen of the committee on foreign affairs of both Houses of Congress to take up the raging controversy over the Philippine war damage claims.

The conflict arose from the decision of the U.S. State Department to give the Philippines only \$73 million as balance of the Philippine claim for war damages.

Present at the conference were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano; Sen. Lorenzo M. Sumulong, chairman of the Senate committee on foreign relations; Rep. Ramon P. Mitra, chairman of the House committee on foreign affairs; and Ministers Juan Arreglado and Manuel Collantes.

The President was told that the Senate and the House would pass a joint resolution fixing the Philippine claim at \$154.1 million.

President Garcia cancelled all his morning engagements in order that he could meet the foreign affairs officials of both the Congress and the executive department. In the afternoon the President received Sen. Pedro Sabido.

At 5 o'clock, President Garcia presided over his weekly press conference. However, at 5:45 o'clock, the President cut short his press conference and announced he was meeting another engagement to open the floating exposition of the Industrial Development Center aboard the presidential yacht *Lapu-Lapu*.

Upon arriving at Pier 3, the President found out that because of a slight drizzle he could not address the crowd at an improvised stage. So he discarded a prepared speech and give a brief extemporaneous speech at the dining saloon of the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

President Garcia today relieved Isidro C. Angangco as collector of customs of Manila after finding him guilty of "gross abuse of authority and discretion" in the release of controversial Pepsi-Cola shipments in 1956.

The Chief Executive announced his decision on the five-year old case during his regular press conference this afternoon, and dramatically climaxed his week-long drive for a "thorough house-cleaning."

The President, however, exonerated Angangco's co-respondent, Aquiles J. Lopez, former barter trade supervisor of the former No-Dollar Import office. Lopez was sternly warned against a repetition of his actuaciones in connection with the release of the Pepsi-Cola concentrates in 1956.

During the regular press conference, the President:

1. Said he was waiting for the explanation of Ruben Villaluz, chief of the Motor Vehicles' Office, before acting on the recommendation of government investigators to suspend him from office;
2. Explained his proposal to amend the Constitution by requiring congressional concurrence before he could suspend the writ of habeas corpus;

3. Stated that the reorganization of the Cabinet is a “continuing process,” indicating he would change department secretaries as he sees fit; and

4. Absolved the Central Bank from blame for the plight of a Filipino student in New York, who was reported to have run into debt and expelled from school for lack of dollars, saying it was the fault of her parents for failure to remit the corresponding peso counterpart.

Asked on the war damage claims at his press conference, the President answered:

With respect to the question of additional war damage compensation now pending before the American Congress, it is my honest belief that there is no disagreement between the two governments that war damage claimants whose rights have already been established by the American War Damaged Commission years ago are entitled to additional war damage compensation. This had been recognized even at the time the American Congress enacted the Philippine War Damage Compensation law. If there is any disagreement at all, it is only in the amount of that war damage compensation. I sincerely hope that by friendly discussions an agreement would soon be reached to the satisfaction of the two governments. At a time when the friendship of America and the Philippines is put to a test, a sober, dispassionate discussions on a high plane is called for.”

President Garcia granted today 30 days’ reprieves to four convicts who are scheduled to die on the electric chair on Sunday, February 15.

The reprieves were granted in two separate orders after President Garcia received the convicts’ petitions for executive clemency. President, Garcia said that some time was needed for a thorough and careful consideration of the merits of the petitions.

February 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent the whole morning this day at his private residence in Quezon City where he received former President Sergio Osmeña.

The Grand Old Man of Cebu arrived recently and is planning to return to Cebu. He called on the Chief Executive and discussed the political developments in his province, where the President lost in the last elections in his fight against the political alliance of Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., and Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco.

This morning the President played billiards and was reported enjoying his new pastime.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive motored to Malacañang, and later in the evening, returned to his private residence in Quezon City, where he went over pending state papers. The President wanted to catch up with his backlog of state papers, including the results of several investigations of venalities in the government.

He had wanted to finish going over the papers in order that he could dispose of them before the end of this month.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: February 14-20, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

February 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon inaugurated the 50,000-watt transmitter of the Far East Broadcasting Company at Bocaue, Bulacan, and expressed hope it will give encouragement to the less fortunate peoples of this region.

The new transmitter will be utilized by American missionaries to broadcast English programs to countries in Southeast Asia, including those behind the Iron Curtain.

It was one of the original transmitters of KGER in San Francisco, over which the Voice of Freedom was beamed to the Philippines during the three years of Japanese occupation.

In his brief remarks the President said that the Philippines, because of her unique experience as a successful American experiment, had taken into herself the mission of leading other peoples of Asia to a full understanding of the ways of democracy.

He said that neighboring countries which have had sad experiences with past colonizers are slow to understand the noble intentions of America and her self-effecting task of bringing greater understanding, freedom, and peace to other peoples.

“These countries,” the President said, “need the Philippines to lead them to the ways of democracy which she herself inherited from the United States, and in her humble task of bringing these countries to the ways of democracy, your station will be a most effective implement.”

The President also recalled the hardships, sacrifices, and sufferings of the Filipinos during the dark days of the war and the voices of Mariano and William Winter, who sustained the fire of resistance and brought hopes to the guerrilla fighters.

The President was introduced by Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, who fetched him from his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, as the “Number One Missionary of the country.”

Other speakers in the program were Rev. William J. Roberts, secretary-treasurer; John C. Broger, president, who welcomed the President; and Roberto H. Bowman, who thanked the President for coming.

The President, accompanied by Secretary Santos, left Bohol Avenue at 3:45 p.m., arriving at Bocaue at 4:20. After the program, the President motored back to Bohol Avenue, accompanied by Secretary Santos and Leon O. Ty, arriving there at a little past 6 p.m.

Earlier in the morning the President and the First Lady heard mass at their residence. Also present at the mass was Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, PC chief.

About noon time their children, Fernando C; Campos and Linda, had luncheon with the President and the First Lady.

February 15.—EARLY in the morning the President and Mrs. Garcia gave a breakfast in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, III, who are in the Philippines to visit the Rockefeller Rice Research center in Los Baños.

The Rockefellers were accompanied to Malacañang by Dr. and Mrs. Robert F. Chandler of the Rockefeller Foundation, Dr. Paulino D. Garcia, chairman of the National Science Development Board, Ex-Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, chairman of the Magsaysay Award Foundation; Mrs. Paz Marquez-Benitez, vice-chairman; Mr. Francisco Ortigas, Jr., treasurer; Dean Leopoldo Uichangco and Jesus Magsaysay, of the Magsaysay Award Foundation; and Christian Larsen, general manager, STANVAC.

The Rockefellers two years ago donated ₱500,000 to the Magsaysay Award Foundation, which gives away five awards annually of ₱10,000 each.

After visiting their rice research center in Los Baños, which is making studies on improved rice breeding for Southeast Asia in conjunction with the U. P. College of Agriculture and the National Science Development Board, the Rockefellers will leave Manila Wednesday.

The President this morning conferred with Secretary Felixberto Serrano of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Chairman Lorenzo Sumulong of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations at Malacañang.

The closed door conference which lasted for almost three hours, was convened by the President to draft final directives to Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo on the Philippine war damage claims in Washington.

President Garcia today designated Deputy Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco as acting budget commissioner, vice Dominador Aytona, who had been appointed finance secretary.

The President at the same time signed the nomination of Commissioner Sy-Changco as budget commissioner and forwarded it to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation.

Sy-Changco has been in the government service for more than 40 years, having started as clerk in the Bureau of Health in April 1919. Later he was transferred to the Budget Commission, where he successfully filled the position of special agent, accounting officer, and chief of division.

The President today curtly rejected a reconsideration move by Isidro G. Ang-Angco to remain as collector of customs for the port of Manila.

Acting through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo within 12 hours from receipt of Ang-Angco's letter, the President extensively refuted the allegations made by Ang-Angco that it is the Commissioner of Civil Service who should pass judgment on his case and not the Chief Executive.

President Garcia sternly reiterated his contention and held his ground that, since he is authorized to initiate investigations of misconduct of personnel in the executive branch, he therefore has the right to render decisions after such investigations.

The Chief Executive emphasized that this power and authority is clearly vested upon him by the Constitution.

He also quoted extensively from a legal opinion rendered by then Secretary of Justice Pedro Tuason, to strengthen his stand against Ang-Angco. Tuason recited a litany of legal authorities in support of his opinion that the President has the constitutional power to investigate and render decision.

Justice Tuason submitted his memorandum on the case on February 3, 1958.

President Garcia also emphasized in his reply to Ang-Angco that the results of the investigation clearly showed that former Secretary of Finance Jaime Hernandez, never consented nor gave authority to Ang-Angco to release the Pepsi-Cola concentrates.

President Garcia dismissed Ang-Angco last Friday for grave neglect of duty and conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the customs service in the illegal release of a huge shipment of Pepsi-Cola concentrates or extracts last 1956.

THIS EVENING President Garcia called upon responsible leaders of commerce, industry, and the government to work together in restoring "relative stability to the country's economy."

He sounded the appeal at his address before a big crowd at the annual awards dinner of the Business Writers Association of the Philippines held at the Manila Hotel this evening.

A big crowd of leaders in business, industry, commerce, and finance, and ranking government officials, were on hand to hear the Chief Executive's views on the current government thinking on private business and industry.

At the same time, the President scored what he called "negative thinkers" who have not only belittled the country's economic progress but also paint a distorted picture of the local economy.

"There are, indeed," the President said, "some negative thinkers, distant descendants perhaps of Ichabod Crane of Sleepy Hollow, who want the people to believe that our economy is actually deteriorating."

He cited the annual awards dinner of the BWAP to belie the claims of the negative thinkers. He pointed out that by the BWAP's affair, "the association of journalists . . . make public their recognition of the fact that the nation's economy has continued to advance, honoring those who have significantly contributed to such a gratifying event."

The President cited facts and figures to indicate that the country has a "continuing upswing of the national economy."

February 16.—THIS MORNING the President discussed local problems of some ten Congressmen, most of whom requested financial aid.

Rep. Guillermo B. Sanchez of Agusan, accompanied by Agusan Vice-Governor Teofilo D. Curato Board Members Francisco M. Alaba and Ramon Rosales, and Mayors Tito Salabo of Nasipit and Esteban Degamos of Carmen, asked the President for the releases of funds for public works projects.

Rep. Marcelino Veloso of Leyte called on the President to request investigation of certain officials in certain government agencies for anomalies and irregularities in the performance of their duties. Veloso specifically requested that the investigation be carried out by the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency.

Rep. Jacobo Z. Gonzales of Laguna appealed to the President to stop the closing of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes office in Santa Cruz, Laguna. Pie said that the office was the most productive of all PCSO branches and that there was no reason for closing it.

Other callers who asked the President for public works fund releases and for relief for fire and typhoon victims, were Reps. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna; Laurentino LI. Badelles of Lanao del Norte; Francisco Licaroz of Marinduque; Faustino Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, accompanied by Mayors Julio Ganaban of Gingoog, Esmeraldo Chavez of Guinsiliban, and Epifanio Jacot of Catarman; Luciano Millan of Pangasinan; Jose B. Legaspi of Aklan; and Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Norte.

President Garcia today directed four members of his Cabinet to initiate an all-out drive to stop wanton destruction of Philippine forests by illegal timber cutters.

Participating jointly in the drive are the Departments of National Defense, Finance, Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency.

The President was deeply perturbed by reports that the Ambuklao hydroelectric plant was not generating power as expected and that irrigation systems, especially the ₱1.5 million Colo Irrigation System and two others in Bataan, have failed to increase the acreage of irrigated lands.

Gov. Pedro T. Dizon of Bataan, one of those who complained against laxity in the enforcement of forestry rules in his province, offered to help in the drive. He told Justice Ocampo that for all practical purposes Bataan has no more forests to speak of.

Dizon said he had tried to put a stop to illegal timber cutting since January when he assumed office but that his efforts had been thwarted by certain forestry officials who continued to issue licenses for timbermen and who put up the same excuse that they were powerless to cope with the situation.

THIS evening the President formally launched the 1960 annual fund campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross at appropriate ceremonies held at the Malacañang social hall.

President Garcia launched the fund drive with a personal contribution of ₱1,000. Advance gifts were also turned over by those present.

Members of the local diplomatic corps, high government officials, and prominent businessmen were among those present at the ceremony.

Mrs. Luz Magsaysay, in representation of Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, honorary chairman of the 1960 PNRC fund campaign, accepted the advance gifts.

Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Bulacan Gov. Tomas Martin, and Tomas de Castro led a delegation from Bulacan who turned over the biggest advance provincial donation amounting ₱27,000, which according to Alfonso Calalang, chairman of the advance gifts division, represents an oversubscription of the quota for Bulacan.

Earlier in the afternoon the President received Hiro Hiyama, managing director; R. Murofushi, general manager; and K. Nakanishi, supervisor, respectively, of the Marubeni-Iida Co., Ltd. The Japanese businessmen called at Malacañang to pay their respects.

The President today proclaimed 1961 as the “Visit Philippines—See Orient” year in a bid to increase the Philippines’ share of the world tourist trade in the jet age.

The President signed the proclamation on the eve of the departure of Commissioner Modesto Farolan of the Philippine Tourist and Travel Agency for New Zealand to attend the 9th annual meeting of the Pacific Areas Travel Association (PATA).

The President’s proclamation serves as an open invitation to millions of tourists from across the seas to visit the Philippines and enjoy the vacation spots, the cultural and historical attractions, and the unique travel experiences that the country and the Orient can offer.

In his proclamation the President underscored the need for promoting mutually beneficial relations among all countries and nations in order to bring about peace, security, and prosperity.

The President said that one way of achieving peace, security, and contentment is through encouragement of travel between countries.

To insure maximum satisfaction to foreign guests, the President called upon all government officials and agencies to cooperate in extending utmost courtesy and hospitality to tourists. The President also appealed to all business, civic, educational, cultural, religious, and labor groups to assist in the preparation of programs and activities to show the Philippines at her best, especially in the field of culture.

February 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received Al Tegan, president of General Public Utilities of New York, at Malacañang.

During his more than an hour call, the GPU executive told President Garcia that the “Filipino First” policy was fully justified and that the management of the MERALCO, a subsidiary of the GPU, was considering the widespread participation of Filipinos in the corporation.

Tegan told the President that the exploitation of oil in Cebu will appreciably lower the cost of fuel to change materially the picture of Philippine economy.

The President said he was optimistic about the economic picture because the report of the International Monetary Fund committee, which had made a survey of the Philippines some months ago, had been laudable and spoke pretty well of the Philippines.

This was confirmed by Tegan who said that this progress can be gauged by the increasing demand for electric current from the buying public.

Tegan extended an invitation to Filipino atomic scientists to visit the GPU atomic plant which is being set up in Pennsylvania to increase their technical know-how and keep abreast of developments in nuclear fission.

President Garcia received a limited number of callers this morning. He spent much of his time in his private study, going over pending papers brought over to him by Malacañang assistants. He also went over the agenda of the regular Cabinet meeting scheduled this afternoon.

The President convoked his Cabinet at 5:30 p.m.

THIS EVENING the President and the Cabinet began implementing the policy of transferring government enterprises to private parties when they decided to sell the Cebu Portland Cement Co. in Naga.

The firm was the first to be considered under this policy which was enunciated by President Garcia’s budget message to Congress early this month.

President Garcia told the Cabinet that the Naga cement factory, the main factory of the CEPOC, “has ceased to be a pioneering venture” and can be taken over by private capital.

After approving the sale, the President named a committee to appraise the value of the factory and set the conditions to govern the public bidding which will be held shortly.

The committee is composed of Juan O. Chioco, economic coordinator, as chairman, Labor Secretary Angel M. Castaño, National Economic Council Chairman Jose Locsin, a representative of the General Auditing Office, and a representative of the CEPOC board, as members.

The Cabinet also approved the sale of the Gonzalez estate in Baesa, Rizal, to tenants and other parties.

The estate of 971,982 square meters, was ordered expropriated by the Supreme Court. In the projected resale of the land, the Cabinet decided to give priority to present tenants, but likewise planned to spread the benefits by selling some to outside parties.

If the land is to be divided and sold to actual occupants only, each housing lot owner would get some 1,000 square meters, which would be too heavy for a low income family to purchase. It would also be contrary to the government policy of helping small-income groups, such as those already living as tenants on the estate.

February 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning asked provincial and municipal executives to launch a concerted information drive to make people bond-conscious in order to secure financing for local development projects.

In his talks with visiting local officials at Malacañang this morning, the President asked them to appeal to the people's civic spirit and to inform them of the benefits that will be derived, if they invest their money in bonds instead of in savings banks.

The President said that bonds earn four per cent interest while bank deposits earn only two and one-half per cent.

At the same time that they will be earning more, the President said, they will be helping the government to carry on development programs for their welfare.

"People should know," the President emphasized, "that bonds are as good as cash and can be discounted at the Central Bank any time the buyers need cash."

The President said that if a bond-market could be generated throughout the country, there would be less need for securing development loans from abroad.

He said the government would contribute moderate capital while the bond sales could furnish a steady capital for operating such projects as that envisioned to develop the ₱279 billion nickel deposits in Nonoc Island, Surigao.

Exasperated by reports that farmers in the Lanao provinces are facing difficulties owing to the destruction of their rice crops by rats, the President told Govs. Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur and Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte to take up with the secretary of agriculture and natural resources the problem of gradually exterminating the pest.

The President said that over ₱200,000 were spent for the control of rats in Mindanao last year, but there seemed to be no tangible results. He said he would be willing to raise more funds to control the pest because he was determined to see the self-sufficiency food drive succeed.

In his talks with callers the President also stressed his proposal to synchronize all elections by 1965, and to restore the senatorial districts through constitutional amendments.

Earlier in the morning the President had a long conference with Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr., over budgetary and financial matters.

Among those who called on the President this morning were Rep. Gerardo Roxas of Capiz and Roxas City Mayor Lorenzo Arnaldo, who paid their respects; Cabanatuan City Mayor Mario S. Garcia, who thanked the President for various community development projects in his city; Govs. Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte and Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur, who requested relief from rat infestation.

Rep. Reynaldo P. Honrado and Gov. Constantino C. Navarro of Surigao headed a delegation which requested early development of the Surigao nickel mines in Nonoc Island. With the delegation were Vice-Governor Recaredo B. Castillo, Board Members Montano B. Ortiz, Jr., Jose C. Sering, and Vicente Murillo; and Provincial Treasurer Panfilo Dunque.

The President today weakened the opposition ranks in Nueva Ecija when he administered the oaths of affiliation to the Nacionalista Party to 40 top leaders of that province, including a co-founder of the Liberal party, and the president of the Grand Alliance.

Speaking for the LP group, former Nueva Ecija Gov. Jose Robles, Jr., explained the reason for their defection. "We found out that your (President Garcia's) administration is leading our country to progress."

Robles was co-founder of the Liberal Party, together with the late President Roxas and former Senate President Jose Avelino.

Accompanied by Senator Quintin Paredes, the Grand Alliance defectees was led by Carlos Mañalac, president, and Juan Carambas, Liberal Party chairman and president of the barrio lieutenants' league.

Before their oath-taking, the President asked the defectees individually whether their act "came from the heart." He later welcomed them into the ranks of the Nacionalista Party.

The delegation, composed of political and civic leaders in their respective communities, included:

Delfin Rivera, Gualberto Corpus, Mariano Tomas, Igmidio Cachuela, Mariano Bumanlag, Victorio Cabanes, Sotero Domine, Emeterio Solis, Marcos Dano, Matias Timoteo, Hermeriegildo Gines, Pedro Jacobe, Fabian Palac, Pascual Caritativo, Dionisio Datawin, Fermin Domine, Nicolas Evangelista, Manuel Tejo, Domingo Estrella, Juan Castro, Mrs. Juliana de Fiesta; Mrs. Flordeliza Corpuz, Canuto Calina, Mrs. Carmen Verzola, Domingo Abalos, Alberto Cadorna, Merardo Musne, Hermogenes Cappal, Dominador Dolor, Juan Posadas, Sinfroso Delia, Maximo V. Dona, Marcelino Datuwin, Amado Pascual, Angel Manikis, Perfecto Gabanting, Enrique Mendoza, and Ricardo Robles.

IN the evening the President exchanged views with foreign students currently taking courses hi the University of the Philippines under Fulbright scholarship. Those who called on the President were Dr. James Storer, Mr. and Mrs. Oral Park, Larry Stifel, Jean Grozbolts, Majorie Storer, Shyriel onde, David Stenberg, and Mrs. John Kurtz.

Former Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez conferred with the President this evening and discussed the proposed establishment of the National Research Center to be financed by the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations.

Caltex officials also called on the Chief Executive. They were R. J. Monical, W. E. Menefee, R. R. Tillotson, R. E. Beasely, and J. P. Roxas.

February 19.—THIS MORNING the President received fresh encouragement in his fight for the economic independence of the Philippines from David E. Lilienthal, famous American industrialist and economist.

Mr. Lilienthal, who was the first chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and formerly of the vast Tennessee Valley Authority, is the house guest of the Republic Flour Mills. Together with Mrs. Lilienthal, Mr. Lilienthal was honored with a breakfast by the President in Malacañang.

Mr. Lilienthal said that he had gone around the country visiting the Ambuklao, Maria Cristina, and Binga hydroelectric power projects in the last two weeks;, and was amazed by the rapid industrialization of the country.

He said he had seen the painful efforts of the Filipino people to undertake the development of the country and added that it was a healthy sign that the people have come to realize that the economic wellbeing of their country depended on their own efforts.

The Lilienthals, who are leaving for Bangkok tomorrow, were accompanied to Malacañang by Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Sen. Pedro Sabido, Dr. and Mrs. Salvador Araneta, Mr. and Mrs. Alberto, Col. Jacinto Gavino and Lorenzo Alberto.

PRESIDENT Garcia this morning told the Korean Goodwill Mission to the Philippines that the Filipino people will remain true and loyal friends of the free people of Korea.

The President said that, like all free peoples the world over, the Filipinos have a stake in the preservation of the independence of that country which had been sanctified by the blood of Filipino soldiers spilled on Korean soil during the Communist invasion.

The Korean Goodwill Mission called on the President at Malacañang to express the gratitude of their country for the Philippines' contribution in the preservation of their independence, and to request an exchange of leaders in business, cultural, commercial, and industrial fields for the mutual benefit of the Philippines and Korea.

The Korean Goodwill Mission was headed by former Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Dong Jo Kim, and composed of Dr. Kyun Hee Tcha of the Ministry of Reconstruction and Kwang Soo Choi of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The missionaries were accompanied to Malacañang by Korean Ambassador to the Philippines Lincoln Kim and Assistant Protocol Officer Rod Nazareno of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The President also received Dr. Daniel Boorstin, American author, who is touring Southeast Asia to gather materials for a forthcoming book.

Dr. Boorstin was accompanied by J. C. F. Kasten, vice-president and managing director of Muller and Phipps.

Among the other callers who paid their respects were Rear Admiral Clifford C. Deford, chief of the U.S. Naval Dental Service, who is on an inspection trip in Sangley Point, Cavite, and Prof. Myers McDougal.

Admiral Deford was accompanied to Malacañang by U.S. Minister George Abbot, Dr. Dominador G. Santos, president of the Philippine Dental Association, Capt. Anthony K. Karis, and USN Lt. Commander R. E. Ricker.

Prof. McDougal was accompanied to Malacañang by Social Security System Commissioner Gonzalo Gonzalez; Josefina P. Ambrosio, president of the International Federation of Women Lawyers; Dean Jovito Salonga of the FEU law institute; D. B. Ambrosio, president of the Quezon City Bar Association; and Prof. Enrique Fernando.

The President later received Genaro Sarmiento, director of the National Development Company, who briefed him on the launching of the first vessels acquired from Japan by the Philippine Government under the Overseas Shipping Act.

A 12-man delegation also saw the President to protest in behalf of the Orraca Tenants' Association the lease of the government-owned Orraca building in Divisoria to a single person.

President Garcia today suspended Ruben Villaluz and Aurelio de Leon, chief and assistant chief, respectively, of the Motor Vehicles Office, pending their investigation on a four-point administrative complaint.

The Chief Executive announced the suspension of the two top MVO officials during the regular press conference in Malacañang this afternoon.

He said he will name an acting MVO chief next week to take over the administrative supervision of the office during the period of the suspension of the two officials.

The President suspended Villaluz and De Leon "to safeguard the hundreds of documents in that office which are vital pieces of evidence from being tampered with, destroyed, or hidden."

He said he also wanted to insure "freedom of testimony of subordinate employees and officials."

Villaluz and De Leon will be investigated by the Integrity Board of the Department of Public Works and Communications. The President, however, stated he was ready to name a "stronger presidential committee from other departments should "it be desired."

Villaluz and De Leon were charged administratively by Rep. Joaquin R. Roces, chairman of the House Committee on Good Government, in a letter sent to the President last January 28.

The President today upheld the deportation board's refusal to act on a motion of Theodore Lewin, American sports promoter, seeking permission to leave the country pending decision on his ouster case with that body.

At his regular press conference, the President said, "The point of the Deportation Board is well taken."

The Chief Executive said the authority to act on Lewin's petition to leave the country "is incumbent upon other government offices." The President, however, did not specify the offices.

The President had previously turned down Lewin's appeal to Malacañang seeking a reversal of the Deportation Board's resolution rejecting the American promoter's motion to dismiss the charges against him.

President Garcia presided over his regular press conference at the Council of State room, which made the newsmen feel they were Cabinet members in session. Cabinet meetings are held at the Council of State room in Malacañang.

For the second time, the President experimented on his new method of giving a press conference, by reading prepared answers to a few questions which had been submitted in writing a few hours earlier.

February 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning motored to the head quarters of the National intelligence Coordinating Agency in the Port Area and received his regular, periodic briefing on assessments of current local and foreign activities as it affects national security.

The President was briefed by Cols. Nicanor Jimenez and Rafael Ileta, director and senior staff member, respectively, of the NIC A. The briefing lasted from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The President woke up early this morning at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, where he had spent the night. After a light breakfast, he stayed at his private study where he read the morning newspapers and went over some state documents he had brought over from Malacañang.

About 9:30 a.m., the President boarded his car and motored to the NIC A headquarters in the Port Area. He was accompanied by Lieutenant Commander Melchor Fronda, naval aide.

Arriving at the headquarters shortly before 10 a.m., the President found Rep. Vicente L. Peralta of Sorsogon being briefed at the office of Col. Jimenez on latest evaluations on economic subversion. This briefing which also included the organization of the NICA had started at 8:30 a.m. Rep. Peralta is chairman of the House committee on civil service and member of the committee on economic affairs.

The briefing was forthwith suspended and the President invited the Bicol solon to sit in at his briefing.

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady motored to the Jose Rizal Memorial Stadium, where the President was guest speaker at the opening of the Bureau of Public Schools inter-scholastic athletic meet.

Later, at 6 p.m., the President was again guest speaker at the inauguration of the Philippine National Cooperative Bank at the Department of Commerce and Industry building in Port Area. He was accompanied to the affair by Mrs. Garcia.

The President was the principal speaker at the inauguration of the Philippine National Cooperative Bank and Mrs. Garcia cut the ceremonial ribbon.

In his speech this evening the President expressed the hope that the establishment of the Philippine National Cooperative Bank will prove that the Administration is bent on facilitating the acquisition of capital by Filipino retailers in order to give substance to its Filipino First policy.

The President stated that with the determination of the officials and employees of the bank and the full backing of the Administration, the new banking institution will become one of the biggest in the country in the future.

President and Mrs. Garcia were the first depositors of the bank, opening a joint account with PNCB teller Maria Carmen S. Roque.

The President was introduced by Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, president of the bank.

The PNCB is a cooperative enterprise. To give it an auspicious start, the Philippine Government has contributed an initial amount of ₱1,000,000 to its capital.

President Garcia today designated Manuel K. Torres as acting administrator of the Motor Vehicles Office, vice Ruben Villaluz, who was suspended yesterday by the Chief Executive.

Until his appointment to the MVO, Torres was head executive assistant in the office of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno. Born May 12, 1897 in Balayan, Batangas, he is an alumnus of the former Philippine School of Commerce and is a member of the bar, having passed it in 1925.

He has represented the Department of Public Works and Communications and the Philippines in several international conferences abroad and is also the department representative to the inter-departmental committee that studies bills passed by Congress before it is submitted to the President for consideration.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: February 21-27, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

February 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took steps to arrest the reported rising of prices of corn meal in corn-eating regions in, the Visayas as he directed the National Rice and Corn Corporation to purchase sufficient quantities of corn grain in Mindanao for immediate shipment to these regions.

The President this morning was disturbed by reports that the price, of corn meal had jumped to as much as ₱0.75 a ganta. The increase had been attributed to hoarding by unscrupulous merchants who sought to manipulate local prices by creating scarcity of the staple commodity.

Gen. Leoncio Tan, NARIC general manager, was directed to effect prompt acquisition of sufficient stocks for distribution in the affected areas, particularly in towns of Northern Cebu. The NARIC manager was also instructed to give priority in the distribution to workers and other low-income groups who cannot afford to pay high prices for the commodity.

The Chief Executive spent the day at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He did not receive any caller.

The President started the day by hearing mass said at his living room. After breakfast the President retired to his study where he went over the Sunday morning newspapers and some state documents he had brought along with him from Malacañang.

Shortly before noon, the President went to his playroom at the back of the house and played a few sets of billiards with some aides.

Later in the afternoon, after a brief rest, the President again retired to his study where he stayed the rest of the day.

February 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today hailed the decision of visiting members of the Japan Sugar Import and Export Council to support the demand of the Philippines for an increase of the sugar quota of the country for the world market.

The visiting Japanese council members who are at present in the Philippines on a survey trip to explore the possibility of buying more Philippine sugar, made known their decision in the course of a courtesy call on President Garcia this morning.

The Council is composed of Japanese importers and sugar refiners who annually import one million tons of sugar, with Taiwan and Cuba practically supplying the entire amount.

The Japanese callers informed President Garcia that their country imports only 15,000 tons of Philippine sugar. They unanimously endorsed the plan of the Chief Executive to ask for an increase of the world market sugar quota of the country from 45,000 to 300,000 tons.

The Philippine request for an increased world market sugar quota will be presented next year at the International Sugar Conference.

Council members who saw the President were Sotaro Yoshida, council chairman, Iwami Sato, Morihisa Emori, Ichiro Kashiwagi, Eitaro Moriya, Kyoichi Nakamura, Hajime Hayashi, Minoru Tanaka, Juntaro Adachi, Sozo Okuda, Yao Shen, Toshio Ikushe, and Kiyomi Nagatani.

They were accompanied to Malacañang by Ramon Nolan of the Philippine Federation of Sugarcane Planters, Eufemio Musa of the Philippine Sugar Association, and Aquiles J. Lopez of the Sugar Producers' Cooperative Marketing Association.

The President also received Harold Gomes, junior lightweight champion of the world, who is staking his title in March 16 at a local stadium against a leading Filipino contender, Flash Elorde. Gomes was accompanied by his manager, Frank Travesano, trainer Whitey Bimstein, and Jorge Araneta, Jose Avelino, Jr., and Joe Climanco.

Other callers included former U.S. Postmaster General James Farley, now chairman of the Board of Directors of the Coca-Cola Export Company, who was accompanied by Hal Roberts of the Far East Coca-Cola Export Company and Miguel Noel; Lord Tedder, former commander-in-chief of the allied air forces in Europe during World War II, who was accompanied by British Ambassador A. Pilcher; G. A. Leiper, general manager of the Chartered Bank of London; John Pipe of the Chartered Bank; former Secretary Mariano Garchitorena and Board Member Vicente Bonot of Camarines Sur; and Rep. Tobias Fornier of Antique.

This afternoon President Garcia sent a message of congratulations to Queen Elizabeth of the United Kingdom for the recent arrival of another prince to her majesty's royal family.

The telegram was handed this afternoon to Ambassador John Arthur Pilcher of the United Kingdom through the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The President also sent a message of congratulations to the officers-elect of the National Press Club headed by Ernesto O. Granada of the *Manila Chronicle*, who had been elected new president of the club last Sunday.

February 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia suffered from a slight case of indigestion and cancelled his scheduled appointments for today, mostly with congressmen and provincial governors.

The Chief Executive signed an executive order extending the prohibition to slaughter carabaos up to December 31, 1960, in order to preserve the country's work animals for agricultural purposes.

Permits to slaughter carabaos may, however, be issued by the provincial commander subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That the carabao is 20 years old or over;
- (b) That the carabao is unfit for work;
- (c) That the carabao must be inspected by the provincial veterinarian and the provincial commander, or their authorized representatives; and
- (d) That the provincial veterinarian and the provincial commander shall make a joint certification that the carabao is 20 years old or over and unfit for work.

The President experienced slight stomach pains. Upon examination by Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan, the President's personal physicians, his ailment was diagnosed as a slight case of indigestion. They ordered the Chief Executive to rest and cancelled his appointments for the day.

Among those scheduled to see President Garcia this morning were Sens. Domocao Alonto and Pacita M. Gonzalez, Reps. Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, Jose Nuguid of Bataan, Pedro A. Venida of Camarines Norte, Augusto Fancisco of Manila, Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, Faustiho Tobias of Ilocos Sur, Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, and Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan.

In the afternoon President Garcia was scheduled to meet Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella and Vice-Governor Nancy Sison, and Rep. Inocencio Ferrer with Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental.

Unable to see the Chief Executive, most of the solons and provincial executives sought out Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to whom they presented their problems, most of them pertaining to fund releases for their respective provinces and districts.

President Garcia spent the day in his room going over state papers. After partaking of a light supper early in the evening the President retired.

February 24.—THIS MORNING, the President honored Prince Dhani Nivat, former regent of the King of Thailand and president of the Thai Privy Council, at breakfast in Malacañang. Present at the breakfast were members of the diplomatic corps representing the SEATO member-nations congressional leaders and foreign affairs officials, and Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo.

Implementation of the order of Education Secretary Jose E. Romero which requires all fourth year high school students in public and private schools throughout the country to take examinations will be carried out next month as agreed upon at a conference called by President Garcia this morning.

Present at the conference were Education Secretary Romero and ranking members of the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities and the Catholic Education Association of the Philippines.

After a frank exchange of views and the withdrawal of some objectionable features of the order, the PACU and CEAP officials interposed no further objection to the implementation of the order.

Secretary Romero stated that the required examination to be given by his department will be used as (1) basis for determining the efficiency of instruction and the promotional standard of the schools; (2) for diagnosing by the department of students' weaknesses in each subject; (3) for the purpose of classifying schools for the information of the public; and (4) for taking appropriate action against the authority of a school to operate the course.

The Education head allayed the fears expressed by some conferees that his order will ultimately lead to control by the government of the curricula, textbooks, and syllabi of all private schools which they claimed was "derogatory to democratic principles."

Present at the conference were Pablo Meer, acting president, PACU; Dean Feliciano J. Ledesma, CEAP president; Francisco Dalupan, University of the East president; Domingo Jocson, National University president; and Norberto Ramos, representing the University of Sto. Tomas; Ramon Recio, representing the Far Eastern University; and Amado Dizon, PACU,

In the afternoon the President presided over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

Later in the evening he honored at dinner members of the provincial governors and city mayors league currently on the three-day convention at the G.S.I.S. building in Manila.

During the affair the President inducted the new officers of the league elected on the opening day of the convention this morning.

THIS AFTERNOON the President gave the Cabinet technical committee on the projected establishment of an integrated steel mill the go-signal to accept bids from private sectors which are willing to enter into the venture on a partnership basis with the government.

Title go-signal was given following approval by the Cabinet of the committee report, containing guiding principles under which all proposals should be submitted for a final selection as to who among the bidders may be awarded the private participation in the financing and implementation of the project.

Among the bases of the joint venture are:

(1) The government shall initially own 51 *per cent* of the capital stock and the private sector the remaining 49 per cent, with management left to the private sector and the government interfering only when the public interest so requires;

- (2) The joint venture shall have an authorized capital of about ₱120 million;
- (3) The government shall invest in the project through the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation, with the present assets of its Iligan Steel Mill Operations to be turned over to the new corporation at a mutually acceptable price, which shall form part of the government 51 per cent share in the equity capital;
- (4) The government shall provide the necessary peso financing for the power requirements of the Steel Mill project;
- (5) A pre-incorporation agreement embodying the terms and conditions under which the joint venture shall operate shall be drawn up, in the formulation of which the private groups will be given opportunity to offer suggestions; and
- (6) Incentives such as tax exemptions, control of competitive imports, and priority in raw materials shall be extended to the corporation, consistent with existing laws and regulations.

The integrated steel mill as planned by the NASSCO will have an initial annual capacity of 245,000 metric tons of finished products, estimated to be worth \$43 million. When the capacity reaches 400,000 tons, the gross income will be about \$57.8 million.

President Garcia ordered this afternoon the prosecution of a private person for falsification of public document and the taking of disciplinary action against two NAMARCO officials for negligence in connection with the illegal allocation of flour.

The order was issued upon recommendation made by Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo of the Presidential Committee on Performance Efficiency contained in a memorandum sent to the Chief Executive this morning.

The alleged fraud involves the amount of ₱61,395.60 representing allocation in excess allowed by law made as a result of misrepresentation by a certain bakery association president from Batangas.

It was discovered by a PCAPE team sent to the NAMARCO upon instructions of President Garcia to intensify the campaign against "ghost firms" which are obtaining dollar allocations to the prejudice of legitimate business firms.

The case was discovered when the PCAPE agents conducted an investigation on the allocation of 166,000 bags impounded by customs authorities. The bags of flour of 50 pounds each were placed under the control of the NAMARCO which was given the right to allocate the same to bakeries.

THIS EVENING the President mobilized provincial and municipal executives to join him in his anti-graft campaign in order to bring about good government.

Speaking extemporaneously during the formal dinner in the Malacañang state dining hall given in their honor, the President emphasized the vital role of the provincial and municipal executives in the anti-graft campaign.

He pointed out that these executives know their respective localities more than anyone else and that their all-out cooperation would spell success of the campaign.

The President said he had thrown the weight of the entire government machinery behind this drive, mentioning in particular the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency and the National Bureau of Investigation.

President Garcia also:

1. Sought the all-out cooperation of the governors and mayors to the Administration-sponsored campaign against illegal and indiscriminate cutting of timber which is threatening to wipe out our forests and to turn the fertile countrysides into barren wasteland;
2. Solicited the assistance of the governors and mayors to the current campaign to sell bonds in order to finance principally vital public works projects;
3. Asked for the support and indorsement of the governors and mayors to his proposal to Congress for the adoption of six constitutional amendments during the current regular session; and
4. Sought the cooperation of governors and mayors in the Administration's program for increased tax collection, emphasizing that the needs of the national government have increased.

President Garcia recited the record of his administration on the anti-graft campaign, pointing out that at the close of 1959, a total of 12,233 cases of corruption in office had been investigated of which about 50 per cent were decided and 4,024 respondents found guilty.

He emphasized that this record cannot be surpassed by previous administrations. The sincerity with which the campaign is being conducted has brought about the dismissal of top government officials. He mentioned his action on the cases of Isidro Ang-Angco, who was considered resigned as collector of customs for the port of Manila, and Constancio Trias, who was considered resigned as chairman of the special inquiry of the Bureau of Immigration.

The Chief Executive also gave the governors and mayors a preview of his legislative program wherein he asked Congress for the creation of a graft-busting commission empowered to conduct investigations of all cases of graft and corruption in all government offices, and to bring such cases before the courts of justice for prosecution.

He also recalled that Cabinet members were recently directed by him to redouble their efforts in purging their respective offices of grafters and crooks. A progress report will be submitted quarterly by the Cabinet members, he stated.

In warning provincial and municipal executives against the dangers of illegal and indiscriminate cutting of timber, President Garcia pointed out that he had mobilized the resources of four government agencies to conduct an all-out war against this dangerous practice. Mentioned were the Departments of National Defense, Finance, and Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the PCAPE.

February 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia today was presented with a resolution approved by Nacionalista provincial and city executives asking that the national directorate of the majority party be called to a meeting in order to discuss the proposed constitutional amendments now being considered by Congress.

In proposing the meeting of the NP national directorate, the Nacionalista governors and city mayors alleged that it is imperative that their views be also heard.

The resolution was presented to President Garcia by Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon, vice-chairman of the League of Governors and City Mayors, at the luncheon tendered by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., in honor of the officials and members of the league at the Manila Hotel.

Earlier this morning President Garcia received a pledge of support to the proposed constitutional amendment providing for the election of senators by district. The pledge was given in Malacañang by a newly-formed group of Bicol congressmen and provincial governors led by Rep. Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon.

The Bicol group also pledged their personal loyalty to the President. Nacionalista solons who composed the Bicol group were, aside from Rep. Peralta, Reps. Justino Nuyda of Albay, Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon, Jose Fuentebella and Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, and Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte.

Kenneth N. Cundall, president of the International Bitumen Emulsions Corporation, also called on President Garcia to inform him of the operation beginning next year of a Stanvac asphalt plant here.

The new dollar-saving plant will produce asphalt in time for the next dry season, utilizing the newest technology developed by American know-how. Cundall also informed President Garcia that the Philippines will be the first country outside the United States to utilize the new asphalt technology.

Cundall was accompanied by Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno; Cliff M. Wimberly, Far East representative of IBEC; Raul S. Zamora, Stanvac assistant to the general sales manager; Benjamin Tambunting; and Maj. Arturo D. Sevilla.

Other callers this morning included Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castaneda, Reps. Jose Aldeguer and Justmiano S. Montano, who discussed with the President several proposed legislative measures; Rep. Francisco Ortega and several municipal officials of La Union who discussed local problems; and Reps. Jacobo Gonzales and Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, who headed big delegations from their respective districts.

After receiving scheduled callers at his study in Malacañang, the President motored to the Manila Hotel about 12:30 p.m. to attend the luncheon given by Senate President Rodriguez in honor of the governors and city mayors who are now in the second day of their three-day convention at the GSIS building in Manila.

The Chief Executive returned to Malacañang about 2:30 p.m.

The President today created a committee to investigate the charges leveled by the House committee on good government for alleged anomalies in the Motor Vehicles Office.

The committee is composed of Justice Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez, chairman; and Assistant Postmaster General Belarmino P. Navarro, representing the Department of Public Works and Communications, and Leureano Ferrer of the General Auditing Office, members.

The President recently suspended MVO Chief Ruben Villaluz and Assistant Chief Aurelio de Leon as a result of the charges.

The committee is vested with all the powers of an investigating body, including the power to summon witnesses, to administer oaths, and to take testimony or evidence relevant to the case.

February 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning served notice to electric plant owners that he will never allow higher electric rates, especially in the provinces, in view of a widespread complaint of consumers against the “already high rates.”

The President disclosed that he has received a constant stream of letters from consumers and even resolutions from provincial boards and municipal councils complaining against the high rates and recommending that the franchise of the electric companies concerned be revoked.

The Chief Executive made known his stand at a conference with members of the Philippine Electric Plant Owners Association led by Gonzalo Abaya at Malacañang.

The plant owners pointed out that the electric rates as approved by the Public Service Commission are practically the same as the pre-war rates in spite of the fact that fuel, lubricating oil, skilled labor, and spare parts have increased in prices from 200 to 400 per cent.

President Garcia told the plant owners to exert efforts to reduce their cost of production. However, he agreed in principle to their petition that they be allowed to requisition capital goods from reparations.

The President also favored the grant of more liberal credit facilities to the electric power industry which represents an investment of about ₱64 million wholly Filipino.

The electric plant owners alleged that the increasing cost of raw materials like fuel, as well as of capital goods like engines, wires, and transformers, is a serious threat to the stability of the industry and are retarding the expansion and modernization of private power plants.

Other members of the association who accompanied Abaya were Victoriano Yenko, Agustin Caseñas, Salvador Sala, Antonio Castillejos, Jose Sanvictores, Jr., Bienvenido Cabrera, and Ponciano Angara.

Jose S. Rodriguez, president of the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines, led prominent members of the association who asked President Garcia for the release of about ₱5 million which represents the counterpart fund that the government is required by law to contribute to the capital of rural banks.

The rural bankers pointed out that under the Reparations Law, the rural banks are entitled to receive from its economic funds the sum of ₱20 million. They requested that ₱5 million be made available from the funds for distribution to the rural banks.

Other members of the bankers' group were Jose Desiderio, Nestor Jalandoni, Ceferino Eugenio, Virgilio Garcia, Alfonso Tabora, Ernesto Villareal, Jose Platon, Godofredo Monxisinis, Dr. Procopio Reyes, and Sergio R. Ortiz.

Members of the Philippine delegation to the International Telecommunication Union conference to be held soon in Geneva also called on President Garcia to receive last-minute instructions and to brief him on the agenda of the conference. The delegates are Telecommunications Director Juan Alfonso, chief delegate; and Guillermo Canon, Francisco Trinidad, Lt. Col. Angelo P. B. Frago, and Max D. Atienza, members.

The President inducted the following officials of National Association of Government Public Relations Office of the Philippine (NAGPROP): Domingo Garcia, president; Ben Alcantara, vice-president; Ramon Romero, Jr., executive secretary; Leandro S. Pelayo, treasurer; Virgilio Santos Cruz, business manager; Salvador Elizalde, PRO; Lt. Col. Luciano Gunabe, auditor; Isidoro Concon, liaison officer; and Froilan Bacuñgan, Esmeraldo de Leon, and Jose Tumbokon, directors.

THIS evening the President said he will call Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno shortly to explain reported charges of an \$8 million "windfall in kickbacks and overpricing" in the financing of the ₱108 million Marikina multi-purpose project.

Disturbed by reports of a simultaneous inquiry poised by separate committee in both chambers of Congress, the President told newsmen at his regular press conference this afternoon that he was expecting "Secretary Moreno to state his side."

"Should he keep silent," the President added, "I would require him to make a statement of his side."

The President denied official knowledge of the charges aired the other day by Rep. Raquiza, who accused the Cabinet member of pulling out a suspicious deal in connection with the financing of the Marikina dam.

However, shortly after the press conference, Sen. Roseller T. Lim, chairman of the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee, which is one of the bodies probing the Marikina dam financing, called on the Chief Executive presumably to report on the development in the Senate.

It was indicated that the President pledged his cooperation with the Congressional inquiries being poised against the Cabinet member in connection with the Marikina project.

The President said he was not yet prepared to answer the question as to whether or not he would allow Secretary Moreno to appear before the congressional committees.

“I will have to reserve my opinion on the matter, depending on how the resolution of Congress will be worded. It is of course my general policy,” he pointed out, “to cooperate with congressional investigations.”

During the press conference, the President:

1. Branded as “unfair” plans to deduct the \$24 million Philippine loan from the proposed \$73 million war damage claims of the country with the U.S. Government;
2. Stood pat on his decision in relieving Isidro C. Ang-Angco as collector of customs, saying that his verdict was final;
3. Indicated he was still going over the records of cases of fake officers in the Armed Forces, including that of Lcdr. Marcelino Calinawan; and
4. Favored any plan of redistricting the country as long as senators are elected by districts in his proposed amendments to the Constitution.

Sen. Lim, Blue Ribbon Committee chairman, this evening conferred with the President presumably on the Marikina dam case which his committee would probe beginning Monday.

It was believed that Lim appraised the Chief Executive on the report which had been furnished the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee denouncing Moreno’s allegedly irregular actuations in the dam project.

Spurred by the Raquiza expose, the Lower Chamber had constituted a committee to investigate formally the solon’s charges.

The President also conferred with Reparations Commissioner Juan Alberto, who pressed his resignation from the body. The President, however, counseled the commissioner to stay on his job, and directed him to adopt safeguards to prevent the overpricing of reparations materials.

This could be done, the President told Alberto, by inserting a provision in the contract allowing government auditors to investigate the cost of production of reparations items.

President Garcia also received the members of the Philippine Association of Assessing Officers headed by Jose R. Collante.

February 27.—REITERATING his standing policy that “people who have less in life should have more in law,” President Garcia ordered today Apolonio S. Padua to resign from office as justice of the peace of San Mateo, Isabela.

The President ordered Padua to resign on the basis of an administrative case filed against the latter by two poor tenants who had failed to deliver the share of their landlord in their crops.

Complainants Celestino and Arcadio Mercurio of San Mateo alleged that for this failure, the landlord filed with the JP a case for estafa against them, as a result of which they were summarily arrested and thrown into jail.

Investigation of the case revealed that the JP had committed an error in law when he ordered the arrest of the tenants without first summoning witnesses and ascertaining the existence of estafa.

Moreover, report of the secretary of justice said the tenants could not have been guilty of estafa under the Revised Administrative Code, for the alleged violation was merely that of a tenancy contract, and at most the tenants' liability was only civil in nature.

In ordering involuntary resignation, the President said the acts of the respondent justice of the peace were so serious and the consequences so grievous as to deserve more than mere warning or suspension.

Besides, the President said, such actuations were hardly in line with the policy of giving people who have less in life more in law.

At noon today the President underlined seven guiding policies in accelerating the pace of the industrialization and economic development program of his administration, in his speech at the testimonial luncheon held at the Manila Hotel on the occasion of the final plenary session of the 7th National Convention of Manufacturers and Producers.

The President was introduced by Fernando E. V. Sison, PCI president.

Special guests of the occasion were Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, General Services Undersecretary Serafin Salvador, Rep. Jose Roy, and leading businessmen.

The President spent the morning writing his speech at his Quezon City residence with only Conrado Montales, a stenographer, assisting him.

About 11:30 a.m., the President was fetched from his residence by Sison and Teofilo Reyes, Jr., first vice-president of the PCI and chairman of the convention. He arrived at the Manila Hotel about 12 noon.

The President spent the afternoon at his Bohol Avenue residence, where he worked on some papers he brought with him from Malacañang.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: February 28- March 5, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

February 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia gave another indication of his concern for the rapid development of the nation's cottage industries as he directed the Reparations Commission this day to grant cottage industries a bigger share in the allocation of reparations goods from Japan.

In a conference with Reparations Commissioner Juan Alberto at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this afternoon, the President expressed his desire to see cottage industries equipped with needed machinery to increase their output and facilitate their expansion.

The President pointed out the potentialities of these small enterprises as a means of easing up the nation's unemployment problem, of improving the living standards of people in the rural areas, and of saving dollars for the country.

He asked Alberto to transmit his thinking to the commission, particularly his desire to formulate a plan whereby the cottage industries could be allocated at least \$7.5 million worth of reparations machinery every year.

The President spent the day at his Quezon City residence. Waking up early this morning, the Chief Executive started the day by hearing mass at the living room of his home. Also at the mass were Mrs. Garcia, Maj. Ciriaco Hocson, junior aide, and members of the household staff.

In the evening, the President was guest of honor at the annual Gridiron Dinner given by the National Press Club of the Philippines at the social deck of the NPC building.

The President was fetched from his residence in Quezon City by Ernesto O. Granada and Johnny Perez, Jr., incoming and outgoing presidents of the NPC, and by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

President Garcia hailed the Philippine press for its efforts to report the truth, and expressed the hope that this trend would pave the way for a new epoch in journalism in this country.

The President addresses the big crowd that attended the annual gridiron dinner at the National Press Club after inducting the new NPC officers headed by Ernesto O. Granada, columnist and editorial writer of the *Manila Chronicle*.

He said he has observed that newspapermen have "kept faith with their responsibility to the country." However, he pictured newspapermen as "happy-go-lucky."

The installation ceremony followed the traditional Gridiron dinner during which off-the-record comedy skits "roasting" the President and other high government officials were presented by members of the NPC.

The President was roasted anew at the traditionally "acidic" Gridiron Dinner of the National Press Club. He, however, took the remarks directed against him in stride and managed to smile to show his sportsmanship.

He had previously shunned Gridiron dinners, having been lampooned by Time magazine on an off-the-record skit which was shown in a similar occasion two years ago.

The President motored to the NPC shortly after 8 o'clock this evening, prepared for the worst.

February 29.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this morning led the nation in commemorating the death anniversary of the late President Elpidio Quirino.

Early in the morning the President and the First Lady attended a requiem mass for the late Chief Executive at the San Antonio Catholic Church in Forbes Park.

President Garcia later laid a wreath at the tomb of President Quirino in the Manila South Cemetery.

After the wreath-taking ceremony, the President and the First Lady spent a few solemn minutes in silent prayer for the dead while the local parish priest intoned his blessings during the commemoration rites.

Also present were Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Mr. and Mrs. Chito Gonzalez and Mr. and Mrs. Tomas Quirino, ex-Governor Eliseo Quirino, Judge Antonio Quirino, and close relatives and friends of the late President.

Earlier the President ordered the Presidential Guard Battalion to mount an honor guard at the tomb. He had declared February 29 a special public holiday in Ilocos Sur to afford the people of that province the opportunity to commemorate fittingly the death anniversary of their favorite son.

From Makati the President motored to his residence in Quezon City, where he received a big group of governors and city mayors who had just ended their three-day convention in Manila. They paid their respects to the President.

The provincial and municipal officials also discussed local problems with the Chief Executive until past one o'clock in the afternoon. The President said he would receive the provincial and city executives next week to discuss unfinished business.

Among those who called on the President were Govs. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, Delfin Montano of Cavite Bado Dangwa of Mountain Province and Baguio City Mayor Luis Lardizabal, Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Fernando Veloso of Samar, Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur, Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, D. O. Plaza of Agusan, Constantino Navarro and Rep. Reynaldo P. Honrado of Surigao, Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental, together with Li. Gov. Jose Neri of Camiguin and Cagayan de Oro Mayor Justiniano Borja, and Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto.

In the afternoon the President received at his private residence the new officers of the American Chamber of Commerce. They were Richard Pockmire, Paul Wood, Stanley Fischer, Robert Monical, Harry Ritz Miller, and Washington Sycip.

In that evening the President received Secretary of Public Works Florencio Moreno, who had been charged by Rep. Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte with stage-managing the Marikina dam project. During the conference Moreno handed a 15-page report justifying his actions.

March 1.—EARLY this morning the President had breakfast at his Bohol Avenue residence with Rep Ramon Durano of Cebu, ACCFA Director Celestino Pauline, and Major Roso Sabalones, military attache at the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D. C.

After breakfast the President motored to Malacañang and received his callers from 10 o'clock to past, one o'clock in the afternoon.

Among the callers were Reps. Lamberto Marias and Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, accompanied by Governor Mariano F. Perdices and Dumaguete Mayor Jose Teves; Rep. Jose Nuguid of Bataan, accompanied by Mayors Artemio Saldaña of Samal and Emilio Bernabe of Balanga; Rep. Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental; and Mayor Sofronio Carmona of San Carlos.

Officials of the Conference Delegates Association of the Philippines also called to pledge their support to the Filipino First Policy.

The CONDA officials were Titong Imperial, president; Andres Reyes, vice-chairman of the press bureau; Silas Laurio, PRO; Epifanio Jacosalem, co-president, PLS; Alfredo Uy, chairman of the press bureau; and Ben Atienza, director of the internal affairs bureau.

President Garcia today summoned Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas to a conference in Malacañang to discuss ways of putting a stop to copra smuggling in Balabac, Palawan.

In another directive the President instructed Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag to expedite trial of the alleged killers of the late Mayor Vicente Formoso of Vigan, who was murdered in 1958.

The conference with Capapas which is scheduled at 5 o'clock tomorrow afternoon, is prompted by the request of Rep. Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan and Balabac Mayor T. Aban, who informed the Chief Executive that the rampant smuggling activities had wiped out the small producers resulting in the loss of an estimated ₱70,000 in revenues from copra export permits.

The President told Rep. Abordo that he was well posted on the smuggling activities and that adequate remedies will be applied at the proper time depending on the recommendations of the investigating agencies.

The President directed Secretary Mabanag to expedite the case of the late Mayor Formoso upon petition of Mayor Lorenzo Formoso, Jr., who was elected in the last elections to succeed his late father, and Rep. Faustino Tobia and Gov. Godofredo S. Reyes of Ilocos Sur.

The late Vigan mayor was allegedly murdered in 1958 in front of the Constabulary barracks in Vigan, but until the present his killers have not been brought to trial.

Earlier the President had a closed door conference with Sen. Quintin Paredes on administration sponsored bills, particularly the creation of the Anti-Graft Commission and the Information Department.

Samuel Desch, vice-president of Pepsi-Cola International, accompanied by Sen. Pedro Sabido, paid his respects and congratulated the President for his seven-point program of industrialization which, he said, strengthened the confidence; of foreign capitalists and investors in the Philippines.

March 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia today approved a temporary and conditional extension of only four months of the air transport agreement between the United States and the Philippines.

A presidential statement was issued after a conference held before the weekly Cabinet meeting today, wherein top officials attended, among them Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, Philippine Air Lines President Andres Soriano, PAL Executive Vice-President Daniel Me. Gomez, PAL, Executive Rafael Ygao, and Minister Juan Arreglado.

The President was informed that formal negotiations had been underway with the United States Government without success from 1950 to 1957, during which time four missions were sent to the U. S.

The President expressed his desire to have this negotiation concluded before the expiration of the deadline four months from tomorrow.

The full text of the President's statement follows:

"In a conference between the President, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and the management of the Philippine Air Lines, it has been agreed, in view of the termination of the Air Transport Agreement between the United States and the Philippines March 3 that a new air transport agreement be negotiated between the Philippines and the United States governments with the view to concluding the negotiations in four months from the date of termination.

“During the interregnum of four months, the American airlines may apply for temporary permit to continue their operations, to the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB). The line operating under special franchise will continue their operation for the duration of and within the terms of franchise.

“The negotiations for the revision of the U.S.-P.I. Air Transport agreement had been going on from 1950 to the end of 1957, without concrete success having been achieved. During this period four missions had been sent to the United States for the negotiations. After such a long and unfruitful negotiations, it was believed necessary that the new agreement if at all concluded, should be achieved in four months time.

“It was of course assumed that after the termination tomorrow (March 3) of this agreement, the other international air services will continue in operation to maintain on even keel air services between the Philippines and the rest of the world.”

From the Cabinet meeting the President proceeded to Tutuban railroad station and left for Damortis at exactly 1 o'clock, arriving at the destination at 5:30 p.m. From Damortis the President motored to Baguio, arriving there a little before 7 o'clock in the evening.

The President was accompanied by the First Lady, Rep. Ramon Mitra of Mt. Province, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, and newsmen covering Malacañang.

At the city gate the President was welcomed by a big delegation of officials headed by Gov. Bado Dangwa and City Mayor Luis Lardizabal. The President is scheduled to address the Filipino businessmen at the Pines Hotel at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

THE Cabinet this noon approved a proposed administrative measure revising the new civil service law to nip nepotism completely and place department secretaries in a stronger position to curb irregularities in their respective offices.

President Garcia told newsmen the new civil service bill would expedite administrative investigations and prevent insubordination by lower officers.

In a brief news interview, the Chief Executive:

1. Announced the extension of the Philippine-United States air transportation agreement by four months from tomorrow which is the date of expiration of the present bilateral pact;
2. Said he would order the servicing and improvement of facilities in the Manila International Airport to accommodate jet planes; and
3. Announced relief measures for fire victims in Tondo. President Garcia met the Cabinet in Manila shortly before boarding the train for Baguio. During the meeting, the President and Cabinet members approved a plan drafted by a committee headed by Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag revising the civil service law Congress passed last year but the effectivity of which was suspended, as rules and regulations for its enforcement could not be drafted.

Under the proposed revision department secretaries would be authorized to decide administrative cases while bureau directors and division chiefs would hear cases of men under them.

Decisions of Cabinet members, however, are appealable to the Civil Service Commission which will be composed of commissioner and two deputy commissioners.

A conflict over the decision of the Commission and department secretaries will be decided by the President.

Another provision in the proposed measure is the banning of the appointment of a member of the family of an employee in the same office. This would curb nepotism in the public service.

Members of the Mabanag body are Education Secretary Jose Romero and Budget Commissioner Faustino Sychangco.

President Garcia said the Philippine Air Lines has started negotiations for the purchase of new planes, including two or three *Fokker Friendship* aircrafts.

He also said the government started the purchase of land for the use of the extended MIA to accommodate jet landings.

President Garcia said the Philippine Government will give mail service exclusively to PAL for foreign countries touched by the local airline.

March 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning assured well-meaning friends abroad of fair and hospitable treatment but at the same time warned those who try to undermine the major economic policies of the country of sure and swift justice.

Speaking before some 500 Filipino businessmen at their 6th annual contention at the Pines Hotel, Baguio, the President told foreign capitalists to attune themselves to the changing mental and moral attitudes of Filipinos because the imperatives of economic survival “have brought us to a point “where we can no longer tolerate alien domination of our economy.”

The President thanked the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines and that of Baguio which are jointly sponsoring the convention for spearheading the “Filipino First movement, which, he said, is bound to succeed because it has found general acceptance here and abroad, the detractors and critics of the Administration notwithstanding.

In his much-applauded speech, the President cited facts and figures as well as reports of the International Monetary Fund Commission and the U. S. Department of Commerce as very encouraging signs that the resurgent Filipino spirit of nationalism cannot but succeed.

After his speech the President was presented with a *camagong* shirt by J. and R. Shirt Manufacturing Co., producers of the typical Filipino national wear.

Also present at the convention were Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim; Rep. Rabon V. Mitra of Mt. Province; NAMARCO General Manager and CCP president Marcelo S. Balatbat; CCP Chairman Jose Y. Orosa, president; Cecilio D. Cid, president, Baguio Chamber of Commerce; Baguio City Mayor Luis Lardizabal; convention officials Primitivo Lovina, Domingo C. Abadilla, Ramon V. del Rosario, Ben R. Medrano, Juan J. Carlos, H. R. Reyes; and prominent businessmen from all over the country.

Early this morning the President and the First Lady heard mass at the Guest House. After hearing mass the President went over the final draft of his speech. He ate his breakfast at past 10:00 o'clock.

At 10:30 the President, accompanied by officials of the convention, motored to the Pines Hotel to deliver the main address. He returned to the Guest House a little past noon.

IN THE EVENING the President received Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella and Mayors Hilarion Romero of Ozamiz City, Cesar Dunsalagun of Plaridel, Liberato Bacayo of Aluran, Patricio Atay of Calamba, and Jose Ochape of Clarin, Misamis Occidental.

Gov. Estrella came to ask for fund releases for irrigation projects, and discussed problems concerning his province, while the Misamis Occidental Mayors requested the conversion of military reservation proclaimed by the President

for the city hall of Ozamis City into a warehouse and asked for funds for the improvement of athletic facilities in preparation for the Mindanao meet in 1961.

March 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia today predicted the early realization of the vast industrialization program of the country with the completion of the Binga Hydro-electric project in northern Luzon.

The President after an early conference with Rep. Ramon V. Mitra of Mt. Province and Juan J. Carlos, president and general manager of the Philippine Engineering Syndicate, which directed the Binga plant, decided to make an on-the-spot inspection of the project early tomorrow morning.

The President decided to see for himself the extent of deforestation areas because of reports he had been receiving, especially from the PCAPE and the Armed Forces, on the slackening of the water power running the Ambuklao and other hydro-electric projects owing to widespread deforestation.

The President expressed great concern over this report because of the harmful effects on the budding industrialization program and rural electrification. He also expressed fear that the people may be faced with floods and draughts in the near future should this practice continue.

The President said he is determined to push through his rural electrification program to cover every barrio in order to promote cottage industry to afford every family a decent income.

The Binga Hydro-electric project was the first project of such magnitude to be started and completed by one administration, thanks to the capability and ingenuity of Filipino engineers composing the Philippine Engineering Syndicate.

The Binga plan, according to Juan J. Carlos, has already generated roughly 50,000 kw of power since December last year and is expected to generate another 50,000 kw this month.

The President told Congressmen Mitra and Carlos that an intensive drive against timber smugglers and illegal logger is being waged by four departments of the government—the Departments of National Defense, Finance, and Agriculture, and the PCAPE.

The President had breakfast with Carlos at the Guest House. During the breakfast he congratulated Silvino Caparas of the *Daily Mirror*, who was celebrating his birthday.

The President gave Caparas a birthday cake and the First Lady gave him a bouquet of roses.

After breakfast the President and the First Lady, accompanied by Rep. Mitra and Carlos, strolled around the Mansion House and took a brief rest at the picnic grove.

The President is expected to get a briefing from Justice Buenaventura Ocampo and Max Maceren, chairman and vice-chairman of the PCAPE, respectively.

This morning the President ordered the suspension of Commissioner Miguel T. Valera of the Agricultural Tenancy Commission pending investigation of the charges leveled against him by Rep. Marcelino R. Veloso.

Eleven separate charges against Valera were received and investigated by the PCAPE last month,

According to Rosalino Abaya, assistant PCAPE chief investigator, of the 11 charges against Valera, four so far could be substantiated by strong evidence while the others are being looked into by the committee.

This evening the President expressed satisfaction over the progress of his anti-graft drive which is being launched by the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE).

The President told Justice Ocampo, chairman of the PCAPE, and other officials, that the increasing concern being shown by the public in the prosecution of crooks and graters is sufficient reason to press the drive with greater vigor.

After his three-hour briefing which was conducted by Justice Ocampo, Vice-Chairman Max A. Maceren, Majors Teodulo Natividad, and Federico Salcedo, PCAPE investigation and intelligence chiefs, respectively, the President gave the PCAPE the power to summon witnesses take testimonies, and administer oaths in order to be more effective.

The President expressed hope that the Congress will approve an increased appropriation for the Office in accordance with his recommendations.

March 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today hailed the completion of the Binga Hydro-electric project as a definite manifestation of the high degree of skill and proficiency that Filipino planners and engineers have attained. He predicted that the 100,000 kilowatts power project would be a tremendous boost to Philippine industries generated by the housing project that is equal Situated at the foot of the giant spillway which drains

The Binga project, which was completed three months ahead of schedule by the Philippine Engineering Syndicate, cost the government ₱105 million.

David Lilienthal, former chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Atomic Energy Commission, had told the President a month ago ‘ that the Binga project was a feat the Philippines or any other country could well be proud of. The President said he was happy to see that Binga proved Dr. Lilienthal’s opinion right.

Binga boasts of a Marian village, a modern housing project that is equal if not better than any housing project in the country

It is complete with chapel, dispensary, intermediate school, supermarket, playgrounds, bakery, and laborers quarters hills, the village is a safe distance from the giant spillway which drains excess water to prevent floods.

President Garcia left the Guest House, accompanied by Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Secretary Serafin Salvador, Rep. Ramon Mitra, INPC General Manager and Chairman Filemon Zablan, and Juan J. Carlos, president of PES, at a little past 9 a.m. After traveling 30 kilometers over dusty and bumpy road which kept winding at every turn, the party arrived at Binga at exactly 10 a.m.

The President proceeded to St. Ignatius chapel and then to the administration building for briefing by Secretary Moreno and Zablan. Then the t party proceeded on an observation tour to the spillway.

After a light snack and press interview, the party left Binga at 11:30 a.m. The party was delayed by loose gravel being laid by workmen repairing the road, and the President had to take another car. He arrived at the Mansion House past 1 p.m.

The President was scheduled to receive Secretary Salvador and confer with top economists.

President Garcia today said he will continue to draw from the ranks of highly qualified men to fill key positions in government corporations to insure the success of his program of economic development.

During a two-hour bull session with business leaders of the country, the President also announced that the stringent credit restrictions instituted two years ago during critical times may now be relaxed to some extent to encourage production.

The President recalled that he had been severely criticized for not having a permanent economic program.

He said he and his top economic and fiscal advisers had adopted a dynamic and flexible economic policy so that changing conditions can be met with a pliable policy because what may be true today may not be the situation two or three years later.

During his conference with business leaders, at which his top economic advisers were also present, the President conducted a frank and realistic discussion of the overall economic situation with both government and private sectors.

Among the topics discussed were:

- (1) More vigorous prosecution of “Filipino First” policy;
- (2) Relaxation of credit restrictions to induce production;
- (3) Philippine participation in the Marikina dam project;
- (4) Adverse effects of capital and credit lack on retail trading and industry;
- (5) Protective tariff to assist local industries;
- (6) Abolition of capital gains tax;
- (7) Private participation in low cost housing program; and
- (8) Encouragement of endowments by making them deductible from taxes.

The President assured business leaders who had expressed doubts as to the sincerity of certain sectors of government in the Filipino First policy, that his administration will pursue this policy with the same vigor and determination with which it was started.

The business leaders informed the President that industries are handicapped by tight credit restrictions and lack of capital and had only two alternatives: close shop or continue incurring huge losses.

Secretaries Dominador Aytona and Manuel Lim and NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin agreed with the President that a thorough examination of the problem should be made to determine just how far relaxation of credit restrictions can be made in order to help boost production.

When informed that the Cebu Portland Cement could not dispose of its more than one million bags surplus because of low prices, the President announced that the Marikina dam project which will commence soon is a very good opportunity for Philippine cement factories to participate because it would eat up six million bags of cement.

The President said Filipino businessmen have two advantages: They don’t have to worry about shipping bottoms or freight expenses, and they don’t have to pay taxes.

The President indicated that foreign bidders will have to pay the usual duties should they win have contract for cement.

The President also reiterated his recommendation to abolish the tax on capital gains on condition that the money be plowed back to industry.

The President had announced his desire to abolish this tax in his state-of-the-nation message to Congress because the reluctance of financiers with big capital assets to transfer their assets is holding up the rapid pace of industrialization.

During the conference the Filipino businessmen pledged their support to his economic policies and offered to sacrifice time and effort if the President wanted to avail of their services.

At the end of the conference, the President told businessmen that all their suggestions will be carefully studied by his top advisers and proper action will be taken as soon as he is convinced that changes can be made for the better.

Present at the conference were Secretaries Aytona and Lim, OEC Administrator Juan O. Chioco, NAMARCO General Manager Marcelo Balatbat, ACCFA Administrator Vicente Araneta, NEC Chairman Locsin, PNB President Eduardo Romualdez, DBP Chairman Gregorio S. Licaros, and Monetary Board Member Gaudencio Antonino.

The private sector was represented by Primitivo Lovina, Dr. Salvador Araneta, Jose Y. Grosa, Aurelio Montinola, Alfredo Montelibano, Ramon V. del Rosario, H. R. Reyes, Teofilo Reyes, Jose Desiderio, and others.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: March 6-12, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

March 6.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia woke up early this morning to attend an early Sunday mass at the Guest House.

After the mass the President and the First Lady had breakfast and left immediately by car for Damortis to board a special train for Manila.

The President arrived at Damortis at ten o'clock this morning and arrived in Manila at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

While in Baguio the President was loaned a billiard table by Mayor Jose Lardizabal in order to dissuade him from going back to chess. The President alternated from billiards to chess and occasionally received callers. Among those who conferred with him were Vicente G. Sinco, president of the University of the Philippines, Acting Secretary of General Services Serafin Salvador, and Rep. Ramon P. Mitra.

March 7.—THIS morning the President gave a breakfast at the Malacañang state dining hall in honor of three prominent U. S. bankers. Honored at the occasion were George A. Champion, president of Chase Manhattan Bank, and Robert Patterson and James A. Jacobson, vice-president of the same institution. Also present were Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, and Eduardo Z. Romualdez, president of the Philippine National Bank.

The President also received local impresario Alfredo Lozano and members of the American Dance Festival group led by Rod Alexander and Carmen Gutierrez.

Other callers Monday morning included Govs. Panfilo Manguera of Marinduque, Delfin N. Montario of Cavite, Jose Evangelista of Ilocos Norte, Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal, and Atila Balgos of Capiz; and City Mayors Fidel D. Dones of Cavite, Miguel Lina of Lipa, and Lauro Dizon of San Pablo.

President Garcia today directed Malacañang Protocol Officer Minister Manuel Zamora to place a wreath at the tomb of the late Senator Jose P. Laurel on Wednesday on the occasion of the latter's birth anniversary.

The late Senator was interred in his home town, Tanauan, Batangas.

President Garcia today assured the members of the Bus Operators Association of the Philippines that the Administration will extend all possible assistance in solving the problems of TPU operators in the country.

The presidential assurance was given at a conference with a delegation from the Bus Operators Association of the Philippines (BOAP) led by its president, Geminiano F. Yabut at Malacañang

The President came out in favor of giving direct to TPU operators the bulk of the \$2 million allocation of the NAMARCO earmarked for the importation of spare parts for automobiles and trucks, and the rest going to legitimate spare parts dealers.

In this connection the President authorized BOAP members to confer with NAMARCO officials in order to present their needs.

The President urged BOAP members to patronize as much as possible locally produced spare parts. He was gratified when informed that TPU operators are big buyers of Philippine made spare parts. The Chief Executive also suggested that TPU operators study the possibility of venturing into the manufacture of other spare parts.

Yabut informed President Garcia that the NAMARCO importation, tax-free, of spare parts will help solve part of the problems facing TPU operators. At the same time, he urged the repair of roads throughout the country, particularly Mindanao, Cagayan Valley, and in several parts of Southern Luzon and Visayas, as well as the construction of new roads by the following BOAP officers Justo de Dios, vice-president; Rafael Gonzales, treasurer; Pedro E. Meneses secretary; Bienvenido P. Buan, Antonio V. Heras, J. Kaplin, Exequiel Santos, Jose M. Silva, Eugenio D. Trinidad and Dr. Jose Villarama, directors and Manuel Vijungco, executive secretary.

This evening the President again showed his determination to make 1960 a clean-up year as he reiterated his order for the intensification of the drive against graft and corruption.

Speaking before regional directors of the Bureau of Internal Revenue and later before the league of government prosecutors, the President declared that his policy to make 1960 the clean-up year should be the guide post in the implementation of the present anti-graft and corruption drive.

The BIR regional directors had just concluded a two-week conference with Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona and BIR Collector Melecio R. Domingo. They called on the President to pay their respects before returning to their respective posts.

During their call on the President the BIR officials reported that collections during the first semester of the current fiscal year amounted to ₱242,373,593.84, exceeding the budget estimate by over ₱12,237,000. Domingo reported that this represented only 43 per cent of the total estimate for the whole fiscal year, and added it would be safe to assume that collections will exceed the budgetary estimate for the whole year by over ₱25 million.

Among the collections which showed big increase were those on business and occupation taxes, income tax, documentary stamp tax, and forest charges.

Domingo also reported to the President that the tax census taken in 1957 showed some 112,000 potential tax payers who had failed to file income tax returns.

The BIR collector reported that a comparison between the 340,000 income tax filers and the 1,700,000 tax census filers showed that 112,000 had incomes exceeding the minimum set for income tax filers and were therefore liable to pay penalties for non-filing.

Accompanied by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Commissioner Domingo, Deputy Commissioner M. Vega, and Coordinator M. Santiago, the group included G. Domagas, R. Bacareza, B. Carpio, J. Araneta, and G. Angeles.

Later in the evening the President impressed upon some 150 members of the League of Government Prosecutors the necessity of pursuing relentlessly the drive to weed out undesirables from the government,

The President said the enthusiastic support the campaign is receiving from the public is very encouraging, and the least that the government prosecutors can do is to justify the trust and confidence that the public has reposed in them by giving them active support.

The league is currently holding its five-day convention in Manila which was called precisely to coordinate plans for the total implementation of the anti-graft drive.

The conventionists who called on the President were headed by Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez, Chief Prosecutor Baldomero Villamor, and Manila City Fiscal Hermogenes Concepcion; City Fiscals Alfredo Noel of Davao, Gregorio de la Pena of Basilan, and Pascual S. Atilano of Zamboanga; Provincial Fiscals Nicanor Nicolas of Rizal, Gabriel Valerio of Laguna, Nestor Alumpia of Antique, Union Kayanan of Pampanga, Fernando Cruz of Bulacan, Rufino Marasigan of La Union, Himerio Garcia of Bukidnon, Anatalio Amarga of Negros Oriental, and Juan Salazar of Catanduanes.

The prosecutors pledged their utmost in the prosecution of erring government officials and undesirables in line with the President's desire to make 1960 a clean-up year.

The President also received ACCFA Administrator Vicente Araneta, who discussed problems pertaining to the operations of the government agency.

March 8.—THE President this morning ordered the Armed Forces to take part in a more active participation in the Administration's nationwide campaign against graft and corruption and to go after all forms of venalities in the government "no matter who gets hurt."

The President gave the order in the course of his conference with Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, whom he had summoned to Malacañang early this morning to render a report on the activities of the Customs-Revenue-Constabulary (CRC) team and the Criminal Investigation Service (CIS) of the Constabulary.

The President also ordered the immediate disbandment of the CRC for having failed to discharge its assigned task of apprehending and prosecuting "economic saboteurs." He said that the illegal practices of some of its members constituted a distinct deservice to the country.

He instructed Secretary Santos to coordinate with Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona for the implementation of the disbandment order. Prosecution of cases already filed in court on the basis of evidence gathered by the CRC will be continued by government prosecutors.

The conference which started at about 8 a.m. lasted more than 30 minutes during which Santos also reported on the over-all peace and order situation in the country.

President Garcia today directed the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources to dispatch certified palay seeds to Zamboanga del Sur, in view of the rat infestation which has destroyed the rice crop in the province.

The directive was given at a conference with Rep. Canuto Enerio, who informed the President that the farmers in his province who are finding difficulties in purchasing seeds, would like to have the certified seeds in time for the coming planting season.

The President also received Rep. Tobias Fornier, chairman of the House committee on appropriations, who informed him that his committee will submit the budget for the consideration of the House before the Holy Week.

The Antique solon assured the President that all money bills of the Administration will also be submitted by that time.

Rep. Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon conveyed to the President the gratitude of the people of his province for the aid they had received after the typhoons.

As a result of the typhoons, Rep. Peralta informed the President that the farmers in his province are having a hard time. Abaca farmers will have to wait for a year before they can produce while the coconut planters will have a longer wait before they can sell copra.

The Sorsogon solon was accompanied by Mayor Celso Tabuena of Sorsogon, Sorsogon, who requested aid in view of the lack of funds in the municipal treasury, reportedly caused by heavy expenses incurred by the former LP mayor whom he defeated last elections.

Other companions of Rep. Peralta were Mayor Melchor Aquino, Vice-Mayor Briccio Madrid, and councilors Sabino Merciales and Ricardo Rabulan, all of Donso.

Earlier, after his conference with Defense Secretary Santos, the President had breakfast at the Malacañang porch with Reps. Jose Aldeguer, Pedro Trono, Pascual Espinosa, Domitilo Abordo, and Ricardo Ladrado, all of Iloilo, who briefed him on the political situation in their province.

Other callers were Reps. Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Manuel Enverga of Quezon, Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, Dominador Tail Of Leyte, Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, Numeriano Babao of Batangas, Faustino Tobia of Hocos Sur, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Jose Moreno of Romblon, Manuel Agudo of Batanes, and Jose Legaspi of Aklan.

Sen, Decoroso Rosales and Labor Secretary Angel Castaño also conferred with President Garcia.

This evening the President conferred with Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, chairman of the Senate committee on foreign relations, on proposed amendments to the reparations law to avoid possible anomalies in the acquisition of reparations goods.

During the conference held at Malacañang, the President underscored the importance of administering reparations goods properly because of their value to the nation's economy.

Among the points considered during the conference were the reported over-pricing of reparations items, speculations on the part of procurers who have no actual need of reparations goods except to sell them to third parties, and direct dealing by the suppliers in Japan and end-users in the Philippines.

Three proposed measures were considered during the discussion; namely, (1) the bill sponsored by Sen. Sumulong, (2) a similar bill sponsored by Sen. Arturo Tolentino, and (3) a proposed bill submitted by Minister Caesar Lanuza.

March 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia early today thanked Pope John XXIII in the name of the Filipino people for the appointment of Archbishop Rufino Santos as cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church.

The presidential message was personally given to Cardinal Santos during a courtesy call of the latter in the President's Quezon City residence this morning.

President and Mrs. Garcia received the new Cardinal, who came with the Apostolic Nuncio, Msgr. Salvatore Siino; Col. Nicolas Ortega, chief of the chaplain service of the armed forces; and Minister Manuel Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer.

In a light vein President Garcia congratulated the Apostolic Nuncio for cooperating with the Filipino First policy. He explained that during the short incumbency of Msgr. Siino as Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines, the first Filipino cardinal was elected.

Archbishop Santos expressed his gratitude to President and Mrs. Garcia for their congratulatory messages upon being elected cardinal. The messages had been sent from Baguio, where the President and the First Lady were at the time the news of his election was first announced by the Vatican.

Cardinal Santos informed President Garcia that he will leave for Rome on March 15 or 16 in order to arrive at the Vatican in time for the solemn consistory at the end of the month when he will formally receive the red cap, symbolic of his elevation.

President Garcia announced at the courtesy call that he will tender a state dinner in honor of the new Cardinal on his return from the Vatican.

The President also received the officers of the Quezon City Chamber of Commerce who invited him to be their guest of honor and principal speaker at their induction.

Officers of the Chamber who called on the President were Ernesto Sibal, president; Modesto Enriquez, vice-president; Eduardo Kaimo, secretary; Richard Aher, treasurer; and Paul Naidas, Antonio Goquiolay, G. Davila, Dominador Cepeda, and Vicente Torres, directors.

Genaro Sarmiento, director of the National Development Company, and Jose R. Platon accompanied Philip W. Mason and E. R. Sanderson, both of the Lloyd's Register of Shipping, who paid a courtesy call on President Garcia at his Quezon City residence.

Mason is returning to London today after an 11-day visit here to find ways by which his firm could be of assistance in the proposed expansion of the Philippine merchant marine.

Among the last callers of the President this noon was former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr.

THIS afternoon the President directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, to forward to the city fiscal's office the findings of his committee on 10 new cases of "dollar salting" so that appropriate criminal action could be instituted against the parties involved.

According to Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, Macaurog de Guia, the same person named in the more than 60 cases filed earlier, appears to be the alleged author of overvaluation of importation, bringing to total of 72 separate cases of dollar salting so far filed against him. The total amount involved is some \$4 million.

The 10 new cases against De Guia, unearthed during the examination and appraisal of abandoned cargoes of hospital supplies conducted by the CAPE in the Bureau of Customs, appears to have been imported by one Virginia Quiambao. This is shown by the 10 letters of credit granted to her by the Central Bank with an aggregate amount of \$300,867.

Available records of a local banking institution indicated that the 10 letters of credit opened for the account of Quiambao were all negotiated as evidenced by the liquidated bank drafts and other shipping documents and. It was also shown in the marine manifest filed in the marine division of the Bureau of Customs that the cargo of hospital supplies consigned to Quiambao were discharged at the port of Manila on various dates, the latest being on December, 1958.

After notices were served to the consignee, the crates were opened and appraised in the presence of representatives from the Bureau of Customs, Central Bank, BIR, PFFC, and the PCAPE.

The appraisal report submitted by Customs Examiner P. Cuartero shows at the six crates consigned to Virginia Quiambao with an invoice value of ₱183,114.23 were appraised at \$996.09 involving an overvaluation of ₱182,118.14.

Inspector Rosalino Abaya, who investigated the case for the PCAPE, revealed that the testimony given by Quiambao allegedly pointed to Macaurog de Guia as the person who could have schemed the anomalous transaction in connivance with foreign suppliers. The supplies, according to the records, have been sold to, and paid for, by him.

In the testimony of Quiambao before the PCAPE, she also declared that De Guia supplied her with all the firm's offers and represented himself as the indenter of the foreign drug supplies.

Other firms whose cases have already been filed with the fiscal's office and to which De Guia is held answerable are local drug firms owned by Francisco Herrera, Urbana Sebastian and the Ace Drug House, Inc., Gonzales Trading, and the Remedios Little Market.

IN the evening the President cancelled his regular Cabinet meeting but received the officials of the Reparations Commission.

The reparation commissioners have been reported at loggerheads; so the President took up with them the possibility of harmonizing the trio in order that they could step up their efficiency.

Present at the conference with the President were Commissioners Rodolfo Maslog, Juan Alberto, and Gregorio Abad.

From his Quezon City residence, the President motored to Malacañang, where he was fetched by Sen. Pedro Sabido, former Speaker Jose B. Laurel Jr., and former Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, to the Laurel dinner at the Manila Hotel. With the President was the First Lady.

March 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia received provincial and municipal officials who called at Malacañang this morning to consult him on pressing problems and seek assistance for the construction of pet projects in their respective localities.

Gov. Pedro Dizon of Bataan called to express his gratitude for a presidential directive placing the police force of Dinalupihan town under Constabulary control. Gov. Dizon reported that the campaign against *kaingin* and illegal cutting of timber in his province was being waged successfully with the help of PC troops.

Gov. Eulogio de Guzman of La Union informed the President that there were still some Virginia tobacco farmers in his province who had not been paid for purchases made by the Agricultural Financing Administration.

The President said he would look into the matter, as the ₱20 million he had previously directed the Central Bank to release was supposed to have covered those purchases.

Vice-Governor Benigno Aquino, Jr., of Tarlac accompanied mayors from his province who took their oaths before the President as officers of the province's league of mayors.

Manila Councilor Gonzalo Santos Rivera called to request that a lot and building now occupied by a branch of the Social Welfare Administration in Singalong be converted into an annex of the Epifanio de los Santos Elementary School in order to accommodate more first grade pupils expected to seek admission next school year.

General Manager Jose Panganiban of the National Development Company reported on the progress of construction of the 12 ocean-going vessels ordered from Japan to form a nucleus of the Philippine merchant marine. He reported that the first two deliveries would be made in July 1961, a third delivery in August of the same year, and monthly deliveries thereafter.

While receiving his callers the President showed slight annoyance when a provincial official approached him to recommend the employment of a political protegee as janitor in the Central Bank. The President informed the provincial executive that a President does not sign recommendations for job placements as janitor.

The Chief Executive received his visitors at the study room of Malacañang Palace from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Other callers included Govs. Felipe Garduque of Cagayan and Atila Balgos of Capiz, and Mayors Alfredo Salulilla of Hagonoy, Antonio Pace of Sulop, Santiago Silverio of Cati-il, and Severino Lacson of Monkayo, all of Davao province.

This afternoon the President expressed gratification over the successful start of the World Refugee Year fund drive in the Philippines during the kick-off ceremony at the Malacañang Social Hall.

At the close of the launching ceremony, donations turned in to Mrs. Garcia, honorary chairman, totaled ₱89,591, roughly 11 per cent short of the ₱100,000 goal set for the fund drive.

In his address before a crowd of 500 in the Malacañang social hall, the President appealed to the masses, businessmen, employees, professionals, and government officials to support the drive so that the Philippines can live up to its pledge as a free nation and help those less fortunate than our people.

The President started the hall rolling with a personal contribution of ₱500 which he handed over to Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, general campaign chairman of the drive.

In the evening President Garcia received American steel industrialists who are negotiating for the establishment of the Philippine integrated steel mills in Iligan, Lanao.

Those who paid their respects were Fred C. Foy, chairman and president of Koppers, Inc.; A. B. McCloskey, vice-president of Westinghouse International; C. V. Schelke, director-general of General Electric; and Jacques W. Lourie, director of Baldwin Lima-Hamilton Corporation.

Earlier the President received Richard W. Renter, executive director of CARE, New York; and Dr. Allan Kline, CARE director in the Philippines.

The CARE officials were accompanied to Malacañang by Ramon Binamira, Presidential Assistant on Community Development.

The President thanked the CARE officials for the contributions the Philippines has been receiving in the form of transistor radios and milk and other food items from the CARE.

March 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia expressed determination to push through his program of harnessing the potential power resources of the country and the Administration's campaign against illegal cutting of timber, in two separate conferences held at Malacañang today.

At a conference with executives of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, better known as the World Bank, the President made known his desire to go ahead with the Angat hydroelectric project in Bulacan, for which purpose the Philippine Government will apply for a loan of \$25 million to cover the dollar requirements of the project.

The proposed Angat hydroelectric project is expected to produce 146,000 kilowatts at a total cost of ₱129 million.

The determination of the President to proceed with the construction of the Angat project was spurred by power market studies made by the National Power Corporation, which show that even with the completion of the 100,000 kilowatt Binga plant, there will still be a critical shortage of electric power by 1962. The shortage will be relieved in a small way by the Marikina multipurpose project, which will have a capacity of only 68,000 kilowatts.

The President conveyed to the visiting World executives his appreciation to the institution for its help in the development program of the country.

Present at the conference were Jorge Mejia Palacio and Ian P. Cargill, executive director and loan officer, respectively, of the World Bank, Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Senator Gil J. Puyat, NPC General Manager Filemon Zablan, and NASSCO General Manager Bernardo Abrera.

At another conference, the President reiterated his determination to take drastic action against illegal timber cutting and to push through the reforestation program of his administration to preserve Philippine forests. He urged legitimate lumber concessionaires to help the government in the apprehension of illegal loggers.

Present at the conference were Jorge Mejia Palacio and Ian P. Cargill, president and general manager, respectively, of the Insular Lumber Company, and Reps. Vicente Gustilo, Inocencio Ferrer, and Agustin Gatuslao of Negros Occidental.

The President cancelled all appointments hi the afternoon. The President today directed Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, chief of the Constabulary, to spare neither friends nor relatives in his investigation of the reported series of raids and extortions in which businessmen in Quezon province were allegedly victimized.

The President earlier had ordered the outright dismissal of a nephew who was reportedly involved in the raids. Dismissed was Elpidio Garcia, son of the President's eldest brother, Leoncio, and an assistant in the Palace confidential staff on field assignment.

The series of extortions had been denounced to Malacañang by Quezon Gov. Claro Robles, who also implicated one Macario Borile, an agent of the defense department and several PC officers and men, among them Lt. Col. David San Juan, PC provincial commander in the province.

Upon the request of Gov. Robles the President summoned Gen. Campo to Malacañang and had the case investigated.

The President gave explicit directions to Gen. Campo to go after the malefactors and to spare neither friends nor relatives who may have anything to do with the incident or any other incident.

As an offshoot of the findings of Gen. Campo, several PC officers and men headed by Col. San Juan had been ordered relieved and investigated. President Garcia today ordered the immediate transmission of the findings of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency for appropriate action by the Cebu Portland Cement Company on the case of CEPOC employees charged with having illegally enriched himself in office Rodolfo V. Ocampo, PCAPE investigator who handled the case, said that the employee is a purchasing agent at the Cebu branch of the government firm with a salary of ₱190 a month. He is charged with having suddenly acquired properties totaling ₱77,000.

The respondent had endeavored to explain his present assets as, due to the joint industry and frugality of himself and his wife. He also stated that he was able to acquire additional property and improve the ones he already had from his father-in-law who, he said, had helped him financially in some ventures.

The PCAPE investigator observed that most of the property of the respondent were acquired approximately at the time when he became a purchasing agent of the company and are manifestly out of proportion to the joint income of the husband and wife.

March 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Board Chairman and General Manager Vicente Araneta of the Agricultural Credit Financing Administration to investigate some provincial directors of the state firm for alleged non-payment of Virginia leaf tobacco purchased up to June last year.

The President issued the directive on receiving complaints from farmers that they have not received payment for Virginia tobacco purchased by the previous ACCFA administrator up to June 19, 1959.

About the middle of last year, the President directed the release of P5 million and specified that it should be used to pay for the Virginia tobacco purchases made by the previous ACCFA administration up to June 19, 1959.

However, some provincial directors of the state firm were able to intervene in the payment of later purchases in open violation of the presidential directive and caused the non-payment of purchases made before June 1959.

The amount was considered sufficient by the previous board to pay its obligations to the farmers up to the date fixed by the President.

Non-compliance of his directive drew the ire of President Garcia, as he had been previously assured that all purchases made up to June 19, 1959, had been paid.

The President, meanwhile, received in his Quezon City residence former Gov. Salvador Lluch and Rep. Laurentino Badilles of Lanao del Norte. The former Lanao executive expressed his gratitude to the President and Mrs. Garcia for the help extended him during his recent hospitalization.

The President did not receive any other caller during the day. He spent most of his time at his private study in his residence going over some papers he brought over from Malacañang.

President Garcia today focused the national effort on increased production as he created the Productivity Commission charged with coordinating the activities of all agencies in promoting increased production in all sectors of the economy.

Named to the commission as members were the chairman of the National Economic Council, the Secretary of agriculture and natural resources, the secretary of commerce and industry, a representative of labor to be chosen by the President, and the presidents of the Philippine Chambers of Commerce, of Industries, and of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The NEC chairman was designated commission chairman for a year after which the commission shall elect its chairman, while the director of the Industrial Development Center was designated executive director.

In his executive order the President gave the Commission the power and duty to coordinate the activities of all agencies in the promotion and application of the concept of increased productivity along all sectors of the economy, and to make recommendations maximizing such efforts.

The Commission was also authorized to act as liaison between local entities and the Asian Productivity Organization in matters of technical information and research on specific productivity projects.

The President today issued an administrative order considering Assistant Fiscal Carlos Goco of Rizal as resigned from his post for breach of trust and conduct unbecoming a public official.

The President's action was taken on the recommendation of the Department of Justice,

In issuing the administrative order the President expressed surprise over the fact that a public official sworn to protect the poor should be instrumental in their exploitation, as in the case of the tenants of Hacienda Tulay, in Malabon, Rizal.

Sometime in 1949 the tenants of Hacienda Tulay formed a committee to negotiate the purchase of the estate from the Archbishop of Manila in order to avoid paying high rentals,

Fiscal Goco, although not a tenant, was included in the committee owing to his knowledge of the law. Upon being named to the tenants' committee, Goco immediately required the payment of ₱20 per square meter for expenses and required each prospective buyer to deposit 30 per cent of the value of the lot as earnest money.

Subsequently, although participating actively in the negotiations, respondent hired the services of three brokers and another attorney and succeeded in effecting the sale of the estate not to the tenants but to his wife, Leonila Siochi, for a total sum of ₱149,000, of which ₱19,000 represented back rentals.

Later on, respondent organized a real estate partnership under the name of A. M. Raymundo & Co., and conveyed the estate from his wife to the partnership for ₱1.00 in a simulated sale.

As soon as the property was conveyed to the partnership, the latter began indiscriminate sale of the lots to both tenants and outsiders at very exorbitant prices, giving bona fide tenants only five days within which to signify their intention to purchase their lots.

Thereupon the tenants filed civil actions in court against respondent and his wife as well as the partnership.

In his defense respondent claimed that he had ceased to have anything to do with the transaction, that he did not profit from the sale, and that he could not be dealt with administratively for acts not connected with the discharged of his official duties.

The President, however, found respondent to have violated Executive Order No. 103, s. 1913, and Rule XIII, section 5, of the Civil Service Rules by engaging in outside business and professional activities without permission from his superiors.

The President said that what made his actuations condemnable were the consequences which arose therefrom because by his actuations he had caused hundreds of people to be exploited by Unscrupulous persons, forcing them to seek redress.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: March 13-19, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

March 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today gave Director Vicente dela Cruz the Parks and Wildlife Commission 72 hours within which to explain why no administrative charges should be filed against him.

The President's action was prompted by a complaint filed before the PCAPE by a certain Pascual Perez, a land owner from Camarines Norte, accusing the Director of demanding from him ₱100,000 in consideration for the former's withdrawal of his objection to the exercise of Perez' right of ownership over 2,500 hectares of land in barrio Tuaca, municipality of Basud, Camarines Norte.

According to Matias Ranillo, special PCAPE investigator, Perez presented evidence showing that he bought the parcel of land from the successors in-interest of Don Paulino Badiao, the latter as owner by virtue of a Spanish title (*Titulo Information Possessoria*) granted him on March 11, 1895.

Investigation further disclosed that on February 13, 1934, Presidential Proclamation No. 637 was issued and later amended by another proclamation, dated December 23, 1940, declaring 1,650 of the 2,500 hectares to form a part of the Bicol National Park. Said proclamation however contains a proviso respecting already existing rights prior to the promulgation of the proclamation.

On the strength of this provision respecting existing private interest in the land, Perez on May 7, 1958, sought the registration of his title to the property with the Bureau of Forestry, which application was subsequently approved and a certificate of Private Woodland registration was issued to him.

At this juncture the office of the Parks and Wildlife Commission protested to this registration, and brought the matter to the attention of the Secretary of Justice, who in, October 1959 rendered an opinion upholding the validity of the issuance of the certificate.

Director de la Cruz, not satisfied with the opinion rendered by the Secretary of Justice, filed a complaint with the Court of First Instance of Camarines Norte to prohibit Perez from exercising his right of ownership over the land, which complaint was later dismissed for lack of merit.

Despite the court decision upholding the right of Perez over the land in question, De la Cruz made representations with the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources to suspend the effect of the certificate of Private Woodland Registration. This suspension was granted and remains in force up to the present.

Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, said that Director de la Cruz will be summoned sometime this week to appear before the PCAPE to explain his side to the complaint.

The President signed today the nomination of the assistant director of the Bureau of Census and Statistics and 17 other minor officials for confirmation by the Commission on Appointments.

Officials whose nominations were signed by the President are:

- (1) Eliseo M. Perez, Jr., assistant director of the Bureau of Census and Statistics;
- (2) Bartolome B. Medina, register of deeds of Bohol;
- (3) Jose F. Alfaro, register of deeds of Zamboanga City;
- (4) Generoso Avendanio, justice of the peace of Linamon, Lanao del Norte;
- (5) Mangawan Doro, justice of the peace of Pantao Ragat, Lanao del Norte;
- (6) Panfilo Rama, justice of the peace of Salvador, Lanao del Norte;
- (7) Dionisio Longcab, justice of the peace of Lala, Lanao del Norte;
- (8) Benjamin Crisostomo, justice of the peace of Hagonoy, Bulacan;

(9) Vivencio B. Cabalda, justice of the peace of Sagada, Mountain Province;
(10) Jose D. de Asis, justice of the peace of Talacogon, Agusan;
(11) Jose Manuel Onandia, chief of police of Legaspi city;
(12) Dr. Gaudioso C. Manlunas, city health officer of Butuan;
(13) Cristeto Alday, municipal councilor of Rosario, Batangas, vice Eugenio Tagle;
(14) Ramon Toledana, chairman; and Marcial Honrado, Sr., Primo Navera, Macario Guballa, and Macario Mariano, members of the Board of Assessment Appeals of Naga City.

The President and the First Lady heard mass early this morning at their Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

After breakfast the President: went to his study room and worked on pending state papers until lunch time. Late in the afternoon he resumed going over pending state papers.

March 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning urged strict enforcement of Republic Act 1379, providing for forfeiture to the state of any property found to have been unlawfully acquired by any public official or employee in office.

During his morning conference with Leonardo R. Lucena and NBI Assistant Director Natividad de Castro, chairman and member, respectively, of the Anti-Graft Committee, the President reiterated his determination to push through his campaign against graft and corruption and to rid the government of undesirable.

The Anti-Graft Committee had been created by the President last February 22 to investigate, gather evidence, and initiate prosecution of officials and employees who have acquired property or other forms of wealth in public office.

The other member of the Committee, Lt. Col. Daniel M. Iway, was not present during the conference.

Earlier the President received Paul Reeves and Gen. Alfonso Arellano (ret.). Reeves paid his respects to the President after his arrival recently from abroad, while Gen. Arellano discussed matters pertaining to the integrated steel mill project with the President.

The President also received Col. Andres Soriano and Sebastian Ugarte, of the San Miguel Brewery, at his residence in Quezon City.

The President affirmed today the death sentence imposed by the courts on a “death row” convict, and commuted to life imprisonment the death penalty imposed on two others.

The Chief Executive decided not to disturb the decision of the courts against condemned prisoner Domingo Salazar upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

Salazar had been found guilty by the Palawan court of first instance of multiple murder, frustrated murder, and attempted murder. He was accused of having murdered a total of 16 persons, including some children and three women in the family way.

He was sentenced by the lower court to a total of 13 death penalties, one life imprisonment, and a prison term of from four years and 10 months to 24 years.

The President commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence imposed by the Leyte court of first instance on Antonio Cruz and Baldomero Rubillos, who had been found guilty of robbery and homicide.

Salazar, Cruz, and Rubillos had been scheduled to die last February 15 but were granted a 30-day reprieve which expires tomorrow. President Garcia today directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, to look in to charges aired by Sen. Genaro Magsaysay against Zambales Gov. Manuel Barreto.

The President also referred to the PCAPE similar charges leveled by Sen. Magsaysay against Vice-Mayor Vicente Novales of Quezon City and the Mayors of Candaba, Pampanga, and Laur, Nueva Ecija.

In his directive to Justice Ocampo, the President told the PCAPE chairman to submit his findings and recommendations for the purpose of determining whether there are grounds for placing the erring officials on preventive suspension pending formal investigation.

Sen. Magsaysay in his privileged speech before the Senate had charged Gov. Barreto with utilizing the name of the provincial government of Zambales in purchasing heavy equipment from the U. S. Navy at Subic and later on selling the equipment at huge profit to himself.

Sen. Magsaysay later on requested the PCAPE to look into the case and promised to appear before Justice Ocampo tomorrow morning to present evidence.

Meantime Max Maceren and Maj. Teodulo Natividad, vice-chairman and chief investigation of the PCAPE respectively invited Gov. Barreto, Quezon City Vice-Mayor Novales, and the mayors of Candaba and Laur, to present their sides.

In referring the charges to the PCAPE, the President stressed that nobody, will be spared in the prosecution of the anti-graft campaign.

THIS evening President Garcia expressed gratification that claims for more benefits to Filipino veterans have received the full backing of the American Legion and certain congressional circles in the United States.

High ranking officers of the Philippine Department of the American Legion informed President Garcia that three proposed legislations have been submitted to American Congressman Olin Teague, chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee of the United States.

The proposed legislations if approved by the American Congress would make available about \$75 million to Filipino veterans and their dependents, according to Alberto R. de Joya, department commander, and Robert Phillips, national executive committeeman.

As a result of the enactment of several laws concerning benefits for Filipino veterans, there emerged two categories of veterans. U. S. veterans consist of Filipino veterans who have served in various elements of the regular U. S. Armed Forces, and Commonwealth Army veterans are those who served with elements of the Philippine Armed Forces which were federalized by order of the President of the United States on July 26, 1941. De Joya claimed that the equalization of the rates of payment for compensation for service-connected disability for Commonwealth Army veterans and dependents will remove a long-time irritant and would cost annually more than \$29 million.

The extension of the benefits of the War Orphans Assistance Act of 1956 to dependents of veterans of the Commonwealth Army would cost \$32 million over a 9-year period, De Joya said.

The Filipino First policy of the Administration gained added adherents when members of the Philippine Association of Clothing Manufacturers unanimously approved a manifesto supporting this policy.

The manifesto was presented this evening to President Garcia in Malacañang by officers of the association.

The President later directed Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona to look into the problems of the local garment manufacturers after he was told of their need for more dollars.

He was informed that Filipinos now have the technical knowledge to produce better-looking and higher quality garments than those imported including those from the United States.

The manifesto was signed by Roberto S. Rivera, as president and Miguel Lavente, as secretary. Other association officials who accompanied them to Malacañang were Angel Syyp, Mrs. Gliceria Tantoco, Alfredo Kairuz, Mrs. A. B. Pozon, Delfin Laudato, Jose Gutierrez, Enrique Custodio, Alberto Estacio, Juan Miguel V. del Rosario, Ray Calleja, Bert del Rosario and Mrs. Lydia Tensuan.

Other callers included Davao Vice-Gov. Manuel Sotto, Cipriano Malonzo and Ruperto Villamin.

March 15.—THIS morning the President received Frank Weisblatt, treasurer of the United States Overseas Press Club and former Press bureau chief in the Philippines, who called at Malacañang to pay his respects.

Weisblatt arrived in Manila last March 6 for a two-week survey trip and was accompanied to the President by Rep. Vicente L. Peralta of Sorsogon.

Weisblatt informed the President that the improving Philippine financial and economic situation, as well as the current anti-graft campaign, were receiving favorable comments and reaction in the United States.

Rep. Peralta, who is a member of the legislative-executive tax commission, informed the President that the draft of a proposed bill had already been prepared to abolish the tax on capital gains, which has caused hesitancy on the part of the foreign capital to invest in the Philippines.

The President also received Sen. Domocao Alonto and Modesto Farolan, commissioner of the Philippine Tourist and Travel Bureau.

Sen. Alonto called on the President in connection with the proposed establishment of a Muslim cultural center in Manila, the purchase of rice seedlings for rat-infested Lanao del Sur, and the proposed creation of the municipality of Balabagan in that province.

Sen. Alonto was accompanied by Lanao del Sur Vice-Gov. Mamintal Tamano, Datu Pangadapan Benito, Datu Liwalug Manding, Datu Kali Bumbula, and Ambog Pangandaman, secretary to the governor.

Commissioner Farolan reported to the President that the establishment of a Muslim cultural center would revive interest in the old Muslim influence in Manila and provide another tourist attraction in the city.

Farolan also informed the President that the presidential proclamation to make 1961 a “Visit the Philippines—See the Orient Year” was unanimously approved at the Pan Asia Tourist Association (PATA) conference in New Guinea.

Earlier this morning the President had breakfast with Sen. Decoroso Rosales and Reps. Eladio Balite, Valeriano Yancha, and Felipe Abrigo of Samar. They discussed pressing problems of the province which had been ravaged, by recent typhoons.

Other callers were Reps. Jose Laurel IV and Apolinario Apacible of Batangas, Manuel Enverga of Quezon, and Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, who requested typhoon and fire relief as well as releases of public funds.

President Garcia today proclaimed Thursday, March 17, a special public holiday in Zambales and Cebu City in commemoration of the third anniversary of the death of the late President Magsaysay.

The proclamation was issued in response to the wishes of the people of the late President’s province of Zambales and the City of Cebu, where he met his untimely death. The President said he would like to give the people in those localities full opportunity to observe the anniversary with appropriate ceremonies.

President Garcia also ordered the posting of an honor guard from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on that day and the placing of wreath at the mausoleum of the late President at the North Cemetery. The honor guard will be formed a unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion.

This evening the President directed Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas to expedite studies being made on the practicability of re-converting Aparri, Cagayan, into a port of entry.

The presidential directives was given at a conference held in Malacañang with officials from Cagayan led by Sen. Eulogio Balao and Rep. Benjamin Ligot.

At the same time, President Garcia directed the district engineer of the province, Hilario Pulido, to rush the preparation of plans for river control of the Cagayan River in order to arrest erosion which has washed away several barrios near the mouth of the river.

Municipal officials of Aparri requested in this connection an aid of ₱300,000 in view of the immediate threat to several barrios along the western bank of the river.

The Aparri officials were Mayor Primo Gorospe and Councilors Juan Romillo, Leohor Alvarado, Matilde Azurin, Rodolfo Espartero, and Juanito Reyes.

Also with the group were Mayors Apolonio Reyes of Tuguegarao, Isaac Agatep of Lasam, Agustin Palattao of Enrile, Laureano Siriban of Lallo, Francisco Mamba of Tuao, Iluminado Madamba of Langan, Cesar Caroman of Solana, Pantaleon Pacis of Sanchez Mira, Leopoldo Litaua of Rizal, Leandro Pagurayan of Faire, and Cayetano de la Cruz of Gonzaga, all of Cagayan province.

March 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning told Land Tenure Administrator Manuel Castañeda to give more emphasis on the social problems of tenants in the implementation of the government land-for-the-landless policy.

The President, in a conference with Castañeda and LTA Commissioner Julian V. Vera at his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, expressed concern for the well-being of some 9,000 poor families who will be adversely affected by the proposed widening of Dewey Boulevard extension and other roads in the Tondo foreshore land.

Castañeda informed the President that the land is already titled and in the process of subdivision by the Bureau of Lands for sale at ₱5 per square meter to tenants in accordance with Republic Act 1597.

Castañeda informed the President that the LTA is planning to buy and” resell to tenants:

- (1) The Pujalte lumber property in Taytay, Palawan;
- (2) An hacienda in Catbalogan, Samar, where 500 families are living; and
- (3) Another hacienda in Tanauan, Batangas.

The President later conferred with Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas on the plan to make Aparri, Cagayan, a port of entry.

The President expressed the conviction that Aparri, being a natural outlet for the rich Cagayan valley, would contribute to the economic development and well-being of the people, especially those living in the Cagayan Valley.

The President told Capapas to study the matter further for future consideration.

The President, earlier, had a long interview with Jacques Nevard, visiting New York Times correspondent, who was accompanied by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable to his Bohol Avenue residence.

In the afternoon the President received Curtis Campaigne, secretary general of the World Veterans Federation, who called to pay his respects. With Campaigne were his wife and Defense Secretary Alejo Santos.

Then the Chief Executive presided over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

March 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia led the nation today in commemorating the third anniversary of the death of the late President Magsaysay and 25 others who died with him aboard the *Mt. Pinatubo*

The President this morning cancelled all appointments, and together with the First Lady motored to the North Cemetery to place a wreath at the mausoleum of his illustrious predecessor.

While an honor guard of the Presidential Guard Battalion stood rigid attention, the President and the First Lady, Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay and daughters Mila and Tita offered silent prayers for the late President.

Also present at the commemorative rites were friends and relatives of the late Chief Executive, among them Dr. Paulino J. Garcia, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Chiming Hernandez, Prof. Enrique Fernando, former Justice Secretary Pedro Tuason, General and Mrs. Manuel F. Cabal Geminiano Yabut Francisco Ortigas, and B. M. Gancy.

From the cemetery the President and the First Lady escorted Mrs. Magsaysay to her residence in Mandaluyong, Rizal, where they were served a light snack.

The President and Mrs. Garcia lingered for some time at the Magsaysay residence to exchange reminiscences with the widow before returning to Malacañang Palace.

Special masses and similar commemorative rites were held by kins of the other victims of the *Mt. Pinatubo*, which crashed on Mt. Manunggal scarcely ten minutes after take-off, at 1:15 a.m., from Cebu City three years ago.

President Garcia had proclaimed today as special public holiday in Zambales, the home province of the late President, and Cebu City, where he met his untimely death three years ago. The President said he would like to give the people of these localities an opportunity to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies.

The President had also ordered an honor guard made up of a contingent from the Presidential Guard Battalion to stand guard at the RM mausoleum from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today at the North Cemetery.

President Garcia today sought the assistance of President Eisenhower for the increase of the Philippine sugar quota in any amount that the latter may “deem just and fair.”

In a cablegram to the American Chief Executive President Garcia pointed out that present production of sugar in the Philippines could very well absorb an increase of 300,000 tons over that of the present quota.

The Philippines’ sugar quota as provided for in the Laurel-Langley agreement and incorporated in the U.S. Sugar Act provides for 980,000 short tons raw value.

Speaking in behalf of the Filipino people, particularly those engaged in the sugar industry, President Garcia emphasized that the “generous action on this request will give a tremendous boost to our economy which needs further stabilization.” The President also assured Mr. Eisenhower of the Philippines “lasting gratitude.”

The President today dispatched a message of congratulations on behalf of the Filipino people to Dr. Syngman Rhee for his recent reelection as President of the Republic of South Korea.

March 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received reports on the favorable reaction among American business circles in Washington to the improving economic conditions obtaining in the Philippines.

The information was gathered by Gilberto Teodoro, International Monetary Fund economist, who gave the Chief Executive a fill-in on the Washington attitude.

The President was gratified over the information received. He ascribed the unprecedented economic growth of the country mainly on several stabilizing measures adopted earlier which he said helped considerably his Administration's economic program. He expressed hope that the favorable economic stride the Philippines is now achieving will continue in its growth.

The Chief Executive after conferring with the IMF economist, received members of the California-Nevada state Lions delegation headed by Maurice Perstein, director of the Lions International, and Mrs. Perstein, who were accompanied to Malacañang by Eugenio Eusebio of the local Lions Club. The group presented to the President a glass base as a gift of the California-Nevada Lions Club to him and Mrs. Garcia.

Later the President Administered the oaths of office of Zosimo R. Falcon as board chairman and president of the Manila Gas Corporation, Ernesto Habacon as Namarco corporate counsel, and Mrs. Amy Lim as member of the Board of Censors for Moving Pictures.

Earlier the Chief Executive had breakfast with 17 Labor leaders during which they discussed various labor problems. Among those present were Ignacio Lacsina, Felixberto Olalia, Geronimo Cuadra, Alejandro Lazaro, Mariano Espiritu, Bonifacio de Luna, Mrs. Felicidad Villanueva, Mrs. Ester Tolentino, Antonio Ancheta, Pedro Castro, and Andres Dinglasan.

Other Malacañang callers were Italian Ambassador Alberto de Clementi and Dr. Glenn R. Winters, executive director of the American Judicature Society, who was accompanied by Drs. Arturo A. Alfariz and Tomas V. Bernes of the Philippine Lawyers Association.

Commodore Jose Francisco also called on the President to inform him of the arrival and turnover ceremony on March 24, of the two new gunboats for the Philippine Navy, as part of the U.S. Military assistance to the Philippine Government.

Later Juan Orendain interviewed the President for a book he is writing.

IN THE AFTERNOON the President held his weekly press conference.

President Garcia has ordered Defense Secretary Alejo Santos and Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, PC chief, to stop their feud to prevent endangering the national security through the exposure of intelligence plans.

The Chief Executive announced his action at his press conference this afternoon. He said he issued his order to Santos and Campo "four days ago."

The President said he had called Santos and Campo to a closed-door conference and rebuked them for feuding in public. He added he had not yet acted on Santos's recommendation to retire General Campo as of March 7, 1960. Santos claimed Campo's retirement was automatic after completing 30 years of service in the Army.

President Garcia said that Santos's recommendation was routinary as the chief of staff of the Armed Forces should inform the President as commander-in-chief, of the list of officers who are retireable.

At the press conference the President:

1. Said he would proceed with the bidding of the multi-million-peso Marikina project unless there are serious objections that may arise from the current investigations;
2. Expressed the hope that congressional bodies would be able to decide on the cases they are now investigating;
3. Disclosed he had already decided the case of Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino Calinawan, Jr., involving his rank in the Philippine Navy; and
4. Accused Vice-President Macapagal of sabotaging the Administration's anti-graft campaign for "selfish political motives."

The President surprised the newsmen when he announced he had already mediated in the Santos-Campo controversy before it could get out of hand.

The President also expressed the hope that his recent statements calling for congressional committees to terminate their investigations would have an effect on present probes being conducted by legislative bodies.

He observed that congressional investigators "are more conscientious in their investigations, and I hope they will finally render a report to Congress, itself on these "different investigations they are now conducting."

He deplored, however, that "up to this time, I am not aware of such report having been sent to Congress."

On his own anti-graft campaign, the President pointed out that Cabinet members have rendered verbal reports on their drive against corruption in the public service.

He mentioned Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona and Justice Buenaventura Ocampo of the; Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency as furnishing him with periodic reports of their anti-graft drives.

"My promise to our people to conduct an all-out war against graft and corruption stands. Since then, the campaign has resulted in the dismissal and suspension of some important men in the public service. My instruction," he added, "is to spare no one regardless of kinship or political color."

At the same time the President lashed at Vice-President Macapagal who was quoted as having dismissed the Administration's anti-graft campaign as "phony."

"Let the record stand and speak for itself," the President stated.

Commenting on his announcement the other day when he stressed an appeal to the U.S. President for an increased sugar quota for the Philippines, the President expressed optimism that President Eisenhower would help the Philippines.

"The U.S. President has on previous occasions promised to increase the Philippine quota at the proper time, and I have deep feeling that he will redeem this promise when the opportunity to do so presents itself," he added.

March 19.—THIS morning President and Mrs. Garcia tendered a breakfast in honor of Gabriel "Flash" Elorde, the newly crowned junior lightweight champion of the world. During the breakfast the Chief Executive expressed his own personal gratification and that of the Filipino people for putting the Philippines in focus in the boxing world. Flash Elorde recently dethroned the World junior lightweight champion, Harold Gomes.

Also present at the breakfast were Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, Games and Amusement Board Commissioner Manuel Nieto, J. Amada Araneta, Jorge Araneta, Lope Sarreal, manager and father-in-law of Flash Elorde, Mrs. Elorde, Mrs. Gerardo Roxas, and Minister Manuel Zamora.

Today being Saint Joseph's feast day, the Chief Executive, Mrs. Garcia, Mr. and Mrs. Campos, and members of the household heard mass early this morning at the President's residence.

The President did not receive any caller the rest of the day. He spent most of his time at his study going over some documents he had brought over from Malacañang

President Garcia this morning set firm the bond issue ceiling at ₱100 million after a three-hour conference with his fiscal policy council in his Quezon City residence.

The new ceiling of ₱100 million discards a tentative ceiling of ₱75 million which had been agreed upon before the implementation of the margin law.

It also paved the way for the release of ₱1.8 million for the extension of the railroad line to Cabanatuan City; earmarks about ₱20 million for community projects in rural areas and the construction of school buildings; prepares for immediate implementation of the electrification project for Central Luzon provinces; and places ₱3.2 million in the hands of the NAWASA.

The President agreed to make permanent the ₱100 million as the bond ceiling after advisers had informed him of the much-improved fiscal and economic situation pervading in the country today.

They attributed this rosy situation as principally due to the implementation of the margin law and to the attainment of a favorable balance of trade.

NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin, Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, and Rep. Jose J. Roy took turns in briefing the Chief Executive on the fiscal and economic situation.

The conferees recalled that the bond ceiling had been tentatively set at ₱75 million. They withheld the setting of a permanent bond ceiling until after they had keenly watched the results of the implementation of the margin law.

The permanent bond ceiling of ₱100 million is deemed safe and even conservative.

Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez said his presence in the conference together with Rep. Roy, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and Rep. Vicente L. Peralta, chairman of the House Committee on Economic Affairs, was due to their desire to be familiar with the Administration's policy in setting a permanent bond ceiling.

He said that information on this matter was vital because the House of Representatives is poised to legislate on the 1960-61 public works bill.

Others present were Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Executive Secretary Natano P. Castillo, Acting Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, PNB President Eduardo Z. Romualdez, and DBP Chairman Gregorio S. Licaros.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: March 20-26, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

March 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning issued a proclamation declaring Saturday, April 9, as Bataan Day and proclaiming it as a special public holiday throughout the Philippines.

The President said in his proclamation that the fall of Bataan on April 9, 1942, had become a shining symbol of courage and heroism to all freedom-loving peoples of the world and had strengthened the everlasting bonds of friendship and cooperation between the Philippines and the United States.

He said that its commemoration was a fitting homage to the heroism of Filipino and American Forces who had fought side by side against overwhelming odds in the epic struggle for democracy and freedom.

The President called upon all public officials and citizens, and invited all American nationals in this country to observe the day with a one-minute silence at 4:30 p.m. of that day and to hold appropriate religious rites in honor of the heroic defenders of Bataan.

The President spent the morning at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City going over some state papers he had brought over from Malacañang. He did not receive any caller.

President and Mrs. Garcia started the day by hearing mass at their residence.

Shortly before noon the President motored to the Ateneo de Manila in Quezon City to accept a long-standing invitation to have an informal luncheon with the Jesuit fathers. He was fetched from Bohol Avenue by Chairman Paulino D. Garcia of the National Science Development Board.

After lunch some of the priests challenged the President to a few games of chess. As a result the President spent the whole afternoon taking all comers, with some 10 fathers taking their turn and pitting their skill with the Chief Executive.

Later in the afternoon the President proceeded to the New Selecta Restaurant on Dewey Boulevard to join the First Lady, who was attending a birthday party being given in honor of Mrs. Cosme Garcia, his sister-in-law.

In the evening the President and the First Lady motored to San Juan, Rizal, to attend another birthday party at the residence of Rep. Benedicto Padilla.

The President spent the night at his Quezon City residence.

March 21.—THIS morning President Garcia expressed gratification over the mounting pledges of support he had been receiving from local officials in his all-out campaign to rid the government of graft and corruption which he had carried down to the provincial and municipal levels.

In his conference with provincial and municipal officials who called at Malacañang this morning, the President said he needed the support of everyone in order to succeed in his desire to make 1960 a really "cleanup year."

Mayor Marciano Linis of Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte, presented the President with a resolution unanimously approved by his municipal council pledging full cooperation to the Administration's anti-graft drive.

Calling with Mayor Linis at Malacañang this morning were Councilors Filemon Panol, Antonio Ramos, Mario Ragos, Felino Schneider, Jr., Gaudioso Araña, Domingo Emano, Andres Regal, Simon Evia, ex-councilor Dionisio Marasigan, and Juanito Subia.

Later, President Garcia administered the oath of affiliation to the Nacionalista Party to former Maribojoc (Bohol) Mayor Felicisimo Echaves, one of the LP stalwarts in his home province.

Present were the First Lady, German Neri, Mayor Venancio Inting of Tagbilaran, Jacinto Robillaro, Mrs. Consuelo Aranas, and Zoilo Dejaresco

The President also received U.S. Secretary for the Navy William B Franke, who was accompanied to Malacañang by Ambassador John Hickerson; Rear Admiral J. M. Carson, commander of the U.S. naval forces in the Philippines; and Capt. William P. Mack and Col., Edwin P. Wheeler, naval and marine aides, respectively, at the U.S. Embassy.

During his call Sec. Franke presented the President with a souvenir plaque. The President reciprocated by giving the visiting U.S. official a box of fine Philippine cigars.

Hussein Mohammad Osman, charge d'affairs of Malaya, presented a confidential letter from his government to President Garcia.

Another caller was Col. H. Edmund Bullis, consultant of the World Federation of Mental Health Associations, who was accompanied by Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia.

Bruno Aparri, general manager of the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration, took up with President Garcia some problems of his office, while Mayor Mario Garcia of Cabanatuan City conferred with the President on the appointments of two municipal officials.

The President received callers at his study from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

President Garcia today laid aside for a while vital state matters in order to communicate with a small American school girl who wanted to know more about the President's thinking on important world affairs.

Writing to 10th grader Janet Moses of Warren high school, 5460, Arden street, Warren, Michigan, the Philippine President pointed out patiently his suggestions to preserve the world peace.

In answer to a letter from Janet, President Garcia listed three steps that would "help ease tensions and pave the way to peace";

- (1) Generate mutual general appreciation between peoples;
- (2) Encourage more frequent cultural exchanges between peoples; and
- (3) Strengthen the United Nations Organizations.

Wrote the Philippine President: "The three steps, Janet, do not constitute, shall we say, a sure-fire solution to the present world ills, but I imagine they will help ease tensions and pave the way to peace."

The President today directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, to inquire formally into charges filed by the Iloilo Press Club against Iloilo Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon.

Mayor Ganzon was charged specifically with "illegally arresting and arbitrarily detaining" Naciancino Rico, a member of the Iloilo Press Club. The protest of the Iloilo newsmen was contained in a telegram to Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

According to Arturo Samonte, president of the Iloilo Press Club, Mayor Ganzon deliberately refused to implement a court order by Judge Pantaleon Pelayo ordering the immediate release of newsman Rico. Ganzon was reported to have filed "trumped up charges" against Rico.

In denouncing the Iloilo mayor, Samonte emphasized that Ganzon's act "is contrary to President Garcia's program for officials to protect instead of abuse the citizens."

The President conferred this evening with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano behind closed doors. It was indicated that Serrano briefed the Chief Executive on the latter's plans to go on a state visit to Taipei in May.

Gov. Jose Briones of Cebu also called on the President on plans of the Chief Executive to go to Cebu City to address the commencement exercises of the University of the Visayas and the University of San Carlos.

March 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning assured coconut-producing provinces that priority consideration will be given to the release of adequate funds for the development of the coconut industry if the fiscal position of the government continues to improve next fiscal year.

In his conference with congressmen at Malacañang early this morning the President gave assurance that Republic Acts Nos. 1369 and 2282, which provide appropriations to assist the coconut industry, will be duly implemented as soon as the government is financially capable of doing so.

He said that the coconut industry is one of the nation's foremost dollar-producing industries and deserves priority attention by the government.

Republic Act 1369 authorizes the appropriation of ₱30 million out of the proceeds from the sale of bonds or from any loan for the purpose of financing the manufacture of coconut products and by-products and the component parts of coconut trees.

Republic Act 2282 provides for the appropriation of a similar sum to constitute a Coconut Financing Fund to be used as loans to coconut cooperatives for initial capital; for meeting long-term needs for the financing of replanting programs; for industrialization and standardization of coconut products, wastes, and by-products; and for the construction or acquisition of fixed assets, such as warehouses, driers, or moisture meters.

Those who conferred with the President were Reps. Leon Guinto, Jr., and Manuel Enverga of Quezon; Vicente Peralta and Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon; Nicanor Yñiguez, Marcelino Veloso, and Alberto Aguja of Leyte; Justiniano S. Montano of Cavite; Pedro Trono of Iloilo; Jacobo Gonzales and Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna; Emilio Espinosa of Masbate; Lau-rentino Badelles of Lanao del Norte; Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental; Jose Legaspi of Aklan; Francisco Lecaroz of Marinduque; Jose Moreno of Romblon; Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao; Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur; Agaton Ursua and Felix Fuentebella of Camarines Sur; and Eladio Balite and Felipe Abrigo of Samar.

After the conference President Garcia, accompanied by Labor Secretary Angel Castano, former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, and Emilio O. Borromeo, representing the Philippine Sugar Association, went to Manila Hotel to address the delegates of the Seventh Annual Congress of the Sugar Industry.

The President today took steps to guard against introduction and spread of destructive plant diseases and pests in this country by approving Philippine participation in a regional plant protection agreement.

In another directive the President authorized the National Power Corporation to float 30-year, four per cent NPC bonds in order to liquidate its indebtedness to the Central Bank and other government lending agencies in the total amount of ₱82 million.

In order to guard against plant diseases in this country, the President approved Philippine adherence to the Plant Protection Agreement for Southeast Asia and Pacific region which was enunciated by the International Plant Protection Convention of 1951.

The President pointed out that adherence by the Philippines to the PPASAP will not entail additional expenses by the Philippines but would bring concerted effort by signatories to stamp out destructive plant diseases wherever reported areas covered by the agreement.

In granting the NPC authority to float bonds the President merely authorized the NPC to liquidate its indebtedness of P82 million, which was part of advances made for the Marikina and Ambuklao hydroelectric projects.

The floating of bonds by the NPC will not entail additional outlay and will have no inflationary effects.

This afternoon President and Mrs. Garcia received the Lady of Fatima at Malacañang Palace as a guest for a day.

Upon arrival at Malacañang, the Queen Lady was crowned and installed by the President at the Malacañang chapel after which the Act of Consecration led by the President was recited by all those present.

President Garcia today congratulated Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek on his unprecedented third election as President of Nationalist China.

The Chief Executive said that Generalissimo Chiang's third election is a reaffirmation of his leadership. He wished the Chinese leader continued good health and success in all his endeavors.

This evening President Garcia signed Senate Bill 157, transferring administration of the government tenement houses in Vitas, Tondo, from the Secretary of Labor to the People's Home site and Housing Corporation.

The bill was the first to be signed by the President enacted by Congress during its current regular session. It was sponsored jointly by Senators Pacita M. Gonzalez and Cipriano Primicias.

The bill aims to consolidate the maintenance and administration of all government housing projects in the PHHC.

Later in the evening the President conferred with Sen. Roseller T. Lim, chairman of the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee. They compared notes on the progress of the anti-graft and corruption drives being carried on by the Executive and the Legislative branches of the government.

The President earlier in the afternoon gave cocktails in honor of the delegates to the 7th Annual Congress of the Sugar Industry now holding their convention in Manila.

The delegates were headed by Jose Mapa Gomez, president of the National Federation of Sugar Cane Planters, and Gerald Wilkinson, vice-president of the Philippine Sugar Association, who represented Manuel Elizalde, president.

Later in the evening the President received a delegation from Negros Occidental headed by Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao and Reps. Vicente Gustilo and Inocencio Ferrer.

The delegation requested the release of public works funds for construction of irrigation projects, public roads, and hospitals.

Other members of the delegation were Provincial Board Members Ben Gaston, Narciso Jocsori, and Mario Pena; and municipal mayors Ben Gomez, P. Yulo, D. Infante, and L. Paglomotan.

March 23.—THIS morning the President had breakfast with Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa with whom he discussed problems in the rural areas. The Pampanga solon said that the President was sympathetic to the cause of the rural masses.

After breakfast the President received the officers of the Far East Bank and Trust Company who invited him to the inauguration of the institution on April 3.

The bankers were Jose B. Fernandez, president; Aurelio Montinola, board chairman; Senen Gabaldon, board vice-chairman; and Dr. Jose Soriano, Fernando E. V. Sison, Mariano Cacho, Leonides Virata, Carlos Palanca, Daniel Vasquez, and Ramon V. del Rosario, directors.

Another caller was Maj. Arturo Sevilla, who reported on certain details of loan negotiations made with the Export and Import Bank of the United States several months ago. Maj. Sevilla was with Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno when the latter went to the United States to negotiate for the loans to finance improvement of port and airport facilities in the Philippines.

This morning the President also received the Earl of Selkirk, who called at his Quezon City residence to pay his respects. Lord Selkirk was accompanied by British Ambassador John Pilcher.

Lord Selkirk is the United Kingdom Commissioner for Singapore and Commissioner-General for Southeast Asia, with permanent station in Singapore.

As Commissioner of Singapore, Lord Selkirk discharges the responsibilities of the United Kingdom government under the Constitution of Singapore for the external defense and relations of the island. As Commissioner-General for Southeast Asia, he is the senior UK authority in Southeast Asia and the UK Prime Minister's personal representative. He has the rank of ambassador, and represents the UK council in the SEATO.

The Earl of Selkirk is the younger brother of the Duke of Hamilton. On the formation of Prime Minister Harold MacMillan's government in 1957, he was appointed First Lord of the Admiralty, holding the post until the general election of 1959.

President Garcia this afternoon expressed satisfaction over the designation of Manuel Nunes da Silva as Portuguese minister to the Philippines during presentation ceremonies at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

The President said the designation of a Portuguese chief of diplomatic mission here presaged the promotion of closer ties friendship between the Philippines and Portugal.

Da Silva takes over from Dr. Emilio Patricio, Portuguese ambassador to Japan and concurrently accredited envoy to the Philippines.

The President assured the new minister-designate of the continued cultural, historical, and religious ties binding the two countries and at the same time conveyed his best wishes and those of the Filipino people for the continued wellbeing and prosperity of the people of Portugal.

In his presentation address Da Silva told the President that his assignment here in the Philippines was a great honor and privilege and that he will do his utmost to justify the trust and confidence of his head of state and people in giving him such a distinguished assignment.

After the presentation ceremonies, the President and Minister Da Silva exchanged toasts to the lasting friendship of the two peoples over cups of native *basi* wine.

Present during the presentation of credentials were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug, Ambassador Juan M. Arreglado, Ministers Manual G. Zamora, Pedro Angara-Aragon, Manuel Collantes, Benjamin Tirona, and Rodolfo L. Nazareno, and Carlos Maria da Luz Nunes, attache.

This afternoon the President received Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, who reported to him on his observations during his one-month sojourn in the United States.

Rep. Pendatun informed the President that the Filipino First policy was at first misunderstood by some industrial sectors in the United States, but that later these sectors were convinced that the policy was not directed indiscriminately against American interests. He said that a good number of these American industrialists are coming over sometime next month to see for themselves how they can participate in a joint venture to help improve the economic situation in the Philippines.

PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon directed Cabinet members to submit at the end of this month their quarterly report in their respective campaigns against graft and corruption in the public service.

The Chief Executive sternly warned that the campaign should be pursued without let up. "He also took occasion to reiterate his instructions that the total war against all forms of graft should spare neither kinsmen nor party considerations.

He reminded the Cabinet men that the campaign was a promise and at the same time an assurance for good government to the people, mentioned specifically in his state-of-the-nation speech before the joint session of Congress last January.

In bringing up this matter at the start of the weekly Cabinet meeting, President Garcia emphasized that he desired to have an overall picture of the effects of this campaign.

He observed that 1960 started off auspiciously with the dismissal from the public service of important key men who were found guilty of malfeasance or misfeasance, contrary to what the opposition has claimed that only minor government employees have been dismissed from the service.

President Garcia and his Cabinet this evening approved separate off of two firms to barter a total of 8,000 metric tons of surplus Philippine rice stored at the National Rice and Corn Corporation.

The firms are the EPC Trading and the Davao Merchandising Corporation which the Cabinet allowed to barter 4,000 metric tons of rice each. They will buy the cereal from NARIC.

The government rice-corn agency, it was explained, stands to gain ₱80,000 by selling the rice to the two firms.

In exchange for their rice export, the Cabinet allowed the two firms to import goods, 40 per cent of which are essentials, 20 per cent semi essentials and 40 per cent non-essentials.

The President directed the NARIC to work out the barter agreement with the two firms, and instructed the agency to look into the financial capability of the traders to go through the deal.

Two other matters taken up by the Cabinet were:

1. The PHHC proposal to sell its 201 hectare property in three Rizal towns to contractors Emilio Caruncho, Jr., and Bayani Chua Guan (both Filipinos) to pay off its contractual debts to the two; and
2. The proposal of the Philippine Sugar Institute to sell its sugar refinery to private investors.

The two PHHC contractors had offered to buy the land at ₱0.41 a square meter or at ₱826,728.51. But acting Secretary Serafin Salvador of general services told the Cabinet that the value of real estate around the PHHC property in Rizal has risen from ₱3 to ₱14 a square meter.

In view of Salvador's information, the Cabinet deferred action and the President directed Juan O. Chioco, economic coordinator, to make inquiries.

The PHHC bought the property for ₱500,000 in 1957.

Laborers of the two contractors have complained to Malacañang of unpaid wages because of the failure of the PHHC to pay its indebtedness in tract fees to Caruncho and Guan.

PHILSUGIN has offered to sell its refinery which, it said, is able to operate for only two months ever since 1951 when it was bought from the NDC because of lack of funds.

The firm, a government research center, said it was operating the refinery at a ₱3 million loss which is the same amount it still owes the National Development Company.

The Cabinet put off action on the PHILSUGIN proposal, pending study by a committee named by the President to work out an arrangement for the payment of Philsugin's indebtedness to the NDC.

March 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning continued receiving pledges of support to his all-out campaign against graft and corruption in the government.

Provincial city, and municipal executives who saw the President at Malacañang this morning pledged to support not only the anti-graft campaign but also the Filipino First policy of the Administration.

Mayor Ramon Duremdez of Dumangas, Iloilo, said that he was 100 per cent for the Filipino First policy. He said that in his town there is not a single alien merchant "since time immemorial." Duremdez was accompanied in his Malacañang visit by Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado and Mayor Augusto Araneta of Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo.

Davao City and municipal officials also saw the President to discuss local matters. The first to be received was Davao City Councilor Elias Lopez, accompanied by Mayor Ricardo Pichon of Caraga.

Davao City Mayor Lorenzo Porras and Councilors P. Pelayo and C. Villafuerte also conferred with the President. Mayor Vicente S. Maruya of Malita, Davao, conferred with the Chief Executive on several municipal projects.

Other callers included Govs. Jesus Almero of Masbate, Feliciano Leviste of Batangas, Bienvenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur, and Jorge Almojuela of Catanduanes, who requested financial aid for their respective provinces.

Also received by the President were former Gov. Rafael Lazatin of Pampanga, Commissioner Juan Alberto of the Reparations Commission, Rep. Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, and Sydney Berens, visiting American businessman accompanied by Francisco Calinawan, assistant general manager of the Manila Railroad Company.

The President today launched a massive population dispersal program, as he directed the Budget Commission to release available funds to support the resettlement projects of the NARRA aimed at relieving congestion of population in cities and suburbs.

The President at the same time set aside four large tracts of land in Lanao provinces to accommodate the steady flow of settlers, particularly from Luzon and the Visayan provinces.

In a proclamation released by Malacañang today the President placed at the disposal of the NARRA some 14,000 hectares of land in the towns of Kolambugan, Munay, Pantao-Ragat, Tubod, and Baroy for development and settlement.

The lands will soon be made available to fresh settlers by the NARRA, with the exception of timberlands which will remain under the control and administration of the Bureau of Forestry, and certain portions of the area where private rights now exist.

The President also instructed Acting Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to look for funds that could be made available for the purchase of equipment, carabaos, and other basic needs of the settlers.

The four parcels of land were declared reserved for settlement purposes upon the recommendation of the secretary of agriculture and natural resources.

President Garcia this afternoon reiterated the Philippines' determination to stand by the United States in the cause of peace, freedom, and democracy.

The President expressed this determination during the turn-over of two modern gunboats to the Philippines by the United States Government under the provisions of the Mutual Defense and Assistance Pact, during colorful ceremonies held at the Philippine Navy headquarters.

In accepting the vessels from American Ambassador John D. Hickerson the President said the Philippines is ready once more to stand by her ally, the United States, as she did on Corrigidor and Bataan, to demonstrate to the world that the Philippines is ready to ward off aggression to maintain her freedom.

The President thanked the United States Government for once more demonstrating her abiding loyalty to the cause of freedom and democracy, and said the significance of the mission of these vessels can never be overestimated.

The President accepted the gunboats "on behalf of the Filipino people and the Philippine Government."

In turning over the vessels to the Philippine Government, Ambassador Hickerson told the President that the ships are the only two of their kind in the world because they are built for ideal operation in tropical waters with specifications furnished by the U.S. Navy and the Philippine Navy.

Hickerson said the transfer of the boats symbolized the lasting friendship and loyalty of the United States to the Philippines, and added they are but part of a continuing program of assistance under the mutual defense pact between the two countries.

The two gunboats, christened *RPS Agusan* (G-61) and *RPS Catandunes* (G-62), will be placed on active police work after a shake-down cruise.

Each ship has an overall length of 100 feet, a displacement of 108 tons and maximum speed of 18 knots. They were Built at a cost of \$400 000 by the U.S. Tacoma Boat Building Company, with specifications furnished by the Philippine and the U.S. Navies.

The President arrived at the Philippine Navy headquarters at 5 p.m and was greeted by a 21-gun salute. After reviewing a Philippine Navy unit, the President accompanied by Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Commodore Jose Francisco, and Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, AFP chief of staff boarded and inspected the *RPS Agusan*.

The *RPS Agusan* was placed under the command of Lt. Simeon Alejandro (PN) while the *RPS Catanduanes* was put under Lt. Pablo Sarre.

After the ceremonies, merienda was served at the Philippine Navy clubhouse.

Present at the ceremonies were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo PC Chief Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, Maj. Gen. William Nutter (JUSMAG)' Rear Admiral Arthur Spring (commander of the U.S. Navy base at Subic), and some two hundred officers and men of the Philippine and the U.S. Navies.

From the Navy headquarters, the President motored back to Malacañang.

This afternoon the President directed the filing of a criminal charge against the owner and operator of Chinese-owned sawmill in Bataan for defying an order suspending the operation of the mill.

The order suspending the operation had been issued by the Director of Forestry yesterday upon recommendation of Justice Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, whose committee investigated and found that the logs being sawed in the mill were not “verified” in violation of forestry regulations.

The President’s directive sent to Maj. Wilfredo Encarnacion, Bataan provincial commander, was prompted by a report from former Gov. Emilio Naval informing the President that despite the order of suspension the sawmill persisted in its operation.

According to Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, there are about 30,000 board meters of timber involved in this case whose origin is questionable. The logs found in the lumberyard do not show any sign that they had been scaled, marked, and counted by the district forestry office of Bataan.

Forestry regulations require that every timber cut must undergo such process to determine the forest and reforestation charges of the loggers. Since the timber in question did not show any sign of compliance with the regulation, it was presumed that they had been cut from either the naval reservation or the Limay forest reserve.

The order of suspension was in connection with the campaign against rampant illegal cutting launched earlier in Bataan which resulted in the cancellation of several licenses to cut timber and the revocation of concession.

March 25.—THIS morning the President had a breakfast conference with * the members of the Philippine panel to the Philippine-Japan commercial treaty negotiations. Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, and the technical staff of the panel were also present.

The group extensively discussed the Japanese stand which had been presented in previous trade talks with the Japanese panel, as well as the stand to be taken by its Filipino counterpart in future meetings. No further details were released about this morning’s conference which lasted from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Present at the breakfast conference were Speaker Romualdez, Secretary Serrano, Secretary Castillo, former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., chairman of the Philippine panel, Sens. Lorenzo Sumulong and Rogelio de la Rosa, Reps. Ramon Mitra and Antonio Raquiza, Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto Laguio, Deputy CB Governor Andres Castillo, and Minister Simeon Roxas.

Also present were Monico R. Vicente, executive secretary, and Jose Laurel, III, technical assistant.

President Garcia today expressed the gratitude of the Filipino people to the West German Government and to the family of the late Carl Ullmer, a friend of Dr. Jose Rizal, upon receiving in the name of the Philippine Government the Rizaliana collection of Ullmer from his great grandchildren, Hans and Fritz Hack.

The turn-over ceremony was held this morning at the Malacañang study room in the presence of German Ambassador Friedrich, Freiherr von Furstenberg, Dr. Leoncio Lopez-Rizal, Education Secretary Jose Romero, Luis Montilla of the Jose Rizal Centennial Commission, Mrs. Nita Berthelsen, Dr. Jose A. de Jesus, and Miss Popsy Mendez and Carlo Mendez.

Before the ceremony the Hack brothers presented to Mrs. Garcia a bouquet of carnations picked from Heidelberg, recalling that Dr. Rizal was so inspired by the flowers of the town that he wrote a poem entitled “*A las flores de Heidelberg.*”

Hans Hack said that the collection was considered by his family as a treasure because it was a symbol of “a very cordial friendship that had existed at a time between our great grandfather and your hero, Jose Rizal.”

Then he proceeded to described the summer vacation that Rizal spent in “the Ullmer residence. “We are well acquainted with it owing to the fact that our grandfather, Frederick Ullmer, a lawyer, told us much about your hero in our childhood. At the time of Rizal’s stay in Germany our grandfather was 15 years old and a cordial friendship existed between them.”

When Rizal went to Germany, according to Hans Hack, he had hardly a knowledge of German but “within a very short time he acquired a very good knowledge of the German language.”

At that time Rizal was still writing the *Noli Me Tangere*, and for relaxation, he took long walks in the Odenwald as well as in the valley of the Vecker River, Hans continued.

“Everybody was full of regret when Rizal moved away from Heidelberg. That what remained was a link of wonderful friendship that continued until his tragic death. Evidence of it are the letters we hand over now and the many reports received from our grandfather. Needless to mention, our grief for Rizal’s tragic death was indescribably deep. We would still add that the collection referring to Rizal’s stay at Heidelberg and Wilhelmsfeld, inherited by us from our grandfather has always been kept with great love and care and we have been always very, very proud of possessing it, remembering thereby our dear friend, Dr. Rizal, your famous hero.” Hans Hack said.

The President turned over the collection to Secretary Romero for safekeeping in the National Museum.

Other callers included Henry Scudder, president of the International Standard Electric Corporation, accompanied by C. C. Chapman, manager of the local office of the corporation, and Johnny Orendain; Mayor Moises Escueta of Tiaong, Quezon; and Dr. Louis W. Gehring, executive director of the World Neighbors, Incorporated, accompanied by Rep. Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte.

The President also granted a petition of the association of Elementary School Principals of Manila that City School Superintendent Abdon Javier be retained in the service for one year, Javier is due for retirement on July 31, 1960.

The delegation which presented the’ petition to the President included Ricardo B. Mendoza, Miss Maura Tangco, Jacinto Bautista, and Mesdames Placida de los Reyes, Nieves Argonza, Rosario Morelos, and Socorro Veron-Cruz.

The President issued a proclamation today declaring Monday, March 28, a special public holiday in 11 provinces and seven cities in the South in connection with the feast of Eid-ul-Fitr, one of the most important holidays for Muslims.

Affected by the presidential proclamation which was issued today are the provinces of Sulu, Cotabato, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur Davao, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Bukidnon, Palawan, Agusan, and Surigao, and the cities of Zamboanga, Basilan, Davao, Iligan, Marawi, Butuan and Cotabato.

The proclamation also exempts from duty during this feast day the Muslim officials and employees of the government, both national and local, who are performing their functions outside these provinces and cities, and declares that the day shall be considered as a special public holiday for them in their respective stations.

In issuing the proclamation the President explained that he would like to give the Muslim population of this country all the opportunity to observe the day fittingly in accordance with their religious custom.

President Garcia today expressed deep concern but warned against undue alarm over the report of the Committee on Anti-Filipino Activities on communist activities in the country.

In cautioning the people against undue alarm, the President emphasized that he is kept well posted by the different intelligence agencies in the government on the extent of communist activities in the Philippines.

The President said he had instructed Col. Nicanor Jimenez, director of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, to study the report of the CAFA and report as soon as possible on the result of his study.

President Garcia also took the occasion to commend the officials and members of the CAFA for their untiring efforts in helping safeguard the national interest and security.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable pointed out that the President had not received the CAFA report contrary to what had been reported by newspapers earlier in the day.

Nable also quoted Col. Jimenez as stating that the CAFA report as published is an old case which was published many months ago, and that this is the first time that the CAFA has rendered its official report to Speaker Romualdez.

In the evening the President received the members of the U.S. Trade Mission who paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive.

Members of the mission were Eugene M. Braderman, Walter G. Johansen, Robert F. Kendall, Dwight E. Neill, and Fred Wright. They were accompanied by U. S. Ambassador John D. Hickerson.

March 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia today removed from office the register of deeds of Isabela and the justice of the peace of Jolo, Sulu, for acts of malfeasance in office.

Both erring officials were removed from office in line with the President's current drive to rid the government of undesirables. The removal of the two officials was recommended by the secretary of justice.

Removed from office as register of deeds of Isabela was Vicente M. Capellan, who was found to have committed grave violation of duty when he delivered a certificate of title to another person without the knowledge or consent of the registered owner.

In the other case the President removed Ricardo T. Garcia as justice of the peace of Jolo on the ground of grave dishonesty and unfitness for office.

The President said 'that Capellan's action in delivering to a third person a certificate of title without the consent of the owner constituted dishonesty or serious negligence and would materially undermine the people's confidence in the honesty and efficiency of the government.

Moreover, respondent's failure to give his side after being repeatedly asked by the Land Registration Commission to do so was to be a waiver and an implied admission of the charges against him.

Respondent's failure or refusal to answer official communications on the matter were also deemed acts of wanton neglect, deliberate disregard, and open defiance of office regulations.

Capellan was charged with having delivered to a third party the owner's copy of Certificate of Title No. 54, covering Lot. No. 4030 of Filemon de la Cruz, on July 20, 1958.

De la Cruz charged that when he came to respondent's office to register a deed of sale of the lot in favor of Tomas Aggasig, he found the owner's copy of the title in the hands of one Atty. Alcid, who offered to sell it to him for ₱300.

In the case of Ricardo T. Garcia, justice of the peace of Jolo, the President found respondent JP guilty of grave dishonesty and unfit for office in receiving and keeping for himself ₱200 which was allegedly intended for the offended party.

In investigating the case the district judge said that the ₱200 was received by Garcia in consideration of the dismissal of the case and was in fact in the nature of a bribe, because the dismissal of the case was deemed arbitrary and unjustified.

Moreover, the respondent JP had allowed his wife to receive the sum of ₱180 from the accused in consideration of the filing of a bail bond for them.

The administrative case against the respondent JP was filed by Hadjali Jumaide, who charged the JP with bribery on two counts in connection with the conduct of Criminal Case No. 431 by the respondent in Patikul, Sulu.

The President today issued an executive order fixing the office hours in all government offices during the summer season from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. from April 1 until June 15.

The five-hour office hours from Monday to Friday will apply to all departments, bureaus, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the government, including the provincial, city, and municipal governments, and all corporations owned or controlled by the government. The executive order, will not apply, however, to the government offices in the city of Baguio.

It is also specified in the executive order that the head of any department, bureau, or office is not obliged to reduce the office hours as provided, but is given the discretion subject to the requirements of the service and provided that the usual volume of work is not diminished by the reduction of office hours.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: March 27 - April 2, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

March 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Acting Agriculture Secretary Jose M. Trinidad to look into the report that a majority of the applicants for the 30,000-hectare government land located in Tabuk, Mt. Province, are fictitious.

The presidential directive was prompted by the report of a team of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, composed of Capt. Gonzalo Misa and Benjamin Perez, who had been sent to Tabuk last week on a fact-finding mission, following the complaint filed by Gov. Bado Dangwa of Mt. Province that government land was being disposed of to fictitious persons or to parties who had no intention of developing them.

Preliminary findings submitted to Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, revealed that:

- (1) Records in the public land office of Tabuk showed that the entire area had already been allocated to private parties;
- (2) Although the public land was opened for cultivation by private persons upon approval of their applications since 1952, almost all the area of fertile agricultural land remained uncultivated up to the present.
- (3) The awardees of the government lands are unknown in the locality;
- (4) The area is very fertile and rice could be planted there twice a year; and
- (5) The applicants could not be reached in the addresses given by them in their applications.

Maj. Natividad observed that Commonwealth Act 141, as amended, relating to the disposition of public lands requires that the applicant should reside continuously in the municipality or municipal district where the land subject of the application is located, for at least one year within the period of five years immediately following the date of approval of the application and should cultivate at least one-fifth of the land applied for.

Despite this condition, Natividad said, it appears that the land had remained idle for the last eight years.

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, recommended to the Chief Executive the cancellation of all questionable applicants and the awarding of the land covered by them to more deserving applicants, with priority given to inhabitants of the municipality or districts who are willing to cultivate the area.

President Garcia heard mass early this morning at his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City. After breakfast the Chief Executive began working on the speeches which he is scheduled to deliver in Cebu City early this week.

In the evening the President motored to Malacañang to fetch the First Lady before proceeding to the Manila Hotel, accompanied by Sen. Domocao Alonto, MINSUPALA president.

The President inducted the newly elected officials of the MINSUPALA at the Manila Hotel Fiesta Pavilion, while the First Lady distributed special plaques to four outstanding citizens; namely, President Garcia, Ex-Senator Emmanuel Pelaez, Mona Sulaiman, and Davao Schools Superintendent Jose Tuazon.

Inducted by the President were Sen. Domocao Alonto, president; Sen. Roseller T. Lim, Sen. Alejandro Almendras, Rep. Reynaldo P. Honrado, Gov. Ali Dimaporo,, Vice-Gov. Teofilo Curato, Rep. Cesar Fortich, Gaudencio S. Antonino, Commissioner Ildefonso Remolona, and Nicolas Capistrano as vice-presidents;

Mrs. Gabriela Walstrom and Gilda Walstrom, treasurer and assistant treasurer; Raoul Beloso and Jose Burgos, secretary general and assistant secretary general; Ramon Enriquez and Mayor Camilo Cabili, auditor and assistant auditor; Rony Bautista and Ibrahim Jubarra, PRO and assistant PRO; and Mayors Leroy Brown and Macapado Batara, sergeant-at-arms and assistant sergeant at arms, respectively.

March 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia welcomes the establishment of the ₱3.5 million plant as another milestone in Philippine-American business partnership in a conference today with Hugh A. Davies, vice-president of International Harvester Export Company of Chicago.

The plant, which will employ American technical know-how and all-Filipino labor, will utilize 63.4 per cent local raw materials and only 36.6 per cent American component parts which cannot be procured locally.

Davies, who paid his respect to the President, said it is the policy of his company to procure locally tractor parts in order to encourage small producers. He also said it does not pay to put up costly machinery when the demand for such items is not big enough to warrant it.

Davies arrived in Manila recently in the course of an inspection of IH installations and subsidiaries in the Far East.

He was accompanied to Malacañang by Paul H. Wood, IH president, and former Press Secretary Antonio L. Arizabal.

Earlier this morning, before motoring to Malacañang to receive his scheduled callers, the President received Don Andres Soriano at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

The President also received in Malacañang a 14-man delegation of the Manila Public School Teachers Association which requested, among others:

- (1) The extension of the term of Manila Superintendent of City Schools Abdon Javier, who is due for retirement June 30, 1960, so as not to disrupt the school year activities;
- (2) The allocation of a portion of the PHHC Parañaque property for public school teachers; and
- (3) The installation of NAWASA facilities at Teachers' Village behind the PHHC building in Quezon City.

The teachers' delegation was composed of Santos Pascual, president; Antonio Bernardo, incoming president; William Estrada, incoming vice-president; Esteban Carlos and Dr. Herminio Sorilla, elementary group; Hermogenes Quiazon, high school group; Clehenia San Juan, secretary; Augusto Alzona and Domingo Tan, principal and assistant principal, respectively, Manila High School; Misses Rosalina T. Reyes, Clarita Nolasco, and Angelina Abesamis, Mrs. Flora Hocson-Padilla, and others.

President Garcia and the first Cuban Ambassador to the Philippines Sergio Perez y Perez pledged this afternoon to exert efforts to maintain the cordial relations between the two countries, whose fight for liberty and democracy for more than 450 years are almost parallel.

The pledges were exchanged after the Cuban diplomat presented his credentials to the President at a simple but impressive ceremony held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall in the presence of Cabinet members.

The President traced the growth and development of both nations and expressed the wish that they would remain united, both loyal to the cause of liberty and democracy.

The Cuban Ambassador bared in his remarks, his determination to work for the same objective, taking into account that both countries have had practically the same historical background in political, economic, and cultural aspects.

Ambassador Perez received full military honors upon his arrival at Malacañang at 5:00 p.m. Then he was escorted by Col. Jorge Delarmente, senior aide-de-camp of the President, to the ceremonial hall to present his credentials to President Garcia.

Present at the ceremony were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Education Secretary Jose Romero, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Chairman Jose C. Locsin of the National Economic Council, PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, acting General Services Secretary Serafin Salvador, Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista, and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug.

The newest addition to the local diplomatic corps participated actively in the revolutions against Cuban dictators Machado and Batista and was imprisoned and exiled for political reasons.

The President also received Laurence Snyder, president of the University of Hawaii. While in Hawaii, on his way from the United States after a state visit, President Garcia received the Degree of Doctor of Humanities from the University of Hawaii. Snyder was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador John Hickerson.

Later, the President granted an interview to Dr. Klaus Mehnert, a German journalist.

President Garcia was informed today that in the first three months of 1960 there was a marked decrease in fire losses compared to the same period in 1959.

In a report to the President, Administrator Alfredo Eugenio of the National Civil Defense Administration said that a total amount of ₱6,951,200 was lost in fires all over the country from January to March, 1960, as compared to ₱13,952,800 lost over the same period in 1959.

Eugenio also reported that during the same period, only 15 lives were lost compared to 80 in 1957, 80 in 1958, and 72 in 1959. Eugenio submitted the report following the recent observation of the Fire Prevention Week.

Eugenio said that the decline in fire losses was due to the alertness and help of provincial, city, and municipal governments; the 7,000 public schools and 2,000 private schools which disseminated fire-prevention instructions; the 300 fire departments which were placed in a state of alertness; and the Press and the Radio which gave full cooperation to the fire-prevention campaign.

March 29.—THIS morning President Garcia expressed eagerness to have the integrated steel mill in Iligan rolling in order to keep pace with the rapid industrialization program.

In a conference with Jesus Cabarrus and Ricardo Ledesma, president and vice-president, respectively, of Acoje Mining Company, at Malacañang, the President said the industrialization program has gained momentum and the steel mill is badly needed to keep the wheels of industry rolling.

The President urged Filipino businessmen to get together and pool resources and know-how with the government in the management of the huge project.

The mining officials also discussed with the President an offer to purchase the Maria Cristina hydroelectric plant in Iligan to be converted into an integrated copper and zinc mill.

Cabarrus informed the President that only 32,000 out of the 50,000 kilowatt generated by Maria Cristina are utilized by the fertilizer plant, the rest of it going to waste. Under this setup, they told the President, the Maria Cristina twin-project cannot hope to produce fertilizer that can compete with imported products.

On the other hand, Cabarrus said, the proposed integrated copper and zinc mill will manufacture not only for local consumption but for export, Copper and zinc pipes and tubings and a line of other products like ferro-chrome (stainless steel) and dichromin (base for dyes), as well as fertilizers from the by-products.

The two Acoje officials presented the President with a beautiful dining service set for six, manufactured in Japan from Philippine chromium as most of them, have from the same region.

The 24-piece set described as 18.8 (longest rust-resistant) was manufactured by Nanyo Busan, Ltd., of Tokyo, Japan to commemorate the 100th shipment of chrome ore from Acoje Mining.

Earlier, the President had breakfast with congressmen from the First Military Area, during which he discussed with them problems such as public works fund releases, irrigation projects, and the peace and order situation.

The President announced that henceforth he will receive congressmen every Tuesday morning and by groups according to the four military areas.

The President made this innovation after receiving complaints from some congressmen who had failed repeatedly to talk with him because some of their colleagues were allegedly monopolizing the President's time.

The President also believed this innovation would enable him to have a broader discussion of national issues and problems, similar or common problems, especially if they come

Among those who had breakfast with the President were Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda of Tarlac, Reps. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Ramon P. Mitra of Mt. Prov. Manuel Agudo of Batanes, Cipriano Primicias Jr., of Pangasinan, Jose Nuguid of Bataan, Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, Jose Roy of Tarlac, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Francisco Ortega of La Union, and Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan.

Later the President received a plaque of appreciation from the barrio councils of Nagcarlan and Lilio, Laguna, for the development of the Lagulo Spring waterworks in that province.

The delegation which was accompanied by Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay was composed of barrio councilors and barrio lieutenants of barrios Calumpang, Silangan, Kabubuhayan, and Sta. Lucia of Nagcarlan and barrio Calumpang, Lilio.

The members of the delegation were Hugo Gate, Ambrosio Mercado, Generoso Manalo, Hilario Arjona, Eleuterio V. Suerte, Anselmo de la Cruz, Angel P. Orlada, Sergio Bungo, Ciriaco Matienzo, Saturnino Mitra, Beatriz Dawa, Deogracias Orlada, Emilio Uria, Nemesio Platero, and Mrs. Ambrosio Mercado.

The President also received Reps. William Chiongbian of Misamis Occidental, Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, Maximino Noel of Cebu, and Tobias Fornier of Antique, who discussed with him problems in their respective jurisdictions.

This afternoon the President ordered the PCAPE to file criminal charges against one Nazarip C. Sayson of Zamboanga del Norte for falsely representing himself as a "confidential assistant of the President.

Upon verification made by PCAPE with Fernando C. Santico, administrative assistant in the Office of the President, it was found that no such person was employed in Malacañang.

Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, revealed that Sayson offered to work for the approval of the petition of more than 100 homestead applicants of the municipality of Salog, Zamboanga del Norte.

Believing him to be a representative of the President, the applicants paid him the amount asked and gave him documents supporting their claim to the land.

March 30.—WAKING up early this morning, the President and the First Lady heard mass at the dining saloon of the yacht *Lapu-Lapu*. Novena for Our Lady of Perpetual Help immediately followed after the mass.

About 9:30 a.m. President and Mrs. Garcia had breakfast with newsmen covering his trip, with whom he exchanged impressions on a variety of subjects.

The Chief Executive then retired to his cabin where he was closeted the rest of the day with a stenographer working on his state papers speeches and other state papers.

The President spent the day today dictating two speeches he will deliver in commencement exercises of two universities in Cebu tomorrow, and working on state papers he took along in his current trip to the Visayan port city.

President Garcia received a wire from former President Osmeña, Sr., now in Baguio, who expressed regrets over his inability to be in Cebu during the President's visit, and offered the use of his car while the Chief Executive is in the city. The President thanked the former President for the offer, adding that he would place himself at the disposal of the local reception committee.

The President assured President Osmeña that he need not worry because of the well-known hospitality of the Cebuanos.

The presidential party pulled out of Pier 3 in Manila at 12:45 a.m. today. It was fine sailing most of the way, with the ship cruising slowly at half its performance speed on glassy cold waters.

The party is scheduled to dock at the Cebu wharf at 8 a.m. tomorrow.

PRESIDENT Garcia virtually cleared Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno today of charges of having received "kickbacks" in connection with the Marikina dam project.

In an informal press conference aboard the yacht, the President discounted the possibility of the alleged anomaly since bidding for the \$108 million multi-purpose dam had not yet been opened.

Questioning the logic of the claim that Moreno had received kickbacks, the President asked: "How can there be kickbacks when actual bidding on the project has not even started?"

The President also pointed out that money could not be offered since nobody knew who would win the bid and the government retained the right to reject any or all bids.

President Garcia indicated that Congress investigations initiated chiefly by the Liberals were attempts to delay construction of the dam.

The Senate blue-ribbon committee, headed by Nacionalista Sen. Roseller Lim, is currently probing the project following charges by Rep. Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte that Moreno had received ₱8 million in kickbacks.

Although the President admitted that it was still too early to pass judgment on the Congress probes, he said that so far no concrete evidence of irregularity had been unearthed.

The President also doused cold water on a proposal that the Angat dam in Bulacan be constructed ahead of the Marikina project in Montalban, Rizal. He called such a proposal "illogical."

The Angat project, he said, was still on the phase of technical studies while the Marikina dam was already ready for bidding and has two and one half years planning and technical studies behind it.

The President had said in the past that unless something serious develops in the Congress investigations, the bidding would be held as scheduled. President Garcia said the government could not afford a delay in the construction of the dam. He said that if the bidding were put off, one year and a half would be lost.

The President said Manila and environs would continue to experience acute water shortage unless the Marikina project was built soon.

THE President today declared April 2 as a special public holiday in the provinces of Bulacan and Bataan to commemorate the birthday of Francisco Balagtas.

Balagtas is the Prince of Filipino Poets. He was born in Bulacan and died in Bataan.

In declaring Saturday, April 2, a special public holiday in the provinces of Bulacan and Bataan, the President said that he wishes to give full opportunity to the people of the two provinces to celebrate fittingly and properly the birthday of Balagtas.

A commemorating ceremony will be held this evening at the Malacañang Social Hall under the auspices of *Ang Taniw*. President Garcia will be the guest of honor.

March 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia was accorded a warm welcome this morning upon his arrival in Cebu at 8 a.m. on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* to fulfill speaking engagements.

A fluvial parade met the yacht at Bantolinao Point in Liloan. The welcomers were led by Cebu Gov. Jose Briones and Rep. Manuel Zosa, and Don Gil Garcia, overall chairman of the reception committee. Other welcomers included 42 Cebu Mayors, San Carlos University Rector Fr. Harold Rigney, University of Visayas President Vicente Gullas, and Ramon Durano.

From the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, the President received full military honors. He proceeded to the City Cathedral for a *Te Deum* said by Archbishop Julio Rosales.

From the church President Garcia and his party proceeded to the University of Visayas, where the President was a guest speaker at the 36th commencement exercises held at the Jampacked Cullas Coliseum.

Among the candidates for graduation leading to Master of Arts in Education degree was Mrs. Augusta Dimataga, wife of Mayor Mariano Dimataga of Opon, brother of the First Lady.

After the exercises Mrs. Garcia went to Opon for lunch at the residence of Mayor Dimataga, while the President proceeded to the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for lunch, after which he took a short nap.

The President today issued a proclamation extending the thirteenth annual fund campaign of the Philippine National Red Cross until April 30, 1960. The original fund campaign period was from February 14 to March 31 this year.

The President's action was prompted by the advent of the three big year-end typhoons that hit the country last year.

April 1.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia today sent their heartfelt condolences to the people of Malaya and the widow of the late Paramount Ruler Tungku Abdul Rahman, Raja Permaisuri Agong.

The President expressed a deep sense of personal loss over the death of Abdul Rahman because he had been looking forward to his projected visit to Malaya to strengthen the ties of kinship and friendship between the peoples of that country and the Philippines.

Meanwhile, Minister Abubakar was designated by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano as President Garcia's special envoy to attend the funeral rites of the Malayan ruler.

President Garcia today spent most of his time in his cabin working on some state papers he had brought along and conferring with some officials who had joined him in Cebu for the return voyage to Manila.

Among the officials he conferred with were Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno and Public Highways Commissioner Nicolas Cuenca, who reported on the progress of the government's highway program; Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, who briefed him on various matters; and PCAPE Vice-Chairman Max Maceren, who submitted progress reports on the number of administrative investigations being conducted by the PCAPE.

The President woke up early this morning despite a strenuous schedule he had followed yesterday, addressing two commencement exercises and conferring with national, provincial, city, and municipal officials, as well as delegations from civic organizations in Cebu who had called on him aboard the ship.

He started the day by hearing mass celebrated at the ship's dining saloon on the occasion of first Friday of the month. Also at the mass were Mrs. Garcia and other members of the presidential party.

After a light breakfast the President stayed for some time at the dining room, exchanging views with members of his party. Then he went up to his cabin where he stayed the rest of the day.

RPS Lapu-Lapu pulled out from Cebu pier at exactly 12 o'clock midnight for the return voyage to Manila. There has been fine sailing weather with the sea very calm and only slight easterly breeze blowing the whole day; The ship is proceeding at a leisurely pace of twelve knots, about half of its performance speed, in order to arrive in Manila at about 8 a.m. tomorrow instead of at midnight tonight.

April 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned at 9 o'clock this morning from a five-day trip to Cebu City, where he addressed the commencement exercises of two universities. He also received an honorary degree—doctor of laws—from the University of San Carlos.

With the President were the First Lady, Secretary of Public Works Florencio Moreno, Highways Commissioner Nicolas Cuenca, Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, chief of the Constabulary, and Vice-Chairman Max Maceren of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency.

The President was met at Pier 3 by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, whom the Chief Executive congratulated for the confirmation of his nomination to the Cabinet.

Others who met him at the wharf were Commodore Jose Francisco, Philippine Navy chief, Reps. Wenceslao Rancap Lagumbay, Leon Guinto, Jr., and Rogaciano Mercado.

In the afternoon the President received Major General William F. Nutter, outgoing chief of the Joint U. S. Military Advisory Group. General Nutter introduced to the President his successor, Major General Derrill Daniel.

Nutter and Daniel were accompanied to the President by Minister George Abbott of the U.S. Embassy.

After receiving Nutter the President with Mrs. Garcia went down to the social hall, where they presided over the ceremonies held in connection with Balagtas Day.

The President later motored to Intramuros where he inaugurated the Far East Bank and Trust Company.

In the evening the President motored to Congress to attend the oratorical jousts of solons in connection with Balagtas Day.

President Garcia today led the nation in commemorating the 172nd birthday anniversary of the great Filipino poet, Francisco Baltazar (Balagtas).

The President was the main speaker at commemoration ceremonies held at the Malacañang Social Hall this afternoon under the auspices of the *Taliba ng Inang Wika* (TANIW), during which he also distributed awards given by the *Kapisanang Aklat Wika at Panitik* (KADIPAN) for the best stories and articles in Tagalog.

In the evening the President gave the opening address during the Tagalog oratorical tilt held at the Hall of Congress, where winning orations were also awarded prizes by Rep. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan.

In his speech in Tagalog in the evening the President counseled the people to draw inspiration from the nationalistic tradition of Filipino heroes to sustain them in the present struggle for economic emancipation.

The President told the people to display steel courage in the face of adversities and to discard imagined fears.

A surprise feature of the program at the Malacañang Social Hall was the singing of *Ang Babaing Pilipina*, the words of which (Cebuano) were written by President Garcia and translated into Tagalog by Servando de los Angeles.

President Garcia today gave Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon 72 hours within which time to answer the charges of alleged oppression and grave misconduct in office filed against him by Iloilo City Councilor Naciancino G. Rico.

The presidential directive, which was issued through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, requires Mayor Ganzon to submit within 72 hours after receipt of the order a written answer to the charges filed against him.

President Garcia gave this directive on the recommendation of Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, who is looking into the case upon orders of the President.

A team of PCAPE investigators was formed by Justice Ocampo and directed to proceed to Iloilo City on a fact-finding mission. The team is composed of Major Teodulo Natividad, chief investigator; Major Federico Salcedo, chief intelligence; and Mario Balmaseda, investigator.

The President today resumed his clean-up drive in the judiciary branch of the government when he signed an administrative order considering Justice of the Peace Vicente T. Real of Manjuyod, Negros Oriental, as resigned effective upon receipt of the order, after having been found guilty of serious abuse of authority, malicious persecution, and borrowing money from one of the parties in a pending case in his court.

Three administrative cases were filed against Real, and the district Judge who investigated the cases recommended that Real be suspended from office for 15 days in one case and in the other that he "be enjoined to desist from obtaining loans from persons who are parties in cases pending before his court, in order to obviate any suspicion on the part of the public as regards his integrity." The third case was dismissed on motion of the complainant.

Real was charged by Sofia Blazo de Kadusalo with serious abuse of authority and malicious persecution. The complainant charged that Real tried to compel her to sign a deed of sale against her will and threatened her with criminal prosecution should she refuse to sign the document.

The following day after her refusal, a complaint for estafa was filed against Sofia by Filemon Blazo and she was arrested upon a warrant issued by Real.

In his administrative order the President said that he is “convinced that the respondent really tried but failed to coerce Sofia Blazo de Kadusalo into signing the document and vindictively abused the power of his office by immediately giving due course to the complaint for estafa, which he himself caused to be prepared and filed against the complainant.”

In the other administrative case, Victorio Uy complained that Real acted hastily in dismissing a criminal case for light threats and that he (Real) borrowed money from Alipio Sy, who was the offended party in said case. A perusal of the proceedings of the criminal case did not indicate any irregularity nor abuse of discretion committed by Real in dismissing the case.

The evidence presented showed that Real borrowed ₱130 from Alipio Sy when a criminal case in which Sy was the offended party was then pending in his court.

President Garcia also ordered today the dismissal from the service of two Army captains whose commissions were found to be fake.

Ordered dismissed were Capts. Jose P. Ponce and Jose S. Limson, both assigned in Ft. McKinley.

The President ordered AFP authorities to revoke the orders confirming their commissions, calling them to active duty and promoting them to their present ranks.

The President is still studying six other cases of alleged fake officers, including that of Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino E. Calinawan, PFFC chairman.

Calinawan's case was given to the President six months before those of Limson and Ponce.

Eight more cases are still under study by Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, AFP chief of staff; 17 being heard by the three boards of officers; and 15 under evaluation.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: April 3-9, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

April 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia this evening was reported resting well at the Veterans Memorial Hospital as he started the first day of his annual 14-day fasting.

The President entered the Veterans Memorial Hospital last night for his annual medical check-up.

This evening the President underwent routine dental X-ray and blood chemistry examinations. Tomorrow the doctors will finish the check-up after which he is expected to leave the hospital.

Drs. Alejandro Gaerlan and Antonio Guytingco, presidential physicians, issue this evening a medical bulletin saying that so far the medical examinations show that the President is "normal."

During a break in the examinations this morning the President and the First Lady heard mass at the presidential suite in the hospital.

The President drank only water with a little sugar the whole day today. This diet will continue until the second week when he will drink milk and fruit juices. His period of fasting will last 14 days, ending on Easter Sunday.

The President started fasting 28 years ago upon the advice of a German doctor who had treated him for a liver ailment. He usually reduces by about ten pounds at the close of his period of fasting.

April 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning was declared in excellent physical condition after he had undergone the last phase of his medical examination at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

A panel of specialists found the President normal in the general medical check-up. The panel was composed of Drs. Antonio Guytingco, Alejandro Gaerlan, Angel I. Reyes, Valentin Fidelino, Apolinar de Leon, and Amelia Garcia.

Owing to the check-up, the President did not receive any caller the whole morning.

This afternoon the President left the Veterans Memorial Hospital for his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, with a clean bill of health.

The President entered the Hospital Saturday evening for a routine physical and medical check-up to determine his fitness to undergo his annual two-week fast which started yesterday.

Dr. Gaerlan said the curative value of fasting has long been recognized by the medical profession because it not only clears the system but also lowers the cholesterol (fatty) contents of the body.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, who entered the hospital with the President and also underwent a routine medical and physical check-up, left the hospital earlier in the morning.

The President left the VMH at 5 p.m. and proceeded to his Quezon City residence.

President and Mrs. Garcia today sent their heartfelt condolences to the people of Cambodia and the widow of the late King Norodom Suramarit.

The President expressed a deep sense of personal loss over the death of King Norodom Suramarit. "We share the common grief of your Royal Highness and your countrymen," the President cabled Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Prime Minister of Cambodia.

President Garcia today ordered the Secretary of Justice to conduct an investigation immediately to establish the responsibility on the cases of four prisoners who were granted pardons after their death.

Acting through Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta, the President ordered the Justice Secretary to investigate immediately to establish responsibility “for the recommendation of the Bureau of Prisons and the Board of Pardons and Parole for the pardon of prisoners already dead, and for failure to notify Malacañang of the death of the prisoners while their pardon papers were pending decision.”

The President’s request for investigation referred especially to the cases of Felipe Guarin y Villamore, Saridula Ajad, Luis Obella y Inonado, and Juan Arce.

April 5.—RESIDENT Garcia today directed Manuel Castañeda, chair-man of the Land Tenure Administration, to proceed with the expropriation of the Muñoz estate in Catbalogan, Samar, in pursuance of the land-for-the-landless policy of his administration.

The presidential directive was issued at a conferenec with Sen. Decoroso Rosales, Rep. Felipe Abrigo, Catbalogan Mayor Pablo Cince, and other Samar officials.

The expropriation of the Muñoz estate and its resale to present occupants will benefit about 500 heads of families, according to Sen. Rosales.

Later President Garcia received at the Malacañang study room General Huang Chi, commander of the Taiwan garrison.

The visiting Chinese general was accompanied by Ambassador Tuan Mao-lan and Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, chief of the Philippine Constabulary.

Other high-ranking Chinese officials who accompanied Gen. Huang were Gen. L. P. Lee, deputy commander of the Taiwan garrison; Gen. G. Yen, chief of Military Police; Gen. Y. Kuo, commissioner of the Taiwan police; Col. C. S. Chien, G-3; Col. T. S. Tan, military attache of the Chinese Embassy in Manila; and Lt. Col. H. Tuan, GHO battalion commander.

In his brief exchange of pleasantries with the visiting Chinese top brass, the President stated that he looks forward to his forthcoming state visit to Taiwan at the invitation of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

General Huang presented to President Garcia four Chinese porch lanterns and an embroidered silk painting of a lion as his personal gift.

General Huang arrived in Manila yesterday afternoon and will return to Taiwan on Saturday. He is returning the visit that Gen. Campo made recently to Taiwan.

Other callers included Rep. Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental and Rep. Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao, accompanied by Mayor Serro Ty of Tandag and other municipal mayors of Surigao.

The President did not receive any caller in the afternoon. Now on the third day of his 14-day annual fast, he spent most of his time in his study clearing his desk of important papers preparatory to the Holy Week vacations.

April 6.—THIS morning the President limited himself to a few callers, as he went over the agenda of the Cabinet meeting. He also went over pending state papers in order to clear his desk before he goes to the second week of his fasting.

The President received, however, Msgr. Salvatore Siino, papal nuncio who invited the Chief Executive to a dinner he is giving for Rufino Cardinal Santos on Sunday. The President said he will keep the nuncio's invitation under advisement, for the Chief Executive would be on the second week of his fasting.

The President also received Minister Eduardo Rosal of the Philippine consulate general in Hongkong. Rosal saw the Chief Executive for final instructions before the minister leaves for his station today. The minister arrived last week and is leaving today for Hongkong.

President Garcia also conferred with political leaders of his province, Bohol, who saw him on local problems.

Those who saw the President were Rep. Maximino Garcia, Board Member Benedicto Enerio, and Mayors Ricardo Boyles of Ubay and Teodoro Galaga.

THE Chief Executive presided over the regular meeting of his Cabinet this afternoon. Despite his fasting, the President stayed long at the Cabinet meeting.

President Garcia and his Cabinet agreed to give labor preferential treatment in the bidding for state firms which the government proposes to sell to private investors.

The terms which the Cabinet laid down are:

1. Laborers of a state firm offered for sale who organized themselves into a corporation to take part in the bidding, will be given 15 per cent "preferential difference."

This means that the laborers' group will be awarded the bid even if its offer is 15 per cent less than the highest bid by any other party.

2. The same privilege will be given to workers of the government firm on sale if they tie up with outsiders, provided the laborers retain 12.5 per cent interest in the resulting combination.

The Cabinet policy applies to all government corporations which the Administration may put on the block in line with its policy of gradually withdrawing from private business.

Its first application is in the sale of the government-owned plant of the Cebu Portland Company at Naga, Cebu, which is now offered for public bidding.

The Cabinet was prompted to adopt the policy because of the interest of CEPOC laborers to take part in the bidding.

The CEPOC has been offered for sale at a floor price of ₱12.5 million.

Another government corporation on sale is the Maria Cristina fertilizer plant with a book value of ₱11 million.

Bids have been offered but the offers were much below the desired price.

April 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, to find ways and means of providing adequate arms for the municipal police forces of the province of Iloilo in an effort to help solve the deteriorating peace and order situation, especially the mounting cases of cattle rustling.

The President was informed by Iloilo officials, led by Gov. Jose C. Zulueta, that the poorly armed policemen of the towns of Iloilo are no match to the well-armed rustlers who usually are armed with high powered rifles and submachine guns.

The Iloilo governor also informed the President that about 20 per cent of the policemen of his province are armed with pistols. In some cases, however, the Constabulary has lent some carbines to police forces but even then, the rustlers continue their depredations.

The other Iloilo officials who saw the President were Vice-Governor Guadalino Mosqueda, Board Member Rafael Palmares and Mayors Susano Tayo of Buenavista, Potenciano Imperial of Lucena, Luis Palmares of Passi, and Leodovico Cabardo of Leon.

Earlier this morning, at a breakfast conference, the President gave last minute instructions to the Philippine panel negotiating with Japanese representatives for a Philippine-Japan trade treaty.

The panel chairman, Jose Laurel, Jr., briefed the President on the progress of the negotiations. The Philippine panel is scheduled to leave next week for Tokyo, where the negotiations are to be resumed on April 18. Other negotiators and panel staff members present at the conference were Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, Rep. Ramon Mitra, Sr., Minister Enrique Garcia, Jose Laurel, III, Monico Vicente, and Teodoro Marquez.

The President also received Rafael Almacen, a lawyer from Iloilo.

Meanwhile, the President sent his condolences to the bereaved parents of Natividad Tanteo, a 4 ½ years old prodigy who died of meningitis at the San Lazaro hospital last night.

The President at the same time directed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor to facilitate the transfer of the remains of the deceased to her hometown in Quezon, Quezon, and to extend every possible assistance to her parents, Damian and Florentina Tanteo.

The President also sent a wreath to the Funeraria Vasquez, where Natividad's remains lie in state pending shipment to Quezon province.

The child prodigy first attracted the President's attention some six months ago when, as a crowd pleaser from the Nacionalista Party stumpers in Quezon province, she sang and danced her way into the hearts of the people.

At the age of four, when most children are just beginning to express themselves incoherently, Natividad had already a whole *repertoire* of songs, dances, poems, and declamations which she delivered with ease and facility to provide the spice to the otherwise drab and bitter fare of political talks.

The President today denounced communist atrocities committed against Catholic Sisters running a leprosarium in South Vietnam.

In a cable to Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem, President Garcia modestly contributed ₱1,000 to help replace medical equipment and supplies stolen by the communists from the leprosarium.

The President considers the attack of the communists as inhuman and senseless which should receive universal condemnation.

Reports received by the President stated that a group of armed communists attacked a leprosarium in the province of Bien-Hoa, destroyed images and statues held sacred by the natives, and stripped the leprosarium of all medical equipment and supplies.

The report stated that the leprosarium is managed by Catholic Sisters for the benefit of around 400 Vietnamese and Chinese lepers.

April 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning told the board of directors of the National Development Company to complete negotiations for direct sale of NDC-owned ocean-going vessels ordered from Japan to form the nucleus of the Philippine merchant marine.

The President told the NDC board that there was no time to be lost in negotiating the sale, considering the proximity of their scheduled delivery to the Philippine Government.

The President said the board should accept offers for sale to divide the vessels into three or more groups with four new vessels and one Dona vessels in one package sale.

A total of 12 ocean-going vessels had been ordered by the NDC from Japan and half of them are scheduled to be delivered to the Philippines this year. Three Dona vessels now in the service are also scheduled to be sold along with these new ships.

The board informed the President that prospective buyers have expressed inability to make the 25 per cent of cost down payment and that this provision of the law was holding up negotiations.

The board members also reported to the President that the installation of the ramie processing plant in Daliao, Davao, will start this month.

The plant will be put up for degumming, drying, card-spinning, weaving, and finishing ramie fiber to obviate the necessity of shipping it to Japan for processing and then importing it as finished ramie textile.

The board, however, was pessimistic about the success of the Cotabato cotton experimental station. Director Panis said that adverse climatic conditions and cotton weevils have adversely affected the experiment.

Panis said there was drought when the cotton plants needed water badly, and there were rains when the cottons balls were just opening, thus ruining the cotton fiber.

Those who conferred with the President were Jose Rodriguez, NDC board chairman; and Directors Eugenio Puyat, Joaquin L. Panis, and Agustin Caseñas.

Earlier this morning, the President received Donald F. Peppers, incoming administrator of the U.S. Veterans Administration in Manila.

Peppers was presented to the President by Henry Moore, outgoing USVA administrator who is leaving Thursday, April 14, after a 2 ½ year stint in the Philippines.

The new USVA chief had come to the Philippines during President Quirino's time as member of an American mission which surveyed the proposed site of the Veterans Memorial Hospital in Quezon City.

The President received callers at Malacañang until 1 p.m. Later in the afternoon, he motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, where he received the publisher and editors of the *Manila Daily Bulletin*, which celebrates its 60th anniversary on Monday, April 11.

President Garcia and American President Eisenhower exchanged greetings today on the eve of Bataan Day as both leaders recalled the sacrifices and hardships during the war days from which sprung a strong bond of comradeship and determination between the two peoples to defend the principles of democracy.

In a cable letter to President Eisenhower, President Garcia greeted the former on behalf of the Filipino people. He also extended his greetings to General Douglas MacArthur as well as to the members of the American forces of liberation.

President Garcia recalled that the passing years have not dimmed the, blood compact of friendship between Filipinos and Americans.

He took the occasion to express his determination in the name of the Filipino people to strengthen the common ramparts of freedom and keep the human spirit free and undaunted.

In his letter to President Garcia, President Eisenhower said Bataan Day should help remind both Americans and Filipinos that liberty and justice are worth defending at all cost.

Like President Garcia, the American Chief Executive expressed his determination to defend the principles of democracy.

President Garcia this morning directed the PCAPE to look into the newspaper report that a Malacañang technical assistant from Mindanao is tie alleged owner of 72 crates of luxury items impounded in the Manila International Airport.

The order given to Max Maceren, PCAPE vice-chairman, also include the filing of criminal or administrative case against the Malacañang official if the report linking him to the irregularity is found to be true.

Vice-chairman Maceren, upon receiving the instruction, conferred immediately with Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Bureau of Internal Revenue Commissioner Melecio Domingo, and Regional director Misael Vera, the three officials who allegedly received the information linking the alleged Palace official to the irregularity.

The three officials issued a statement denying having received such information, much less an anonymous letter furnishing the clue to the identity of the Malacañang official.

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, when interviewed this afternoon said that his committee is conducting a thorough investigation of the case as per instructions of the President, to see if there is truth to the news report. If it is true, and the Palace official is definitely identified, Justice Ocampo continued, proper charges will be filed against him.

President Garcia said today that the military honors given at the airport to Rufino J. Cardinal Santos on his return from Rome this afternoon were in line with protocolar courtesies since the Philippines maintained diplomatic relations with the Vatican.

In a wire sent this evening to Dr. Gumersindo Garcia, Sr., president of the Philippine Federation of Christian Churches, the President added: "Moreover, they are honors given to Cardinal Santos as a Filipino, the first to be elevated to the cardinalate, and not as head of the local Catholic Church hierarchy."

The President's statements were in reply to a message received from Dr. Garcia "humbly protesting" the 19-gun salute accorded to the new prince of the Catholic Church as a violation of the principle of the separation of church and state.

The President concluded: "I assure you that as President of this Republic, I have sworn to uphold the Constitution which recognizes the principle of the separation of church and state."

Dr. Garcia, when contacted by telephone late tonight, said that he was satisfied with the President's explanation.

April 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia and His Eminence Rufino J. Cardinal Santos exchanged toasts to each other's health and success at the Malacañang ceremonial hall when the latter paid his first formal courtesy call this morning as a Prince of the Church.

The first Filipino Cardinal received full military honors upon his arrival at Malacañang from a crack unit of the Presidential Guard Battalion under the command of Lt. Col. Patero V. Oppus.

After reviewing the guard of honor, Cardinal Santos was met at the head of the Palace stairs by Minister Manuel G. Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer, and Col. Jorge Delarmente, senior aide-de-camp, who ushered him to the ceremonial hall where President and Mrs. Garcia received him.

The Cardinal was accompanied by the Apostolic Nuncio, Msgr. Salvatore Siino, Cebu Archbishop Julio Rosales, Vigan Archbishop Juan Sison, Bishops Hernando Antiporda and Vicente Reyes, Papal Knights Dr. Ramon Campos, Justo Lopez, and Dr. Augusto Cortes, and others.

Present at the ceremony were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, and former Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon.

The Cardinal, in his conversation with the President, gave his impressions of the ceremonies which elevated him as a Prince of the Church.

The Cardinal and his group left Malacañang at 10:30 a.m. The visit lasted about 30 minutes.

After the call the President had his regular monthly briefing by NICA officials headed by Col. Nicanor Jimenez.

In the afternoon the President received Don Manolo Elizalde, president of the Philippine Sugar Association who had just returned from abroad.

Elizalde informed the President that the Philippines is still fighting for an increase in the sugar quota in the United States but is encountering stiff opposition, especially from the American tobacco producers.

The President later received Stanley M. Swinton, general news editor, World Service of the Associated Press, who is in Manila looking up old friends and renewing family ties.

Swinton's family had been in the Philippines before the war and his father and mother were interned at Santo Tomas University by the Japanese. His father later became a professor at the University of the Philippines, and served until his death.

Swinton, who is visiting the AP bureau in Manila, was accompanied to Malacañang by Jim Becker, local AP representative. He is leaving for Singapore Monday morning.

In the evening the President gave a state dinner in honor of His Eminence, Rufino J. Cardinal Santos in Malacañang.

Among those invited were chiefs of foreign diplomatic missions, members of the Cabinet and other high government officials, members of the Catholic hierarchy, and heads of local Catholic colleges and universities.

The President today ordered Dr. Loreto Mirasol-Magsuci and Randolph Flor, chairman and member, respectively, of the Board of Examiners for Optometry, to answer within 72 hours charges of irregularities allegedly committed by them in connection with the optometrist examination given by the board in July last year.

The President, at the same time, created a committee to investigate the two officials as soon as their answers are received by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo. The committee is composed of Justice Undersecretary Enrique A. Fernandez, chairman, and Civil Service Deputy Commissioner Fausto Varela, and Major Teodulo Natividad of the PCAPE, members.

The President is considering whether or not to suspend the said officials. He said he would decide the question when their answers are received in Malacañang.

Secretary Castillo had previously directed the National Bureau of Investigation to inquire into reports of anomalies allegedly committed in connection with the optometrist examination last July.

According to the NBI report which was submitted to Malacañang this afternoon, Chairman Mirasol-Magsuci appeared to have gone to the examination room during the written examinations, approached certain selected or favored candidates, and “secretly told” or gave them “whispered instructions” to place on their answer sheets identifying marks or signs.

The most common of those signs were said to be in the form of dots inside the letters “O”, “P”, “T” and “E” and retracings purportedly made on words and numerals.

In the case of one candidate, Dr. Mirasol-Magsuci, herself, was said to have taken hold of the candidate’s pen and placed dots inside the letters “P” and “O” in the names of the subjects of “Pathology” and “Physiologic Optics”. She was also said to have asked specimens of the handwriting of another candidate which were allegedly furnished her by the candidate’s mother without the knowledge of the candidate.

Board Member Flor, on the other hand, was charged with having made false statements in his personal record filed under oath with the board. In answer to questions whether he had ever been accused of, indicted for, or tried of any crime, he was said to have answered “No” when in fact the records of the Court of First Instance of Manila show that in Criminal Case No. 5360, he had been charged with attempted arson although the case was subsequently dismissed. This charge was also referred to the fiscal’s office.

Another charge against Dr. Flor is that he was supposed to have changed the rating on the examination papers of Candidate No. 201 in the subject of Practical Optics from 83 to 92 per cent and in the subject of Economics, Ethics, Jurisprudence, and Hygiene and Sanitation, he was said to have changed the grade of a candidate from 87 to 92 per cent without the knowledge of the corrector.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: April 10-16, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

April 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia started today on the second week of his 14-day Lenten fasting. In the second week of his fasting, the President changes his water-and-sugar diet to milk and fruit juices.

Early in the morning the President and the First Lady heard Palm Sunday mass at their private residence in Quezon City.

After hearing mass the President received Miss Rukmini Devi Arundale, woman member of the Indian Parliament who paid her respects to the Chief Executive at his residence. The President chatted briefly with the visiting Indian dignitary.

Later the President retired to his study room, where he went over pending state papers to clear his desk before he goes to Baguio tomorrow morning where he will spend the Holy Week.

Later in the evening the President, accompanied by the First Lady and their daughter Linda, motored to the Apostolic Nunciature on Taft Avenue, where he attended the reception given by the Apostolic Nuncio Salvatore Siino in honor of Rufino J. Cardinal Santos.

From the Nunciature, the President motored to Bohol Avenue where he spent the night.

President Garcia today received the report of Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag on the case of the four dead prisoners who had been granted pardons.

Investigation was ordered by the President recently to fix responsibility for failure to inform Malacañang of the deaths of Felipe Guarin y Villamore, Saridula Ajad, Luis Obella y Inonado, and Juan Arce, all recommendees for pardon, as a result of which executive clemency was granted to them needlessly.

In his report to the President, Secretary Mabanag blamed the Bureau of Prisons officials for not reporting their deaths to the Department of Justice, the Pardon and Parole Board, and Malacañang, and recommended administrative action against Vicente B. Arciaga and Federico B. Ama, chief and assistant chief, respectively, of the Documents Section and Pre-Pardon and Parole Section of the state prisons, "for negligence in the performance of their duties."

Arciaga and Ama admitted to Secretary Mabanag that they had received the notices of death of the four prisoners but that, although it is a practice to note such deaths in their respective *carpetas*, such deaths are not reported to the Justice Department unless they are due to un natural causes.

Alfredo Velasco, administrative officer of the state penitentiary, corroborated this claim and alleged that this practice has been obtaining since the creation of the prisons.

In the case of prisoner Obella, Ama admitted that on Jan. 16, 1956 he received Special Order No. 199, s. 1955, of the Davao Penal Colony reporting the death Obella but that he misplaced it and was not able to note it in Obella's *carpeta*.

Secretary Mabanag said the practice of not reporting all deaths to the Department of Justice should have been abandoned a long time ago, because, if the department had been notified in time, it could have withdrawn its recommendation for pardon of a prisoner who has died.

Secretary Mabanag also bit the practice of certifying to the excellent conduct of a prisoner simply because there was no misconduct reported on his part for while the prisoner may not have committed any misconduct, his conduct and behaviour might still be poor to render him unfit to rejoin society.

April 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia this afternoon figured in a near mishap when his car broke down along the treacherous winding road going to Baguio.

The clutch of the No. 1 Malacañang Cadillac became overheated and burned up. The driver had to apply the brakes quickly to stop the car.

The President had to transfer to the car being driven by his son-in-law, Fernando Campos, while Mrs. Garcia and Mrs. Campos transferred to another car.

The near-accident happened as the presidential motorcade coming from Damortis went past the zigzag road a few kilometers from the summer capital.

The cars had picked the presidential party in Damortis after arriving on a special train from Manila at around 1 p. m. today.

The President and his party pulled out of the MRR Tutuban station aboard a presidential special at 8 a.m. and arrived at Damortis at 12:40 p.m.

Along the way near Moncada, Tarlac, the President viewed six MRR coaches which had been derailed early morning.

The incident delayed the President's arrival at the Guest House in Baguio for half an hour. The President is staying in the Summer Capital until Tuesday for a Holy Week vacation.

Entering the second week of his Lenten fast, the President has lost six-and-a-half pounds, according to Dr. Antonio Guytingco, his personal physician. Pie will end the fast on Easter Sunday.

PRESIDENT Garcia today brushed off Red China's warning to the Philippines on the establishment of US missiles bases here.

The Peiping government issued the warning in commenting on an Associated Press story that President Garcia had invited the US to station nuclear missiles in the Philippines. Red China said the Philippines was courting disaster.

"That is their own thinking," the President said, by way of comment of the Communist Chinese reaction. The President added.

"If we have to fight another world war, we must fight it with modern weapons."

The President clarified an interview with the AP given during the Bataan Day anniversary, saying he had not issued any invitation to the US to station missiles here.

He said he was in favor of missiles if these are deemed the best available weapons for the defense of the country.

He recalled stressing the need for modern and adequate weapon when queried on US military assistance to the Philippines.

"If ever there is going to be a third world war, we cannot fight if the weapons are of the second world war," the President recalled having told the AP.

The President also stressed that nuclear bases were not mentioned during the interview.

THE President today ordered the separation from the service of a reserve Army captain on active duty with the 17th BCT in Batangas.

Ordered separated from the service was Capt. Maximo B. Perez, who was found to have never been commissioned as third lieutenant in the reserve force in March 27, 1942, as he claimed.

Perez is the third officer ordered separated from the service for having a spurious source of commission. The first two orderd separated were Capts. Jose P. Ponce and Jose Limson.

There are still 11 alleged fake officers cases in the hands of the President, including that of a chief prober, Lt, Cmdr. Marcelino E. Calinawan, awaiting action.

A total of 40 officers have been cleared by the AFF probers, six are being heard by three boards of officers, 11 in the active service under investigation, 10 cases under evaluation, and 390 cases of those in the in active status being scrutinized.

Perez, it was established during the hearings by an AFP board of officers headed by Lt. Col. Claro Gloria, was staff sergeant in Bataan in with the 202nd Engineer Battalion.

April 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia invited the members of the Council of Leaders and the chairman of the House committee on foreign affairs and immigration to a conference in Baguio on Sunday afternoon.

The President announced that he will hold a separate conference with top fiscal advisers Monday afternoon to discuss particularly the results of the margin law implementation.

The President slated the conferences after holding a lenthly meeting at the Guest House with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano during which vital matters on foreign affairs were discussed.

President Garcia also conferred this morning with Sugar Quota Administrator Ramon Pagua, who broached the plan to allow the importation of 3,000,000 pounds of Virginia leaf tobacco in exchange for the exportation of a similar amount of filler and scrap tobacco which he said might lead to an increase of the Philippine sugar quota in the American market by 50,000 tons.

Pagua said that the plan has the backing of American Rep. Harold Cooley, chairman of the agricultural committee, and Keough, who had been opposing increases in sugar quotas, and also of local Virginia leaf growers who will not be adversely affected because they supply only two thirds of the local demand.

On the other hand, Serrano pointed out to the President the big risk involved and added that although the plan might work out with the support of sugar and tobacco farmers, there is no assurance of an increase in the Philippine sugar quota.

Later, the President received former President Sergio Osmeña, who paid his respects, and Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke, who discussed the acquisition of a lot in Diliman, Quezon City, as site for the Department of National Defense building.

President Garcia, showing no ill effects after losing nine pounds since he started fasting, took his first glass of milk this morning and afterwards strolled around the Mansion House grounds with the First Lady, admiring the myriad flowers now in full bloom and chatting with newsmen who had followed him to Baguio.

After his conference with Serrano, Pagua, and others, the President took another glass of milk for luncheon and then retired to his room for spiritual meditation by reading religious books, among them the Holy Bible, *The Last Four Things*, *Life of Christ*, and *Imitation of Christ*.

President Garcia today declared April 16, a special public holiday.

The President said in view of the two public holidays, Holy Thursday and Good Friday, preceding Saturday, April 16, the day may be declared a public holiday without prejudice to the public interest.

The President also gave instructions to detail some members of the Presidential Battalion to be guards of honor at the tomb of the late President Manuel A. Roxas on April 15 on the occasion of his death anniversary. The President ordered the placing of a wreath in his name and the First Lady's on the tomb of the late Chief Executive.

April 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning held a series of conferences with Executive Secretary Natalio Castillo and Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, and later with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, and Col. Nicanor Jimenez, NICA head.

In his conference with Secretary Castillo, the President directed to strike up the payment plan to be adopted in order to settle the unpaid accounts on the Virginia leaf tobacco purchases made last year as recommended by the ACCFA Administrator Vicente Araneta.

The President also instructed Secretary Castillo to look into the feasibility of importing high-grade American Virginia tobacco to meet the reported shortage.

Among matters discussed with conferees was the sending of Gen. Cabal and six others to the SEATO military advisers' conference in Washington, D.C., to attend the twelfth meeting and also discuss with the Pentagon the Philippine military needs.

The President, feeling fine, took an early stroll and had milk as well as water slightly sweetened for his breakfast, lunch, and supper.

Accompanying the President in his early morning stroll were the First Lady, Gen. and Mrs. Cabal, Secretary and Mrs. Castillo, and former Assistant Executive Secretary and Mrs. Sofronio Quimson.

The President also congratulated Fiscal Lucena for his initial success and urged him to continue relentlessly the fight against graft.

The President amended today the old proclamation declaring the period from the first Monday to the succeeding Sunday of May of every year as National Traffic Safety Week and the Monday following as Safe Driving Day.

In the new proclamation the President designated the Commissioner of Public Highways and the President of the Association of Chiefs of Police of the Philippines as additional members of the committee to take charge of the celebration.

President Garcia also declared today the period from May 8 to 14 as "National Club Week."

In his proclamation the President called upon all the people to turn their thoughts; during the week to the great service that the 4-H Club is doing -for our "country, both economically and socially.

April 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning heard, mass and took Holy Communion at a low mass said by His Eminence Rufino Cardinal Santos at the Guest House.

Cardinal Santos said mass at 7 o'clock. The mass was the first said by the Cardinal in the Guest House.

Present were the President's family, former President Sergio Osmeña. Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Executive Secretary and Mrs. Natalio Castillo, Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Felixberto Serrano, General Services Acting Secretary and Mrs. Serafin Salvador, Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Manuel Cabal, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, and others.

After mass President and Mrs. Garcia entertained their guests at breakfast. Later, the President ordered Gen. Cabal to look into the shooting incident in Dauis, Bohol. He also ordered the airlifting of the two victims to Manila for hospitalization.

The President was informed by telegram by Cleto Penales, father of the victims, that the incident occurred on the evening of April 13 at the town plaza with Vice-Mayor Boy Cimafranca as alleged assailant.

The father of the victims requested the airlift on the suggestion of the director of the Bohol Provincial Hospital who said that the victims needed treatment in Manila badly.

The President conferred with Secretary Castillo, and Dr. Pedro Mayuga, director of hospitals who had been designated acting Undersecretary of Health, vice Rafael Tumbokon, who is now acting Secretary of Health.

Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia will be out of the country for one month attending WHO conferences.

President Garcia inquired into the reported anomalies at the National Mental Hospital and was assured by Dr. Mayuga that the reports were unfounded

Other callers included Solicitor General Edilberto Barot, Prosecutor Emerito Salva, Public Schools Director Pedro Guiang, and Superintendent Osmundo Dizon.

After a busy morning the President retired to his room for spiritual meditation. Later in the afternoon he trekked to the Baguio Cathedral and Catholic churches for the traditional *visita de iglesias*.

April 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia observed Good Friday solemnly in spiritual meditation and did not receive visitors at the Guest House the whole day.

In the afternoon, at 5:30, the President and the First Lady, accompanied by friends and relatives, motored to St. Joseph Parish church for Good Friday services. Both received Holy Communion.

In his spiritual meditation during the week, the President read a prized copy of the Holy Bible given him by Cardinal Spellman and other books like *The Life of Christ*, *The Imitation of Christ*, and *The Last Four Things*.

The President, who is still on a milk diet with glasses of sweetened water now and then, reduced from 163 pounds to 152-1/2 pounds on the thirteenth day of fasting.

On Saturday evening the President will have his first bowl of rice soup to mark the end of his fasting. On Sunday morning he will have his first light meal of solid food.

The President will give the traditional Easter luncheon on Sunday to members of the Cabinet, Congress, and Judiciary now vacationing in Baguio. After luncheon, the President will confer with members of the Council of Leaders and the chairmen of the Senate and the House committees on foreign relations and immigration.

In another conference slated for Monday afternoon, the President will discuss the results of the implementation of the margin law with his fiscal advisers.

April 16.—THIS morning the President received a delegation from India who came up to Baguio to pay their respects to him. Rajhoman Gandhi, head of the group, is the grandson of the great Indian leader, Mahatma Gandhi, and son of the editor of the *Hindustani Times*. Rajhoman told President Garcia that India is following the policies of the Philippines with keen interest. “We Asians have been following your bold policies with great interest and hope that India can follow suit,” he told the President.

President Garcia, in reply, stated that he was “just being realistic.” The Indian delegation was accompanied to the Guest House by Maj. Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, and included Prof. R. Vaitseswaran, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Boobby, and Mr. and Mrs. James MacLennan.

Natividad took the occasion to inform the President that the PCAPE had finished the investigation of 14 key government officials, from bureau director up.

The President also received Ambassador Jose M. Delgado, who paid his respects before leaving next week for his Vatican post. The Philippine ambassador was accompanied by his son Francisco. Ambassador Delgado returned to the Philippines to accompany His Eminence Rufino Cardinal Santos.

The President later received Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, and Gaudencio Antonino, member of the Monetary Board.

Meanwhile, Secretary Castillo announced the designation of Luisa I. Alvarez as chairman of the board of examiners for nurses, vice Vicente Cenizal, whose term expired, and Annie Sand as member of the said board

President Garcia began picking up weight and on his last day of fast appeared healthier and better than last year. After having his breakfast consisting of a glass milk, the President, accompanied by Mrs. Garcia and former Executive Secretary Fortunato de Leon, strolled around the Mansion House grounds.

In front of the Mansion House, the President and Mrs. Garcia greeted vacationists who shook hands with them and posed for few shots. Among the sightseers who posed with the President and Mrs. Garcia were Irene Lapid-Puno and Jesusa Puno from Tarlac.

After taking a few minutes rest at the amphitheater, the President held a press conference there and then returned to the Guest House to receive callers until past noon.

After taking another glass of milk for lunch, the President retired to his room to meditate on the death and resurrection of Christ.

In the evening the President motored to St. Joseph Church to attend the *Sabado de Gloria* services at 9 o’clock. He ended his fasting tonight by taking his first bowl of rice soup.

Source: National Library of the Philippines

President's Week in Review: April 17-23, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

April 17.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia heard an early morning mass at the Guest House. Both received holy communion.

Also present were Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Felixberto Serrano, and Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos. After taking his first solid meal since he started fasting, the President, accompanied by his guests, drove around Baguio on his first tour of the city since he arrived on April 11.

During the two-hour trip the President visited the GSIS housing project at Leonila Hill Drive around Burnham Park, then proceeded to the Baguio Country Club. On hand to greet the President and his party was Mrs. Keith Reed, club manager.

From the clubhouse, the President motored to the Guest House, arriving there at 11:30 a.m. He then received Msgr. William Brasseur, Mountain Province Apostolic Vicar, and Rev. Fr. Mariano Gaviola of the Catholic Welfare Organization, who came to pay their respects.

At noon the President and the First Lady took the guests to the picnic grove where luncheon was served to some 300 government officials, prominent citizens, newspapermen, and friends. The luncheon was half through when a heavy downpour forced President and Mrs. Garcia and their guests to seek shelter at the Guest House.

THE COUNCIL of Leaders this evening endorsed President Garcia's stand on the raging controversy over the stationing of nuclear weapons and missiles in the country.

The President called the Council of Leaders to a conference primarily to take up the 10-year-old question of overstaying Chinese.

However, the meeting was dominated by discussion on the missiles question.

Earlier, President Garcia rejected a suggestion that the National Security Council be convened to resolve the controversy.

The plan was broached by majority and minority legislators led by Rep. Ramon P. Mitra of Mountain Province, chairman of the House committee on foreign affairs, and Senate Minority Leader Ferdinand E. Marcos.

President Garcia discounted the plan even as Administration leaders prepared the ground to reconcile the view of the President with that of Senator Claro M. Recto, who had differed with the Chief Executive on the question.

After the conference, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable issued the following statement:

"The President informed the Council of Leaders of his interview with the 'Associated Press' and his subsequent clarification thereof.

"After a careful exchange of views, the Council of Leaders decided to endorse the President's position."

Present at the conference were Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez; Speaker Daniel Romualdez; Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias; Sen. Gil Puyat, vice-chairman of the Senate committee on foreign affairs; Sen. Roseller Lim, chairman of the Senate committee on immigration; Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda; House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer; and Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez, chairman of the House committee on immigration.

The President told newsmen the proposal to call the National Security Council is “unnecessary.”

He broadly hinted that he was amenable to meeting Recto to resolve their conflict of views over the presidential bid for conventional nuclear weapons for the country’s defense.

President Garcia indicated that Recto’s views would crystallize only after the approval of the disarmament question at the May summit conference of the Big Powers.

THIS evening the President also conferred with leaders of Virginia tobacco growers on the problem of exporting surplus low-grade Virginia tobacco and reconciling the problems of the sugar and the Virginia tobacco industries.

Present at the tobacco conference were Sens. Cipriano Primicias, Quintin Paredes, and Ferdinand Marcos; Reps. Lucas Paredes, Francisco Ortega, Manuel Cases, and Faustino Tobia; and Govs. Godofredo Reyes and De Guzman.

Members of the Council of Leaders who conferred with President Garcia were Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez and Senators Cipriano Primicias and Gil J. Puyat, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, and Reps. Jose Aldeguer and Nicanor Yniguez. Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano was also present.

MEANWHILE, President Garcia congratulated BIR Commissioner Melecio Domingo, who reported an increase ₱38 million in collections of the Bureau of Internal Revenue during the period from July of 1959 to January of 1960 over the collections made during the corresponding period the previous fiscal year. Domingo reported that the collections amounted to ₱377.4 million compared to ₱339.4 million the previous year.

He also reported to the President that of this amount the BIR collected ₱247.5 million and the Bureau of Customs, ₱45 million. Compared to budget estimates for the same period, Domingo said that the BIR collections shows an increase of ₱14 million while Customs collections surpassed the estimates by ₱4.4 million.

Domingo informed the President that substantial increases came from income tax collections (₱18 million) and business tax (₱10.7 million).

Actual receipts through Customs from compensating and advance sales tax also showed an increased of ₱7.3 million. Domingo added that the tax collection campaign can be more successful if people can be made more tax conscious.

April 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia today gave his fiscal advisers ten days within which to submit a satisfactory gradual decontrol plan.

At a conference which took place from breakfast to noontime, the President told the fiscal advisers to study thoroughly certain features of the plan, particularly those pertaining to labor and new industries.

Present at the conference were Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, PNB President Eduardo Romualdez, Governor Miguel Cuaderno of the Central Bank, NEC Chairman Dr. Jose Locsin, and Chairman Gregorio Licaros of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

At noon the President was given luncheon at the presidential suite of the Pines Hotel by officials of the Reparations Commission. After lunch the President discussed the scheduling of reparations items for next year. Those who had lunch with the President were Chairman Rodolfo Maslog and Commissioners Juan Alberto and Gregorio Abad.

Before his conference with the reparations officials, the President received a resolution from the provincial board of Pangasinan endorsing and giving full support to the Chief Executive’s campaign against graft and corruption. Pangasinan officials who handed the resolution to the President were Gov. Conrado F. Estrella, Vice-Governor Nancy Q. Sison, and Mrs. Dolores Acuña, Cesario Tigno, and Adriatico Golea, board members.

After his conference with the reparations officials, the President received Enrique Bouffard. Then he proceeded to the Guest House where he arrived about 3 p.m.

The President did not receive any callers in the afternoon. He went over the final draft of the speech to be delivered before school superintendents early tomorrow morning. He is scheduled to return to Manila immediately after delivering his speech.

April 19.—THIS morning the President told Filipino educators to keep up the role played by institutions of learning in the rapid advances achieved in the fields of business and industries.

Addressing some 500 school officials at the 51st annual convention of superintendents of schools at the Teachers' Camp in Baguio, the President said that "the advances we have so far achieved must go on and on because to stop now would mean stagnation and retrogression."

The President emphasized before the school officials the need to stress instruction in vocational competence and productivity and to give due emphasis on science and technology.

The Chief Executive also cited the need for educating the people on the proper exploitation and utilization of the country's vast mineral resources.

The President said that proper exploitation and utilization of natural resources God has endowed the country, such as the iron deposits in Zamboanga, the Sierra Madre, Rizal, Camarines provinces, Samar, and Marinduque, and the ₱270 billion laterite reserves, the world's biggest, in Surigao, the oil, rubber, fish, and forest resources, will insure for the Philippines "an impregnable industrial position in this age of the machine and the atom."

The President, however, deplored the fact that despite incessant campaigns by government agencies, the people through obvious ignorance cause undue destruction to the fish and wildlife, and so much denudation to forests which may some day bring about a national catastrophe.

The Chief Executive called on the Filipino youth to "look forward to greater participation in the fields of science to make life in this country abundant, creative, and ennobling."

On the part of the government, the President assured the people that the serious effort to promote scientific research will continue. The President said the Science Act of 1958, which created the National Science Development Board, is aimed to achieve this end through a nationwide search for scientific talent among the young.

"Let me give my full encouragement to this activity," the President said. "For I believe that, without in any way underestimating the potentialities of the common man who is, after all, the sinew and strength of the nation, we have to discover the talented among our school children—such as those talented in science—and accord them every possible opportunity to develop their gift."

The President also expressed the desire to increase economic-mindedness among the youth in school. He said that whether they are decided to pursue vocational or academic courses, the curriculum must be built on the principle that work and toil—at times mental and at times manual—are part of general education.

Touching on a well-rounded educational system in the Philippines, the President told the educators that as Filipinos the youth should know more of things Philippines and that any deficiency in this direction should be minimized by the adoption of the "Filipino First" policy in the school.

The President was fetched from the Guest House by Secretary Romero and Abdon Javier, president of the Philippine Association of School Superintendents.

After delivering his 40-minute speech and posing for a few pictures with school officials, the President returned to the Guest House to fetch the First Lady, and then motored to Damortis for the return trip to Manila.

The presidential train pulled out of Damortis at 11:50 a.m. and arrived at Tutuban Station at 4:25 in the afternoon.

The President today assured the release of an initial outlay to help the coconut industry and for the implementation of Republic Act No. 2282, otherwise known as the Coconut Financing Act.

The President gave this assurance in an interview with Congressman Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, who interceded for coconut planters who are being exploited by alien middlemen and usurers.

Rep. Guinto, who rode to Manila aboard the presidential train which left Damortis at noon, reminded the President during the train interview that the law will go into effect in August this year.

Republic Act No. 2282, which was signed into law by President Garcia last August sets up a ₱30 million fund to extend credit facilities to coconut planters at the low rate of 2.5 per cent interest per annum.

The President told Rep. Guinto that the coconut planters should form cooperatives and associations as a requisite for the extension of credit facilities because, under R. A. 2282, loans will not be granted to individual planters but to groups or associations of planters.

President Garcia today flayed Liberal Party leaders for their "wild guess and assumption" as he assured that no secret pact has been entered into with the United States on the establishment of nuclear and missile bases in this country.

After returning from Baguio and shortly before sailing for Bacolod City this evening, the President expressed surprise at the attitude that the Liberals had taken on this score, especially since they are aware of a constitutional provision that no treaty or pact can be approved unless ratified by the Philippine Senate.

President Garcia emphasized that in a democracy like ours there cannot be a so-called secret pact or agreement because a pact is a government-to-government negotiation needing approval and consultation with Congress.

The President said that despite this knowledge of state matters and procedure the Liberals have apparently made a wild guess and assumption.

He reiterated his previous decision that there is no reason to convene the National Security Council.

April 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning sought seclusion in his cabin aboard the *Lapu-Lapu* to study pending state matters.

The Chief Executive deplored the delay which he said would affect Manilans and residents in the suburbs who have been suffering because of the water and power shortage.

The President and the First Lady heard mass aboard the presidential yacht at 8:30 a.m. They had breakfast and lunch alone in their cabin.

After lunch the President conferred with Rep. Inocencio Ferrer on important projects in the second district of Negros Occidental.

In the afternoon, President Garcia received Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno and discussed the postponement of the Marikina Multipurpose project from April 22 to May 24.

The *Lapu-Lapu* plowed through practically calm waters and was expected to be 15 miles west of Panay at 8 in the evening. Lt. Cmdr. Manlapit, skipper of the yacht, estimated that the ship would reach Cauyaun at 7:30 a.m. tomorrow. Cauyaun is some 130 miles south of Bacolod.

April 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia disclosed today a plan to establish a coconut mill in Cauyaun, in Negros Occidental, to boost the coconut industry in that province.

The President promised that upon his return, to Manila, he will direct the Philippine Coconut Administration to put up in Cauyaun a coconut mill. It will be the first coconut mill in the province.

The occasion was the inauguration of the ₱338,000 bridge and the ₱47,000 municipal building of Cauyaun.

The President arrived in Cauayan at 7 a.m. with the First Lady on board the *RPs Lapu-Lapu* for a series of inauguration ceremonies in Negros Occidental and Bacolod City.

This is the first time a President ever visited the sleepy-town of Cauyaun, and townfolks celebrated the occasion of President Garcia's arrival with a fluvial parade complete with brass bands from the wharf to the town church where the President and party heard *Te Deum*.

President Garcia and the First Lady offered flowers after the *Te Deum* to St Paul, patron saint of the town, and then led a motorcade to barrio Isio for the inauguration of the ₱338,000 bridge, together with Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, Reps. Inocencio Ferrer, Vicente Gustilo, and Agustin Gatuslao, and town Mayor Clodualdo Perez.

From barrio Isio, the President and party returned to town for the inauguration of the Cauyaun municipal hall where the First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon.

The President addressed in the Cebuano dialect the townspeople and delegations coming from all towns of the third district. He was roundly applauded.

After the municipal hall inauguration, President Garcia and party boarded the *Lapu-Lapu* and proceeded to Pulupandan where he was scheduled to arrive at 3 p.m.

The President later motored to Bacolod to inaugurate the ₱3 million waterworks system which will greatly alleviate the acute water shortage in that city.

April 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia disclosed today that he will call Congress to a special session for constitutional changes he had proposed in his state-of-the-nation address to Congress.

He has abandoned previous plans of asking Congress to discuss amendments to the Constitution before adjourning its current session next month, for lack of time.

In an interview aboard the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* enroute to Manila from Bacolod City, the President also:

1. Said he was calling ACCFA Administrator Vicente Araneta and the governors of the state corporation next week to settle their policy differences which threaten to disrupt ACCFA operations.
2. Announced he was extending his forthcoming state visit to Taipei by one day on a request of the Chinese Nationalist government. The original trip schedule is May 2-7.

During his Taipei stay the President will be conferred an honorary degree—his ninth—by the University of Taiwan.

The presidential party will be composed of about 12 to 14 members.

The President declared he would skip the question on the 10-year-old problem involving 2,700 overstaying Chinese in the Philippines during his state visit to Taipei.

The Chief Executive said he has decided to keep silent temporarily on this issue, as it would not be conducive to his projected goodwill visit to Formosa.

President Garcia appeared in buoyant spirit this morning apparently as the reception in Occidental Negros far exceeded his expectations.

After breakfast he met newsmen and chatted with them up to lunch-time. After lunch he retired to his cabin for rest.

The ship left Bacolod at 6 a.m. and, in spite of choppy sea and rain, it raced to avoid the depression reportedly in Surigao.

Heavy sea kept most of the presidential party in their cabins and very few ventured to lunch.

However, at 8 p.m., the waves subsided and the yacht proceeded smoothly up north of Dumalig, Mindoro, leaving the depression about 200 miles behind.

April 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned from a four-day trip to Bacolod City, where he inaugurated several projects in Negros Occidental in a fresh bid to strengthen his political position in that sugarland.

The yacht *Lapu-Lapu*, which withstand the effects of a trailing tropical storm, docked at the Manila harbor at 8:30 o'clock this morning.

The President was met at the pier by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, chief of the Constabulary.

The President, upon landing in Manila, proceeded to his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

The President was in a light mood after his successful trip, during which he conferred with Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno on the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee's proposal to delay the construction of the Marikina multi-million project.

Moreno also discussed with the President the implementation of Reorganization Plan 60, which may revamp the Public Service Commission.

The President assured Secretary Moreno he would study the reorganization plan first before he starts implementing the proposal.

President Garcia also discussed with newsmen varied subjects, including his decision to send Brig. Gen. Alfredo Santos to the United States to study the intricacies of missiles and nuclear weapons. However, the President carefully referred to nuclear and missiles as "modern weapons."

"If one wants to study the antiquated forms of arms," the President told newsmen, "he should go to a museum."

IN the evening he received Ambassador Narciso Ramos, Philippine envoy to Taipei, who returned today to confer with the President on the latter's projected state visit to Taipei.

Ramos assured the President that there was high enthusiasm in the projected visit of the Chief Executive to Formosa early next month.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: April 24-30, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

April 24.—EARLY this morning the President and the First Lady were fetched from their Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City by Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, and Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, chief of the Philippine Air Force, to the Araneta Coliseum where they heard a welcome mass celebrated by Rufino J. Cardinal Santos.

After the mass the President and the First Lady returned home for breakfast.

He spent most of the day at his study room where he went over the draft of his many speeches which he will deliver during his state visit to Taipei.

PRESIDENT Garcia today issued Executive Order No. 391, declaring Mangagoy, in Bislig, Surigao, open to both foreign and coastwise trade.

In declaring Mangagoy a subport of entry, the President took cognizance of the necessity to stimulate commerce and trade in Surigao and nearby provinces by providing an outlet for their products.

The subport of Mangagoy will be administratively under the jurisdiction of the collector of customs of Tacloban, who shall assign the necessary personnel and prescribe rules and regulations for the conduct of business at such port, with the approval of the secretary of finance.

The commissioner of immigration and the director of quarantine will also assign personnel from their offices to take charge of immigration and quarantine matters at said port.

April 25.—THE President directed Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto and Councilor Conrado Benitez to confer with General Manager Bernardo Torres of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation on the problem of relocating ousted squatters from the Quezon Memorial Park. The two officials saw the President to find ways and means of relocating squatters at the Quezon Memorial Park.

The President also told the Quezon City officials to coordinate plan with Labor Secretary Angel Castaño on the creation of an employment service and construction of tenement houses for laborers in Quezon City.

The QC officials told the President that while Quezon City is growing and expanding, its housing and unemployment problems are growing more acute.

Mayor Amoranto said that the demolition of squatter houses in the national park in Quezon City has already started with 50 houses already demolished. He said some 2,000 families will be displaced by the demolition order which will pose a serious social problem in that city.

The President also received William Hunt, chairman of the Security Columbian Banknote Company, who took up with the President the plan to set up a \$7 million security printing plant in the Philippines to print Philippine currencies.

Hunt told the President the plant will ultimately print in addition stamps, stocks and bonds, and other business forms utilizing local raw materials for the purpose.

The President told Hunt to discuss the plan thoroughly with Secretary Serafin Salvador of the General Services.

Hunt was accompanied by Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato.

President Garcia today assured officials of the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company that the government telephone system would not compete with the PLDT.

The President expressed belief that the two systems can co-exist and suggested that the PLDT officials discuss arrangements with Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno to effect close coordination.

The President gave this assurance during an official call this morning in which the PLDT officials told the President that the Company will soon undertake a ₱107 million modernization and expansion program in the country.

The PLDT officials who called on the President were H. W. Reed, general manager; R. Hugh, vice-president and comptroller; and Gabriel Daza, vice-president and treasurer.

The President today said five Cabinet members and three Congress members, including one representing the opposition, will accompany him in his six-day state visit to Taipei, Formosa. The First Lady will accompany the President.

The presidential party is scheduled to leave on the morning of May 2, 1960, and will return to Manila on May 7, 1960. The presidential trip is purely one of goodwill and in acceptance of an invitation formally sent in by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

President Garcia today approved the opening of bids for telecommunications equipment in Tokyo for the expansion and improvement projects of the Bureau of Telecommunications.

In a communication sent to the General Auditing Office, the President decided that the procurement of capital goods and services for financing the expansion and improvement of the Bureau of Telecommunications shall be effected in the manner provided for the procurement of any reparations goods by any government agency as provided in Republic Act No. 1789, as amended by Republic Act No. 2611.

The General Auditing Office had previously sent an inquiry to the President.

President Garcia today granted a 24-hour extension to Bureau of Supply Director Aguedo Y. Gepte within which to answer charges of gross negligence, dishonesty, and incompetence filed against him.

The President denied Gepte's petition for a one-week extension. The 24-hour extension will expire tomorrow, April 26. The 72 hours previously given Gepte expired last Friday, April 22.

April 26.—TO RESIDENT Garcia today instructed Ambassador Jose Ma. Delgado to convey personally to Pope John XXIII the gratitude of the Filipino people for the naming of the first Filipino cardinal.

Ambassador Delgado, who had accompanied Rufino J. Cardinal Santos from Rome to the Philippines, came to say goodbye before returning to the Vatican tomorrow to resume his post after a brief stay here.

The President also received Enrique Bouffard, who is embarking on a project to provide barrio people and poor fishermen with cheaper lamps which will be mass-produced in the Philippines.

The President devoted most of his time clearing his desk of important matters and preparing some speeches which he will deliver during his state visit to Taipei next week.

April 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today told the officials of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration to reconcile their differences of opinions and work together for the interest of farmers.

The President summoned the ACCFA officials to a conference in Malacañang this morning after he had expressed grave concern over reported wranglings between the administration and the management which, he said, “might hamper ACCFA operations.”

After hearing both sides during the lengthy session, the President concluded that there were no fundamental differences involved and that management and administration should maintain close harmony to make the ACCFA succeed in its mission.

The bone of contention between Administrator Vicente Araneta and the Board was a contract entered into between the old board and a private contractor for the hauling of hogshead of tobacco at ₱14.85 per hogshead when the ACCFA could have obtained it at ₱11.50 under a special rate.

Administrator Araneta had questioned its legality and wanted the contract abrogated.

The ACCFA Board, however, informed the President that the Department of Justice had laid down a ruling declaring the contract legal and that the corporation could not unilaterally abrogate it.

Araneta was later able to obtain a reduction of the rate stipulated in the contract to ₱12.85 per hogshead, effecting a total saving of ₱63,000 for the ACCFA.

The President told the ACCFA officials that since the corporation had relinquished its tobacco operations to the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration, it was up to the PVTa to decide whether or not to abrogate the contract.

The President said the ACCFA activities need the full attention of both management and administration and that it would do well for them to cooperate and maintain harmony within the corporation.

Among those present during the conference were Administrator Araneta, ACCFA Governors Celestino Paulin, Jose Ma. Gomez, Apolinario Marasigan, Leopoldo Uichangco, Lorenzo Sarmiento, and Rafael Piguing.

Earlier, the President received a delegation from Leyte, headed by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez and Gov. Ildefonso Cinco.

The delegation requested the release of funds for aid and the reconstruction of provincial and national roads destroyed by the last rains and typhoons.

Gov. Cinco said that it would need at least ₱1.6 million to repair the roads by landslides and floods caused by the heavy rains in Leyte.

Those who called on the President with Speaker Romualdez and Gov. Cinco were Vice-Governor Ramon Torres, Jr., Board Member Emiliano Melgazo, Tacloban City Mayor Artemio Mate, and others.

The President also received Ex-President Sergio Osmeña, who called to say goodbye before returning to Cebu after spending a few weeks vacation in Baguio and Manila.

Another morning caller was Bohol Gov. Esteban Bernido.

PLEDGES to intensify and broaden the base of friendship, trade, and cultural relations already existing between the Philippines and the Netherlands were exchanged this afternoon by President Garcia and the New Netherlands Ambassador Reinhard Neuerburg at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

The pledges were exchanged when Ambassador Neuerburg presented to the President Garcia his letter of credence signed by Her Majesty Queen Juliana, accrediting Neuerburg as the Netherlands ambassador.

For the past two years, the new ambassador had been accredited to the Philippine Government as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the Netherlands to the Philippines. His government promoted him in rank.

Upon arrival at Malacañang, Ambassador Neuerburg received full military honors from a crack unit of the Presidential Guards Battalion.

Present at the ceremony were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug, representing Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo, Administrator Juan O. Chioco of the Economic Coordination, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, Malacañang protocol officer Manuel Zamora, Minister Manuel Collantes, DFA protocol officer Rodolfo Nazareno.

President Garcia today extended the tour of duty of Brig. Gen Isagani V. Campo, PC chief, beyond last March 7 when he was supposed to have retired for completing 30 years of service.

The Palace directives signed by Executive Secretary Natalio Castillo and addressed to Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, said Campo's tour was extended "until further advice."

A copy of the directive was hand-carried to Campo's residence by a military assistant of Secretary Castillo.

Campo headed a list of several officers scheduled to retire within the first six months of this year. However, it could not immediately be determined whether the President acted on the others' retirement.

THE banning of moving pictures produced in communist countries was decided this evening by President Garcia and his Cabinet.

The ban was prompted by reports that a current movie in a downtown theater was produced in Russia-controlled East Germany.

President Garcia explained the Philippines has neither diplomatic nor trade relations with communist countries.

He directed Executive Secretary Natalio Castillo to investigate reports that the showing of the film was approved only by one member of the movie censor's board. The usual board practice is to review a film by at least a committee of three.

The Cabinet also discussed the question of whether the government should allow persons other than the tenant-occupants to buy subdivided lots of a 45-hectare portion of the San Pedro Tunasan estate in Laguna which the Land Tenure Administration is buying from Zoilo Alberto, its present owner. Alberto is said to be willing to sell the property.

The question cropped up because the land has been converted into residential after the Supreme Court decision in 1954 allowing the government to expropriate the property.

Mabanag told the Cabinet that, if the sale of the lots were limited to the tenant-occupants, they would be occupying portions as big as four hectares.

No decision was reached by the Cabinet pending further study of the question.

The President adjourned the Cabinet meeting shortly after 8 o'clock and motored to the Far Eastern University auditorium, where he addressed the Tenth Asian Conference of Jaycees.

In his speech the President extolled the valuable role of the Jaycees in fostering friendship, mutual understanding, and mutual help among nations of Asia in order to promote trade and political stability.

April 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning boarded the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* to give him ample time to go over the draft of his speeches which he intended to deliver during the course of his six-day state visit to Taipei early next week.

Before going to the boat, the President conferred with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo on pending state problems needing the attention of the Chief Executive.

The President saw Castillo first before he went into isolation aboard the yacht. He had been going over the draft of the several speeches and he wanted them completed before the week-end.

The President returned to Malacañang in the afternoon where he received a big delegation of fishermen affiliated with the Federation of Free Farmers.

This afternoon the President pledged all possible government assistance to improve the economic situation of small fishermen to about 3,000 members of the Federation of Free Fishermen of the Philippines who went to Malacañang in a flotilla of small motorized fishing bancas.

The President pointed out that he had issued a directive to Chairman Gregorio Licaros of the Development Bank of the Philippines to set aside the sum of ₱50 million annually for small character loans to fishermen as one of the measures adopted by the Administration in its efforts to promote the well-being of the fishermen.

He also explained the efforts of the government in stamping out fishing with dynamite in order to conserve the marine resources of the country. He pleaded for the support of the fishermen in this regard.

The Chief Executive said that the small fishermen should not shirk from their duty to expose illegal dynamite fishermen who are rapidly depleting the fishing areas.

With respect to the request of the fishermen for more dollars for the importation of kerosene lamps, outboard motors, and other fishing paraphernalia, the President said it would get top priority from the Central Bank.

He told the fishermen to improve their fishing techniques in order to catch more fish and in this way help the country preserve dollars which are being used for the importation of canned fish products.

The President expressed the fear that once the importation of canned fish products is stopped as requested by the fishermen, the price of fish in local markets would start to rise because the local catch is not sufficient at present to feed the whole country.

The demolition of illegally constructed dykes in Pampanga and Bulacan, as ordered by the President and the Cabinet, is being delayed by affected landowners who have resorted to court actions, the President explained.

The President also said he would direct the dredging of the canal leading to the Fishermen's Village in Tondo, as petitioned by Arcadio Nuestro, president of the *Samahang Mangingisda*.

Former Agriculture Secretary Juan de G. Rodriguez, who spoke before the President, cited the efforts of the government to encourage deep sea fishing and establish more canneries.

April 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia today reiterated his determination to pursue relentlessly the campaign against graft and corruption in the government.

Speaking before some 160 city and provincial treasurers and assessors this morning aboard the yacht *Lapu-Lapu*, the President assured the local fiscal officials that the government was in earnest and that they can do a lot to make the campaign a success by making themselves the first line of defense.

The President pointed out that most malversation and misappropriation acts are committed where public money is handled, such as in the treasurers' offices, and that it is always better to prevent a crime at the source than to impose punishment after it had already been committed.

The President appealed to the treasurers and assessors to apply the old adage an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," which he said, is realistically correct in this case.

The treasurers and assessors who called on the President aboard the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* to wish him *bon voyage* on his trip to Taiwan were led by, Albay Provincial Treasurer Jorge Labayo, president; Rizal Assessor Jose Perez, vice-president; Pampanga Provincial Treasurer Ambrosio Canivel, treasurer; Quezon Provincial Assessor E. Antona, secretary; Wilfredo Chiong, PRO; and Candido Enriquez of Bataan, Doroteo Joson of Nueva Ecija, Juan Taala of Negros Occidental, Hadji Urang Naga of Lanao del Sur, Amado Oliveros of Caloocan, Rizal, Sergio Calizo of Mambusao, Capiz, and Manuel Pacana of El Salvador, Misamis Oriental, representatives.

Earlier, the President received another big group composed of municipal and city court judges who are currently holding their convention in Manila.

The members of the Association of City and Municipal Judges petitioned the President to certify to Congress the urgency of a bill including them in the retirement law.

The local judges told the President that as a result of the grant of more local autonomy, they are now handling over 50 per cent of cases which formerly were handled by the courts of first instance, and that they are now courts of record.

The President was applauded when he assured them that he will certify to the urgency of the retirement bill to Congress so that they can also avail of the benefits of the Retirement Law.

The 40-man delegation was headed by Judge Andres Sta. Maria of the Manila municipal court, president, and Judge Generoso A. Buendia of Baguio City, treasurer.

Another caller on the President was Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, who briefed the Chief Executive on the progress of the clean-up drive of the Department of Finance and the initial effects of the decontrol plan.

The President also received SEATO naval officers who are in Manila with a 43-ship flotilla to put into effect Operation "Sea Lions" designed to improve defense coordination and training in naval tactics.

The officials who were accompanied by Commodore Jose Francisco, chief of the Philippine Navy, were Rear Adm. W. H. Harrington, flag officer and in command of the Australian fleet; Rear Adm. V. C. Begg, flag officer and second in command of the British fleet in the Far East; Rear Adm. J. D. Black, commander of the U.S. 17th carrier division; Commander R. A. Muntaz, commander of the anti-submarine brigade, Pakistan; Gapt. J. M. Goutier, French anti-aircraft destroyer commander; and Lt. T. B. Florendo, commander of RPS *Zamboanga*, Philippines.

The President also received Sens. Alejandro Almendras, Roseller T. Lim, and Domocao Alonto, who discussed MINSUPALA affairs with him.

A group of Japanese businessmen also called on the President and presented the Chief Executive with a transistorized, wall clock manufactured in Japan.

Those who called on the President, accompanied by PHHC Gen. Manager Bernardo Torres, were Y. Yoshioka and M. Matsuda, president and sales manager, respectively, of Tokyo Electric; Mike S. Miura and Toshio Iguchi, of Toho Industrial Co.; and Juan P. Juan and V. Labayong, president and vice-president, respectively, of the J. P. Juan and Co., local distributors of Toshiba transistors, transistorized clocks, and fluorescent lamps.

President Garcia today conveyed to Japanese Emperor Hirohito “warmest greetings and sincerest felicitations” on the occasion of the latter’s 59th birthday anniversary.

April 30.—THIS morning the President received a delegation of schools superintendents headed by Fructuoso Yanson of Negros Occidental. Yanson is the new president of the association of school superintendents.

The schools superintendents were accompanied to Malacañang by Education Secretary Jose E. Romero.

After receiving the superintendents, the President motored to Caloocan, Rizal, where he opened the newly-constructed ₱1.3 million hospital of the Manila Railroad Company.

After coming from the MRR hospital in Caloocan, President Garcia inducted the new officers of the Government Prosecutors League of the Philippines and found it a fitting occasion to enlist the government fiscals behind his anti-graft campaign.

The President was fetched from Malacañang by Solicitor General Edilberto Barot and Chief Prosecutor Baldomero Villamor.

Early this morning the President boarded the yacht *Lapu-Lapu*, where he went over the final drafts of his speeches which he will deliver during the course of his six-day state visit to Taipei.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: May 1-7, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

May 1 —THIS morning the President motored to the Nichols Airport where he was honored by the Philippine Air Force on the occasion of the silver jubilee ceremonies of the PAF.

In a brief speech the President reiterated his policy of supporting any move to prevent another world war.

He deplored war as a dissipation of huge amounts appropriated for armaments which he said could have been channeled to more useful and peaceful means.

This afternoon the President led the nation in paying tribute to labor and the workingman.

In a prepared address which he read at the New Luneta, the President said his administration was supporting any move to help labor and explained further his Filipino First policy to wrest control of the local economy from aliens.

The President motored to the Luneta at 4:30 o'clock and delivered a 30-minute address.

He expounded on the need of utilizing Filipino workers in factories and other fields of enterprise as he underscored the full implementation of his policy of economic nationalism.

Significantly, the President harped anew on his Filipino First policy on the eve of his departure for a six-day state visit to Taipei where he will surely face the issue of economic nationalism in Taipei.

In the evening the President conferred with former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, who returned the other day from Taipei where he supervised preparations by Philippine embassy officials for the six-day state visit of the Chief Executive beginning today.

Pajo was reported to have told the President of the general enthusiasm in Taipei for President Garcia's coming visit.

This enthusiasm was believed generated by the numerous problems confronting the relations between the Philippines and Taipei.

May 2. —THIS morning President Garcia flew to Taipei for a six-day state visit in acceptance of a long-standing invitation of the Chinese Nationalist Government.

Accompanying the Chief Executive on his visit were the First Lady, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, National Defense Secretary Alejo Santos Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Sen. Gil J. Puyat, Reps. Ramon P. Mitra of Mt. Province and Benedicto Padilla of Rizal, Fernando Campos, and Col. Jorge Delarmente, senior aide.

Before leaving for Taipei, the President issued an executive order laying down the procedure to be followed in the conduct of public affairs during his week-long absence from the country.

The order provides that the Chief Executive shall continue to exercise the functions of his office in the same manner as when he is in the Philippines.

The order empowers Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to sign all papers that are ordinarily signed by him by or under the authority of the President. It also authorized the holding of meetings of the Cabinet with the Secretary of Finance presiding.

The President and the First Lady, after hearing an early mass and receiving Holy Communion, left Malacañang for the airport at 7:30 am accompanied by friends and well-wishers, and preceded by a motorcycle escort.

The motorcade passed through Ayala to Dewey Boulevard where two bamboo arches, one put up by the Chinese community, bade the President and his party *bon voyage* and success.

Along Pasay streets, the presidential route was lined with some 30 streamers giving the President and his party a warm send-off.

At 8 a.m., as soon as the presidential party reached the Domestic airport, a 21-gun salute boomed in welcome, after which the President reviewed a composite battalion of the Army, Constabulary, Navy, and Airforce which formed his guard of honor.

After the review the President ascended the ramp of the sleek PAL Viscount plane (PI-C772) that was to take him and his party to Taipei.

At the last minute before take-off (8:30 a.m.), upon the repeated clamor of his well-wishers, the President appeared again at the plane's door and waved good-bye to the big crowd.

The crowd of well-wishers who saw the President off at the Manila International Airport were led by Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Mrs. Luisa Rodriguez (wife of Senate President Rodriguez who was indisposed) Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, Justice Sabino Padilla, Apostolic Nuncio Salvatore Siino, Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, AFP chief of staff, and other ranking officials of the executive, legislative, and judiciary branches of the government.

The President waited for a member of his official party, Mrs. Paz Romualdez, who arrived at the airport at exactly 8:29 o'clock. Mrs. Romualdez was accompanied by the Speaker.

Reports reaching Manila from Taipei said the usually bad weather which had imperilled plane flights to the Taiwan capital cleared this day to give the presidential aircraft a safe landing.

However, an hour after the President's arrival, weather worsened anew in Taipei preventing the return flight of the PAL plane.

Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek were on hand at the Sung-shan military airport to greet personally President and Mrs. Garcia.

The Generalissimo and Madame Chiang walked up the red carpet to the ramp of the President's plane as the President and Mrs. Garcia descended from the PAL plane.

President Garcia and the Generalissimo mounted a red-covered dais while a military band played the Philippine and Chinese national anthems. A 21-gun salute boomed to greet President Garcia.

Following the airport ceremonies, Generalissimo Chiang rode with his distinguished visitor to the Golden Dragon wing of the Grand Hotel along a processional route teeming with throngs waving Chinese and Filipino flags.

The President and the First Lady had lunch at the Yuan Shan, which will be their residence while in Taipei.

Vice-President and Madame Chen Seng greeted the President and Mrs. Garcia at their quarters.

President Garcia and Generalissimo Chiang exchanged decorations. The day's schedule was capped by a state dinner given by Generalissimo and Madame Chiang at the presidential office building last night.

May 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia, on the second day of his six-day state visit to Taipei, visited Taoyuan, some 28 miles away from Taipei, to view the land reform and rural reconstruction program.

The land reform program in Taoyuan has been one of the important visitors' spots Taiwan always lines up to its guests.

President Garcia lauded the Chinese Nationalists' land reforms as "one of the most successful in the world."

He observed that the land reforms in Taoyuan has eased the population pressure in the island of Taiwan.

Before motoring to Taoyuan, the President received Mayor Huang Chi-jui of Taipei. Mayor Huang was recently re-elected mayor of the Taiwan capital. He presented to the Philippine President the symbolic key to the city.

The Taipei mayor was a recent Manila visitor and recalled his visit to the Philippines. He is Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson's friend. He also recalled that he had also met Mayor Macario Asistio of Caloocan, Rizal.

Before receiving the Taipei mayor, the President motored to the martyr's shrine and laid a wreath at the tomb of 500 soldiers who gave their lives defending the last citadel of Taoyuan, capital of Shensi province.

In his trip to Taoyuan the President was favored by clearer weather. The thick fog which had imperilled air travel in Taiwan had dissipated.

The President also visited the China Artificial Fiber Corporation in Toufeng.

The President had lunch at Toufeng and then motored to the Institute of Nuclear Science of the National Sing Hua University.

The President followed a tight schedule, unaware that routinary military alert in South Formosa had caused a furor in the Philippines.

May 4. —UNDAUNTED by the "red alert" in Formosa, President and Mrs. Garcia went through their schedule this day and flew to Kangshan in Central Taiwan to review the vaunted Chinese Nationalist Airforce. At the airbase the President witnessed performance of air acrobatics of Chinese Nationalist flyers.

From Kangshan, the President flew to Kaohsiung to view the base of the Chinese Nationalist Navy. The President was accompanied on this tour by Chinese Vice-President and Premier Chen Cheng.

The President was impressed by the air and naval forces of the Chinese Nationalist Government and their indoctrination rallying them behind their leader, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

Before leaving for these two military bases, the President was briefed by military officials at the Ministry of National Defense. He was cautioned against getting alarmed at news reports of a "red alert." Military officials in Taiwan told the President that Formosa has always been on "red alert" since the Communists took over the China mainland.

President and Mrs. Garcia are scheduled to visit the Kaohsiung Refinery of the Chinese Petroleum Corporation.

After receiving military honors at the Chinese naval base, the President and the First Lady were scheduled to stay overnight at the Taipei Lake Hotel. But before retiring for the night, the President will visit the Kaoshiung harbor aboard a launch. Then they will visit the Taiwan Aluminum Corporation plant, the Fusing Lumber Mill, and later return to the Tapei Lake Hotel.

May 5. —PRESIDENT Garcia spent the four days of his six-day State visit to Formosa visiting places in that Chinese Nationalist island stronghold. He stayed overnight at the Grand Hotel in Kaohsiung, Central Formosa, and visited Pintung where he inspected units of the Chinese Nationalist Army this morning.

After spending 20 minutes in Pintung, the President boarded a plane for Taichung, Central Formosa, where he had lunch with Gov. Chow Chih-jou of Taiwan province.

The President was originally scheduled to spend last night at the Tapei Lake Hotel. However, he spent the night at the Grand Hotel in Kaohsiung after he was informed that the lake hotel did not have air-conditioning facilities. It was hot and humid in Central Formosa.

From Taichung, the President flew back to Taipei and arrived at the Formosan capital in mid-afternoon. President Garcia rested at the Yuan Shan, his quarters in Taipei, which is at the Dragon Court of the Grand Hotel.

After resting at his quarters, the President addressed the Sino-Philippine Cultural and Economic Association and other Chinese civic organizations. The affair was given in honor of the visiting Philippine Chief Executive.

President Garcia, in his first public address, traced the friendly relations between the Philippines and China.

He recalled from Philippine history that Chinese sampans and traders had reached the Philippine archipelago even before Magellan discovered the islands.

The President also informed his listeners that Dr. Jose Rizal, the foremost Filipino hero, and former President Sergio Osmeña have Chinese blood. It was a revelation that had assured his listeners of more substantial gains in the President's scheduled talks with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek today.

In his speech before the Sino-Philippine Cultural and Economic Association, the President assured his Chinese Nationalist audience of the Philippine position to oppose Communism. He recalled that the Philippines has always voted against the seating of Communist China in the United Nations.

EXECUTIVE Secretary Natalio P. Castillo today ordered the immediate termination of the services of all municipal, barrio, and rural policemen and special agents working without compensation or with the nominal salary of one peso per annum, in compliance with a provincial executive order signed by President Garcia before his departure for Taipei.

The order was issued in view of reports that certain municipal executives had appointed special policemen and agents and granted them all powers and privileges of police officers, including the power to possess high-powered firearms.

Secretary Castillo expressed the fear these temporary policemen might become a serious problem in the future and that they may be utilized by unscrupulous persons for terrorist and other illegal activities to promote political or private ends.

The Executive Secretary advised officials of cities and municipalities in urgent need of more policemen to cope with adverse conditions of peace and order in the barrios to create additional positions of policemen at the authorized rate of compensation.

He said that all requisites applicable to the creation of positions of regular members of the local police force should be complied with, such as, the adoption of a duly approved budget and plantilla.

Secretary Castillo added that all appointments to such duly created positions will be subject to civil service rules and regulations.

May 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia achieved a singular achievement today by being the first visiting head of state to address the Legislative Yuan in a regular session.

President Garcia delivered his major address this morning and discussed various topics, namely on issues which have plagued the relations between the Philippines and Taiwan.

The President also conferred with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. It was believed the two heads of state discussed broadly the question of 2,700 overstaying Chinese temporary visitors in the Philippines.

The President and the First Lady heard mass today at St. Christopher Catholic Church, it being the first Friday of the month.

While the President followed a separate schedule, the First Lady also went through her own itinerary.

As President Garcia was addressing the Legislative Yuan, Mrs. Garcia visited the Veterans Hospital, the Hua Hsin Nursery, Yang Ming Shan, and the Chinese Women's Anti-Aggression League.

Mrs. Garcia was also honored with a reception by the National Pharmaceutical Association.

President and Mrs. Garcia this morning gave a state banquet in honor of President and Madame Chiang.

The Philippines' First Lady, Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, shared the public spotlight during President Garcia's fourth-day stay in Taipei.

Reports reaching Manila said Mrs. Garcia took advantage of free schedule last night and went dancing at Taipei's popular Hotel ballroom. The place is noted for its excellent music furnished by Filipino musicians and vocalists.

It was a proof that becoming a First Lady in the Philippines does not give one certain false detachments. And that democratic ways in the Philippines are not lost even in a state visit to a foreign country.

May 7.—UPON arrival from Taipei this afternoon, President Garcia expressed confidence that the problems irritating Philippine-Chinese relations will be solved "very promptly" as a result of his state visit to Taipei.

Reporting to the people immediately upon stepping down from his plane at the Manila Domestic Terminal, the President said that they come home happy in the knowledge that he and his delegation "had accomplished some service for the country abroad."

The President said that in his discussions with President Chiang Kai-shek and other leaders of the Chinese Republic, he has found common agreement on almost 90 per cent of the topics discussed and that he feels confident that the "republic to the north is a rampart of freedom where men have the capacity to rise equal to any challenge in defense of the principles of freedom."

The President also reported to the nation that he had left Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno in Taipei to study the power projects being undertaken in that country so that the construction of the Marikina multipurpose dam can be benefited by some suggestions or ideas he may gather there.

The President arrived from Taipei at 5:30 p.m., accompanied by Mrs. Garcia, Mrs. Daniel Romualdez, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Commerce Secretary and Mrs. Manuel Lim, National Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Senator Gil J. Puyat, Rep. Benedicto Padilla, and Rep. and Mrs. Ramon P. Mitra.

On hand to meet the President and his party at the airport were some 30,000 government officials, laborers and employees, students, boy scouts, veterans, provincial delegations, and a big delegation from Chinese community.

The welcomers were headed by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Labor Secretary Angel M. Castaño, PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo, Acting Health Secretary Rafael Tumbokon, Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona, Sens. Fernando Lopez and Cipriano Primicias, and Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema;

Members of the diplomatic corps headed by Papal Nuncio Msgr. Salvatore Siino, Reps. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga and Miguel Cuenco of Cebu, AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, PC Chief Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, and PN Chief Commodore Jose Francisco.

The PAL viscount plane bearing the presidential party appeared over the airport at 5:25 p.m. escorted by four sleek jet fighter planes of the Philippine Air Force.

As the President alighted from the ramp of the plane, he was given welcome kiss by daughter Linda, and a lei by Mrs. Luisa Rodriguez.

The President and his party were given the “Red Carpet” as they proceeded to shake the hands of the welcomers. Then the President went to the reviewing stand and saluted the flag as the Philippine Constabulary Band played the National Anthem and the 21-gun salute boomed.

After reviewing the composite battalion commanded by Lt. Col. Faustino R. Sebastian, the President walked to the fence railing and acknowledged the cheers of the general public. Then he ascended the improvised platform and delivered his brief extemporaneous speech.

After the ceremonies at the Domestic Airport, the President and the First Lady motored to Malacañang, passing through a gay decorated route thickly lined with people who were anxious to get a glimpse of their President and First Lady.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: May 8-14, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

May 8.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia this morning heard a Thanksgiving mass at the Malacañang chapel. The mass was celebrated in thanksgiving for the safe return of the President and his party from their six-day state visit to Taipei.

After hearing mass which started at 8 a.m., the President and the First Lady entertained friends and relatives at a breakfast in Malacañang.

Present at the mass and breakfast were Finance Secretary and Mrs. Dominador R. Aytona, Executive Secretary and Mrs. Natalio P. Castillo, Assistant Executive Secretary and Mrs. Enrique C. Quema, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, PC Chief Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, and others.

After breakfast the President closeted himself with Executive Secretary Castillo and went over important pending state papers.

Then the President motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City for a much needed rest.

May 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered the airlifting to Manila of Andres Maxi of Calauag, Quezon, who is suffering from a gunshot wound in his lungs.

Maxi had been treated at the Lopez Emergency Hospital, and was airlifted to Manila by a U.S. Air Force helicopter and brought to the Philippine General Hospital for operation following the President's order.

The President also directed that Susana Odone, a mental case, of Silang, Lopez, Quezon, be brought to the National Mental Hospital for treatment.

Both Maxi and Odone are indigents and were brought to the attention of Miss Remy Aguila, PCAPE field operations officer, in the course of her inspection of local governments in Quezon, by the barrio lieutenants of Calauag and Lopez.

President Garcia today stayed in his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, where he went over pending state papers which had piled up during his six-day state visit to Taiwan. The President did not receive callers in the morning as he devoted the whole day to going over pending papers.

In the afternoon the President received Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano and the members of the Philippine delegation to the Council of Minister conference in Washington of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization early next month.

With Serrano were Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, and Col. Nicanor T. Jimenez. The President briefed the PI delegation before its departure for Washington this week.

Serrano also took up with the President the rumpus raised by former Speaker Jose B. Laurel in protesting the radio statements of the foreign affairs secretary which had allegedly embarrassed and weakened the position of the Philippine panel in Tokyo negotiating for a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation with Japan.

Laurel cabled the President in Taipei resigning the chairmanship of the PI delegation in Tokyo. He accused Serrano of "meddling."

The President assured Serrano that he was considering the “case as a closed matter.” He issued a statement on the matter reiterating his confidence in his foreign affairs secretary and in Laurel.

The President also conferred briefly with Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, who brought with him a thick pile of pending measures for the certification of the Chief Executive.

The President has to certify the urgency of bills before Congress could act on these measures 15 days before adjournment of the current session.

May 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia imposed today what his aides called a “visitors’ blackout,” which means that he was not disposed to receive his callers until after the end of the regular session on May 19.

The President stayed in his private residence on Bohol Avenue in Quezon City and later motored to Malacañang where he conferred with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo on pending state papers.

It appeared that the President wanted to clear the backlog of state papers which had piled up during his six-day state visit to Taipei.

President Garcia also received Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, who briefed the President on the status of administration measures which have so far failed to pull through the legislative mill.

The President went over a thick pile of bills requiring Malacañang certification before Congress could act on them. Under the law, 15 days before adjournment of the regular session, Congress could not act on bills unless they have the President’s certification to their urgency.

In the evening the President returned to his Quezon City residence, where he had scheduled a dinner conference with the members of the Council of Leaders.

The President called the council to a dinner conference in a move to enlist stronger support to administration measures which have been hanging fire in either chamber of Congress or both.

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda, House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, Assistant House Majority Floor Leader Justiniano S. Montano, and Rep. Lorenzo Teves.

At press time Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez had not yet shown up. Romualdez said he would attend the conference after meeting a previous engagement.

The President and the Council of Leaders took up various bills, including the budget and the anti-graft measures which he wanted pushed through before the adjournment of the regular session of Congress on May 19.

Congress leaders this evening assured President Garcia of the passage of important administration measures, including the \$12 billion budget and the anti-graft bill, before the adjournment of the regular session on May 19.

Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez and Speaker Romualdez assured the President that the budget will go through both chambers before adjournment time on May 19.

The budget had passed the lower house and is scheduled to be reported on the Senate floor today.

Rep. Montano also assured the President of the passage of the House version of the anti-graft bill, which seeks to punish influence peddling.

Montano said the anti-graft bill, which has been pending in Senate-House conference committee, may be reported for ratification of both houses this week.

Speaker Romualdez also said that his chamber would act on proposed amendments to the Reparations Law and implement President Garcia's state-of-the-nation message calling for legislative remedies to plug the loopholes in the war indemnity act.

The proposed amendments seek to exclude the participation of middlemen in applications for the purchase of reparations goods from Japan.

The revision would authorize end-users to deal directly with suppliers.

Reparations Commission officials claimed the existing statute on the acquisition of war indemnity goods allows the intervention of brokers, and this has reportedly spawned cases of overpricing in the purchase of reparations goods.

Another measure which Congress leaders said they would pass before adjournment time is the bill seeking to amend the civil service law.

Among the proposed amendments are the creation of a three-man board of commissioners to run the Civil Service Commission.

The chairman of the board will be given a Cabinet rank and will be assisted by deputy commissioners.

With the creation of the three-man commission, the Board of Civil Service Appeals will automatically be abrogated.

President Garcia stressed the need of amending the civil service law which was approved by Congress last year.

He said the new civil service law has been suspended, as its implementation may throw out several thousands of unqualified employees in the public service.

The Chief Executive also urged Congress leaders to approve the anti-graft bill in order to provide his administration with the necessary vehicle to step up his campaign against graft and corruption in the government.

The President pointed out that the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (Pcape) was created only by means of an executive order. He said the Pcape is being subsidized from the President's discretionary fund.

President Garcia plans to utilize the Pcape as the nucleus of the anti-graft body of the Administration. He had proposed bi-partisan participation in his anti-graft drive.

May 11.—EARLY this morning President Garcia retired to bed from a marathon conference with the Council of leaders in a bid to salvage administration bills which were reported to have been hanging fire in Congress.

The President explained to the Congress leaders who compose the Council of Leaders his interest in the passage of the anti-graft bill which he said would be the cog of his intensified campaign against graft and corruption.

Present at the meeting were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda, House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, Assistant Majority Floor Leader Justiniano S. Montano, and Rep. Lorenzo G. Teves.

Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta and acting Press Secretary Elpidio de Peralta were also present at the conference which ended shortly before 4 o'clock this morning.

President Garcia conferred with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and took up pending state problems.

The President also took up with Castillo the agenda of the Cabinet meeting scheduled later in the afternoon.

President Garcia received Legislative Secretary Logarta, who briefed him on the status of administration bills in Congress.

THIS evening the President presided over the weekly meeting of the Cabinet. He took up with the members of his Cabinet the budgetary expenditures of the government.

He pointed out that the government has improved its fiscal condition and can afford to relax its program of frugality in an effort to avert a huge overdraft.

The Cabinet relaxed the Administration's retrenchment program and authorized an increase in the current budgetary expenditures of the government by ₱37,662,893.

The Cabinet action was spurred by the report of Secretary of Finance Dominador Aytona that revenue collections by the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs exceeded the estimated amount by ₱40.3 million.

The Cabinet merely restored some of the items knocked off from the current budget before the start of the present fiscal year last year to head off an expected deficit of about ₱74 million.

President Garcia and the Cabinet, allocated the ₱37 million increase in budgetary expenditures to the different executive departments, including the office of Vice-President Macapagal. Macapagal's office will get an additional outlay of ₱23,251.

The Department of Public Works will get the biggest share. It was authorized to draw an additional amount from the general fund amounting to ₱16,625,000.

The public works department needs the amount to finance the repair of public buildings and projects damaged by typhoons and fire in several places throughout the archipelago.

At its meeting this evening, the President and the Cabinet;

1. Denied the petition of Producers Philippines to allow the firm to bring in Virginia leaf tobacco from the 40 per cent proceeds in exporting 24,000 metric tons of surplus rice; and
2. Approved a resolution expressing its condolence to Justice Endencia for the death of his wife this afternoon. Endencia is a former member of the Cabinet.

The President met his Cabinet for the first time since he left for a six-day state visit to Taipei.

He said he was gladdened by Secretary Aytona's report which proved that the fiscal condition of the government was improving.

May 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning conferred with Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno on pending public Works bill and the latter's impressions on the progress of power development in Taiwan.

It will be recalled that the President had instructed Secretary Moreno, who had been with him during his state visit in Taiwan to remain a few days there to study better methods that may be adapted in the development of power projects in the Philippines.

Secretary Moreno informed the President that most of the engineering and financing arrangements employed by the Philippines are the very same principles employed in Taiwan, among which is that the type of dam adopted is always governed by engineering geological studies and the economy that would make the project feasible.

Secretary Moreno said that the implementation of the Marikina multipurpose project should proceed without delay.

Secretary Moreno said Taiwan enjoys the cheapest cost of electric power, compared to even the most industrialized countries like Japan and the United States. He said the cost of electricity in Taiwan is 12 mills compared to Japan's 15 ½ mills, and the United States' 18 mills.

The President and Secretary Moreno during their conference also discussed pending bills on development loans, and a new proposal to augment the authority of the President to incur additional loans under certain conditions for various categories of projects intended to promote industrialization.

Later the President received Jonathan Rinehart of the Honolulu bureau of Time Magazine, who had been in Manila for four days.

President Garcia today received a few callers who had pressing matters to take up with the Chief Executive.

In the evening the President received Secretary of Commerce Manuel Lim, who is leaving on Saturday as guest of the government of Great Britain.

Lim will be the second Cabinet member to leave this week. Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano left today for Washington.

With Lim's official party to London are Vicente G. Sinco, president of the University of the Philippines, and Vicente Araneta, administrator of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration.

The Chief Executive also received John McDiarmid, senior director of the Technical Assistance Board of the United Nations, He was accompanied by John Corry, director of the UN office in Manila.

Acting Secretary of General Services Serafin Salvador saw the President and discussed with him the numerous investigations being conducted by his department. With Salvador was Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser.

Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta also saw the President this evening. Logarta brought with him a thick pile of pending bills.

Last callers were Rep. Salipada Pendatun and Susano Negado, manager of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority.

May 13.—THIS morning the President had a breakfast conference with Senator Gil J. Puyat, chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, regarding the 1960-61 budget.

The President later conferred with Rep. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Occidental on various administration measures still pending in Congress.

Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta said that so far 23 administration measures had already been certified as urgent by the President and sent to Congress for enactment.

President Garcia this morning received Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, who had just returned from a month-long observation trip abroad.

During his courtesy call, Vice-President Macapagal gave President Garcia a fill-in on his observation, especially in India and West Germany, which he said would be very beneficial to the Philippines.

The Vice-President who was accompanied by his son, Arturo, conveyed to the Chief Executive the warm and cordial greetings of the chiefs of states whom he had met during his travels to the different countries.

May 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia this day mobilized all relief agencies of the government to extend immediate assistance of some 1,000 indigent families said to have been rendered homeless by an early morning fire reported to have razed 12 blocks in Butuan City.

The President ordered Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor to undertake an on-the-spot survey of the area, assess the damage wrought, and personally supervise the prompt distribution of relief goods. Mrs. Villamor is scheduled to fly to the ravaged city tomorrow morning.

The President also directed the Department of Health to attend to the medical needs of the victims, and the Constabulary to maintain peace and order in the locality and to provide transportation and temporary shelters to the homeless sufferers.

The directives were given through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who is chairman of the National Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee.

The President spent the day at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City going over a number of bills submitted to him for certification by sponsoring solons. He was assisted by Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta.

Earlier this morning the President received visiting executives of the Standard Oil Company of California at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

The SOCAL officials arrived in the Philippines yesterday on an inspection tour of the CALTEX refinery in Bauan, Batangas, and are leaving for the United States tomorrow.

Those who paid their respects to the President were Teddy S. Paterson, SOCAL president; O. N. Miller, vice-president; E. J. Murphy, secretary; R. J. Monical, vice-president and managing director of Caltex (Philippines); R. R. Tillotson, general manager of the refinery corporation operations and Caltex director; W. E. Menefee, general manager, Caltex marketing division; and J. P. Roxas, PRO.

President Garcia signed today nominations of one justice of the Supreme Court, two justices of the Court of Appeals, one city fiscal, one city chief of police, and seven board directors of government corporations.

Nominated were the following

(1) Presiding Justice Jose Ma. Paredes of the Court of Appeals as justice of the Supreme Court;

(2) Justice Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez and Judge Gregorio Narvasa of the Manila court of first instance as justices of the Court of Appeals;

(3) Jose Amadora as city fiscal of Cebu City; and

(4) Octavio Ronquillo as chief of police of Bacolod City.

Also nominated were Jose V. Rodriguez and Gov. Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan as chairman and member, respectively, of the National Rice and Corn Corporation; Jack Arroyo as board director of the Manila Railroad Company, Celestino Cortez as director of the National Development Company, Aniceto V. Crisostomo as director of the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation, Antonio Barredo as board member of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, and Roberto Monroy as director of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta submitted the nominations today to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: May 15-21, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

May 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia today summoned Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, chief of the Constabulary, for the purpose of receiving the latter's progress report on alleged terroristic activities perpetrated by hoodlums of Caloocan, Rizal, on jeepney drivers plying the Malabon and Navotas routes.

The Chief Executive expressed gratification over latest reports that the troubled area had quieted down and that jeepneys could now ply their routes unmolested. He directed, however, that the investigations should continue without let-up and the wrong-doers brought to justice with the least possible delay.

His conference with Gen. Campo will be held early this week either at Malacañang or at the President's Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

The President had previously directed the Constabulary to take a hand as soon as he learned of the reported terrorism which had paralyzed jeepney transportation in the area for several days and inconvenienced commuters from Navotas and Malabon, as well as from Caloocan.

Irrked by the reported flaunting of the law and alleged defiance of law-enforcing officers by an organized gang, the President promptly directed the Constabulary to inquire into the reports, take appropriate action, and submit a complete report.

The Chief Executive had expressed concern over the reported safety of innocent commuters who had to travel to and from Manila during the height of the malefactors' depredations. He ordered the Constabulary to assist local law-enforcement agencies make these routes safe for everyone.

The President, meanwhile, spent the day at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City going over a pile of bills submitted, to him for certification by sponsoring solons. He did not receive any caller. The current regular session of Congress ends on Thursday, May 19.

The Chief Executive started the day by hearing mass early this morning at the living room of his residence. Also at the mass were Mrs. Garcia, their children Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, Lcdr. Melchor Fronda, naval aide, and members of the household staff.

After a light breakfast and a quick perusal of the Sunday morning newspapers, the President repaired to his private study where he spent most of the day. He was assisted in his work on bills by Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta.

May 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today approved the proposed appointment of W. A. Burje Mialhe as consul ad *honorem* of the Philippines in Bordeaux, France, and directed the Department of Foreign Affairs to submit the nomination to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation.

At a conference with Jose Ma. Rocha, presidential executive assistant, the President signed the nominations of several justices of the peace and municipal councilors which he sent to the Commission for confirmation.

Nominated were: Dr. Ricardo T. Marfori as director of soils, vice Marcos M. Alicante, retired; Artemio. Gesmundo as assistant director of soils; Peregrino Garcia as justice of the peace, Jolo, Sulu; Jose Angeles, as justice of the peace, Sibutu, Sulu; Exequiel Santos, as clerk of court, Pampanga court of first instance; Ludovico Alberto, as justice of the peace, Maribojoc; Bohol; Isidro Gingoyon, as vice-mayor, Baroy, Lanao del Norte; Sabino Belnas, as councilor, Baroy, Lanao del Norte; Eladio Bueno, as councilor, Mulanay, Quezon; Mrs. Evelina Cattiling, justice of the peace Potia Mountain Province.

Numeriano Najoles, as justice of the peace, Mati, Davao; Lorenzo Ampo, as councilor, Loreto Surigao; Narciso Mirabueno, as justice of the peace, Tupi, Cotabato; Epidanio Malapitan, as justice of the peace, Bansud, Oriental Mindoro; Quirino Mercado, as justice of the peace, Pikit Cotabato; Dr. Vicente Blanco, as councilor, Macabebe, Pampanga; Agapito Abad, as justice of the peace, Cabucgayan Leyte; Luis Reyes, as auxiliary justice of the peace, Camiling, Tarlac; Romeo Diputado, as councilor, Sibulan, Oriental Negros; and Bonifacio Lintao as justice of the peace, Gamu Island.

Earlier, the President conferred with Rodolfo Andal, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, and directed the sum of ₱2 million be set aside the acquisition of land for the relocation of squatters in Manila and Quezon City.

The President also directed Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo chief of the victims of the fire which hit Cavite City this morning.

In his directive which he gave through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, chairman of the National Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee, the President directed SWA Administrator Amparo P. Villamor to supervise personally the distribution of relief goods to the fire victims.

The President at also directed Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, chief of the Philippine Constabulary, to send investigators to determine the cause of the fire.

The president told General Campo that the possibility that the fire was caused by arson should not be discounted and that the culprits, if any, should be brought to justice.

The fire, second to hit Cavite City in two weeks, was estimated to have caused ₱2.5 million damage.

THIS afternoon the President discussed with ACCFA Administrator Vicente Araneta setting up to a producers' exchange in the North Harbor, Tondo, Manila.

Administrator Araneta proposed to the President the lease to the ACCFA by the land Tenure Administration of a portion of the foreshore lands in North Harbor for the establishment of the Farmers' Market and Trading Exchange.

The exchange, according to Araneta, will be centrally located and easily accessible to interisland ships bringing farm produce to the Manila Markets.

Araneta informed the President that the exchange will be fully equipped to handle not only rice, corn, and livestock, but also highly perishable producers' goods, such as vegetables, fresh fish, meat, and milk which need refrigeration.

Araneta also thanked the President for certifying to Congress the urgency of a bill which seeks to increase to ₱200 million the ACCFA revolving fund to come out of the proceeds from sales and collections of Virginia tobacco.

Araneta also came to say goodbye to the President before leaving on Wednesday on a 45-day trip abroad as official guest of the British Government, together with Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim.

Araneta said he will take advantage of the trip to visit Scandinavian counties and Israel to survey the progress of cooperatives which are reputedly well advanced in these counties, with the view to boosting the cooperative movement of the Philippines.

May 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received very few callers as he wanted to devote the remaining days of the week to a study of the many pending bills which require his certification.

The President also kept close tab of developments in Congress where the fate of his pet measures, including the bill against graft and corruption, was reported uncertain.

Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta briefed the President in the many bills which have remained unsigned and on the progress of Malacañang sponsored measures pending in either chamber of Congress or both.

In the morning the President received U.S. Secretary of the Air Force Dudley C. Sharp, who arrived here the other day in the course of a tour of U.S. air-force installations in the Pacific and Far East areas.

The visiting American official was received with full military honors rendered by a unit of presidential guards upon his arrival at Malacañang

Secretary Sharp was accompanied on his courtesy call by U.S. Ambassador John D. Hickerson and Major Gen. Tomas S. Moorman, Jr., 13th Air Force commanding general in Clark Field.

After receiving Secretary Sharp, President Garcia retired to his room and went over pending administration bills.

The President also received Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who brought to him some important pending papers, including the nomination of several government officials.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable also briefed the President on various matters.

IN the evening the President received the officials of Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration, the newly-created agency dealing with the Virginia leaf trading.

The President called the PVTA officials in an effort to resolve the dispute which has flared up between the management and the board of the agency.

President Garcia, apparently exasperated over the conflict which has delayed the operation of the agency, ordered the board to rush the appointment of a management contractor in order to give maximum assistance to farmers.

Present at the conference were Chairman of the Board Pompeyo Diaz; Govs. Jose del Castillo, Rizal de Peralta, Marcelirio Florentino, Gualberto Besa, Zacarias Crispin, and Perfecto Faypon; and retired General Juan C. Relosa and Angel Belandres, manager and assistant manager, respectively, of the PVTA.

President Garcia today forwarded to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation the nominations of 19 national, provincial, city, and municipal officials which included two bureau directors, two city register of deeds, and a complete set of officials for a new municipality in Samar.

Nominated were:

- (1) Rizalino R. Pablo as director of commerce, vice Bonifacio Quiaoit, deceased;
- (2) Tiburcio S. Evalle as director of patents, vice Celedonio Agrava, retired;
- (3) Mrs. Belen Macaraeg Ceralde and Gutierrez Baraquir as register of deeds for Dagupan and Cotabato cities;
- (4) Col. Ananias Y. Rosal as member of the Philippine Veterans Board, vice Antonio F. Garcia, resigned;
- (5) Felipe F. Cruz, who is proposed for reappointment for another term of three years as member of the board of examiners for surveyors;
- (6), Beltran Mejillano as city engineer of Legaspi City;
- (7) Marcelo Mendiola as clerk of court of Pampanga;

(8) Eduardo S. Alberto as assistant provincial fiscal of Catanduanes;

(9) Emiliano Manglangit and Marcelo Rabosa as justices of the peace, respectively, of Catigbian, Bohoy and Tukuran, Zamobanga del Sur; and

(10) Irineo R. Cabatit as consul.

Also nominated was a complete set of officials for the new municipality of San Roque, Samar, namely: Diego Merino, mayor; Claro Cagro, vice-mayor; and Francisco Cesneros, Emilio Sosing, Eleuterio Tilde and Alfredo Galupo, councilors.

May 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent the whole day today in Malacañang where he took up with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo pending state papers including appointments of government personnel.

The President wanted to rush some appointments to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation before the adjournment of the regular session. He was skeptical as to the advisability of calling a special session unless it is for the purpose of taking proposed amendments to the Constitution. The President also took up other problems confronting his administration.

Later, he conferred with Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, who briefed him on the progress of administration measures in both chambers of Congress during the last two days of the 100 day session. Logarta said that unless there are serious hitches in the last few hours of the session, most of the administration bills would go through the legislative mill. He expressed optimism that Congress would pass almost all the Malacañang measures.

The President also signed some more bills presented to him by Logarta for his certification. He directed Logarta to call all Nationalists senators and congressmen to a caucus in Malacañang at 10 o'clock Saturday morning to review the achievement of the Nacionalista-dominated Congress in its current session.

In the afternoon the President conferred again with Secretary Castillo. The President touched on the frequency of fires in the provinces, especially in Cavite City, which was hit by another blaze for the second time in a week.

In the evening the President presided over the regular Cabinet meeting. At the meeting the President rejected the bid of the San Miguel Brewery to purchase 80,000 bags of California pearl rice. The Cabinet believed that the SMB bid at ₱11.25 per bag is below the procurement cost of ₱15 per bag.

The President today forwarded to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation the nomination of the members of the board of trustees, Music Promotion Foundation, and eleven city and provincial officials.

Nominated as members of the board of trustees, Music Promotion Foundation Were: Miss Jovita Fuentes, until March 22, 1966; Prof. Corazon S. Maceda, until March 22, 1966; Miss Evelina Kalaw, until March 22, 1964, vice Jose Corominas; Prof. Ramon Tapales, until March 22, 1965; Miss Lucrecia Kasilag, until March 22, 1965; and Mrs. Lucrecia R. Urtula, until March 22, 1965, vice Leonor Orosa Goquinco.

City officials nominated were Ambrosio Jumangit, chief of police and fire department, Silay City; Pablo C. Umali, city assessor, Lipa City; Augusto Paris, city treasurer, Cotabato City; and Francisco Magno, city treasurer. Butuan City Provincial officials nominated by the President were Ciriaco Escasa, provincial treasurer of La Union; Perfecto Olarte, provincial treasurer, Catanduanes; Tomas Velarde, provincial treasurer, Camarines Norte; Francisco Mendiola, provincial treasurer, Sulu; Demetrio V. Sanaviz, provincial treasurer, Oriental Mindoro; Primitivo Rondina, provincial treasurer, Bukidnon; Quirico Baltad, provincial treasurer of Romblon.

May 19.—THE President discarded his "visitors' blackout" program this afternoon to receive officials of the Gulf Oil Corporation which controls about 30 per cent of the stocks of FILOIL.

The President gave a *merienda* for the FILOIL officials and visiting executives of the Gulf Oil-Corporation.

President Garcia thanked the Gulf Oil executive for embarking on a joint venture with Filipinos to develop the local oil industry and added that their confidence was well grounded since their efforts are already beginning to pay off to their mutual benefit.

The Gulf Oil officials arrived in Manila last evening for a round of talks on a plan of expansion of operations and marketing activities and inspection of FILOIL installations in the Philippines.

Those who called on the President were William K. Whiteford, P. H Bohart, and Z. David Bonner, president, vice-president, and Far East manager, respectively, of Gulf Oil; James B. Lee, Philippine representative of the U.S. firm; Ramon V. del Rosario, FILOIL president; Leonides S. Virata, Jose

B. Fernandez, Juan D. Quintos, Eduardo J. Aboitiz, Emilio Abello, and Carlos Palanca, Jr.

Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona was also present. President Garcia hinted he will name Aytona as acting secretary of commerce for the duration of Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim's trip abroad. Lim is leaving tomorrow. He will be the third Cabinet member to leave the country. Those already abroad are Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia and Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano.

PRESIDENT Garcia stayed late this evening waiting for the congressional committee which will, by reason of tradition and long practice, visit and formally inform him that Congress had adjourned its 100-day regular session.

Up to press time tonight, the President was still at Malacañang waiting for the congressional committees representing both chambers of Congress.

Earlier, the President conferred anew with Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, who reported that the budget finally succeeded in "breaking through" serious barriers posed by so-called riders.

The 1.2 billion budget was expected to pass both chambers unless another serious hitch developed.

During his conference with the legislative secretary, the President also signed several bills, mostly pet measures seeking to create sitios and municipalities, and changing names of streets or barrios.

May 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed awake up to 7 o'clock this morning since last night in preparation for the traditional rites attendant to the closing hour of the regular session of Congress. The President had to receive the committee of both houses which formally informed the Chief Executive of the end of the 100-day regular session.

The President stayed awake throughout last night and finally received the House committee members at 3:30 o'clock this morning. Members of the House committee were Reps. Francisco Sumulong, Ricardo Ladrado, and Juan Duyan.

The Senate committee saw the President an hour later. Members of the Senate committee were Sens. Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Estanislao Fernandez, Eulogio Balao, Alejandro Almendras, and Francisco Rodrigo.

After receiving both committees, the President motored to the Sky Room of the Jai Alai, where he was the special guest at the traditional breakfast given by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez for members of the House of Representatives.

President Garcia returned to Malacañang at 7 o'clock, this morning from the Jai Alai. Tired and obviously sleepy after the whole nights vigil in Malacañang for the close of the session of both houses, the President spent the whole day today in bed. He did not receive any caller except Malacañang officials.

In the evening he motored to Pasig, Rizal where he inaugurated the new production plant of the International Harvester Company. The President was fetched from Malacañang by Alfonso Calalang and Juan J. Carlos, local businessmen, and was met at the IH compound by US Ambassador John D. Hickerson and Paul Wood, IH president.

In a brief speech the President said the new plant was in answer to the demands of the people. He left the IH compound at 7 o'clock and returned to his private residence in Quezon City, where he fetched the First Lady.

President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the residence of Rep. and Mrs. Justiniano S. Montano in Quezon City to attend Mrs. Montano's birthday party.

The President today issued a directive to Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy Changco to expedite the release of ₱50,000 for the relief of victims of the recent fire in Butuan City said to have rendered homeless some 100 indigent families.

The presidential directive was issued at a conference with Jose Ma. Rocha, presidential executive assistant.

At the same time, President Garcia issued another directive to Commissioner SyChangco for the release of ₱15,000 to be used in the campaign against rats in Lanao del Norte.

The President expressed concern over the infestation in Lanao del Norte which, according to a wire received from Defense Secretary Alejo Santos who is now on a tour of inspection in Mindanao, is "serious."

May 21.—THE PRESIDENT today inducted Col. Ricardo Papa, commander of the first. Constabulary zone, as brigadier general in a ceremony held at the Chief Executive's private residence in Quezon City. There were many people who turned out to witness the oath-taking of Papa first PC zone commander to get a star.

Rep. Cesar Fortich was likewise scheduled to take his oath as secretary of agriculture and natural resources. However, for unexplained reasons Fortich deferred his oath-taking.

Fortich had delayed his induction as a member of the Cabinet, resulting in inefficiency in the Department of Agriculture. Undersecretary Amando G. Dalisay had also tendered his irrevocable resignation.

Fortich had previously been reported as seeking some "terms" for his acceptance of the Cabinet portfolio. He had delayed his assumption of office until his confirmation as agriculture secretary. His nomination was confirmed by the Commission on Appointments.

Fortich was named to the Cabinet last January along with four other new members of the President's official family. Named along with Fortich were Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, and Economic Coordinator Juan O. Chioco.

This afternoon the President also received Bernardo Torres, general manager of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation. Torres was accompanied by Antonio Barredo, PHHC director.

The President discussed with the PHHC officials the problems confronting the housing agency, especially in the liquidation of the outstanding accounts of the homesite corporation.

President Garcia stayed in his private residence in Quezon City the whole day. He rested in the afternoon after a hectic week incident to the closing days of the 100-day regular session of Congress.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: May 22-28, 1960

President's Week in Review: May 29 – June 4, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

May 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Defense Secretary Alejo Santos to keep him informed regularly on the extent of damage wrought by the recent typhoon, as he showed concern over the extensive damage to property and life. The President has been kept informed regularly of the survey made by the Defense Department and the Social Welfare Administration.

Meanwhile, the local boy who made good, the First Lady and the presidential party received this morning warm and cordial reception upon their arrival in Tagbilaran, Bohol, on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* from Talibon. The yacht, escorted by a fluvial parade, docked at the wharf of Tagbilaran where national, provincial, and city officials led by Education Secretary Jose Romero and Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Acting Gov. Timoteo Butalid, and Tagbilaran Mayor Venancio Inting welcomed the party.

From the wharf, the President and party proceeded to the St. Joseph Cathedral for a Te Deum. From the cathedral, the President, the First Lady, and the rest of the party and the welcomers went to the Garcia Gymnasium for lunch tendered by PNB officials.

The *RPS Lapu-Lapu* lifted anchor from Talibon at 4:00 a.m. and arrived at 11:00 a.m. in Tagbilaran. Owing to the late arrival of the yacht, the President's conference with government officials was cancelled.

At 4:00 p.m. the First Lady cut the ceremonial ribbon at the inauguration of the new PNB building where the President was guest of honor and principal speaker.

The new PNB building was blessed by Msgr. Manuel Mascariñas, bishop of Tagbilaran. At the PNB inauguration program, the President was introduced by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo. Other speakers included PNB Board Chairman Juan C. Pajo, PNB Vice-President Conrado Sevilla, Governor Butalid, and Mayor Inting.

After the PNB inauguration, the President and party rested at the President's residence.

The presidential party was scheduled to board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for Cagayan de Oro City at about midnight.

May 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia, arrived in Cagayan de Oro City this morning and spoke before the delegates and observers at the closing session of the first Mindanao and Sulu Community Development seminar at the Xavier University gymnasium.

The President and his party arrived on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* from Tagbilaran, Bohol. Upon arrival, the President received full military honors at the Macabalan wharf, after which he led a long motorcade to Xavier University where about 200 delegates from all the provinces of Mindanao converged for the seminar.

Among the delegates to the seminar were Govs. Lope Damasco of Bukidnon, Gedeon Quijano of Misamis Occidental, Guadalupe Adaza of Zamboanga del Norte, Bienvenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur, and Vicente de Lara of Misamis Oriental, and Mayor Justiniano Borja of Cagayan de Oro City. Among the guests was ICA Director Paul Summers.

After delivering his well applauded speech, the President took off for Manila on board the Fokker plane in order to direct personally relief work for the victims of the flood brought about by typhoon *Lucille*.

This afternoon the President conducted an on-the-spot inspection of disaster areas in three suburban districts, Quezon City, Caloocan, and San Juan, Rizal.

Immediately upon his arrival from Cagayan de Oro City at 4 p.m., the President and Mrs. Garcia motored directly from the Nichols Air Base to the disaster areas.

The President directed Executive Secretary Castillo to release an additional ₱75,000 for emergency and relief of the flood victims, bringing the total so far released to ₱150,000.

The President also discussed housing problems of the disaster victims with Executive Secretary Castillo and Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto. Most of the flood victims are now housed in public school buildings, but these must be vacated by next month to give way to school children enrolling for the coming school year.

Immediately upon his arrival, the President was briefed on what had been done to ease up the sufferings of the disaster victims. The briefing was made by Secretary Castillo, Asst. Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, Rizal Governor Isidro Rodriguez, Major General Pelagio Cruz, and Mayor Amoranto at the Base Operations in Nichols Air Base.

The President and Mrs. Garcia were mobbed by the people in all the places they visited.

In Gumamela, Roxas district, an old lady whose family suffered from the flood, kissed the hands of the President and the First Lady.

May 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia rested in Malacañang the whole day today after a hectic five-day trip to Bohol and Mindanao.

While at the Palace the President received Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and discussed pending state problems. President Garcia also took up plans for the coming state visit of United States President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who is scheduled to arrive in Manila on June 14.

Malacañang, in a statement issued in the evening, said President Eisenhower is arriving in Manila on the afternoon of June 14, but did not state how long the U. S. Chief Executive would stay in the Philippines. From more comprehensive reports from Washington, it was gathered that the U. S. President would stay in the Philippines up to June 18.

The President asked Castillo to attend to preparations to give President Eisenhower a royal reception at the airport.

The President conferred mostly with Malacañang aides. He received progress reports on the campaign to give ample and speedy assistance to flood victims in Manila and the suburbs.

June 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning, directed the Government Service Insurance System to make available ₱2 million for a huge relocation program to resettle squatter families in Manila and suburbs to safer, and more healthful localities.

In a conference with Capt. Rodolfo Andal, GSIS general manager, at Malacañang this morning, the President recalled that most of the casualties of the recent destructive flood had been due to indiscriminate squatting on treacherous creeks and rivers, and often extremely unhealthful conditions.

“These poor people should be given a chance to raise their children in safer and more wholesome atmosphere,” the President said. “Steps must be taken to prevent the recurrence of the recent tragic disaster.”

The relocation program which the President ordered implemented without delay will be under the administration of the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation in cooperation with the Social Welfare Administration, the Department of National Defense, and the Department of Health.

The President wrote a letter to Maj. Gen. Merrill M. Daniel, chief of the Joint United States Military Advisory Group, expressing his appreciation for the mass action of JUSMAG officers and men, as well as of members of their families, who had helped in the evacuation and care of flood victims.

“This humanitarian action that was so generously demonstrated does justice to the Christian virtue of helpfulness,” the President said in his letter. “It points out the typical American readiness to help at the spur of the moment those who need help most. The world has seen this fine American virtue lavishly demonstrated, especially in calamities of the kind that recently rendered Manila prostrate.”

This afternoon the President pledged anew the close tie of friendship between the Philippines and Spain at the presentation of credentials of Mariano Vidal Tolosana, Spanish ambassador designate to the Philippines.

In his welcome address which he delivered in Spanish, the President assured Ambassador Tolosana of the full cooperation of the Filipino people and government to the common objective of defending the peace of the world and the dignity of free men everywhere.

The President told Ambassador Tolosana that the Filipino people were not lacking, in their appreciation and gratitude to Spain for two priceless legacies—religion and culture—which they have inherited from the former mother country.

“You will find that the Filipino people have all the love which they profess for Spain,” the President said, “for the immense religious and cultural heritage which your country has given us.”

The President also asked the Spanish ambassador to convey his superior, the head of the Spanish Government, his warm greetings and wishes for the welfare and happiness of the Spanish people.

In presenting his letters of credence, Ambassador Tolosana expressed personal satisfaction for what he called a distinguished honor accorded him in being assigned to the Philippines which, he said, stands nearest to the heart of Spain because of strong ties of blood, culture, and faith.

Ambassador Tolosana assured the President that he will give his utmost to help preserve the common ideals of the two countries in defense of world peace and dignity of man.

He also conveyed to President Garcia the personal greetings of his chief, the head of the Spanish Government, for the continued good health of the Philippine Chief Executive and the prosperity of the Filipino people.

Ambassador Tolosana succeeds former Spanish Ambassador to the Philippines Francisco Javier Conde.

Ambassador Tolosana arrived at Malacañang a little past 5 o'clock, accompanied by Minister Ramon Saenz de Heredia; Jose Francisco de Castro Calvo, third secretary of the Spanish embassy; and Pedro Angara-Aragon and Rod Nazareno, chief protocol and assistant protocol officers, respectively, of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

After receiving military honors from a company of the Presidential Guards Battalion, the Spanish embassy officials proceeded to the Ceremonial Hall for the presentation ceremonies.

Present at the ceremonies, besides the President and the Spanish officials, were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Fructuoso Cabahug, General Services Secretary Serafin Salvador, Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona, National Science Development Board Chairman Paulino J. Garcia, Agriculture Undersecretary Jose M. Trinidad, PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo, and Minister Manuel G. Zamora.

Immediately after the ceremonies, the President convoked the weekly Cabinet meeting at the Council of State Room.

THE CABINET this afternoon created a five-man committee to look for a suitable site for the establishment of a housing project to accommodate some 2,500 squatters displaced by the recent typhoon and flood in Manila and in the suburbs last week-end.

The Cabinet's action was prompted by a report of Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor that out of 13,375 squatters in Manila and in the suburbs, some 2,500 had been uprooted by the flood.

Villamor also reported to the President and to the Cabinet that 235 persons were confirmed dead, 43 of whom are still unidentified. Fifty-six persons were reported missing and 800 houses near the brooks and creeks destroyed by the swirling flood Waters.

The death toll in Manila rose to 34 as four more bodies were recovered from the Pasig River in Sta. Mesa and the North Harbor today.

The bodies of two men were fished out at the Pasig River. They remained unidentified up to this evening at the MPD morgue.

Another body, that of an unidentified Chinese Woman, was found floating in the bay near Pier 2 in Tondo.

The fourth was that of a boy, between 1 and 2 years old, who was fished out by men from the Philippine Navy at 1:30 p.m. near the breakwater between Pier 2 and Isla de Puting Bato. The body was also taken by Precinct No. 3 policemen to the MPD morgue.

Named to the committee were Bernardo Torres, general manager of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation, as chairman; and Rodolfo Andal, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, Bartolome Fernandez, deputy auditor general, and Pablo Cruz, deputy administrator of the Office of Economic Coordination, members.

President Garcia directed the committee to study plans of acquiring building materials to be given to flood victims owing lots.

At the same time, the President directed the Department of Public Works to start reconstruction work of public works which have been damaged by the recent flood.

The President also directed the public works secretary to give priority to flood victims in the employment of men for the repair of public works.

President Garcia asked the committee to look for a site where the government can relocate those displaced by the floods.

The estate would be subdivided into lots of 500 square meters each for distribution to the squatters at cost.

June 2.—THIS morning the President directed Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, chief of the Philippine Constabulary, to investigate members of the so-called provincial police force of Lanao del Norte which had been charged with committing acts of abuses and terrorism.

The presidential directive came at a conference with Rep. Laurentino, Badilles, who charged the provincial police force created by Gov. All Dimaporo with committing the same abuses which used to be perpetrated by the civilian guards in Central Luzon for some time after Liberation.

Vice-Governor Jack Arroyo of Camarines Sur, in his capacity as newly elected chairman of the reorganized provincial committee of the Nacionalista Party, took up party matter with President Garcia. He was accompanied by William Buguid, former provincial board member of Camarines Sur.

Other callers included Gov. Godofredo Ramos of Aklan, Mayor Federico Icamina of Kalibo, Aklan, Gov. Jesus Almero of Masbate, who requested national aid for the construction of a seawall, Gov. Miguel Manguera of Marinduque, and Miss Nena Lopez, owner of a chain of radio stations in the Visayas.

Earlier the President granted an interview to Alfred Fischer, well-known German newspaperman who was accompanied by his wife, also a writer. Fischer who had been in Manila a few weeks to gather materials for a book, represented 41 newspapers in Europe and the United States, as well as four radio Stations.

President Garcia today issued a nationwide appeal for additional contributions for the relief and rehabilitation work currently being conducted for the benefit of victims of the recent devastating flood which hit Manila and suburbs.

In a statement issued by the President this noon, the President also made public acknowledgment and appreciation for the voluntary contributions spontaneously sent in by civic, business, charitable, and educational institutions all over the country for the rehabilitation work which, he said, is of considerable magnitude.

President Garcia today issued an administrative order creating a national committee to take charge of the preparations for the celebration of the 14th Independence Day anniversary of the Republic.

The Committee is composed of Education Secretary Jose E. Romero, chairman; Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, vice-chairman; and the following members: Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, NEC Administrator Juan Chioco, National Integration Commissioner Lugum Uka, CB Deputy Governor Andres V. Castillo;

Development Bank of the Philippines Chairman Gregorio Licaros, PNB President Eduardo Romualdez, UP President Vicente Sinco, the President of the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities, the National Commander of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines, the Commissioner on Tourism;

The Presidents of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce, Philippine Chamber of Industries, Chamber of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Bankers Association of the Philippines, Manila Rotary Club, Manila Junior Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club of Manila, National Press Club of the Philippines, Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines, the General Manager of the Philippine Association, and Mr. Aguinaldo C. Maaba, who will also be committee secretary.

The Committee shall meet at the call of the chairman and, for the purpose of discharging its functions, may create sub-committees as may be deemed necessary.

THIS afternoon the President appealed to all citizens and residents of the Philippines to render aid and assistance to the less fortunate of the population by contributing to the 1960 fund campaign of the Community Chest of Greater Manila.

During the kick-off ceremonies held at the Malacañang Social Hall this afternoon, the President called attention to the recent flood which caused great loss of life and property in Manila and suburbs. He said such calamity has increased greatly the number of the sick and orphans who will be assisted by the 17 affiliated agencies of the Red Feather.

The President pointed out that the long-range rehabilitation of such sufferers will be absorbed by special agencies conducting the fund drive but that the government is pledged to give immediate relief to the disaster victims and the eventual relocation of squatters to prevent recurrence of loss of life and property due to floods.

The President declared that he had mobilized all government agencies to effect immediate relocation of the squatters and had authorized the use of ₱2 million for the program, to solve once and for all the squatter problem in Manila and suburbs.

The President started the ball rolling by handing his personal contribution of ₱1,000 to Speaker Daniel Romualdez, general chairman of the campaign. At the same time he appealed to all government agencies and business and commercial firms, to give their share to the Community Chest.

By the end of the kick-off ceremony, a total of ₱104.805 in cash and pledges had been turned in by different donors.

Among the donors were the Manila Electric Company, ₱17,000; American community, ₱20,250; National City Bank of New York, ₱2,500; Filipino division, ₱21,000; Pasay City, ₱2,000; and Chinese division of Filipino nationals, ₱27,100.

Officials of the 1960 fund campaign of the Community Chest who have set a goal of ₱600,000 for this year are Speaker Romualdez, general campaign chairman; Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, honorary, president; Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay, honorary campaign chairman; and Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza president of the Community Chest for Greater Manila.

The affiliated agencies to benefit from the fund drive are Abiertas House of Friendship, Asilo de San Vicente de Paul, Association de Damas Filipinas, Good Shepherd Convent, American-Philippine Guardian Association, Free Legal Aid Clinic, National Federation of Women's Clubs, Philippine Association of the Deaf, Philippine Band of Mercy, La Proteccion de la Infancia, Free Medical Clinics (Patronatos), Philippine Mental Health Association, Catholic Youth Organization, Girl Scouts of the Philippines, Young Men's Christian, Association, Young Women's Christian Association, and the Council of Welfare Agencies.

This evening the President warned against "the stark reality of communist threat" and appealed for a united campaign against communism.

The Chief Executive addressed a symposium on communism sponsored by the Philippine Anti-Communist Movement at the session hall of the House of Representatives.

"For the sake of our children," the President stressed, "our whole nation, in concert with the other free nations of the world, must unite in fighting this atheistic ideology."

He expressed optimism that "the inherent strength of the Filipino people which has sustained them in their darkest hour" (during the last war), would save them when challenged by adversity."

The President lauded the PACOM members for involving themselves "zealously in the struggle against the forces of tyranny."

He observed that the PACOM is "an answer to the shift of Communist expansionist attention to this area by exploiting the Asian aspiration of freedom, dignity, and national identity."

He also warned that communist encroachments in Asian countries have assumed frightening proportions when taken in context with the overall Red drive now feverishly in progress in all parts of the world.

President Garcia observed that the collapse of the recent summit talks "was but one of the preconceived designs in the overall Soviet blueprint to divide the free world."

He said the latest world development proved that the Communist bloc will continue to make the most out of the Summit fiasco to keep Western powers off-balance and the small nations confused.

The symposium, observed as orderly despite hundreds of spectators who intently listened to the different speakers, started at 7:30 and dragged on until 10 o'clock in the evening, with an open forum participated in by some members of the crowd who shot questions at the speakers ranging from highly intelligent to rather rib-tickling ones.

Conspicuously present among the spectators that gathered at the legislative building during the symposium were American military and embassy officials and their ladies and representatives of the local military community.

The other speakers during the occasion were Dr. Jose Ma. Hernandez, vice-president of the Philippine Anti-Communist Movement; Brig. Gen. Alfredo M. Santos, AFP deputy chief of staff; Dr. Teodoro Evangelista, president of the Far Eastern University; and Rep. Leonardo Perez, chairman of the House committee on anti-Filipino activities.

Secretary of Defense Alejo S. Santos delivered the closing remarks. Rep. Ramon D. Bagatsing, president of the PACOM, introduced the President, while Antonio Meer, acted as moderator.

June 3.—THIS MORNING the President administered the oaths of office to former Commerce Secretary Pedro C. Hernaez as ambassador to Spain, Deputy Commissioner Faustino SyChangco as commissioner of the budget, and Col. Margarito S. Torralba as brigadier general in the retired roster of the Armed Forces.

Present at the ceremonies held at Malacañang this morning included Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Govs. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental and Jose C. Zulueta of Iloilo, Board Member Benjamin Gaston of Negros Occidental,

Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon, Bacolod City Mayor Teopisto Cordova, relatives, admirers, and other friends of the new appointees.

Ambassador Hernaez succeeds Manuel Nieto, Sr., retired while Commissioner SyChangco takes the place vacated by Secretary Dominador Aytona, who had been elevated to the Department of Finance.

After the oath-taking ceremonies, the President received top officials of the Federation of Chinese Chambers of Commerce in the Philippines, led by president Yu Khe Thai, who turned over the sum of ₱34,720 in checks and ₱15,650 worth of goods as their donation for the relief and assistance of the victims of the disastrous flood which hit Manila and suburbs recently.

The donation was in response to the President's appeal for more contributions for the benefit of thousands of indigent sufferers.

Other members of the FCCCCP group were Peter Lim and Antonio Roxas Chua, vice-president; Eddison Cheng, chairman, public relations committee; and Tang Tack, secretary-general.

Before going to his room to work on his speech before the members of the American Legion, the President received the wives of U. S. Navy officers assigned in Sangley Point who earlier had met Mrs. Garcia.

This evening the President left for Subic naval base where he will address the 40th convention of the American Legion which started yesterday.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, boarded the yacht after coming out from the third and last concert of the Boston Symphony Orchestra at the Rizal Coliseum.

President Garcia faces a tight schedule during his stay at the U.S. naval base. He will address the convention at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

June 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning underscored the absolute necessity of strengthening and maintaining American bases in the Philippines as a deterrent to Communist aggression and activities in the Far East.

Speaking before the 40th annual convention of the American Legion, Philippine Department, at Subic Naval Base in Zambales, the Chief Executive said "we who have tasted the ordeals and sufferings of war should be more disposed to undergo personal sacrifices for the sake of peace."

The President also reminded the Filipino and American veterans of the last world war that recent developments such as the failure of the Summit Conference have brought a fresh challenge for them to strive with increased vigor and enthusiasm to keep the peace of the world.

The President emphasized that the Philippines as a member of the United Nations, is pledged "to support any just, reasonable, and honorable move to promote the ends of peace," and that this country believes in the efficacy of the United Nations, the potency of the SEATO as an instrument of security and progress, and in the leadership and sincerity of the United States as a true friend and ally.

The Chief Executive also lauded Ambassador John D. Hickerson and other American Army and Navy top brass' for their efforts to promote better understanding between Americans and Filipinos.

Ambassador Hickerson, who was also guest speaker during the opening ceremonies, said that America and the Philippines stand solidly together for international security but that "in their day to day activities some differences of opinion are bound to arise."

However, he said, "with patience, tolerance, and understanding, such differences of opinions can be solved with justice and equity to both the American and the Filipino peoples.

Ambassador Hickerson pledged to the Filipino people that as long as he remains in the Philippines, he will not permit veterans payments to be considered as assistance or aid to the Philippines. He said these payments are being made for services already rendered and received and that while they may help in the economic development of the country, that is not the primary purpose for which they are made.

The American ambassador expressed belief that the acceptance by United States President Eisenhower of President Garcia's invitation to visit the Philippines will touch a responsive chord in the hearts of the Filipino people, not only because of the close ties of friendship between the two peoples but because Eisenhower had spent over four years of his career here during the formative years of the Philippine Commonwealth.

Rear Admiral Arthur F. Spring, Commander of the U. S. Naval Base at Subic, who keynoted the convention, sounded a warning against a future fraught with anxiety brought about by the continuing cold war.

Admiral Spring appealed to the veterans to do their bit in what he described as a fourth dimensional war being waged by the communists on the Free World.

He told the veterans that it was their duty to combat the insidious effects of the psychology of fear being foisted on all free men by communist agents in the hope of dividing and conquering the rest of the free world.

He said that Subic Base is of vital importance to the security of the free world in this area. He remarked that veterans have the responsibility to combat people who would rather crawl on their knees to Moscow than fight for the preservation of freedom.

President Garcia left Manila aboard the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* at 3 o'clock this morning, arriving at Subic three hours later.

After an early mass, the President and the First Lady ate breakfast aboard the yacht, together with the members of the party, among them Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Foreign Affairs Acting Secretary and Mrs. Fructuoso Cabahug, Maj. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, Rep. Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, and Mrs. Rosie O. Valencia.

At 8:20 a.m. Ambassador Hickerson, Rear Admirals Joseph M. Carson, commander of the U. S. Navy in the Philippines, and Admiral Spring and their ladies boarded the *Lapu-Lapu* and greeted the President and the First Lady.

The President was escorted to the Officers Club House, where he was given a 21-gun salute and full military honors, after which he proceeded to the reviewing stand to witness the parade composed of different posts of the American Legion, Philippine and American military and naval units, and Boy Scouts of the Philippines.

After the parade the President went on foot to inspect the radio KCMB installations nearby, then motored to the Baseball Court for the ceremonies.

United States marines and. sailors who had lined the route and others who participated in the parade were drenched to the skin by an incessant downpour which lifted as soon as the President stepped on the gangplank.

As mysteriously as the rain had stopped when the president stepped on land, the rain came down again in heavy volume after he had delivered his speech, evoking comments from reporters about the President's "lucky weather."

After the ceremonies, the President and his party were honored with a luncheon at the Officers Mess, after which they boarded the *Lapu-Lapu* for a brief rest.

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady gave cocktails aboard the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* in honor of American and Filipino legionnaires and Subic Base top brass and their ladies.

The President cancelled his scheduled tour of Cubi Point owing to the inclement weather, leaving Subic Bay at about 6 p.m. and arriving in Manila late in the evening after encountering a choppy sea.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: June 5-11, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

June 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City and discussed with him preparations for the coming three-day state visit of President Eisenhower.

Secretary Castillo, who is the chairman of the PI committee undertaking preparations for the Eisenhower visit, reported that the three-day itinerary of the visiting Chief Executive has been drafted.

Castillo assured the President that a red carpet reception awaits President Eisenhower, whose coming visit here has been soured by reports that the US President decided on the PI trip only as "a second thought" after his scheduled tour of Russia was cancelled by Premier Khrushchev.

The President and the First Lady spent the day today at their private residence in Quezon City. They heard mass earlier in Malacañang.

After breakfast in Malacañang, the President and the First Lady motored to their Quezon City residence.

June 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo chief of the PC, to send a special unit to apprehend the murderer of the late Mayor Fortunato Lagarde of San Miguel, Leyte, and to confiscate loose firearms in that area.

The President gave this directive upon receiving reports that the alleged murderer of Ex-Mayor Lagarde who is said to be enjoying the protection of local officials, had reportedly vowed to liquidate 14 more before planning to surrender.

Earlier, the President directed Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno to act promptly on the petition of the Filipino Traders Association and the Filipino Remnants and Retailers Association to include remnants goods in the preferred rate of ₱2 to \$1, instead of the free rate of ₱4 to \$1.

The petitioners informed the President that remnant goods are the only clothing the poor people could afford because the local textile mills cannot supply local demand to bring down prices within the low-income level.

It will be recalled that the President had several weeks ago ordered Secretary Aytona to make a re-study of the decontrol plan as regards remnant goods on representation of a big group of clothing manufacturers.

The delegation which represented over 1,700 retailers and remnants importers, was headed by Leandro Canlas, president of the Filipino Traders Association; and Jose Ocampo, Ricardo Silverio, and E. R. Pascual, directors.

Before receiving his regular callers, the President received former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., who came to witness the signing of H. B. No. 4950, by the President changing the name of Doña Pepang Street to Jones Street, in Cebu City.

Among the other callers were Charlton Heston, accompanied by Bron Landau, general manager of the MGM in the Philippines, Marcos Roces and Rafael Roces of the Roces Enterprise, and Tony Lagos, PRO, who paid his respects to the President and invited him to the premiere showing of *Ben-Hur* in a local theater on June 8;

Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, who paid his respects to the President and made a verbal report on his seven-week trip abroad to attend the 13th WHO Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland;

Doña Victoria Araneta, accompanied by Gregorio Y. Zara, who proposed to buy the Bureau of Commerce building in order to facilitate the expansion of the FEATI institution in downtown Manila. (She handed in a check ₱10,000 as the donation of the Republic Flour Mills to the fund for the victims of the recent flood in Manila and suburbs.) and

United Philippine Lines officials, who requested the President for other arrangements, such as agency or lease, in the operation of NDC vessels which are due to arrive from Japan beginning July.

The President said that he is for the original plan to sell the NDC and Dona vessels and that no other plans will be considered until after it has been proved that the present plan is not feasible.

The UPL officials who called on the President were James Chiongbian, Generoso Tanseco, Rebert Ho, and Gil Garcia.

Later the President also received a delegation of Central Bank employees headed by Rodolfo H. Luis, who petitioned the turnover of a lot earmarked for them by the GSIS for administrative purposes.

After calling PHHC General Manager Bernardo Torres by phone, the President told the delegation that the property was being turned over to the GSIS as payment for certain obligations of the PHHC and that they could deal with the GSIS directly.

The President mobilized today the Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee to assess the heavy damage to life and property caused by the early morning fire which hit Cebu City's commercial district and to extend, immediate assistance to indigent homeless victims.

The President ordered Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to direct the detail of PC men to maintain peace and order in the area, and Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor to send immediately relief personnel and supplies to take care of the immediate needs of the fire victims.

In the meantime, Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia sent a donation of ₱1,000 for the purchase of relief goods intended for indigent Cebu fire victims.

An Air force plane has been ordered to stand by at Nichols Airbase for take-off early Tuesday morning loaded with the initial relief goods to be dispatched to Cebu.

The President said that in view of reported heavy looting in the area, enough PC men should be dispatched to the area to maintain peace and order.

The Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee has also standing orders to send medical personnel and supplies to the area to forestall the outbreak of epidemics which usually follow such disasters.

Secretary Castillo, who is in the midst of making preparations for the coming state visit of U. S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower, said he will convene as soon as possible the Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee of which he is chairman, to take up further relief measures for the Cebu fire victims.

President Garcia honored Ambassador Tuan Mao-Ian of Nationalist China with a testimonial dinner held in Malacañang at 8:00 o'clock this evening in appreciation of the royal reception accorded him and members of his party during his recent state visit in Taiwan.

June 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received a check for \$10,000 representing the personal donation of the U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower for the Manila flood victims.

In accepting the check from Ambassador John D. Hickerson, the President expressed gratitude for the noble gesture of sympathy from President Eisenhower. He said that the amount will go a long way towards helping rehabilitate the poor victims.

Along with the check, Ambassador Hickerson also conveyed to the President the deep sympathy of the American people and their hopes for the early rehabilitation of the flood sufferers.

As Ambassador Hickerson turned to leave after taking only a minute of the President's time in presenting the check, the President remarked in a light vein, "That was a very costly minute for our friends, the American people. But they can rest assured that they will not regret it because every cent of it will be for the benefit of the poor," he added.

After receiving the donation, the President received scheduled callers, among them Reps. Tobias Fornier of Antique, Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, and others.

Most of his callers requested releases of funds for public works and other development projects, as well as relief funds.

The President directed this morning Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor to fly to Cebu immediately to apprise and determine the extent of damage wrought by the recent fire.

The President is sending Villamor to the Cebu fire area with foodstuffs, medicine, clothing material, and other relief goods for distribution to the indigent victims.

This morning the President ordered the immediate prosecution of erring government officials involved in the alleged mishandling of public funds in 148 offices and agencies.

The President gave Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, and a GAO investigation team, two months within which to ferret out said officials who failed to "liquidate their accounts with the national government or to collect debts due and payable in the total amount of ₱483 million."

On orders of the President, the joint PCAPE-GAO investigation team will poise administrative charges against these erring officials for gross negligence, laxity, mismanagement, and culpable ignorance. The joint PCAPE-GAO investigation team will likewise study and recommend to President Garcia the possibility of overhauling or abolishing the government offices or agencies involved in the irregularity.

Reported government losses in this flagrant government irregularity include credits amounting to ₱218 million due from government bureaus and agencies; ₱208 million uncollected debts of private persons or firms; ₱9 million unliquidated accounts of 18 government-owned or state-controlled firms; and ₱45 million debts due and uncollected by the said 18 firms from private persons.

The government offices under fire are the Bureau of Lands; Bureau of Customs, Bureau of Forestry, Motor Vehicles Office, Bureau of Agricultural Extension, National Rice and Corn Corporation, Public Service Commission, Land Tenure Administration, Department of Labor, Bureau of Mines, and Bureau of Telecommunications.

In the afternoon the President also directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, to conduct a full-dress investigation on alleged irregularities in the Sugar Quota Administration.

The President had acted in the wake of reports that 50,000 tons of sugar had been over shipped to the United States which is prejudicial to the interest of legitimate sugar quota holders.

Jose Mapa Gomez, President of the National Federation of Sugar Planters, denounced to the PCAPE that the overshot of sugar shipments creates a “bleak future” for Philippine sugar planters.

Justice Ocampo directed Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE investigator, to conduct an on-the-spot inquiry on the alleged deprivation of the quotas of legitimate sugar quota holders. Major Natividad will send a team of PCAPE investigators headed by Inspector Rosalina Abaya and Antonio Lopez to Negros for the purpose of checking the records of sugar companies.

PRESIDENT Garcia this evening said that when he meets President Eisenhower, he will ask the US President to provide the Filipinos with adequate weapons with which to fight a modern defensive war.

In an extemporaneous speech before the Veterans Federation of the Philippines, President Garcia said that it would be criminal negligence to make Filipinos fight a modern war with antiquated weapons.

Officers of the veterans federation headed by Brig. Gen. Dionisio Ojeda (ret.), president, were inducted by the President at the Manila Hotel this evening.

The President also said that he would try to reopen the veterans’ claim against the United States Government. He said that he would appeal to the sense of justice and fairness of the American people.

On the subject of modern weapons, he said that it would be a mistake to forget the lessons of Corregidor and Bataan during the last world war. He stressed that he was asking only for modern weapons for defense, not for offense.

President Garcia expressed gratification over the unification of veterans so that they could present their claims more effectively.

June 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia today announced he will convene the Philippine Congress to a special session starting June 14 for the enactment of six proposed amendments to the Constitution.

The presidential call will also, enable the Senate and the House of Representatives to sit in joint session to hear a major address by visiting American President Dwight D. Eisenhower on June 15.

In a special caucus with Nacionalista senators at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, President Garcia and the senators agreed unanimously on the following points for discussion during the special session:

- (1) Synchronization of national and local elections every four years beginning 1965;
- (2) Election of senators on the basis of regions—20 from Luzon, 12 from Visayas, and eight from Mindanao;
- (3) Creation of a Presidential Electoral Tribunal, a constitutional body independent of the executive and the legislative branches, to hear and decide protests arising from presidential elections;
- (4) The 30-day period within which the President has to veto or approve a bill to be counted from the date it is submitted to him and not from the date Congress adjourns;
- (5) Reexamination of the provision on the writ of habeas corpus to attune it more to the spirit of democracy; and
- (6) Adoption of the general appropriations act for the current fiscal year in the event the annual appropriation for the ensuing year is not approved.

In deciding to make a re-study of the frequency of elections, the conferees agreed that elections every two years are not only costly to the people and the government, but they distract officials from the performance of their duties and endanger the stability of democratic institutions.

The conferees also took into consideration a proposal to hold elections in June instead of November of each election year, and to hold sessions in Congress starting July of each year.

Members of the House of Representatives were not invited to the caucus, as they had already voted on a resolution indorsing President Garcia's proposal to call Congress to a special session. This resolution was approved during a joint caucus held in Malacañang last May 25.

In proposing synchronization of elections in 1965, President Garcia pointed out that he will not author any proposal that would benefit him personally, and 1965 as the start would not affect his term of office.

Present at the caucus which started at 10 a.m. and ended at about 3 p.m. were: President Garcia, presiding; Senate and NP President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Speaker. Daniel Z. Romualdez, and Sens. Quintin Paredes, Cipriano Primicias, Pacita M. Gonzalez, Gil J. Puyat, Eulogio Balao, Arturo M. Tolentino, Alejandro Almendras, Pedro Sabido, Oscar Ledesma, Domocao Alonto, Decoroso Rosales, and Claro M. Recto.

THE Cabinet approved this evening a plan to relocate squatters in two areas outside Manila, one to be at the Sapang Palay estate at San Jose del Monte, Bulacan, and the other in the suburbs to the south of the city.

The Sapang Palay site was agreed upon after many squatters interviewed indicated willingness to be relocated to that area.

The relocation site south of Manila will be in the towns of Parañaque and Las Piñas in Rizal and Bacoor in Cavite.

The method of financing the projected relocation of the squatters was also discussed but no decision was reached. However, the plan which found most favor among the Cabinet members was the floating of bonds by the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation.

The charter of the P.H.H.C. allows the issuance of bonds. Under the plan, the Government Service Insurance System would absorb most of the bonds.

The Cabinet also discussed the redemption of backpay certificates. Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona reported that the backpay division still had no figures on unredeemed certificates.

He said that the suspension of the payment of claims for six months was made so that the records of this division would be straightened out.

The government slum clearance committee had recommended to President Garcia the acquisition of the Sapang Palay farm and the development of the Camarin area at Caloocan, Rizal, for the resettlement of squatters in the Greater Manila area.

The group headed by Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor also told the President that the ₱2 million allocation for the purchase and development of relocation sites was inadequate.

June 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia administered the oath of affiliation to the Nacionalista Party to two mayors, one vice-mayor, and two municipal councilors of Laguna who had been elected under the banners of the Liberal Party and the Grand Alliance.

The ceremony was held at the Malacañang study room in the presence of Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay and several municipal mayors of Laguna.

The new Nacionalistas are Mayors Elpidio Asedillo of Kalayaan and Geminiano Gualberto of Pangil, Vice-Mayor Quiterio de la Rosa of Siniloan, Councilors Domingo Cabati of Pangil, and Deogracias Cabugason and Cresencio Acuera of Kalayaan.

The President also inducted the new officials of the Reserve Officers Legion of the Philippines at the Malacañang social hall.

National president of the legion is Ernesto Golez. The Board of Advisers include Economic Coordination Administrator Juan O. Chioco, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, and Rep. Salipada Pendatun.

Earlier this morning the President received former Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Raul S. Manglapus, who left for Berlin, West Germany, at noon.

The President asked Manglapus to convey his personal greetings to former President Theodor Heuss and to Chancellor Konrad Adenauer of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Manglapus is a Philippine delegate to the Congress on Cultural Freedom in Berlin and is a guest of the German Government, after which he will go to England as a guest of the British Government.

The President considers the congress very important in the war of ideas between democracy and communism, especially because Berlin itself, where the congress is to be held, is a focal point for both ideologies.

The President did not receive any other callers aside from holding conferences with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, and Minister Manuel G. Zamora on preparations for the state visit of President Eisenhower to the Philippines next week.

In the evening President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the Manila Hotel to attend the appreciation dinner given by the Federation of Chinese Chambers of Commerce for the President's trip to Taipei recently.

The President issued today a proclamation designating the period from June 13 to November 19 this year within which the National Economic Protectionism Association will hold national products contests for children and students of public and private schools all over the country, it was announced by Malacañang.

The objectives of the contests as enumerated in the proclamation are:

- (1) To arouse and instill in the minds of the youth the love of things Philippine and the necessity of patronizing the products of local industries;
- (2) To encourage school children and students to engage in scientific research and create new products from local raw materials;
- (3) To encourage them to produce or invent more efficient, satisfactory, and suitable tools, machinery, and equipment so as to facilitate faster, cheaper, and more economical process of production; and
- (4) To improve the design, workmanship, quality, and finish of existing products and articles so as to make them appear more beautiful, attractive, and appealing.

The President, in his proclamation, enjoined all students and school children to participate in the contests, and all teachers, public officials, individuals and social, civic, business, and other organizations, to extend their active support to the NEPA movement.

He also designated the NEPA to take charge of the various contests in collaboration with the Bureaus of Public and Private Schools, with the NEPA providing all prizes to be given as incentives to the contestants.

June 10.—THIS morning the President conferred with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who reported on completed plans for President Eisenhower's visit.

With Secretary Castillo were Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, and Minister Manuel Zamora.

"Good afternoon, Mr. Secretaries," President Garcia jokingly greeted some 30 newsmen who were at the Council of State room this afternoon waiting for the press conference.

The Council of State room has been the scene of Cabinet meetings, and President Garcia, apparently in high spirit, jokingly greeted the newsmen in the way he greets Cabinet members.

When he saw a newsman, he asked "Are you ready for the big day?"

He obviously was referring to the coming visit of President Eisenhower Tuesday afternoon.

President Garcia told the press conference at Malacañang this afternoon that he is available for re-election. He appeared unfazed by reports that Senate and Nacionalista Party President Eulogio Rodriguez is also a candidate for President next year.

"My personal desire is to retire in 1961," President Garcia declared, "but I have also said my personal interest is subordinate to the national interest. If there is a call, you can be sure I will respond."

The Chief Executive met local and foreign newsmen this afternoon for the first time in two months.

Asked to comment on reports that Senate President Rodriguez will seek the presidential nomination, the President said, "Anybody who wants to aspire for any position is free to do so. Well, this is a free country."

The President discounted the possibility of a split in the majority party and expressed optimism that the NP would be able to make the decision "as to who will be its candidate."

President Garcia directed the Philippine National Bank today to reduce the rates of interest for agricultural and industrial loans.

In a letter to the bank's board of directors he read at his press conference, the President also asked the government bank to help in the dispersion of industrial establishments away from Manila and the suburbs.

He was directing the reduction of the rates of interest, the President said, because of the "satisfactory results of operations" of the bank.

"In the light of the buoyant position of the bank and in line with the policy of the Administration to give all possible assistance and incentives to producers, and to insure to our people a happier, fuller, and more rewarding life it may be timely now to consider the reduction of interest on agricultural and industrial loans," the President said.

Asked at his press conference what he thought should be the new rates of interest for such loans, the President said he did not fix them.

He said, however, that he expected the rates reduced from four to six per cent in agricultural loans and from six to eight per cent in industrial loans.

He said the reduction of the rates for agricultural loans should be given priority by the bank.

During the press conference the President also expressed gratification over the results of the decontrol, measures he instituted recently.

As of the last day of last May, he said, the dollar reserves had reached the \$118 million mark.

Aside from this, he said, there was an excess of \$27.2 million set aside for the free market. This amount, he said, was in excess of the dollar demands of the country.

“All these things are very heartening for the economy of the country,” he said.

In his letter to the P.N.B., the President said that the bank could be and should be an effective instrumentality in the intensification of the agricultural and industrial development programs of the country.

“I am happy to note that it has been, and is, fulfilling its mission wonderfully during my administration,” he said.

The President said the bank could also help in the dispersal of industrial establishments to the provinces. Dispersion of industry was not only advantageous economically and socially, he said, but would be necessary in the event of a global war.

“A program to direct loan operations for productive purposes in the other provinces of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao may well be considered by the bank,” the President said.

With the branches and agencies well scattered throughout the country, he added, the program could easily succeed.

From the press conference, the President motored to his private residence in Quezon City where he was reported to have gone over the draft of a speech he will deliver at the airport upon the arrival of President Eisenhower Tuesday afternoon.

June 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia conferred today with his foreign policy advisers; namely, Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano and Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo.

Serrano and Romulo returned yesterday to brief the Chief Executive on prevailing sentiments in the U.S. on a number of pending issues between the Philippines and the United States.

In his scheduled conference with President Eisenhower Wednesday morning, President Garcia will touch on various PI-US issues, including a request for an updated arms programs.

In a recent speech at the Manila Hotel the President told a veterans federation that the first thing he would ask President Eisenhower in Manila is the speeding up of arms assistance program by sending to the Philippines modern weapons to replace surplus World War II arms.

With Serrano and Romulo was former President Sergio Osmeña, who was invited as an elder statesman.

The President also received Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who reported to the Chief Executive on the preparations for the coming Eisenhower visit.

The President spent the night at his private residence in Quezon City.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: June 12-18, 1960

Official Week in Review

June 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today stayed in his private residence in Quezon City, where he received unscheduled guests the whole day. Several of the visitors were political leaders who pledged to support him in the event of a clash with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

The President issued a proclamation declaring the period from June 13 to 19 as Rizal Week.

In his proclamation the President said he designated the week to commemorate the 99th birthday of Dr. Jose Rizal.

President Garcia also commended Mrs. Joan R. Smith of the Joint United States Military Advisory Group in Quezon City for her heroic deed in rescuing a number of women and children from the raging torrents of the recent flash floods which virtually submerged Manila and the suburbs.

"Feminine courage is rare but you are certainly rich in this virtue," the President wrote Mrs. Smith.

June 13.—THIS morning the President received Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, who reported on the recently concluded SEATO Military Advisers' conference held in Washington and on his talks with U.S. defense officials regarding U.S. military assistance to the Philippines.

New and exhaustive appraisals of the nature and extent of the military and subversive threats to the treaty area were made in the SEATO conference, Gen. Cabal informed the President.

The AFP head also informed the President that existing defensive plans for the military security of Asia, including the Philippines, were reviewed and updated in the light of current situations, and a program of military exercises for the next several years was considered.

The President was informed on U.S. concurrence in general to the necessity for greater AFP participation in planning for, and programming of, U.S. military assistance to the Philippines.

American authorities have also agreed, according to the report of Gen. Cabal to the President, on the Philippine bid for sidewinders for the use of the Philippine Air Force, for all-weather interceptors and for more substantial and suitable equipment for the Philippine Navy, Air Force, Army, and Constabulary.

With regard to the Philippine bid for new weapons and equipment, including conventional missiles for, purely defensive purposes as recently announced by President Garcia, Gen. Cabal reported that he had held initial and explanatory talks with U.S. defense authorities.

The President also received Eduardo Romualdez, president of the Philippine National Bank, who arrived last Saturday from Washington where he served as a member of the Philippine panel negotiating with U.S. authorities for a P.I.—U.S. Air Treaty.

Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo also called on President Garcia to discuss several pending P.I.—U.S. matters, especially pending legislations in the U.S. Congress.

June 14.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia received their house guest, U.S. President Eisenhower, who arrived at the MIA at exactly 4:45 o'clock this afternoon.

President Eisenhower returned to Malacañang, where he worked from 1935 to 1939 as senior assistant to General Douglas MacArthur.

“It’s a homecoming for me,” President Eisenhower said as he landed at the Manila International Airport aboard the *Colombine III*.

President Garcia received the visiting American President at the domestic terminal of the MIA. President Eisenhower is the first American President to visit the Philippines.

Mrs. Garcia, on the other hand, stayed in Malacañang and waited for President Eisenhower at the stairs of the Palace.

President Eisenhower was given the room which was occupied by the late Presidents Quezon, Quirino, and Magsaysay.

The visiting U.S. Chief Executive will stay in Malacañang for three days until he leaves midnight Thursday for Taipei.

American security officers from the Federal Bureau of Investigation virtually took over Malacañang today.

A security officer was seen to have stopped a press office movie cameraman who was assigned by the press secretary to take pictures of President Eisenhower’s arrival at the Palace.

President Garcia motored to the airport at 4:30 o’clock this afternoon to lead top government officials and foreign dignitaries in welcoming President Eisenhower.

President Garcia and President Eisenhower trooped the line of a composite battalion which gave the visiting Chief Executive full military honors.

President Garcia then led the U.S. President to an improvised stage where the PI Chief Executive personally welcomed Ike. Ike responded extemporaneously. (*See Historical Papers*, pp. —, for texts of welcome speech and extemporaneous response of the Chiefs of State.)

From 1.5 to 2 million people turned out into the streets this afternoon to give President Eisenhower an unprecedented welcome on his arrival for a three-day goodwill visit.

The welcoming throng at the Manila International Airport (domestic) was estimated at less than 20,000, principally as a result of strict enforcement of rules to ensure security. But a huge crowd, never before seen in Manila and environs, clogged the ten-mile route from the airport to Malacañang Palace and spilled out into the streets in the most spontaneous welcome ever accorded a visiting dignitary.

For President Eisenhower, it was actually an emotional homecoming to a country where he lived for four years before the war as special assistant to Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

“As I looked at these familiar sights there was one thing, of course, that was missing,” he told a welcome crowd at the airport. “So many of my old friends of the years just preceding World War II are gone. So many of them paid the price free men have been called upon to pay again and again for the defense of freedom...”

Then President Eisenhower touched briefly on the more serious aspect of his three-day visit to the Philippines. Referring obviously to some irritants in the Philippine-American relations, he said:

“Among us, between us, just as it has always been the case between members of the family, are some problems to be discussed, to be talked about, to negotiate, but that negotiation and conference take place in a spirit of common dedication to the ideals that make us true partners.”

He said no party difference could tear apart his country and the Philippines.

Both President Garcia and President Eisenhower in their separate remarks at the airport reiterated the special ties that bind their countries together, particularly in the present time of world stress and strain.

It was a reception as wide and sincere as President Eisenhower's famous grin which he turned on at the cheering crowds that lined his route from the Manila International Airport to Malacañang.

The spontaneous show of affection by some two million Filipino welcomers at times gave some frightening moment to the visiting Chief of State's security detail.

In some streets in downtown Manila, like Rizal Avenue, the massed humanity pressed-forward close to the open car carrying the U.S. President and President Garcia.

Filipino and American security agents jumped from their cars and jogged alongside the presidential vehicle through most of the downtown route as a protective shield and to keep the motorcade from being stalled by the crowds.

President Eisenhower waved his arms and smiled while standing in the open Cadillac as he rode through a thick ticker tape reception on the Escolta.

Some crowds stood ten to twenty-five deep in Manila to get a glimpse of the visiting dignitary, who had described his trip earlier at the airport as "indeed a homecoming." Thousands of others perched on rooftops and balconies, while a forest of miniature Philippine and American flags fluttered from waving hands.

Applause broke out from the massed crowd pressing against the railing of the airport's domestic terminal as President Garcia greeted President Eisenhower at the foot of the plane ramp.

He was introduced to high Philippine officials waiting near the plane and to members of the diplomatic corps while an artillery unit boomed out a 21-gun salute.

After the ceremonial trooping the line, President Garcia led President Eisenhower to an improvised platform where both delivered brief remarks.

The American President listened solemnly while President Garcia read a message of welcome from a prepared text. "When we welcome you," the Philippine President said, "therefore, at this time, we feel and we wish you to feel that it is a welcome home."

"We are with you, Mr. President," President Garcia said, as your friend and your ally in the great cause that as free men, we are pledged to defend with all our might and main in complete identification with the rest of the freedom-loving and peace-loving humanity."

In a clear and even tone, the American President recalled his stay in the Philippines 25 years ago and pledged the U.S. "to live with you as a true partner in defense of those ideals of liberty and human dignity, in which we alike believe."

June 15.—PRESIDENT Eisenhower woke up about 6:30 a.m., ordered a cup of coffee, then read the morning papers. After reading all the morning papers, President Eisenhower dressed up and waited for his son John and daughter-in-law Barbara before going to the Malacañang music room where President and Mrs. Garcia, together with daughter Linda and son-in-law Fernando C. Campos, had arrived earlier.

After chatting for a while President and Mrs. Garcia led their guests for a family breakfast at the Malacañang dining hall, where the hosts presented gifts consisting of *piña barong Tagalogs* for President Eisenhower and his son John.

For Mrs. Barbara Eisenhower, the President and the First Lady gave a *jusi terno*, and for Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower, an embroidered *jusi* shirtwaist.

After breakfast Presidents Eisenhower and Garcia with high PI and US officials met in conference at the Malacañang music room.

Shortly after the conference, President Eisenhower, left Malacañang for the Luneta to lay a wreath, at the monument of the Filipino hero, Dr. Jose Rizal.

Lt. Col. and Mrs. John Eisenhower, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Fernando C. Campos and Dr. Antonio Guytingco, President Garcia's personal physician, left Malacañang to visit the Maternity and Children's Hospital, North General Hospital, National Orthopedic Hospital, and National Mental Hospital before going to Las Piñas to see the famous bamboo organ. Then the group went to the Moon Gate, where Mr. and Mrs. Campos gave a birthday party in honor of Mrs. Barbara Eisenhower.

Leaving Malacañang and arriving at the Luneta, President Eisenhower was lustily cheered by people who waited four hours just to see him. The American President drew burst of applause when he waved at the huge crowd with his famous "V" for victory gesture.

Returning to Malacañang, President Eisenhower rested for a while and then proceeded with the rest of his party to the Malacañang ceremonial hall, where he met with President Garcia, former President Osmeña, and leading members of all political parties before going to the Malacañang state dining hall for an informal luncheon given in his honor by President Garcia.

Present were leaders of the Nacionalista Party and the Liberal Party, among them were Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Senate Minority Floorleader Ferdinand Marcos, and Senator Mariano Jesus Cuenco.

Before going to the state dining hall, President Garcia gave President Eisenhower all the issues of the *Manila Tribune* in bound volumes from January 1, 1942, up to February 3, 1945, when Manila was liberated by the American forces.

Informed of President Eisenhower's liking for mangoes, President Garcia ordered a big basket of mangoes and mangosteens sent to the U.S. Embassy for the use of his guest on his trip to Taiwan.

President Eisenhower this afternoon had a nice reunion with old friends at Malacañang Palace.

For more than an hour, the visiting American Chief of State had a pleasant time reminiscing "old times" with close friends and people he had known during the four years that he served with the Philippine Commonwealth Government as a ranking member of the staff General Douglas MacArthur, then military adviser of the Philippine Government.

Those who saw President Eisenhower were Jorge Vargas, executive secretary of the late President Quezon; Antonio de las Alas; Generals Basilio Valdez and Guillermo Francisco; Mrs. Angela Butte, accompanied by her daughter, Mrs. Ramon Papa, Jr.; Maj. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, AFP vice-chief of staff, who was a classmate of President Eisenhower when the latter was taking flying lessons; Col. Ramon Zosa (ret.), who was one of the flying instructors of the then Maj. Dwight D. Eisenhower; Commodore Jose Francisco, Philippine Navy chief; Mrs. Pilar Hidalgo Lim, widow of General Vicente Lim, who in West Point was an upper classman at the time Eisenhower was a plebe; and Mrs. Mateo Capinpin.

Two Malacañang oldtimers also had a chance to see President Eisenhower. They were Modesto Bantola, Malacañang Press Office photographer who was one of the Malacañang photographers during the late President Quezon's time; and Justino Lebarido, a driver of Malacañang, who used to drive the car of Eisenhower during his inspection trips to Northern Luzon.

President Eisenhower received old friends immediately upon his arrival at Malacañang from the U.S. Embassy, which he visited after delivering an address before a special Joint Session of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The reunion lasted from 4:50 to 6:09 p.m.

After meeting old friends, President Eisenhower received the members of the Municipal Board of the City of Manila who presented a resolution unanimously approved adopting him as a Son of the City of Manila.

The American President was surprised and was grateful for the honor. It is the first time he had been adopted by a city as a son. In the past he had been adopted as a citizen of various cities.

The councilors, led by Vice-Mayor Antonio Villegas, presiding officer of the municipal board, were Gonzalo Santos Rivera, Eduardo Quintos, Alfredo Gomez, Vicente Cruz, Jose Sembrano, Francisco Varona, Francis Yuseco, Mariano Magsalin, Martin Isidro, Pablo V. Ocampo, and Ernesto Maceda.

The last callers of President Eisenhower before attending the reception and state dinner given in his honor by President and Mrs. Garcia were members of the Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan bloc who were led by Sens. Domocao Alonto, and Alejandro Almendras, Reps. Laurentino Badelles of Lanao del Norte, Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, William Chiongbian of Misamis Occidental, Reynaldo P. Honrado of Surigao, Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, and Gaudencio Antonino, member of the GB Monetary Board. The MINSUPALA group presented President Eisenhower with a Maranao dagger that can only be used by a Sultan.

June 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia at midnight bade his state guest, President Eisenhower, “Goodbye, Mabuhay” at the Philippine Navy landing, climaxing the U.S. Chief Executive’s three-day state visit to this country.

President Eisenhower concluded a hectic schedule, having received an honorary degree of doctor of laws from the University of the Philippines and the highest presidential award, Rajah of the Order of the Sikatuna, from President Garcia himself at a popular rally at the Luneta.

The President and his state guest motored to the Luneta at 4:20 o’clock this afternoon and were at the ceremonial grandstand at exactly 4:30 o’clock.

President Garcia introduced President Eisenhower and presented him with the highest presidential award.

From the Luneta, the President returned to Malacañang and rested briefly. He left with President Eisenhower and the First Lady for the U.S. Embassy, where the U.S. Chief Executive gave a dinner in honor of President Garcia.

After an exchange of toasts, the two Presidents motored to the Philippine Navy landing, where President Garcia personally saw President Eisenhower off.

“The time of parting always makes the visit of a friend too brief,” President Garcia said.

June 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia boarded the presidential yacht Lapu-Lapu this morning and sought seclusion in order to study the approved bills.

The President was accompanied by aide, Major Ciriaco Hocson, who brought a big pile of pending state papers.

The President wanted to catch up with the backlog which had piled up during the three-day state visit of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta saw the President aboard the yacht to brief him on the approaching deadline for action on the more than 400 bills.

Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, was likewise summoned to the yacht to assist the President.

Among those who saw the President were Malacañang officials; namely, Press Secretary Jose S. Nable and Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta.

Logarta briefed the President on some Malacañang matters, while Nable informed the Chief Executive on the reaction of the world press on the three-day visit here of President Eisenhower.

In the evening the President signed three minor bills, House Bills Nos. 41, 3944, and 3844, He signed them in the presence of Secretary Nable and Logarta.

The President stayed aboard the yacht and he may stay there until the weekend. The President this evening went over some 400 bills Congress had approved in its last regular session.

June 18.—THIS morning the President received Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, who conferred with the Chief Executive for final instructions before leaving for his post in Washington.

Romulo arrived here last week, two days before the arrival of U.S. President Eisenhower. He came on the same day as Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano.

At about 9 o'clock this evening, the President ordered the presidential yacht to steam out into the Manila Bay to prevent other persons from following up their bills.

President Garcia went through the rest of the 416 measures approved by Congress in its last session as he raced against the deadline which expired at midnight last night. The President has been aboard the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* since Saturday morning to devote all his time to the study of these bills.

At 10 o'clock this evening, the President had gone over the important bills and was reported poring over the general appropriations act.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the President expected to go over all the important bills and take action on all the measures before midnight. President Garcia may allow some bills to lapse into law.

The President was assisted by Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, Judge Salvador Esguerra, Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta, and other Malacañang officials.

The Confederation of Government Employees Organization (COGEO) today thanked President Garcia for signing into law House Bill No. 41, providing for the exclusion of Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays in the computation of sick and vacation leaves due a government employee.

The President received a message from the COGEO while he was aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* working on bills approved by the recent congress.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: June 19-25, 1960

Official Week in Review

June 19.— WEARIED by cramming over more than 400 bills the last two days, President Garcia woke up early this morning to hear mass aboard the yacht Lapu-Lapu.

After his breakfast the President left the yacht for Malacañang. In the afternoon he motored to the Loyola Heights in Quezon City for the ceremonies marking the inauguration of the Ateneo University.

On his arrival at the Ateneo compound, the President received a 21-gun salute and a military review conducted by the ROTC unit of the new university, and then led the parade to the ceremonial hall.

The President this afternoon called for the genius and efforts of institutions of higher learning to help preserve world peace and prosperity through the brotherhood of man.

Speaking before a big assemblage at the Ateneo de Manila in Loyola Heights, the President warned that scientific progress has placed within the reach of man the weapon which could destroy the world civilization. The President, after tracing the growth of universities throughout the world, expressed firm belief that universities should not confine their activities to teaching, but must also devote part of their time to basic research to develop a well-balanced man and at the same time contribute to the basic progress of the nation economically.

The President paid tribute to the Ateneo de Manila for producing great men who have rendered their greatest service to the country, especially the greatest Filipino hero, Dr. Jose Rizal, who graduated from the Ateneo in 1877, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

The President was guest speaker at the inauguration of the Ateneo de Manila as a full-fledged university.

The date was doubly important because it marks the conclusion of 100 years of service to the country of the Ateneo and the 99th birthday anniversary of Dr. Jose P. Rizal, whose talents and talent energy were developed in that institution, and which he devoted to the service of the country.

During the ceremonies, Teodoro Evangelista, president of the Far Eastern University and chairman of the Ateneo Centennial Conference on Education, presented the President; with a study of the growth of higher education in the Philippines, its problems and suggested solutions which, he said may be utilized by the officials of the government responsible for the educational policies of the government.

After the ceremonies the President and guests were given a *merienda*. The President left Ateneo at 7:30 p.m. and went to Malacañang for dinner. He later left for the yacht Lapu-Lapu to continue working, on state papers.

Among those present at the Ateneo University inauguration were members of the diplomatic corps headed by Mons. Salvatore Siino, papal nuncio, and U.S. Ambassador John D. Hickerson; Dr. Jesus Perpiñan and Dr. Daniel Salcedo of the Department of Education; and heads of other local institutions of higher learning.

THIS afternoon President Garcia formally launched the 1960-1961 Fund Campaign of the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission at a ceremony held at the Malacañang Social Hall.

During the occasion the President re-enacted the signing of the bill providing for the creation of the Rizal Centennial Commission and the manner, by which it shall acquire funds for its purpose.

The President left shortly, but his message was read by Education Secretary Jose Romero. He appealed for general contribution in the attainment of the commission's goal of ₱30,000,000 in order that the JRNCC may be able to realize the building of a Jose Rizal Shrine now under construction at the Luneta.

Former Executive Secretary Emilio Abello expressed on behalf of the JRNCC his heartfelt gratitude to President Garcia and the First Lady for their unselfish cooperation in the launching of the JRNCC fund campaign and for pledging their support for its ultimate success. Abello said that “we will not let Rizal down.” To swell its ₱2,500,000 funds, the JRNCC received during the affair the following contributions: Philippine Bank of Commerce, ₱3,000; William Li Yao, ₱200; China Banking Corporation, ₱3,000; Ysmael Steel, ₱500; Philippine American Life Insurance Employees Association ₱4,991.14; Luzon Theatres, ₱1,000; St. Teresa’s College, ₱1.630; Malolos Rotary Club, ₱1,198; Padre Gomez General Assembly, ₱205, Gonzalo Puyat and sons, ₱5,000; Tabacalera, ₱2,000; U.S. Tobacco Corporation, ₱2,000; Equitable Banking Corporation, ₱200; Faculty of the Philippine Women’s University, ₱500; Philippine Bank of Communications, ₱3,000; and Manila Trading and Supply Company, ₱500.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia received the contributions in behalf of the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission.

THIS evening President Garcia signed House Bill No. 4127, which provides for the increase in the number of councilors of Pasay City from seven to ten but announced at the same time his decision to defer the exercise of the appointing power vested in him by law.

The President made known his decision in a message he sent to Congress in which he stated that he would prefer that Congress authorize him to consult, the will of the people of Pasay through a special election on the choice of the three additional councilors.

In this connection, he requested Congress that Section 3 of the act be amended at the earliest opportunity so as to authorize the President to call a special election to fill the three seats in the Pasay City Council.

“In this way, we will satisfy the desire of the proponents of the act to broaden the popular representation in the Pasay City Council and at the same time meet the requirements of popular government,” he said.

While in full accord with the desire of the proponents of the new law to broaden the popular representation in the City Council of Pasay “in order to attune the present composition of the body to the democratic spirit of the time,” President Garcia pointed out that, due regard should be given to the will of the people of Pasay City who gave to the Liberal Party the majority in the Council and a Liberal Mayor in the 1959 elections.

June 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia today discussed future projects of the Peace and Amelioration Fund Commission, in a conference with officials of the commission.

In the conference held on board the RFS *Lapu-Lapu*, the President and the PAFC officials took up the various activities for the past year and plans for the fund-raising campaign of the commission. The President was informed of the possibilities of utilizing the Araneta Coliseum for the fund-raising drive.

Present at the conference were Manuel Elizalde, PAFC chairman; Col. Basilio Hernandez, executive officer; and J. Amado Araneta, who offered the facilities of the Araneta Coliseum for the fund drive.

Meanwhile, Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta said that the President had signed before the midnight deadline last Saturday (June 18) three separate bills creating the cities of San Carlos in Negros Occidental, Toledo in Cebu, and Gingoog in Misamis Oriental.

THIS afternoon the President reenacted at the Malacañang reception hall the signing of the career incentive law which benefits members of the Medical Corps of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Present at the ceremony were high AFP medical officers led by CoL Antonio Obieta, surgeon general. Others present were Cols. Melchor M. Javier, Francisco Katigbak, Carlos Vergel de Dios, Tomas llano, and Pedro Cruz, and Lt. Cols. Bernabe Galang, Pedro Soliman, and Enrique Filart.

The President also reenacted the signing of House Bill No. 4099, which expands and reorganizes the National Bureau of Investigation in order to promote maximum efficiency in the discharge of its duties, particularly that pertaining to the investigation of graft and corruption cases in the government.

Political figures of Negros Occidental witnessed the reenactment of the signing of the bill creating the City of San Carlos. The delegation was led by Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, Rep. Vicente Gustilo, and San Carlos Mayor Sofronio Carmona.

Later in the evening the President motored to Quezon City, where he delivered a speech at the charter presentation of the Rotary Club of that city.

Among those present at the reenactment ceremony were Gonzalo Puyat, Sr., Sen. Gil J. Puyat, Jose P. Marcelo, Teodoro Toribio, Teofilo Reyes, Jr., P. E. Domingo, Gabriel A. Daza, Feliciano F. Santiago, Mariano del Rosario, Julian Lao, Dr. Jesus Perpiñan, and Dr. Vitaliano Bernardino.

After the program the President received acting Secretary Serafin Salvador of General Services, with whom he discussed the disposal of government properties, especially real estate.

June 21.—THIS morning the President thanked Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek for his ₱5,000 contribution for victims of the flood which swept Manila last May 28.

The President told Ambassador Tuan Mao-lan, who personally delivered the check covering the amount at Malacañang, that this manifestation of concern and affection for the flood victims has served to strengthen the ties of friendship that bind the Filipino and the Chinese peoples together.

Ambassador Tuan also conveyed to the President the deep sympathy of President Chiang and his hope for the early recovery of the hundreds who suffered from the flood.

Earlier, the President received former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., who came to pay his respects before leaving for Cebu.

The President and the First Lady later attended the luncheon given in honor of Mrs. Luisa Rodriguez, wife of Senate and NP President Eulogio Rodriguez, in Pasay.

THIS afternoon President Garcia stated that the Filipino First policy of his administration is not a new one but had been the idea of the Filipinos themselves and of the founders of the National Economic Protectionism Association.

The occasion was the NEPA proclamation program held in the Malacañang social hall in connection with the national products contests sponsored by the association.

President Garcia said that “nationalism in economics has always been in the hearts of Filipinos and has only been invigorated from time to time until the present administration has adopted it as a policy.”

In this connection, the President added that the policy has penetrated into “our laws and into all aspects of Philippine life.”

To give impetus to the NEPA contests, President Garcia gave a contribution of ₱1,000.

At the start of his extemporaneous address, the President read Proclamation No. 678, which designates the period from June 13 to November 19, 1960, for the NEPA national products contests in order to arouse and instill “in the minds of the youth of the land the love of things Philippines and the necessity of patronizing the products of local industries.”

In his proclamation, the President enjoined all school children of both public and private schools throughout the country to participate in the said contests, and urged all teachers, public officials, individuals, and social, civic and business and other organizations to extend their active support to the NEPA movement.

At the program, the President reenacted the signing of House Bill No 4250, which authorizes the President of the Philippines to sell a parcel of land of the private domain of the government, located in Manila, to the Philippine Chamber of Industries.

June 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today requested Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno to stay in the Central Bank for some time longer to help insure the success of the four-year decontrol plan.

The CB governor is due for retirement in the government service, having, reached the age of 65. He acceded to the President's request.

During his conference with Governor Cuaderno at the President's Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, this morning, the President also indicated that should the results of gradual decontrol warrant, the four-year period to nil decontrol may be reduced.

The President held a long conference with Governor Cuaderno and discussed with him the progress of the decontrol plan being implemented by the Central Bank.

Later, worried about the plight of the poor tobacco farmers over the delay in the payment of their products by the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration, the President summoned Auditor General Pedro Gimenez in order to expedite the release of the sum of ₱12 million for the purpose.

This afternoon President Garcia paid tribute to the Jewish people for their valor, perseverance, and faith which greatly contributed to their return to the land of their ancestors.

The occasion was the presentation of credentials of Mr. Yechel Ilsar as the first resident envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the State of Israel, to the Republic of the Philippines.

The President stated that "the world admires the Jewish people for having maintained their sense of national cohesion and expressed his confidence that the happy relations between the two-countries will be further enhanced.

Minister Ilsar, in his remarks, said that the Philippines "has endeared herself greatly to the Jewish people, because it was by its affirmative vote in the crucial days in the United Nations, on November 29, 1947, which contributed to the rebirth of the State of Israel.

The ceremony was held in the Malacañang ceremonial hall. Present at the occasion were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Fructuoso Cabahug, representing Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who was indisposed; Consul Ernest E. Simke of Israel, Ministers Manuel Collantes, Manuel Zamora, Pedro Angara-Aragon, and Benjamin T. Tirona, and Rod Nazareno, Julius Maloles, and Jose Zaide of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The Israel Minister was born in Poland; and graduated from high school in Germany before immigrating to Israel.

Before coming to the Philippines as the first resident minister of Israel in the Philippines, Mr. Ilsar served in Zurich as the consul general of Israel.

In the evening, the President presided over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet. He listened to the discussions on the proposal to abolish the National Rice and Corn Corporation;

The President today suspended Pacifico L. Velilla as president of the Philippine College of Commerce, and at the same time created a three-man committee to look into the charges filed against him.

The suspension order was handed down by the President, who found highly unsatisfactory the written explanation submitted by Velilla of the allegations of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency.

Named to the investigating committee are Justice Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez, chairman; Education Undersecretary Daniel Salcedo and President Francisco Dalupan of the University of the East, members.

In his report to the President, Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the PCAPE, made the following allegations against Velilla:

- (1) Notoriously disgraceful or immoral conduct;
- (2) Grave abuse of discretion or favoritism;
- (3) Wilful failure to pay just debts and conduct prejudicial to the public service;
- (4) Borrowing money and accepting gifts of substantial value from subordinates;
- (5) Incompetency and laxity in the performance of official duties; and
- (6) Disreputable or dishonest conduct committed prior to his entering the service.

In his written explanation to the President, Velilla denied all the charges in general, but sought to justify several specifications in the allegations.

Major Teodulo Natividad, chief of the PCAPE investigation and legal division who is handling the case, said that Velilla's averments were not borne out by facts nor supported by the evidence in his hands.

Velilla was suspended under Sec. 34 of Republic Act No. 2260, so that witnesses against him can testify freely and without fear, and in order that the evidence may not be tampered with or destroyed.

President Garcia requested today Auditor General Pedro Gimenez to expedite approval of payment of Virginia leaf tobacco purchases from the current crop by the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

The President expressed grave concern for the plight of the tobacco farmers who have not been paid ₱12 million worth of Virginia leaf tobacco purchases owing to the filing of writ of preliminary injunction by the Central Cooperative Exchange to contest the award of management contract by the PVTA to two tobacco flue curing and redrying plants.

The filing of the writ of preliminary injunction and a reconsideration appeal when the writ was denied prevented the auditor general from approving the management contracts and the release of money for the purchase of tobacco which: had already been redried and stored into hogsheads for curing.

Release of the much-needed funds by the auditor general had long been awaited by the tobacco farmers from the Northern and Central Luzon provinces who depend on Virginia leaf tobacco growing for their livelihood.

The President asked that the needed amount be released as soon as possible.

As commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, the President today officially commended two officers and 11 enlisted men for the capture of the long-wanted Outlaw and Huk Silvestre Liwanag, *alias* Linda Bie.

After being officially informed by Lieut. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, AFP chief of staff, of the capture of Linda Bie, the President wrote out personal letters to the officers and enlisted men praising them for their successful work in the finest tradition of the Philippine Constabulary.

President Garcia emphasized in his letter that the surprise raid and capture of Linda Bie ended the career of the notorious Huk who had been a constant threat to the people living in Central Luzon provinces.

President Garcia wrote out individual letters and congratulated Major Wilfredo E. Encarnacion, provincial commander of Bataan, Capt. Sergio E. Ongkiko, company commander of the 15th PC Co., Sgts. Saba L. Alcantara, Delfin I. Magtanang, Sales E. Creencia, and Alfredo Banzon of the 15th PC Company, Corporals Victorino B. Bernarte, Baltazar I. Vicente, Jesus R. Sales, Pedro C. Bato, Fernando Y. Nool, Pelagio R. Mata, and Jayme R. Gara.

June 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia cancelled his appointment today with morning callers, as he devoted his time to pending state papers which had piled up last week on account of his work with more than 400 bills.

In the afternoon, however, the President received provincial governors who brought up various problems.

Gov. Conrado F. Estrella of Pangasinan accompanied Rafael Gonzales, president of the Pangasinan Transportation Company (Pantranco) to the President. Gonzales invited the Chief Executive to inaugurate the Pantranco terminal on Quezon Boulevard.

Former Governor Jose Dinglasan of Capiz, accompanied by Vice-Governor Inday Melencio of Nueva Ecija and former Governors Leopoldo Diaz saw the President.

Rep. Cesar Fortich, the Cabinet appointee who still has to 'take his oath since his appointment six months ago, saw the President and sought the certification of a bill to Congress to speed up the grant of land patents.

Gov. Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur conferred with the President and opposed plans to send a BCT to Jolo where peace and order was reported to be deteriorating.

Gov. Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte also saw the President. He took up the problems facing his province.

Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental also saw the President this evening and denounced alleged over-shipment in sugar to the foreign markets.

Other callers were Antonio Diaz, Vice-Gov. Greg Dalongan of Zambales, and James Gordon, president of the Rotary Club of Olongapo.

June 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning held a long closed-door conference with Manuel Elizalde and Jose Ma. Gomez, presidents of the National Federation of Sugar Planters and the Philippine Sugar Association, respectively.

Immediately after his conference with the sugarmen, the President summoned Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, Max A. Maceren, and Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chairman, vice-chairman, and chief investigator and legal officer, respectively, and asked them to submit as soon as possible their findings and recommendations on the sugar over-shipment squabble.

Earlier the President had a breakfast conference with Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Logarta, Al Valencia, Eddie Martelino, and Teodoro F. Valencia.

Major Jose Ma. Guerrero, of the Philippine Information Agency in Washington, who had been recalled to Manila to assist during the visit of President Eisenhower, was unable to attend the breakfast because of an official conference with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano.

The President also received Acting ACCFA Administrator Leopoldo Uichangco and members of the ACCFA board who sought presidential assistance in the refinancing activities of this government agency.

Present at the conference were ACCFA Governors Celestino Paulin, Apolonio Marasigan, and Rafael Piguing.

Later the President received a big delegation led by Rep. Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental which called to thank the President for signing the bill converting Gingoog into a city.

The 15-man delegation included Mayor Julio Ganaban, Vice-Mayor Arturo Lugod, the municipal councilors of Gingoog, Jorge J. Tagandong, editor of *Tingog Misamisnon*, and Washington Brodith.

The President today directed PCAPE officials to submit as soon as possible their findings and recommendations on the alleged over-shipment of sugar to the United States which, according to reports, prejudiced thousands of sugar planters who have no market for their produce.

During an hour-long conference at Malacañang, the President told the PCAPE officials to prosecute and terminate all administrative cases without fear or favor, and with the least possible delay.

The President was disturbed by reports that the alleged over-shipment of sugar had adversely affected thousands of sugar cane planters all over the country who, because the sugar quota had already been filled, could not ship produce abroad.

The President asked the PCAPE chairman, Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, to submit his recommendations and to pinpoint responsibility for such overshipment so that the guilty parties can be prosecuted.

Likewise, the President expressed grave concern over the report that some 148 government agencies have to date failed to liquidate accumulating debts amounting to over ₱483 million, owing to alleged mismanagement, gross negligence, laxity in the performance of duty or corrupt practices.

The report submitted by the auditor general, indicated that loss of records and official documents was the chief cause for inability to collect accumulated debts owing the government by several government agencies.

In the meantime, the President indicated he will expand the PCAPE investigation and legal division by making available to it the services of all Malacañang technical assistants whose services may be needed.

The PCAPE officials who conferred with the President, were Justice Ocampo, Vice-Chairman Max A. Mecerren, and Maj. T. Natividad.

June 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed in his private residence in Quezon City the whole day today.

Malacañang said this evening the President did not receive any caller except Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano, who saw the Chief Executive for consultation.

It was learned the foreign affairs secretary took up with the President implementation of the Garcia-Eisenhower agreement which was forged during the meeting of the two Presidents in Manila two weeks ago.

Secretary Serrano had met with U.S. Ambassador John D. Hickerson and laid the groundwork for the re-opening of negotiations between representatives of the Philippines and the United States on U.S. bases and the drafting of an air treaty.

Serrano also took up with the President the possibility of bringing to Manila current negotiations in Tokyo for a Philippine-Japan treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation.

The President also received Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who took up some pending state questions.

President Garcia also received Press Secretary Jose C. Nable and they discussed the so-called third "White Paper" as reported by the newspapers this afternoon.

The President this day directed Reparations Commission officials to explain the reported charge of overpricing on ships acquired through reparations payments.

Acting through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, the President sent a cable earlier this afternoon to Reparations Chairman Rodolfo Maslog, who is now in Tokyo, Japan, attending to the schedule of reparations payments for 1961.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the holding of a formal investigation of the charges will depend on the explanation that will be submitted by the Reparations officials.

Nable said he was not aware of any report submitted to the President on this matter, but the President's quick action was based on press reports.

It is possible, Nable said, that this may be the same charge of overpricing claimed by some members of the Senate Blue Ribbon committee.

He recalled that the Senate Blue Ribbon committee had never submitted its findings for the approval of the entire Senate. Legislative procedure demands that a report must first be approved by the committee involved and later on adopted by the Senate in formal session and from hereon such findings may be submitted to the President for executive action, Nable said.

The press secretary also took occasion to emphasize the President's insistence for Congress to plug what has been described as loopholes in the reparations law. In his state-of-the-nation speech last January, the President specifically asked Congress to look into the revision of the reparations law which allows end-users to deal directly with manufacturers, Nable said.

This procedure of acquiring reparations goods is suspected highly of being the cause of overpricing, Nable said.

President Garcia today suspended from office Aguedo Y. Gepte as director of the Bureau of Supply Coordination, Department of General Services.

Gepte's suspension will remain in force pending the investigation and disposition of an administrative case against him involving the allegedly anomalous purchase of supplies worth over ₱1 million in his bureau.

In the administrative case filed against him, Gepte is charged with "gross negligence, incompetence, dishonesty, misconduct in office, and acts prejudicial to the public service."

The suspension was recommended by Acting Secretary Serafin Salvador and legal counsel Pedro P. Suarez of the Department of General Services, under Section 34 of Republic Act No. 2260, to enable witnesses to testify freely and without fear and the possible loss or tampering of evidence in the case.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: June 26 – July 2, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

June 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia alerted today government relief agencies to extend immediate assistance to thousands of sufferers expected as a result of typhoon *Olive*, which was reported to have been roaring through Eastern Visayans and Southern Luzon with center winds of cyclonic proportions.

Calling from his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City where he spent the week-end, the President instructed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, chairman of the national relief coordinating committee, to keep him posted on reports of damages from the affected areas and on the needs of typhoon victims.

The President also issued directives to SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, and Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo on the prompt dispatch of foodstuffs, clothing materials, medical supplies, and other needs of the ravaged regions, as well as the maintenance of peace and order in the localities.

The Chief Executive did not receive any caller at his Quezon City residence today. With the rains falling continuously as a result of typhoon *Olive*, he spent most of the day in his private study where he worked on papers he had brought along from Malacañang yesterday.

The President started the day by hearing mass said at the living room of his home. Also at the mass were LCdr. Melchor Fronda, naval aide, and members of the household.

After a light breakfast the President immediately repaired to his study, where he spent some time reading the Sunday morning papers. He started telephoning members of his Cabinet concerned as soon as he read about the typhoon with powerful center winds said to be raging at 140 miles per hour.

June 27.—EARLY this morning the President harnessed all government emergency and relief agencies to give immediate assistance to residents in Manila, Quezon City, San Juan, Caloocan, and the provinces hit by the typhoon.

The President also directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to allow all government employees to return to their respective homes, giving them the day off because of the typhoon.

The Chief Executive specifically asked the Constabulary and the Army to rush to flooded areas in Manila, Quezon City, and Caloocan in order to assist residents whose homes have been immersed, under water.

Also alerted were the Department of Public Works, the Social Welfare Administration, and the Department of Health.

The President motored early this morning from his Quezon City residence and proceeded to Malacañang to direct personally typhoon assistance. He passed through the Aurora Boulevard, including San Juan districts, where he saw the flooded areas.

President Garcia was reported to have developed a slight temperature; so he cancelled all engagements for today. Before he went to bed by the advice of Palace doctors, the President was able to give personal instructions for the relief and assistance of typhoon victims.

June 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning expressed the hope that in signing the bill creating a Women and Minors Bureau in the Department of Labor, greater protection will be afforded to more than 2.5 million women and thousands of minors now gainfully employed in various fields of industry.

The President this morning reenacted the signing of the bill at Malacañang before a delegation of women led by Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, who sponsored the bill in the Senate.

The Chief Executive also reenacted the signing of House Bill Numbered 3271, which was amended by substitution drafted by the Senate committee on, social justice, community development, and welfare chaired by Sen. Gonzalez.

The act plugs loopholes in the SSS Charter by providing tremendous increases in all benefits to employee-members of the System who now number 413,000 without substantially increasing their premium contributions.

Retirement benefits are increased by over 60 per cent; death and disability benefits now average about 20 per cent and sickness benefits range from 40 to 50 per cent.

Coverage is also widened and extended to all industrial laborers, subject to exemptions in the existing law. The six-employees and six-months waiting period requirements have been eliminated by the new act. Agricultural workers who work on a base or salary pay for an uninterrupted period of at least six months in a year are also covered now.

Present when President Garcia reenacted the signing of the SSS bill were, aside from Sen. Gonzalez, were Reps. Benjamin T. Ligot, Ricardo Yap Ladrido, Faustino Tobia, acting SSS Administrator Higinio R. Francisco, and SSS division chiefs led by Ananias Garcia.

Other callers were Sen. Pedro Sabido, Reps. Vicente Peralta, Vicente Gustilo, Laurentino Badelles, and Tobias Former, Ambassador Pedro C. Hernaez, Gov. Josue Cadio of Antique, Consul General Jose Fornier, and Drs. Jose Barcelona and Reginaldo Pascual, director and assistant director, respectively, of the Philippine General Hospital.

The Philippines today extended formal recognition to the new Mali Federation in line with the government's policy in giving support to the aspiration of colonial people for independence and self-determination.

In a note forwarded this evening by the Department of Foreign Affairs, President Garcia formally informed President Modibo Keita that the Philippines heartily welcome the new state to the community of free and independent nations, and conveyed his best wishes for the success of the federation and for the happiness and prosperity of the Mali people.

President Garcia called a caucus of Congress leaders, including Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, this afternoon. The caucus was held at the music room in Malacañang, and the Senate Leader, who had previously challenged President Garcia to the presidential nomination, showed up.

Malacañang was silent on the Garcia-Rodriguez meeting. Those present, however, said the President and the Senate President did not discuss politics, but the fact that Rodriguez appeared at the caucus was believed a step towards the possibility of a rapprochement between the two NP leaders.

Those who attended the caucus, aside from Rodriguez, were Senators Cipriano Primicias, Arturo M. Tolentino, Gil J. Puyat, Pedro Sabido, Quintin Paredes, and Domocao Alonto; Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez; and Reps. Jose Aldeguer, Justiniano S. Montano, and Dominador Tan.

The President this evening gave an appreciation dinner in honor of Philippine and American officials who were responsible for making President Eisenhower's recent state visit to the Philippines a success.

Guest list at the affair which was held at the Malacañang social hall. follows:

Ambassador John D. Hickerson, H. L. T. Koren, Seaborn Foster, Col. David J. Jones, Capt. Jack B. Dawley, Col. Thomas W. Donnell, Col. Rollen H. Anthis, Richard S. Bamsley, Millard L. Kenestrick, Carl McMillan, Keirn Brown, Merle S. Robie;

Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Secretary Dominador Aytona, Secretary Jose E. Romero, Secretary Alejo Santos, Secretary Jose C. Nable, Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug, Acting Secretary Marciano D. Bautista, Brig. Gen.

Isagani Campo, Secretary Enrique C. Quema, Minister Manuel G. Zamora, Minister Pedro Angara-Aragon, Col. Geminiano F. Yabut, Angel Meneses.

Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, Brig. Gen. Manuel T. Flores, Maj. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, Marcelo Balatbat, Eusebio Narciso, Jose A. Balquiedra, Col. Jorge Delarmente;

Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, Brig. Gen. Tirso G. Fajardo, Col. Nicanor T. Jimenez, Col. Telesforo Tenorio, Col. Jose Lukban, Col. Urbano Caldoza, Col. Basilio Pineda, Col. Eugenio Acab, Major Patrocinio Garcia, Col. Rosendo Tiongson, Felipe Ysmael, Jr., Pablo Malasarte, Eulogio Tablante, and Abelardo Batacan.

June 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to release an initial ₱160,000 from the contingent funds for the devastations wrought by typhoon Olive in the provinces of Albay, Sorsogon, and Tarlac.

Acting on the report on the extent of the damage submitted by Gov. N. Maronilla-Seva of Albay, the President earmarked ₱100,000 for that province.

The President also directed the release of ₱40,000 for Sorsogon and ₱20,000 for Tarlac.

Secretary Castillo is scheduled to enplane for Legaspi City tomorrow to present the check to Albay provincial officials and at the same time conduct an on-the-spot survey of the damage caused to other provinces along the path of the storm.

Before his departure for Tacloban, Leyte, this afternoon, President Garcia directed Secretary Castillo to visit the areas laid waste by the typhoon.

More releases from the President's contingent funds are expected as soon as reports from other hard-hit provinces in Luzon reach Malacañang.

Meanwhile, Secretary Castillo reappointed several members of the board of the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration, including Mrs. Remedios O. Fortich, board chairman.

Among those reappointed were Valeriano Plantilla, Rafael Hilao, Angelino Banzon, and Severo Yap. One position still remains to be filled, the one vacated by ex-Gov. Perfecto Faypon, who resigned to join the board of directors of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

THIS afternoon the President gave Sugar Quota Administrator Ramon. Paguia 72 hours within which to explain why he should not be charged with administrative disciplinary action.

The President gave the order before leaving on board the *Lapu-Lapu* for Tacloban, Leyte, to inaugurate the new province of Leyte del Sur and the Hilongos airport.

Paguia is under investigation for his alleged negligence that resulted in the reported over shipment of 50,000 tons of sugar in 1959 which was charged to the 1960 quota. The over shipment caused the shutting out from the 1960 U.S. market of \$1,600,000 worth of Philippine export sugar owned by legitimate quota holders.

The President's action was prompted by the recommendation submitted to him by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, to effect formally the administrative charges against Paguia. Justice Ocampo, together with PCAPE Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren and Major Teodulo Natividad, chief PCAPE investigator, had earlier briefed the President in his study room in Malacañang about the charges against Paguia filed by Jose Mapa Gomez, President of the National Federation of Sugarcane planters.

Paguia admitted an over shipment of 17,515 short tons in 1959 which was charged to the 1960 Philippine national quota but claimed that this was merely a balance of an over shipment of 23,518,20 in 1958 which he inherited from his predecessor, Vicente Bunuan. He claimed further that the 13,783 short tons of overshipment of the 1960 Philippine sugar quota reported by Dr. Zafra to PHILSUGIN in a cablegram dated June 15, 1960, is a further reduced balance of the overshipment he inherited from his predecessor.

Paguia also denied that there is any export sugar here in the Philippines which cannot find a buyer, claiming that up to the time of his appearance before the Presidential Committee that investigated him on June 23, 1960 he had not received a single complaint from any sugar quota holder on this matter.

Justice Ocampo pointed out that according to the report of the United States Department of Agriculture there was still an unfilled balance of our quota for the year 1958 in the total amount of 69,751 short tons, three months after Paguia assumed office and six months after Vicente Bunuan resigned. This same U.S. report contradicts Paguia's claim that he cannot be blamed for the overshipment which he said he had merely inherited from his predecessor.

June 30.—UPON his arrival today at Tacloban City on board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu*, President Garcia was accorded a warm reception by Leyteños led by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Gov. Ildefonso Cinco, and Tacloban City Mayor Artemio Mate.

Thousands lined up the wharf to greet the President and his party, including the First Lady, Mrs. Daniel Romualdez, Mrs. Marcelino Veloso, Mrs. Joaquin Roces, and Rep. Valeriano Yancha. The *Lapu-Lapu* was escorted to the wharf by a fluvial parade. After disembarking the President was accorded full military honors by a PC unit.

From the wharf, the President and party proceeded to the residence of Mayor Mate, where cocktails was served. After cocktails the President and the First Lady went back to the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* to see the fluvial procession in honor of Santo Nino, patron saint of Tacloban City.

This evening the President was scheduled to attend a dinner conference at the residence of Gov. Cinco, where Leyte mayors were invited to attend.

At 11 p.m., the President and party boarded the *Lapu-Lapu* for the trip to Maasin for the inauguration of Southern Leyte province.

President Garcia today discounted the possibility of calling Congress to a second special session, should the current meeting fail to enact into law the administration-sponsored bills.

The President emphasized that the special session of Congress had been called primarily to act on the proposed amendments to the Constitution.

After Congress acts on these charter amendments, the President will rush over to Congress the anti-graft bill, the nationalization of the rice and corn industries, and the proposed amendments to the reparations law.

The President's statement was issued by way of rectifying press reports that he will call Congress to a second special session for sole purpose of legislating on the amended bills vetoed by the Chief Executive.

The presidential rectification was relayed from aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, which was taking the Chief Executive to Tacloban City to inaugurate the new province of Southern Leyte tomorrow.

July 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia stressed that the inauguration of Hilongos airport is a progressive step in the field of civil aviation and expressed the conviction that it will bring economic benefits to Western Leyte which will be brought closer to Luzon, other parts of the Visayas, and Mindanao.

The President added that the airport marks another milestone in the progress of Western Leyte in all aspects of economic and agricultural development.

The President spoke at the Hilongos airport inaugural program after being introduced by Speaker Daniel Z Romualdez.

At noon in Maasin, the capital of Southern Leyte, the President inaugurated the new province and inducted former Maasin Mayor Alfredo Bantug as governor, former Mayor Graciano Capili of St. Bernard as vice-governor, and Isabelo Caindoy and Generoso Herrera as provincial board members.

The Maasin town plaza was filled with people coming from all towns of Southern Leyte to hear the President extol the leadership of Speaker Romualdez in Leyte and Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez in Southern Leyte. The President cited the progress achieved by Leyte during the NP administration.

After the inaugural ceremonies, the President and his party attended a banquet at the St. Joseph College auditorium, where a conference was held with municipal mayors who brought to President Garcia's attention local problems.

The President and his party arrived at Maasin on board the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* from Tacloban and were received with a fluvial parade.

Disembarking by motor boat, the President was accorded a rousing welcome by Maasin folks and delegations from all towns of Southern Leyte.

Immediately after disembarking the President walked from the wharf to the Catholic church, to attend a *Te Deum*.

At the banquet the President installed the officers of the Southern Leyte Mayors League; namely, Mayors Roman de Jesus of Anahawan, Emeterio Escano of Malitbog, Jose Veloso of Sogod, Damiano Puray of Cabalian, Valeriano Tomol of Silago, and Nemesio Mosqueda of Pintuyan.

After the airport inauguration, the presidential party proceeded to Hilongos town hall for merienda, together with Speaker Romualdez, Rep. Dominador Tan, Gov. Ildefonso Cinco, and others.

President Garcia visited today scenes of his wartime activities and met with guerilla comrades-at-arms. About one kilometer from the inaugural site of the new airport, the President again saw the swampy land where for three months he had successfully eluded Japanese patrols.

The President recalled an unforgettable event when he attempted to cross the channel over to Bohol, while trying to escape the Japanese, and his boat capsized. The then guerilla leader, Carlos P. Garcia, clung to the half-submerged boat and was tossed around by strong winds and huge waves the whole night until the next morning.

President Garcia renewed acquaintances with his guerilla comrades. With the President was Emiliano Melgazo, Leyte provincial board member, who had successfully helped hide the President during the war years.

President Garcia this afternoon extended diplomatic recognition to the three new-born Republics of Congo, Somalia, and Madagascar, Malacañang announced.

In his message welcoming the birth of the new independent nations, the President expressed his most sincere wishes for their success and prosperity.

July 2.—THIS morning, after breakfast, President Garcia conferred with Reps. Felipe Abrigo, Valeriano Yancha, and Marcelino Veloso over problems of their districts.

Then President Garcia called the newsmen for a press conference during which he read a telegram from Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo informing the President of the approval by the agricultural committee, of the increase by 15 per cent of the Philippine sugar quota to be taken from the big quota of sugar-producing companies. He also read a speech by Rep. Joseph Martin, minority, floor leader in the US lower House, extolling the leadership of President Garcia and the reiteration of his policy of closer PI-US friendship.

President Garcia in his message read this morning by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, announced that over ₱12 million has been appropriated this year to cover the five-year lump gratuity payments to retiring government employees. He also stated that ₱47 million has been earmarked for the implementation of the 65 per cent WAPCO salary adjustment proposal.

The message to the delegates was read during the opening session of the two-day convention of the Confederation of Government Employees Organization (COGEO) at the Philippine Normal College auditorium this morning.

President Garcia in his message mentioned the grave concern of the government for the welfare of, its employees, and enumerated its efforts to improve the lot of civil servants.

Discussing the civil service program, the President underscored the importance of striking a balance between the need for protecting the public interest and the need for competent, honest, and reliable personnel. He urged the thorough review, systematization, and consolidation of all civil service laws into an integrated unit.

President Garcia spent the whole afternoon undisturbed in his cabin going over his speech for July 4.

The RPS *Lapu-Lapu*, lifted anchor from Hilongos, Leyte, at 11 p.m. yesterday after the President had inaugurated the airport and conferred with local officials at the town hall.

While President Garcia worked, the rest of the presidential party were at lounge playing parlor games as the *Lapu-Lapu* cruised serenely.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: July 3-9, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned this morning from a five-day trip to Leyte where he inaugurated the new province of Southern Leyte.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady, Reps. Marcelino Veloso and Valeriano Yancha, and Mrs. Paz Romualdez, debarked from the

yacht *Lapu-Lapu* at 9 a.m. today from Tacloban City and Maasin, Southern Leyte.

The yacht entered Manila Bay at 11 o'clock last night but stayed inside the bay, off Sangley Point, until this morning.

The President and the First Lady were met by Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, and their grand-daughter Maricar, Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, and Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta.

From the yacht, the President and the First Lady motored to their private residence in Quezon City.

Later this afternoon the President motored to Malacañang, where he was the guest speaker at the presentation of the presidential awards to outstanding men and women on the 14th year of the Philippine Republic. The awardees were nominated by the Civic Assembly of Women's League. Among the awardees were Senator Claro M. Recto, Gabriel "Flash" Elorde, Paul Wood, J. Amado Araneta, Mrs. Enriqueta Benavidez, and Miss Lucrecia R. Kasilag.

Five of the nominees could not come to receive their awards personally. They were Mrs. Benavidez, H. G. Henares, Dr. Jesus V. Tamesis, and Paul Wood. These awardees are abroad, and the fifth, J. Amado Araneta, was represented by his son, Jorge. The awardees were presented to the President by Mrs. Remedios M. Austria. Miss Helen Z. Benitez, president of CAWP, read some of the citations.

Among those present at the ceremonies were Education Secretary Jose E. Romero, Mrs. Belen Enrile-Gutierrez, Mrs. Elisa Abello, and some 300 members of the 40 CAWP affiliated organizations.

After the ceremonies the guests were entertained at tea at the social hall.

July 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia led the nation in celebrating today the fourteenth year of Philippine, independence.

The Chief Executive motored to the Luneta Grandstand where he delivered his main speech highlighting the nationwide celebration of the 14th year of political freedom.

The President cut through the military and civic parade in order to keep the half a million crowd which witnessed the celebration.

An early drizzle drenched the crowd but failed to send them away from the scene of the celebration. The weather, however, miraculously cleared up as the President addressed the crowd, most of whom were under the trees. There were many who stood under the rain.

The President started his speech by paying tribute to the crowd for staying at the Luneta in spite of the rain. He said the crowd displayed "national discipline," which is the theme of the Independence Day celebration this day.

After his speech President Garcia asked the Independence Day committee to resume the parade he had halted to deliver his speech.

In the morning the President did not receive any caller, the day being a holiday. He stayed in his private residence in Quezon City, where he spent the day going over the draft of his speech.

President and Mrs. Garcia gave a state dinner at Malacañang this evening in connection with the observance of the 14th anniversary of Philippine Independence.

Invited to the affair were Vice-President and Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal Congress leaders headed by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez and their ladies' the Chief Justice, chiefs of diplomatic missions and their ladies, members of the Cabinet and their ladies, and heads of U. S. federal agencies in the Philippines and their ladies.

President Garcia this evening sent a cable to Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo expressing his gratification over the passage of the sugar bill in the United States Congress.

The President also asked Ambassador Romulo to convey his thanks in advance to Congressmen Clement Zablocki and Smith for their favorable action on the war damage bill now pending in the U. S. Congress.

The President also sent messages of thanks to Reps. Harold D. Cooley and John W. McCormack.

In his cablegram to Ambassador Romulo, President Garcia also sent his personal greetings to Mrs. Romulo and all the Filipinos residing in Washington, D. C, who are celebrating the glorious day of the 14th anniversary of the Philippine Independence.

July 5.—THIS morning the President directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release ₱1 million for the purchase of native tobacco by the Philippine Tobacco Administration.

The ₱1 million partial release will be made under Republic Act 2233, upon representations of Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela. Rep. Albano was accompanied to Malacañang by Vice-Governor Silvestre Bello and former Governor Felix T. Caro, who is also a PTA director.

The President also authorized the release of ₱30,000 for the expansion of the provincial hospital in Tayug, Pangasinan, upon the request of Rep. Luciano Millan.

Later, the President received Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, who submitted to him report of his one-Week trip of inspection to Sulu.

Secretary Santos was accompanied by Simunul (Sulu) Mayor Yacob Bullang, Esmael Itum, Hadji Mohamad Saed Bullang, and Jadji Abdulla Halahudden, who took their oaths of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party before the Chief Executive.

Among other morning callers were Reps. Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, who recommended expropriation of a piece of land in barrio Sala, Kabuyao, Laguna; Reps. Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga Norte, Apolinario R. Apacible of Batangas, Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, and Jose Legaspi of Aklan, who requested fund releases for relief and public works projects in their respective provinces.

President Garcia today counseled Nacionalista Party members to close ranks in the face of opposition moves to sow dissension in the majority party.

At the same time, the President spiked press reports that he had directed Leyte mayors and political leaders in a conference in Hilongos, Leyte, to move against Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr.

The President recalled that what he had precisely told the Leyte mayors and party leaders was to close ranks and preserve party unity.

President Garcia emphasized that the opposition would not want anything better than to see the majority divided.

July 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed his thanks to the United States Navy for the “wonderful experience” he had aboard the USS *Swordfish* on the invitation of Rear Admiral Arleigh Burke, chief of operations of the United States Navy.

On disembarking at pier 13 about 4 p.m. today, after a seven-hour day-light demonstration cruise on board the first atomic submarine ever to visit Manila, the President expressed deep interest on how “so much power could be packed into such a small craft.”

The President spent suspenseful hours aboard the *Swordfish*, cruising on the surface and underwater in the Manila Bay area.

A firm advocate of modern defensive weapons for the Philippines, the President enjoyed taking over the controls from skipper Comdr. Roth S. Leddeck and putting the heavy steel monster through its paces like a trained circus pony.

The President, together with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, PN Chief Commodore Jose Francisco, and his naval aide, Lt. Comdr. Melchor Fronda, arrived at Pier 13 at 9:15 a.m.

Before boarding the *Swordfish* which was tied on the east side of the pier, the presidential party was piped aboard and then welcomed by American Ambassador John D. Hickerson, who arrived much earlier, Vice-Admiral Charles D. Griffin, commander of the U.S.N. Seventh Fleet; Rear Admiral Joseph M. Carson, commander of the U.S. naval forces in the Philippines; and Lt. Commander Roth S. Leddeck, sub skipper.

At 9:20 a.m. sharp, the atomic submarine pulled off Pier 13 and proceeded to the demonstration area off the mouth of Manila Bay, where it rendezvoused with its destroyer escort.

On disembarking, the President was presented with a souvenir bronze plaque by Vice-Admiral Griffin.

This evening the President received assurances from tourism commissioners from Southeast Asian countries that they would explore avenues to implement the plan initiated by the President himself to make 1961 a “Visit the Orient Year.”

The occasion was the courtesy call of tourism commissioners from Indonesia, Malaya, Vietnam, Nationalist China, Korea, and Singapore at Malacañang, accompanied by Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim and Modesto Farolan, chairman and commissioner, respectively, of the Board of Travel and Tourist Industry, and Salvador Peña, vice-president and executive director of the Philippine Tourist and Travel Association.

The tourism commissioners now holding a conference in Manila informed President Garcia “that they are devising a program of mutual assistance in the interest of a greater tourist industry in Asia.

The commissioners of tourism who called on President Garcia were Osman Siru of Malaya, Sri Bodoyo of Indonesia, E. Phuoc of Vietnam, A. C. Yuan of Nationalist China, L. C. Moon of Korea, and Paul Peralta of Singapore.

President Garcia and his Cabinet this evening passed a resolution commending the Bureau of Customs and the Bureau of Internal Revenue for increasing collections by ₱149 million during the last fiscal year.

The commendation was passed after Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona informed the Cabinet at its regular weekly meeting of the accomplishments of the two bureaus under his department.

The President described this feat as “having surpassed all expectations.”

According to Secretary Aytona, last year’s collections of the Bureau of Customs amounted to ₱390.6 million, surpassing by ₱17.8 million the estimated collection of ₱372.8 million for that year. There was also an increase of ₱101.5 million over the actual collections in 1959 which reached ₱289.1 million and exceeded by ₱18.8 million the collections made during, the banner year of 1957 amounting to ₱371.8 million.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue, on the other hand, had collected during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1960, ₱481.5 million as compared to the 1958-1959 collections of ₱433.9 million, or an increase of ₱47.6 million.

Aytona said the improved collections were reflected in the cash position of the Bureau of Treasury which showed an increase of ₱95.9 million from ₱188.8 million to ₱284.7 million over that of the previous year.

Furthermore, Secretary Aytona said, there was a balance of ₱26.1 million in the general funds at the end of the 1960 fiscal year as against the deficit of ₱20.1 million at the end of the previous fiscal year, or a difference of ₱46.2 million.

This did not include, he added, proceeds totalling ₱49 million from the 25 percent marginal fee from the Central Bank nor the ₱47 million proceeds from the payment of the gold devaluation claim from the United States which was secured by President Garcia during his state visit to the U.S. in 1958.

July 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy Chanco to make the necessary arrangements to enable government employees to receive 65 per cent of their WAPCO-readjusted salaries before July 15, this year.

The order to the budget commissioner was an implementation of his pledge recently given to the Confederation of Government Employees Organizations (COGEO) to give them full value for their work.

The President received Archbishop Jose Ma. Cuenco of Jaro at the Malacañang music room this afternoon.

Archbishop Cuenco paid his respects to the Chief Executive preparatory to his departure Saturday for Munich, Germany, to attend the International Eucharistic Congress.

Later, the President administered the oath of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party to Mayor Amadeo Almadrones of Perez, Quezon province.

Mayor Almadrones, a former Liberal, was accompanied to Malacañang by Rep. Numeriano Babao of Batangas, Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, Batangas, Mayor Pedro Tolentino, and other local officials.

In the afternoon the President and the First Lady were guests of honor at the inauguration of the Republic Glass Plant at Pinagbuhatan, Pasig, Rizal.

President Garcia reiterated his pledge to combat graft and corruption in all its forms as he sought from Congress an effective anti-graft bill that would justly and fairly weed out undesirables from the government service, in an extemporaneous speech before the Manila Rotary Club at the Manila Hotel’s Winter Garden this noon.

In his one-hour extemporaneous speech the President justified his veto of three controversial measures, the Anti-Graft Bill, the Rice and Corn Nationalization measure, and proposed amendments to the Reparations Act all of which, he said, contained objectionable provisions that must be corrected.

Discarding a prepared speech, the President told the Rotarians that his veto of the three measures had been misunderstood, especially by those who wanted to place him in a bad light before the public. He was roundly applauded by the Rotarians.

The President told the Rotarians that he is in full accord with the idea of nationalizing the rice and corn industry but expressed a conviction that the transition periods set forth are too short for an effective and smooth take-over of the industry which is mostly alien capitalized by some ₱500 million.

The bill as approved by Congress provided for only six months in the retail trade, one year in the wholesale, and two years in the processing (milling, warehousing, etc.) during which time aliens will have to liquidate their assets for Filipinos to take over.

The President emphasized that this would hardly be enough time to train the necessary personnel in the proper know-how in the various phases of the industry.

The President also pointed out that thousands of Filipinos employed by alien trades, such as laborers, accountants, and ordinary farmers, should be given, the time to adapt themselves to changing situations when their employers are displaced by Filipino citizens.

The President voiced vigorous objection to the manner of financing the project, which in effect, would force the Government Service Insurance System and the Social Security System to invest trust funds in the industry.

Rice and corn crops, are risky business because they are easily destroyed by droughts, floods, locusts, typhoons, and other national calamities, he said, adding that this would force government insurance corporations to invest sizeable amounts of their trust funds, thereby endangering the welfare of some 300,000 government employees who are members of the GSIS and many thousands more private employees who are members of the SSS and are entitled to sickness, death, or unemployment benefits which are guaranteed by these funds.

The President emphasized the fact that government employees pay part of their earnings as soon as they enter the government service up to the time of their retirement in the hope that when old age catches up with them, they would have something to fall back on, because by that time they will be too old to earn their living and that for, their families.

The President said that crop failures will certainly deal a serious blow to the welfare of these employees and those covered by the Social Security System and will shake their faith in the government seriously.

In explaining his veto of the anti-graft bill, the President made specific mention of Sections 4, 5, and 6 of the proposed measure.

The President pointed out that Section 6 of the bill is unfair to the President because it virtually removes his immunity from court processes by making him liable for acts committed by any member of Congress which he had no way of knowing or preventing.

Section 6 would make the President liable to prosecution if by a bill which he certifies to Congress, the congressman who sponsored it benefits personally, or receives pecuniary interests through it.

The same section would also hold liable any Cabinet member who recommends the same bill to the President for certification to Congress.

The President argued that he would have no way of knowing, or preventing a senator or congressman from receiving money in the grant of a franchise sponsored by them.

He then cited a specific example during the time of the late President Magsaysay when a congressman obtained a franchise in the name of his wife (maiden name). The franchise came to the knowledge of Congress when the congressman was defeated by his rival, who successfully brought about the repeal of the franchise which was unconstitutional.

The President pointed out that under the proposed act, President Magsaysay would have been held liable although in certifying the bill to Congress, he had no way of knowing that the grantee was the wife of the congressman-sponsor of the bill.

The President received a prolonged applause when he said, "If we want to stamp out graft and corruption, let us stamp it out without committing unnecessary injustice to a group of our populace. After all, we cannot choose our relatives."

The President explained that Section 5 of the bill seeks to prohibit spouses and relatives within the third civil degree of consanguinity or affinity of the President, Vice-President, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives from having any dealings with the government, directly or indirectly, or in any capacity whatsoever.

The President said that section 4 of the proposed measure should also define "closeness" to a public official and make it an element of the crime in order to make the act punishable.

In explaining his objections to the proposed amendments to the Reparations Act, the President emphasized that the limit of \$1.5 million set for each applicant would be detrimental to the development of chemical and steel industries in the Philippines because it would be inadequate for them.

The limit is applicable to small industries but not to the rapidly expanding industries like the urea industry, which calls for \$12 million allocation, he said.

President Garcia expressed the hope that his observations would be given careful consideration by Congress in the passage of substitute measures during the current special session.

The President's one-hour extemporaneous speech was well received by the Rotary Club members and guests, most of whom are prominent in the business, industrial, and commercial circles. Before addressing the Rotarians, the President inducted the newly-elected officers of the organization.

Among those inducted were Jose M. Barredo, Sr., president; Jose Y. Orosa, vice-president; Ralph G. Hawkins, secretary; Jesus Jacinto, treasurer; Rafael S. Dedal, assistant treasurer-secretary; Emili Abello, Roberto Villanueva, Richard Pockmire, Rafael Anton, and immediate past President Ramon C. Ordoveza, directors.

The President was introduced by Jose Barredo, who gave his introductory remarks after receiving the gavel from his predecessor, Ramon Ordoveza.

July 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia met today House members in a conference in Malacañang reportedly on the agenda of the current special session.

However, the Malacañang press office was silent on this conference, prompting speculations in the Palace that the President had taken up the proposal to investigate charges of bribery against the Chief Executive as ventilated recently by Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr.

The President had conducted separate conference with the solons and was believed to have expressed his willingness to be impeached if the bribery rap is substantiated.

"It is the most serious charge," the President was reported to have told the House members angrily. The solons were headed by Speaker Protomopre Constancio E. Castañeda. The other solons were not identified.

The President also received Minister Eduardo Rosal, who was accompanied to the Chief Executive by Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta.

Rosal called on the President for final instructions before returning to the Crown Colony aboard the S.S. *President Hoover* last night.

In the evening the President conferred with two senators and a House leader and took up his plan to certify to Congress during its special session a modified version of the vetoed measure which sought to nationalize the rice and corn industry.

At the Malacañang conference were Sens. Gil J. Puyat and Alejandro Almendras and Rep. Vicente Peralta. The senators assured the President they would sponsor the measure in the Senate on Monday, while Peralta would handle the House chores.

Also at the conference were Chairman Gregorio Licaros of the Development Bank of the Philippines and Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno. Press Secretary Jose C. Nable was also present.

July 9.—THE President received Sen. Claro M. Recto, president of the Nationalist-Citizens Party, at breakfast this morning at the President's private residence in Quezon City.

It was learned that the President and Sen. Recto exchanged views on a number of subjects and issues. Sen. Recto also informed the President of his projected tour of Spain and other Latin-American countries next month after the current special session.

After his breakfast with Sen. Recto, the President retired to his private room, where he went over state reports.

President Garcia and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez almost came face to face with each other this afternoon as the Chief Executive and the First Lady decided to visit the remains of the Senate leader's youngest sister at a funeral parlor in Manila.

The deceased, Mrs. Rafaela Rodriguez-Bautista, was reported lying in state in a city funeral parlor.

When the report was passed around to the Chief Executive, President Garcia asked Mrs. Garcia to accompany him to the funeral parlor.

When the aides checked on the report, the Malacañang officials were told that Mrs. Bautista's remains had been taken to Montalban, Rizal.

The President dictated a telegram to the Senate President expressing his condolence for the death of Senate President Rodriguez' sister.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: July 10-16, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 10.— THE PRESIDENT spent the day quietly at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He did not receive any caller.

The Chief Executive started the day by hearing mass at his residence.

Also at the mass were Celestino Paulin, governor of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration; Maj. Raso Zabalones, a military attache in Washington; Maj. Ciriaco Hocson, junior presidential aide; and members of the household.

After a light breakfast, the President repaired to his private study where he spent some time reading the Sunday morning papers. He spent most of the day at his study where he studied some state papers which he had brought along from Malacañang yesterday.

President Garcia issued a proclamation declaring the period from July 18 to 23 this year as advertising week in order to bring to the attention of the people the "vital role played by advertising in the promotion of our economic and social progress.

July 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia today discussed with members of the Philippine panel, proposed draft of the Treaty of Amity, Commerce, and Navigation with Japan.

The Philippine panel, led by former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, briefed the President in detail in all aspects of the proposed treaty. The meeting lasted the whole day and was adjourned until tomorrow night.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said presidential approval of the draft may be forthcoming after tomorrow's conference.

Members of the Philippine panel, which included Sens. Lorenzo Sumulong and Rogelio de la Rosa, said the clearance of President Garcia of the tentative draft is required before the draft is submitted for approval to the Cabinets of both countries. The drafts will subsequently be transmitted to the upper chamber of the legislative bodies of the Philippines and Japan for ratification.

The conference, which started at 10 a.m. and broke up at 4:30 p.m., was attended by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano and NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin.

Members of the technical staff of the Philippine panel who were present at the conference were Amado R. Briñas of the Central Bank, Isidro Macaspac of the National Economic Council, Immigration Commissioner Francisco de la Rosa, Jose Laurel III, Monico Vicente, Commissioner Mariano Pineda of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Salvador Mascardo of the Bureau of Customs, and Tariff Commissioner Montano Tejam.

President Garcia this day suspended from office Sugar Quota Administrator Ramon Pagua pending the investigation of the charges against him by a three-man presidential committee.

Pagua was charged with gross negligence, grave abuse of discretion, and misconduct in office in connection with the overshipment of sugar to the United States.

The committee charged with investigating the charges against Pagua is composed of retired Justice of the Court of Appeals Mariano de la Rosa, chairman, and Philippine National Bank Executive Vice-President Conrado P. Sevilla and Manila City Auditor Jose Erestain, members.

The presidential order of suspension was sent to Paguia this morning by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo. The SQA administrator was suspended by the President under Section 34 of R. A. No. 2260.

The President directed the investigating committee to submit its findings and recommendation as soon as possible. The committee will enjoy powers of an investigating committee under the Revised Administrative Code, including the power to summon witnesses, administer oath, and take testimony or evidence relative to the investigation.

The President this afternoon underscored the vital role that competent and cheap transportation has on the economic development of the country in his remarks at the inauguration of the new bus terminal of the Pangasinan Transportation Company (PANTRANCO) on Quezon Boulevard, Quezon City.

The President lauded the efforts of the PANTRANCO management, one of the country's leading transportation firms, in constructively helping in the country's attainment of economic progress. He said that the occasion was a big step toward the country's economic development.

He pointed out that the expansion of the PANTRANCO answers one of the urgent needs of the country in transportation. He said that the improvement of the transportation company directly affects social expansion. The President emphasized that the PANTRANCO has helped much in the solution of the unemployment problem.

The ceremonial ribbon was cut by the First Lady. She was assisted by Mrs. J. L. Klar and Mrs. Rafael Gonzalez, wives of the president and the general manager of the PANTRANCO, respectively.

Meanwhile, the President released ₱50,000 from his contingent fund for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of public schoolhouses and public buildings in the 2nd district of Albay. Presidential action was based on the recommendation of Rep. Justino Nuyda of Albay.

This evening the President expressed complete satisfaction over increasing participation of American investments in the Philippines.

He said the mushrooming industries, many backed by foreign capital, all over the Philippines can mean only one thing—their confidence and conviction that the Philippine economy is sound and stable.

The President made these statements before visiting officials of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation and its affiliate, the International Standard Electric Corporation, who presented the Chief Executive at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, a plan to expand, update, and modernize Philippine telecommunications system on an economical easy-payment plan.

The ITTC-ISEC executives also informed the President of the organization of a local corporation to handle present and future Philippine requirements in telephone and telegraph units and components which can be produced locally.

The President assured the American executives that they are welcome, but added he will study their plan carefully, in consultation with his economic and fiscal advisers.

Those who paid their call on the President were John T. Naylor, ITTC vice-president; C. C. Chapman, ISEC (Philippines) representative; and M. Burns and E. Luzurriaga, technical men of the affiliated organizations.

July 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today said he will certify as urgent a bill appropriating ₱10 million as aid to typhoon-stricken provinces at a conference in his Quezon City residence with Sens. Pacita M. Gonzalez and Pedro Sabido, and Rep. Justino Nuyda of Albay.

The President made the statement during his conferences with senators and representatives who went to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City to request aid for their provinces.

The President also directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to “prepare the town of Tandag to be the capital of the new province of Surigao del Sur,” at a conference with Rep. Reynaldo Honrado and Tandag Mayor Adela Serra Ty.

Municipal officials of the municipality of Locsin (formerly Daraga), Albay, led by Mayor Vicente Jaucian called on President Garcia to pledge their cooperation. The majority of the Locsin town officials belong to the Liberal Party.

The rest of the town officials who were accompanied by Sens. Gonzalez and Sabido and Rep. Nuyda were Councilors Ruperto Meñez, Dominador Morada, Deogracias Amoranto, Domiciano Quismario, Francisco Lleva, Dionisio Miraflor, and Marcelo Valenzuela.

Other presidential callers included Sens. Eulogio Balao and Domocao Alonto; and Reps. Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte del Sur, Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon, Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Ricardo Ladrado of Iloilo, Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Numeriano Babao of Batangas, and Jose Legaspi of Aklan.

July 13.—THIS morning President Garcia conferred with Director Jose Alfonso of the Bureau of Telecommunications on an offer to update, expand, and modernize the Philippine telecommunications network on an economical, easy-payment plan.

The plan, which had been submitted to the President as a proposal by officials of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation and International Standard Electric Corporation Monday evening, was referred to Director Alfonso for study and recommendation.

During their visit, the ITTC-ISEC executives also informed the President of the setting-up of a local factory to manufacture present and future Philippine requirements in telephone and telegraph equipment.

At that conference the President thanked the American executives for their offer which, he said, indicated strong confidence and firm conviction in the soundness and stability of the Philippine economy.

Director Alfonso informed the President that the ITTC and some of its 23 affiliated organizations have been participating successfully in the establishment of modern telecom exchanges in the Philippines, and that their equipment, such as the Penta Conta and the Crossbar type, are giving satisfactory performance,

The President told Alfonso that the offer deserves careful consideration, because it would mean not only modern telecommunications but also more employment opportunities and an overall contribution to the country's economic progress.

Gov. Esteban Bernido of Bohol also called on the President to report on his trip abroad. Gov. Bernido spiked press reports on his illness.

“I was given a clean bill of health by the doctors and I never felt better in my life,” Bernido said.

Defense Secretary Alejo Santos today recommended the increase of the Philippine Constabulary in Sulu to maintain peace and order.

In his report to President Garcia, Secretary Santos, who had just returned from a three-day survey of peace and order conditions in that province, noted a general clamor for additional troops to conduct punitive operations against outlaws.

Santos pointed out that the enforcement of law and order in that province is a difficult task owing to : (1) presence of large number of loose firearms in the hands of bandits; (2) reluctance of witnesses to testify in court and case fixing by local politicians; (3) lack of judges and fiscals to handle cases; and (4) illiteracy and economic backwardness on the part of the large portion of the populace.

Secretary Santos informed President Garcia that a special task force of four PC units, one BCT from the 1st Infantry Division and a team each of the CID and Rangers, plus available PC lawyer-officers, would be detailed in Sulu to gather loose firearms and conduct operations against outlaws.

Santos also recommended socio-economic steps; such as, the early start of Operations Brotherhood in Tawi-Tawi, the encouragement of farming and community development, and the construction of feeder roads. He also recommended the release of all funds for public works projects for the area authorized in the different appropriation laws.

Secretary Santos left on his inspection trip on July 8, accompanied by Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, PC chief; Sulu Gov. Benjamin Abubakar, Sophia Miciano of the National Integration Commission, and others.

The party visited Jolo, Parang, Maimbung, Talipao and Seit Lake, Luuk, and Karungdung.

Among the other callers of the President at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City was Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, who reported on his tour of the United Kingdom on the invitation of Her Majesty's Britannic Government. Secretary Lim was abroad for 45 days.

Col. V. O. Tiongson, Malacañang financial assistant, also called on the President to render a report on his trip abroad to observed financing operations and practices in foreign government agencies.

In the afternoon the President motored to Malacañang to preside over the regular weekly Cabinet meeting.

President Garcia and his Cabinet authorized the flotation of bonds amounting to ₱7 million for the immediate purchase of relocation sites for squatters in Manila and suburbs.

The projected sites are an unoccupied portion of Hacienda Sapang Palay in San Jose del Monte, Bulacan, consisting of 638,494 hectares at ₱0.45 per square meter for squatters who may desire to move north of Manila; and another area either in Las Piñas and Parañaque, Rizal, or in Cavite for those who prefer to resettle south of Manila.

It was emphasized that action on this matter solved a perennial problem which had beset previous administrations.

Bonds for an additional half million pesos were also authorized for the purchase of some 114 hectares of the Sapang Palay hacienda to accommodate 114 tenant-occupants of the estate who had earlier petitioned President Garcia to include the areas they are working on in the government purchase for resale to them at low cost and in small monthly installments.

In compliance with the President's desire to have the relocation of squatters expedited, a survey party from the Army and the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation which will administer the resettlement program, had started survey work on the Sapang Palay and drawn plans for the development of that area.

Former Gov. Bernardo Torres, PHHC general manager, who had been summoned to the Cabinet meeting, assured the President that squatters could begin moving into the area in about 20 days after acquisition of the property.

The committee constituted to select relocation sites is still working on the choice of suitable areas from among many that are being offered south of Manila. , Gov. Torres, committee chairman, reported that the ones in Bacoar and Dasmariñas, Cavite, appear to be the most desirable.

Other members of the committee are Rodolfo P. Andal, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, which had been committed to absorb more than ₱5 million worth of the bonds, and former Gov. Juan Q. Chioco, economic administrator.

It was pointed out at the Cabinet meeting that Republic Act 1322 authorizes the flotation of bonds up to ₱20 million to be utilized by the PHHC for low cost housing projects for destitutes and paupers, as well as for slum clearance.,

The Cabinet approved the sale of the Maria Cristina Fertilizer plant to the Marcelo Tire and Rubber Company on condition that the buyer guaranteed the retention of all employees and laborers of the plant.

Other conditions of the sale are (1) that Marcelo pays a down-payment of 25 per cent of ₱12 million, which is the value of the plant, and (2) payment of stock inventories at production cost estimated at ₱1.2 million.

The balance of ₱10.2 million after payment of the 25 per cent down-payment is payable in 30 equal semi-annual installments at six per cent interest.

Sale of the plant is another implementation of President Garcia's policy to dispose of government corporations and give way to private enterprise in the industrial field.

The sale of the plant was awarded to Marcelo, for the other bidder, the Marinduque Iron Mines, could not guarantee the retention of all the plant personnel. It instead asked the right to select whom to retain.

The President directed Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag to draft the contract of sale and present it for further discussion at the next meeting of the Cabinet.

President Garcia today congratulated the Bayanihan Folk Dance Troupe for winning a special award in an international contest held in Paris, France, recently.

In a contest where 22 nations participated for honors, President Garcia pointed out that the "Filipino ambassadors of goodwill have placed the Philippines high in the ranks of the free world in the field of culture."

The President congratulated the Philippine Women's University's Folk Dance Troupe, better known locally and abroad as Bayanihan, in the name of the Filipino people.

"To the members of the Bayanihan," President Garcia concluded, "I say well done."

July 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia today moved to extend all-out help to provinces devastated by typhoons and calamities. At separate conferences with solons and provincial executives in Malacañang, he gave the green light to Rep. Justino Nuyda, assistant majority floor leader, to work for congressional approval of his bill appropriating ₱5 million for typhoon aid.

The President directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release all funds pertaining to the construction or repair of school buildings for the province of Albay, in view of the extensive damages caused by typhoons.

The President was informed by Senator Pacita M. Gonzalez, Rep. Justino Nuyda, and Gov. Nicanor M. Seva that practically all the school buildings in Albay were destroyed by typhoons.

The President directed Defense authorities to rush 125 pre-fabricated schoolhouses to Sorsogon, to replace those that were totally destroyed by typhoon *Olive*, after a conference with Gov. Juan Frivaldo.

In another directive to Commissioner Sy-Changco, the President authorized the released of ₱75,000 from his contingent funds for the reconstruction of the Arayat Pampanga public market which was razed to the ground by fire in the morning of June 30, 1960.

At a conference with Governor Francisco Nepomuceno of Pampanga, the President stated that when it comes to public service, "let's forget party lines and work together for the common good."

Mayor Marciano Lines of Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte, called and presented to the President a resolution approved by the Mayors League of the Philippines petitioning Sen. Gil Puyat to run for vice-president if President Garcia runs for re-election in 1961.

The resolution pointed out that Puyat is a recognized exponent of economic endeavors in the country who has shown by his work in and outside Congress his capacity for leadership, understanding, and comprehension of the problems of the country as a whole.

The President also received Mayor Claro Ibasco of Mercedes, Camarines Norte, and former Mayor Ramon Adea of Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte, who wanted to take their oath of affiliation to the Nacionalista Party before him. Both are local presidents of the Liberal Party in their respective towns.

Mayor Jose B. Madriaga and Vice-Mayor Eusebio Cacayuran of Rosario, La Union, also called on President Garcia to pledge their support to him in the 1961 elections. Both officials belong to the Liberal Party but supported President Garcia in the 1957 elections.

Mayor Joel Rimando of Naguilian, La Union, obtained ₱10,000 from the contingent funds of the President for repair of the town plaza that was destroyed by flood. Mayor Rimando was accompanied by Councilors Apolinario Rimando, Jesus Estepa, Juven Costales, Mrs. Eufemia Montilla, and Simon Zarza.

Others who saw the President were Rep. Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon, Gov. Jesus Almero of Masbate, and Gov. Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan.

President Garcia officially commended today BIR Commissioner Melecio Domingo and Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas for the outstanding increases of ₱149.1 million in actual collections from customs and internal revenue.

In separate commendations to Commissioners Domingo and Capapas, the President said their efforts are "remarkable accomplishments" leading to a marked improvement of the cash position of the National Treasury in the amount of ₱46.2 million over that of last year.

President Garcia said he will address a convocation of customs and internal revenue officials and personnel which will be held in the Malacañang Park tomorrow afternoon.

The Bureau of Customs alone registered a remarkable increase of ₱101.5 million in collections for fiscal year 1960 over the same period in 1959.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue increased its revenue collections by ₱47.6 million for fiscal year 1960 over the same period in 1959.

THIS evening the President conferred anew with members of the Philippine panel which negotiated with a Japanese group in drafting the proposed treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation.

The Chief Executive had dinner with the panel members headed by former Speaker Jose B. Laurel at the President's private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

Among those present at the conference were Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong and Rogelio de la Rosa, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, acting Immigration Commissioner Francisco de la Rosa, and Tariff Commissioner Montano Tejam.

The President had discussed the controversial aspect of the proposed treaty regarding the plan of the Japanese Government to fix a yearly quota of 50 immigrants to the Philippines.

Malacañang made no announcement on the decisions reached at the meeting.

July 15.—THIS morning the President implemented an important welfare measure approved by Congress when he inducted the members of the National Council on Rehabilitation, a central body to coordinate activities relating to all phases of rehabilitation of handicapped persons.

Members of the Council are SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Ernesto O. Granada, Benjamin Sevilla, Francisco Tan, Dr. Josefina Nava-Dizon, Jose Santillan, National Science Development Board Chairman Paulino Garcia, Rep. Emilio Cortez, Dr. Herminio Velarde, Jr., Dr. Abelardo Inocentes, Dr. Jaime Zaguirre, Don Ramon Aboitiz, Alberto Benipayo, and Roberto Oca.

The President also inducted Mrs. Remedios O. Fortich as chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration in the presence of high government officials and many friends and relatives.

Present were NARRA Directors Valeriano Plantilla, Rafael Hilao, and Severo Yap and NARRA officials, including Assistant General Manager Andres P. Arche, Oscar L. S. Sarte, Santos Belo, Oscar Severino, Eugenio Amparo, Francisco Lopez, Vicente Taray, and Mrs. Nila Aparri, wife of the general manager.

Earlier, the President awarded the Legion of Honor with rank of commander to Alfredo Lozano, well known Filipino impresario for his important contributions to the advancement of Philippine culture.

The President also inducted the following members of the National Music Council of the Philippines: Alfredo Lozano, president; Miss Lucrecia Kasilag, Mrs. Candida Bautista, and Felipe Padilla de Leon, vice-presidents; Bernardino Custodio, Leonor Laperal Arce, and Dr. Antonio J. Molina, directors; and Pedro F. Abella, secretary.

Also inducted were the members of the board of trustees of the Music Promotion and Foundation. They were Jovita Fuentes, chairman; Purita Ponce Enrile, vice-chairman; Lucrecia Kasilag, secretary; Corazon S. Maceda, treasurer; and Ramon Tapales, Antonio J. Molina, Felipe P. de Leon, Lucrecia Urtula, and Evelina Kalaw, members.

In the name of Cebu Archbishop Julio R. Rosales, Fr. Mariano Gaviola and Fr. Pacifico Ortiz presented a certificate of appreciation to President and Mrs. Garcia for their contribution to the remodelling of the Cebu Cathedral.

Other callers included Rep. Augusto Francisco of Manila, Minister Anton Mayer Harting of Austria, Dra. Rafaelita Soriano, who accompanied Prof. Leopoldo Torralbala of the Philippine-American Science Foundation, Undersecretary Damaso Samonte, and NBI Assistant Directors Mariano Almeda, and Natividad Castro.

THIS afternoon the President said a higher standard of education of our youth will be attained with the Philippine-American project of printing and distributing of 25 million textbooks to students in public schools throughout the country.

Speaking extemporaneously during the ceremony in Malacañang's music room, the President emphasized that the major problem of textbook shortage had been solved with this project.

The ceremony was highlighted by President Garcia's signing of his message to the school children which will go with every copy of the textbooks.

In commenting on the joint project, American Ambassador John D. Hickerson said that the project is "an investment for the future." He also pointed out that the project is significant of the close and warm relations between his country and the Philippines.

The joint project will be for a period of five years. It includes printing and distribution of textbooks for primary, elementary, and secondary schools. Priority, however, will be given to the printing of textbooks for primary grades during the first year of the project.

The project will cost \$5 million worth of printing materials from the United States through the International Cooperation Administration (ICA), and ₱23 million as Philippine counterpart fund through the National Economic Council (NEC) and the Department of Education.

Of the 25 million textbooks to be printed, 80 per cent will be in English. The first batch is expected to be out by next January.

Among those present during the ceremony were Education Secretary Jose E. Romero, Paul Summers of ICA, Cornelio V. Crucillo, director of NEC foreign aid coordination, and Dr. Earle Hoshall, chief of the ICA education division.

President Garcia today denied the petition for reconsideration of the decision on the administrative case against Isidro C. Ang-angco, dismissed Manila collector of customs.

The denial, contained in a letter signed by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, was delivered this morning to Juan T. David, counsel of Ang-angco.

Ang-angco had been found guilty of conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the service and was considered resigned with prejudice to reinstatement in the Bureau of Customs.

In denying the petition, the Executive Secretary said the record shows that then Secretary Hernandez did not direct the respondent to release the concentrates in question.

The former Finance Secretary had stated that he knew that he could not direct the respondent to do so and, that if the respondent had refused to release the concentrates, he could not have compelled him.

President Garcia today appointed Commander Hector Moya, PN, chairman of the presidential law enforcement unit in the Southern Philippines, vice Capt. Santiago C. Nuval, PN, who recently completed a one year's tour of duty in that position.

The appointment was signed by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo by authority of the President, upon recommendation of Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, AFP chief of staff.

The President this afternoon urged the Internal Revenue and Customs officials to intensify their tax-collection, saying that their record achievement this year can still be surpassed.

The President, in extending his congratulations to the BIR-Customs officials at their convocation at Malacañang Park, said that one thing stands out as a result of the large increase of collections, and that is the successful prosecution of the campaign to rid these offices of undesirables.

"Your accomplishment is the effacement of the rather unsavory reputation that the Bureau of Customs had attained. Now by this record, you have redeemed it," the President said.

The President said that what was true with the Bureau of Customs was also true with the Bureau of Internal Revenue. He said that both bureaus have successfully busted big and small rackets in and around them and have increased their collections by their success.

On his part, the President pledged that the fight against all forms of graft and corruption will march on unrelentingly until it is finally eliminated.

In his extemporaneous address the President took occasion to assure some 500 field men gathered in the convocation that the Philippine Republic “is the best democracy in all of Asia.” He said this was borne out by facts and figures of the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the Economic and Social Council, and even the United States Department of State.

“I am proud to say,” the President continued, “that the Philippines stands out as the most progressive and the strongest of these democracies that it has become the envy of every South American country.”

The two most important tax-collecting agencies of the government were commended by the President for an increase of collections by the Customs of ₱101.5 million, and by the BIR, of ₱47.6 million for 1960 over those of 1959.

The President pointed out that this resulted in the improvement of the cash position of the National Treasury by ₱46.2 million over that of the previous year.

Present at the convocation were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Finance Secretary Aytona, Commissioner Domingo, Acting Customs Commissioner Timoteo Y. Aseron, Acting Deputy Customs Commissioner Rolando Deotina, and other ranking officials of the government.

July 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia did not receive many callers today. He saw some members of Congress who discussed with him pending legislative measures.

The President also received former Ambassador Joaquin M. Elizalde, who reported that the warm reception accorded President Eisenhower here has generated tremendous good will in the U.S. for the Philippines.

Elizalde, who returned recently from the U.S., saw the President at the latter’s residence in Quezon City.

The President was also informed by Elizalde that the visit of President Eisenhower to the Philippines was given the widest publicity in the United States through the press and the radio.

The American people, Elizalde also informed the President, were amazed that Eisenhower was almost smothered by the Filipinos during his stay in the Philippines.

President Garcia was the happy consort this evening to the First Lady, who received a large group of well-wishers in an expected *asalto* on the eve of her birthday anniversary.

President and Mrs. Garcia stayed at the window overlooking the front door and greeted those who came to Malacañang to felicitate the First Lady.

Congressional and Cabinet ladies and members of the diplomatic corps formed the nucleus of those who joined the *asalto*.

Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez headed the guests from Congress. Still absent up to press time were Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez.

The President and Mrs. Garcia went up Mrs. Rodriguez’s residence recently to felicitate the latter on her birthday.

A party with musical numbers was held at the Malacañang social hall. The Congress and Cabinet ladies performed some dance numbers.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: July 17-23, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 17.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia were “at home” today in Malacañang to receive friends and well-wishers who greeted the First Lady on the occasion of her birthday.

One of the early well-wishers was Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, who greeted the First Lady with a bouquet at the state dining room.

Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez did not show up. Mrs. Rodriguez said that Amang had a previous engagement.

Even Mrs. Rodriguez, after a brief exchange of greetings and after delivering the bouquet to the First Lady, left Malacañang. She did not join the First Couple at breakfast.

The congressional ladies gave a dance number which was participated in by Mrs. Paz Romualdez and Mrs. Claro M. Recto.

Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez paired with the celebrant in a *guaracha*, while the Chief Executive paired with Mrs. Recto.

Others who joined the President and the First Lady at the thanksgiving mass were Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos.

After the mass the President and the First Lady received their guests at breakfast. During the breakfast the President gave the First Lady a solid triple-braided necklace with the medallion of St. Christopher with an inscription at the back: “To my Inday. From Caloy.”

Linda and her husband also gave their mother a birthday gift consisting of a beautiful desk set.

The President was so busy attending to the First Lady's guests that he asked Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona to read his speech at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club, at the concluding ceremonies marking the end of the National Science and Technology Week.

July 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed up until the wee hours this morning, as he waited for developments in Congress which closed the special session *sine die*.

The President had called the special session for the purpose of adopting proposals to amend the Constitution. However, Congress junked these proposals and went on. instead to go over three controversial measures which President Garcia had vetoed; namely, the anti-graft bill, the measure seeking to nationalize the rice and corn industry, and proposed amendments to the Reparations Law.

But what personally concerned the President was the charge of bribery hurled against him by Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr. The charge had spawned an inquiry which developed later into a move to suspend the Cebu solon. Until press time this evening no definite action had been voted upon by the House of Representatives.

The President stayed in his private residence in Quezon City the whole day. The President did not have any scheduled callers, although he made himself available to senators and congressmen to thresh out difficulties in the legislative agenda.

July 19.—FLUSHED by his victory in Congress, President Garcia today issued a statement congratulating the members of the House of Representatives for having disciplined Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., who had assailed the Chief Executive in connection with his veto of the rice and corn bill.

In his statement President Garcia said the House decision was “justice tempered with mercy,” as the Cebu solon deserved sterner punishments. He said he was happy that he was vindicated by the House inquiry.

President Garcia this afternoon stated that his administration will continue to build up the Philippine merchant marine in implementation of the Philippine Overseas Shipping Act.

The President made this statement in an extemporaneous speech at the inauguration and blessing of the motor vessel *Philippine President Quezon* at Pier 3, South Harbor.

The President recalled that the Filipinos were known as daring sailors in sailboats before the advent of the Spanish conquistadores. Now, “we can be proud that we sail the seven seas with bottoms carrying the Philippine flag,” he added.

He said that it is but fitting that the first ship of the Philippine merchant marine be named after the late President Quezon, who “has been the inspiration and hope of the Filipino people for more than a quarter of a century.”

At present, Philippine foreign trade, both outgoing and incoming, are carried by foreign shipping up to 97 per cent.

With the twelve ships ordered by the National Development Company, plus the vessels acquired under the reparations act, the President said that the Philippines can expect to participate in foreign trade up to 35 per cent of what is at present being spent for freight of Philippine exports and imports.

The program to build a Philippine merchant marine was started, according to President Garcia, when the country initiated its economic stabilization program. It is now being realized when the country is well on the way toward prosperity, he added.

Secretary Juan O. Chioco, Administrator of the Office of Economic Coordination, in his introductory remarks, called President Garcia the Father of the Philippine merchant marine.

July 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia today instructed the Philippine panel negotiating a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation with Japan to fly to Tokyo to discuss suggestions he had made on the proposed draft.

The President made the suggestions in the course of a whole-day conference with the Philippine panel at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, which started at breakfast and lasted through luncheon to 4 p.m.

The panel chairman, former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., said after the conference that in view of changes suggested by the President, the panel will have to fly to Tokyo to hold consultations with its Japanese counterpart which had already approved the original proposed draft.

Laurel said the panel members are leaving for Tokyo tomorrow morning via a Philippine Air Lines plane, arriving there in time to meet the Japanese panel Monday of next week.

Laurel said in view of the suggestions made by the President, the treaty draft cannot be submitted for approval to the Cabinets of both countries, and later to the upper chambers of the legislative bodies of the Philippines and Japan for ratification.

Chairman Laurel said he will keep the President posted on the progress of negotiations in Japan.

The proposed draft of the treaty with Japan had previously been discussed in two long conferences between the President and the panel members last week, after which it was to have been submitted by the President to the Cabinet.

Those present at the conference, including technical staff, were Sens. Lorenzo Sumulong (N) and Rogelio de la Rosa (L); Reps. Ramon P. Mitra (N, Mt. Prov.) and Antonio V. Raquiza (L. Ilocos Norte), Immigration Commissioner Francisco de la Rosa, Amado Brihas of the Central Bank, Jose Laurel III, Monico Vicente, Securities and Exchange Commissioner Mariano Pineda, Salvador Mascardo of the Bureau of Customs, Tariff Commissioner Montano Tejam, and others.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano and Chairman Jose C. Locsin of the National Economic Council were also at the meeting.

About 5:30 p.m., the President motored to Malacañang to preside over the weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

THE CABINET this evening unanimously agreed on a rebidding for the lease of 12 ocean-going ships to be acquired from Japan by the government through the National Development Company.

The Cabinet action was a reversal of its decision last week when it granted a request of the NDC board to negotiate with only two of the bidders, the A. V. Rocha and Company and the Compañía Maritima, to give the two an opportunity to improve on their bid offers.

The Cabinet reversed itself after considering the petitions of two other bidders, the United Philippine Lines and the Philippine Ace Lines.

They charged discrimination by allegedly being deprived of a similar opportunity given to the Rocha and the Maritima firms.

The acquisition of the 12 vessels, which form the nucleus of the Philippine merchant marine, is authorized by the Philippine Overseas Shipping Act.

The first of the vessels, the *m.v. President Quezon*, has been delivered. Another is expected from Japan this month.

July 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered the speedy construction of projects at the Manila International Airport to cope with the start of jet plane operations this year.

During his two-hour conference with Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona, Undersecretary Marciano Bautista of Public Works and Communications, and Civil Aeronautics Administrator Urbano Caldoza, the President emphasized the need for finishing all jet facilities under construction, especially the runways and communications facilities, in time for the start of jet operations.

The President pointed out that the Philippines must be prepared to handle faster and bigger volume of air traffic with the advent of the jet age, because it will not only mean more revenues but a better way of publicizing the Philippines in foreign countries through tourism.

The President also emphasized the importance of being able to handle with efficiency the expected boost in air traffic as a result of the proclamation of 1961 as “Visit Philippines—See Orient Year.”

In another directive the President told Defense Secretary Alejo Santos to send two companies of the 10th Battalion Combat Team to press the drive against lawlessness and loose firearms in Sulu. The President also directed the sending of an engineer company of the Armed Forces of the Philippines to help the people of Sulu fight poverty by providing them with feeder and barrio roads which, according to Secretary Santos, are partly responsible for the economic and social backwardness of the people.

In his conference with Secretary Santos and Director Oscar Arellano of Operations Brotherhood, the President told Secretary Santos to implement the drive against poverty and lawlessness in Sulu as early as possible.

Secretary Santos told the President that he is sending tomorrow two companies of the 10th BCT to reinforce the law enforcement agencies in Sulu, and an engineer company with heavy equipment to build barrio and feeder roads for the people.

Arellano, who called on the President to say goodbye before leaving for Laos in the afternoon, informed the Chief Executive that the Operations Brotherhood pilot project in Tawi-Tawi, Sulu, has already been set up and has already received pledges of aid from governmental agencies and civic organizations, in the form of supplies and equipment.

Among the agencies collaborating with Operations Brotherhood in Tawi-Tawi are the International Cooperation Administration, National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority, Armed Forces of the Philippines, JUSMAG, Social Welfare Administration, Departments of Education, Health, and Public Works and Communication, and the PACD.

Commander Hector Moya, chairman of the Presidential Law Enforcement Unit in Southern Philippines (PLEUSP), also called on the President for instructions. Moya took over the PLEUSP chairmanship from Capt. Santiago Nuval.

The President also received Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias and Reps. Tobias Fornier of Antique and Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, who discussed with him party matters.

The President, unable to receive his scheduled callers, requested Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to receive the governors and mayors who had been waiting for him at his study room.

Among those who were received by Secretary Castillo were Govs. D. O. Plaza of Agusan, Delfin Montano of Cavite, Constantino C. Navarro of Surigao, Godofredo Ramos of Aklan, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Johnny Frivaldo of Sorsogon, and Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac; Mayors Pedro Tolentino of Batangas, Batangas, and Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac; Mayors Pedro Tolentino of others.

President Garcia formed a three-man committee to look into the administrative charges against Salvador Narcelles, chief of the Quezon City Fire Department, for alleged misrepresentation and misconduct in office, Malacañang announced this afternoon.

The committee is composed of former Judge Jesus Paredes, chairman, and Malacañang Technical Assistants Juan Arbisu and Ramon Masa, members.

The President's action was prompted by the report of Judge Salvador Esguerra, Palace legal adviser, denouncing Narcelles' explanation as unsatisfactory. Narcelles had previously been given by the President a 72-hour ultimatum to answer why he should not be charged for administrative disciplinary action for disorderly conduct in office.

The complaint against Narcelles was brought to the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency by Quezon City Councilor Carlos Albert, who apprised the PCAPE authorities about Narcelles' alleged misconduct in office which, Albert claimed, is "prejudicial to public interest."

Acting on this complaint, Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, and Major Teodulo Natividad, chief PCAPE investigator, personally looked into the case. The ranking PCAPE officials found that Narcelles had entered into a contract with one Francisco Bocobo to promote the QCFC benefit fund drive. The contract allowed a 15 per cent share from the gross proceeds of the benefit fund drive for the QCFC while a standing SWA regulation allows 70 per cent share from the gross proceeds of the sale of tickets accruable to the QCFC Trust Fund.

President Garcia expressed his sincerest gratitude to United States Congressman Adam C. Powell for the latter's glowing tribute to the progress the Philippines has attained. Rep. Powell's remarks were made on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of Philippine Independence last July 4.

The President's gratitude was expressed in a letter to Rep. Powell dated July 19. The President wrote: "Your generous reference to my leadership has touched me deeply, indeed, and has in fact immensely encouraged me to

work with greater devotion towards making my country a bastion of democracy and a stumbling block to international Communism in this part of the world.”

July 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up this morning as the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* cruised on its way to Mindanao, where he will inaugurate the newly created city of Gingoog in Misamis Oriental.

Among the members of the presidential party were the First Lady, Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol, former Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio Quimson, and newsmen on the Malacañang beat.

After lunch the Chief Executive held a press conference while the *Lapu-Lapu* was just off Romblon. He told the newsmen that suspended Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., had forfeited his right to assume the Cebu City mayoralty with his attendance of the first session of Congress last January.

After the press conference the President went over state papers.

July 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today declared that Gingoog City in Misamis Oriental was launched under the most auspicious economic conditions and faces a bright future.

The President was guest of honor and principal speaker at the inauguration rites this morning held at the city bandstand. Pointing out that the dollar reserves of the country, which dipped the lowest in 1957, soared to about \$200 million last July 15, the President said that, if the present trend continues, the dollar reserves in the future will increase to \$250 million by the end of the year, which should be a new record. The President also cited the present favorable balance of trade.

President Garcia reacted to local problems affecting the coffee industry upon seeing placards urging him to stop coffee importations. He said that in the future coffee might equal the copra industry if guided in the right direction.

In his address during the inauguration the President said he signed the bill creating Gingoog City in answer to the clamor of its residents. He gave credit to Rep. Fausto Dugenio for sponsoring the bill in Congress.

Residents of Gingoog and other Misamis towns led by national, provincial, and city officials gave President Garcia and his party a warm reception upon arrival aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*. Upon debarking, the President was given full military honors before proceeding to St. Rita church for the *Te Deum*. He then led a motorcade around the city plaza to the city bandstand for the inauguration rites.

During the inauguration ceremonies the President handed to Gov. De Lara a check for ₱100,000 as initial aid of the National Government for the reconstruction of Gingoog public market which, was razed by the recent fire.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: July 24-30, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 24.— AFTER the ball held in celebration of the inauguration of Gingoog City, the President and party boarded the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, which sailed for Manila at midnight.

The President left Gingoog City, pleased with the reception accorded him and his party by residents led by Mayor Julio Ganaban, with the cooperation of the members of the Order of Dagohoy.

The President and the First Lady heard mass at the dining hall of the yacht before taking breakfast. They chatted with the members of the presidential party until lunch hour.

The *Lapu-Lapu* had an uneventful voyage except for a short while in the Sibuyan Sea on the way to Mindoro when it encountered rough seas. However, this did not affect the passengers.

The President stayed in his cabin the whole afternoon. He went over pending state matters.

July 25.— THIS morning the President administered the oath of affiliation to the Nacionalista Party to Vice-Gov. Hadji Arsad Sali of Sulu immediately after the President arrived from a four-day trip to Gingoog City.

The President and his party arrived at Pier 3 about 8 a.m. from Gingoog City, where he inaugurated the new metropolis of the South.

The former LP stalwart in Sulu was accompanied to Malacañang by prominent Sulu political leaders, among whom were Mayor Aminkadra Abubakar of Jolo, Abraham Rasul, and Manguma Abubakar.

The President also conferred with Brig. Gen. Tirso Fajardo, Philippine Army chief.

President Garcia commended Gen. Tirso Fajardo for the latter's 30 years of dedicated service to the country and people.

The President received Gen. Fajardo in Malacañang shortly after his arrival this morning from a trip to Misamis Oriental, where he was the guest of honor during the official ceremonies converting Gingoog into a regular city.

A letter of official commendation from the President was being prepared today for his signature. President Garcia expressed his satisfaction over Gen. Fajardo's service and emphasized that the general had dedicated the best years of his life in the service of the Filipino people.

The President thanked Gen. Fajardo in the name of the Filipino people

A Malacañang spokesman called the attention of defense officials for an apparent oversight in the manner Gen. Fajardo's retirement was made public.

The normal procedure is for the publication of the officer's retirement before the order for his relief is sent to the officer in question.

President Garcia recently justified the retirement of Army officers by stating that promotion should be given to deserving officers down the Army roster of officers. An exception in the case of officers in major commands was made by the President.

THIS evening the President asked Sen. Gil J. Puyat to take advantage of his two-month tour abroad to observe world economic conditions in relation to Philippine economic measures.

Sen. Puyat called on the President for instructions preparatory to leaving tomorrow morning for Europe and the United States on a combined business-pleasure trip. Puyat is scheduled to give the opening remarks at the Far East Council of Commerce and Trade in New York.

The Far East Council is composed of leading business firms in Asia and the Far East and usually devotes the first few days of its meeting to a discussion of the Philippines.

Sen. Puyat said he will also compare notes with Prof. Raffé who formulated De Gaulle's decontrol plan for France on the progress of the Philippine decontrol program. Puyat will also appear before business and economic groups where he is expected to explain the necessity of adopting the Filipino First policy in the light of existing economic conditions in the country.

While in Europe, Sen. Puyat will also observe the rapid industrial development of Switzerland and Germany and pay particular attention to the effects of the European Common Market Union, which has been in existence for almost one year. Puyat said that this has direct bearing on the plan of President Garcia to set up a common market in Southeast Asia.

Puyat will also study the free trade area around Great Britain and determine which of the two plans, the common market plan and free trade, is more practicable for the Philippines and in what manner the Philippines can tie with each plan.

President Garcia this evening directed the National Development Company board to submit its recommendation to the Cabinet as soon as possible on the results of the bidding for the 12 NDC vessels coming from Japan,

The President, after being briefed by the board on the merits and defects of each bid, told the board to study them further and submit its recommendations before the Cabinet convenes at its next regular meeting.

The board informed the President that, of the 20 shipping companies invited, only six submitted their bids before the deadline Saturday, July 23; namely, Laureano Bros., Ace Lines Inc., Liberation Shipping, Southeast Shipping, United Philippine Lines, Maritime Company of the Philippines.

Those who conferred with the President were Jose S. Rodriguez, chairman; Isabelo Sales, assistant general manager; and Eugenio J. Puyat Protacio Licsi, Joaquin Panis, Genario Sarmiento, and Celestino Cortez directors. Also present were Simeon Gopengco, government corporate counsel and Jose R. Platon, technical assistant.

The President also received Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, who is leaving for Tokyo tomorrow to join the Philippine panel negotiating the treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation between the Philippines and Japan. Sen. Sumulong called on the President to exchange views on the treaty provisions and to receive final instructions.

July 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia today acted to save the Philippine flywood industry from possible collapse and took another step toward implementation of the "land for the landless" policy of his administration.

At a conference with Rep. Benjamin T. Ligot of Cagayan, the President directed the Central Bank to study the complaint of the Plywood Manufacturers' Association of the Philippines against the exportation of veneer and corestock exceeding 51 inches along the length of grain, and submit its finding to him as soon as possible.

At the same time, at the request of Reps. Jose Laurel IV of Batangas and Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, President Garcia directed the Land Tenure Administration to proceed with the purchase of the Ambulung estate in Tanauan, Batangas, and of the Pujalte estate in Taytay, Palawan, for distribution and resale to present tenants.

Rep. Ligot pointed out that Philippine veneer and corestock are being utilized abroad for the manufacture of plywood which compete with locally-made plywood. He requested the immediate restriction of the exportation of both raw materials.

He added that dollar earnings of the plywood industry has been reduced by 75 per cent in direct ratio to the exportation of face and the so-called underlayment veneer.

Citing data obtained by the PMAP, Ligot informed the President that the American market had an absorption factor of \$80 million of Philippine mahogany plywood in 1959, of which \$60 million was imported from Japan and \$20 million from the Philippines.

As the decontrol program is further implemented, the deficit balance will gradually swing in favor of the Philippines until the American market will have no place for Japanese-produced Philippine mahogany, Ligot contended.

Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon sought financial aid from the contingent funds of the President for the repair of the Atimonan sea wall which was heavily damaged by typhoons.

Other presidential callers this noon included Reps. Dominador Tan of Leyte, Laurentino Badelles of Lanao del Norte, Francisco Lecaroz of Marinduque, Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Apolinario Apacible of Batangas, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, and Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff.

The President reiterated today his confidence in former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., as chief of the Philippine mission negotiating a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation with Japanese officials in Tokyo.

The President's statement was issued to spike reports that the Chief Executive was contemplating to recall the entire Philippine panel for their alleged failure in securing a favorable draft of the treaty.

President Garcia emphasized that press reports appearing recently in metropolitan newspapers are purely speculative in nature and have no official basis whatsoever.

President Garcia assured Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., today that the presidential fact-finding committee does not have any one-peso-a-year man in its roster nor was the committee authorized to employ them.

This assurance was contained in a letter signed by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo in reply to the Senate President's letter dated July 23, 1960, stating that the PFFC, headed by Marcelmo E. Calinawan, Jr., was hiring many such agents and employees.

The Executive Secretary admitted that there are employees from the Office of the President detailed with the PFFC but added that they are receiving regular salaries.

Secretary Castillo stated that under the provisions of Administrative Order No. 276, dated August 28, 1958, the committee has the power to call upon any department, bureau, offices, agency, or instrumentality of the government for such assistance or information as the committee will need in the performance of its functions. The detail of Malacañang employees to the PFFC was also authorized under Administrative Order No. 42, series of 1937, he added.

THIS evening President Garcia signed H. B. 5026, making the allocation of sugar quotas a joint undertaking of the Sugar Quota Administrator and a representative each of the sugar cane planters and millers.

Under the new law the President will appoint a representative of the Philippine Sugar Association and another representative of the National Federation of Sugar Planters to sit with the Sugar Quota Administrator for the purpose of issuing rules and regulations governing the allocation of sugar quotas.

The representatives of the PSA and NFSP will be appointed by the President for a term of three years subject to the consent of the Commission on Appointments. Their tenure may be shortened by the President, however, upon recommendation of the respective associations they represent for loss of confidence.

Disagreements or conflicts between the three officials will be forwarded to the secretary of commerce and industry for decision but may be appealed to the President whose decision is final

Present at the signing of the bill which was held at the President's residence in Quezon City were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo; Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta; Education Secretary Jose E. Romero; Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim; Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez; Manolo Elizalde, president of the Philippine Sugar Association; Jose Mapa Gomez, president of the National Federation of Sugar Planters; Jose Aldeguer, Ricardo Y. Ladrido, and Domitilo Abordo of Iloilo; Inocencio Ferrer and Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental; Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental; Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato; Jacinto Gonzales of Laguna; and Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol.

Also present was a big group of prominent sugar millers and cane planters from Negros, Pampanga, Tarlac, and other sugar producing provinces.

July 27.—THIS morning the President conferred with the officials of the National Development Company regarding the bids for the operation of 12 ocean-going vessels which were purchased from Japan.

The public bidding was conducted by the National Development Company.

Present at the conference were NDC Board Chairman Jose Rodriguez, and Directors Eugenio Puyat, Protacio Licsi, Joaquin L. Panis, C. C. Cortes, and Genaro Sarmiento.

Also present at the conference were Simeon Gopengco, government corporate counsel; J. B. Sales and Jose R. Platon, assistant general manager and technical assistant respectively, of the NDC.

The President also received former President Sergio Osmeña, who paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive.

President Garcia and his Cabinet gave the board of directors of the National Development Company authority to award the 12 ocean-going vessels ordered from Japan to two companies which submitted the highest offers at a recent re-bidding.

The awardees are the Maritime Company of the Philippines, which will be given five vessels, and the United Philippine Lines, which will be allocated the remaining seven vessels. The NDC board had recommended only five ships for the Maritime Company, as the company already had two vessels of the same type.

During the Cabinet meeting this afternoon the President emphasized the importance of balancing the number of ships operated by the two companies to encourage a healthy competition so that the people may be afforded better service at lower rates.

The President directed the NDC board to draft the final contract awarding the ships, subject to the final approval of the Cabinet. He also instructed that the two contracts should be drawn under the same terms and conditions for both companies.

The NDC board, in recommending the award to the two shipping firms out of six bidders, informed the Cabinet that they were guided not only by the price consideration but also by the following criteria: (1) relative financial resources of the bidders; (2) their credit standing; (3) extent of organizational and operational setups at home and abroad; and (4) experience and technical know-how in overseas shipping business.

The board members explained that these criteria are necessary in order that there shall be a reasonable expectation and assurance, of successful operation of these vessels by the recipient firms.

The bids were evaluated by a special committee composed of the following: Protacio C. Licisi, chairman; and Joaquin L. Panis, Eugenio J. Puyat, and Genaro R. Sarmiento, members. The recommendation of this committee was adopted by the NDC board and was the basis of the Cabinet's action on the awarding of the bids.

Other firms which had submitted bids were the Laureano Brothers, Inc., Southeast Pacific Lines, Inc., Liberation Steamship Co., and the Philippine Ace Lines.

This afternoon the President directed Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim to work in coordination with Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo for the early release of the increase in Philippine sugar quota in the United States.

In his 30-minute conference with Secretary Lim before the Cabinet meeting, the President emphasized the necessity of taking advantage of increased sugar quota as soon as possible in order to show the United States that the Philippines can produce enough sugar to meet increased demands.

Secretary Lim assured compliance with the presidential directive. He would canvass sugar planters and millers to determine their capacity in meeting the quota increase.

Secretary Lim informed the President that some ₱4 million worth of refined sugar in, NAMARCO bodegas may be used to fill up the quota of 56,000 metric tons for refined sugar. This ₱4 million worth of refined sugar, Lim said, was bought by former Secretary Hernaldez in 1957 to stabilize prices.

Secretary Lim also said that he had received an inquiry from London on whether the Philippines can supply additional sugar allocations beyond the quota of 51,000 tons in the world market.

Another request, according to Secretary Lim, was for the exportation of over half-million dollars worth of Philippine monkeys of a rare species. Lim said that last year's total export of monkeys amounted to only \$1 million, and this large offer might be a prelude to the extinction of this rare species which is badly needed in scientific laboratories here and abroad.

Also present during the conference was Acting Sugar Quota Administrator J. V. Buenaventura.

The President later received Henry Bouffard, Jr., who took up with him the diversion of \$9 million from the allocations for sardines and canned fish to the manufacture of fishing paraphernalia, to boost the country's fishing industry.

President Garcia this afternoon renewed ties of friendship and collaboration between the Philippines and France at Malacañang.

In accepting the letters of credence of French Ambassador Francois Briere and the recall of his predecessor, Georges Cattand, at a ceremony held before the Cabinet meeting this afternoon at the spacious ceremonial hall, the President assured the French official of full cooperation of the Filipino people and government in the task of promoting closer ties between the two republics.

The President pointed out that the Philippines and France share a common dislike for, and have allied themselves together against, the common danger in Southeast Asia.

The President also said that there are distinct similarities which draw the Filipinos and the French closer together; such as, religious, cultural, and political principles.

Ambassador Briere took occasion to laud the efforts of Filipino artists for the revival of Filipino folklore and said that the grace and perfection of *Bayanihan* had captured Paris by storm.

Ambassador Briere said he will encourage French industrialists and technicians to participate in the remarkable industrial progress of the Philippines. He urged a cultural and intellectual exchange between the two countries.

Ambassador Briere replaces Georges Cattand, who had been called to his home office in Paris some two months ago.

The French ambassador was accompanied to Malacañang by Henri Toupet and Jean Puaux, counselor and third secretary, respectively, of the French embassy, and Major Ciriaco Hocson, presidential aide.

Upon arrival at Malacañang at 4:20, he was given full military honors by a company of the Presidential Guards Battalion, after which he proceeded to the ceremonial hall where the President, members of his Cabinet, and other high ranking officials were assembled.

Present at the presentation ceremonies were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona, Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, General Services Secretary Serafin Salvador, PCAPE Chairman Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, Chairman Paulino J. Garcia of the National Science Development Board, Foreign Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug, Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista, Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, Ministers Manuel G. Zamora, Manuel Collantes, Benjamin Tirona, Chief Protocol Officer Pedro Angara-Aragon, Deputy Chief Protocol Officer Rod Nazareno, and Protocol Officer Julius Maloles of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

July 28.—THE President congratulated Eugenio E. Santos, chairman and general manager of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes, for the success of the barrio improvement projects which were launched only last January.

President Garcia told Santos that he has been receiving radiograms from the provinces expressing gratitude for the self-contained barrio reading centers being established and maintained by the sweepstakes office throughout the Philippines.

Santos reported that a total of 273 barrio projects, each containing a reading center, health clinic, public bathhouse, and laundry have been established at cost ranging from ₱3,800 to ₱5,000 per project.

The Chief Executive also received Col. Edwin Ramsey, wartime guerrilla leader, who paid a courtesy call on the President before leaving for his post in Tokyo.

Commissioner Oscar Calvento of the Home Financing Commission also called on the President and discussed with him the low-cost housing financing operations of the HFC.

A delegation from Calauag, Quezon, also called on the Chief Executive to request typhoon aid from the presidential contingent funds. The delegation was composed of Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., Mayor Marcelino Paracero, and councilors of the town.

President Garcia today stated that he will push through the lost-cost housing projects to enable the laboring class and low-income employees to own their own houses. The President made the statement at a conference with Rep. Augusto Francisco and six councilors of Manila.

At the same time, the President assured the solon and aldermen that he favors the construction of tenement houses in crowded places like Tondo.

In this connection, President Garcia appointed Councilor Francisco Gatmaitan of Tondo as a member of a special presidential committee to study the relocation of squatters. The group was informed by President Garcia that the site reserved by Malacañang in Punta, Santa Ana, is reserved for indigents, the project to be administered by the Social Welfare Administration.

The Manila councilors proposed that model tenement houses be constructed in Punta in order to accommodate the squatters in Manila.

The President told the aldermen that the acquisition of the Sapang Palay estate in Bulacan is nearing the last stage. He added that it will be subdivided into lots for the squatters of Manila and suburbs.

The Manila councilors, who saw the President aside from Gatmaitan, were Gonzalo Santos Rivera, Alfredo Gomez, Felicisimo Cabigao, Apolonio Gener, and Eriberto Remigio.

Earlier, Vicente Villamin took his oath of office as economic consultant to the President at the Malacañang study room in the presence of Rep. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, and Jose Ma. Rocha, presidential executive assistant, and Mrs. Villamin.

Members of the Philippine amateur golf team that is soon leaving to participate in the World's Amateur Championship to be held in the United States called on President Garcia, accompanied by Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang and Manuel (Dindo), Gonzalez. The Filipino amateur golfers were Agustin Coscolluela, Alex Prieto, Luis Silverio, and Mel Gana.

Other callers were Gov. Fernando Veloso of Samar, Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, Claro Robles of Quezon, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Miguel Manguerra of Marinduque, Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, Rep. Alberto Ubay, acting Gov. Guadalupe Adaza, and Board members Germanio Carreon and Guardson Lood, Zamboanga del Norte.

President Garcia ordered the suspension of Salvador Narcelles, chief of the Quezon City Fire Department, pending administrative charges filed against him for alleged dishonesty in the service, Malacañang announced today.

The fire chief is also facing a criminal complaint filed in the Court of First Instance in Quezon City.

The suspension order was embodied in a letter signed by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and served to Narcelles through Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto.

The President formed a committee of three with former Judge Jesus Paredes as chairman and Leocadio Lucena and Agapito Cobacha, members, to investigate the administrative charges against the suspended Quezon City fire chief.

Narcelles is facing administrative charges for alleged dishonesty on two counts: (1) use of government employees for private purposes, and (2) excessive issues of gasoline to vehicles of the fire department of Quezon City.

Narcelles is also under investigation for conduct prejudicial to the best interest of public service on two counts (1) entering into an illegal contract with Mr. Francisco Bocobo to put up a benefit show for the promotion of the QCFC Trust Fund, and (2) for failure to account for the proceeds from said benefit show.

The complaint for alleged misconduct in office against Narcelles was brought to the attention of the President by the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency. Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the PCAPE, informed the President that Narcelles' had allegedly entered into an agreement with Mr. Bocobo under the terms of which the QCFC Trust Fund shall receive only 15 per cent of the total gross sales contrary to the expressed provision of an SWA law which requires 70 per cent share from the gross proceeds of the sale of tickets accruable to the QCFC Trust Fund.

July 29.—THIS morning the President allayed fears that continued over-production of rice might depress the prices of the cereal to the prejudice of the producers, pointing out the efforts being exerted by the government to find outlets in the world market, especially in rice-deficient countries in the Far East.

The President was the principal speaker at a program held at the Malacañang Park in connection with the awards of prizes to winners of the Second National Rice and Corn Production Contest.

He stressed the fact that several Asian countries like India and Japan, which annually are importing rice to feed their people, are the most likely outlets for Philippine rice owing to their proximity to this country. When he was still the vice-president and concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, he said, Japanese authorities had expressed their willingness to import rice from the Philippines to economize on freight charges, instead of purchasing the staple from the United States and other far countries.

India is still importing rice from neighboring countries to feed her underfed population, he added.

The President said that he will sign the rice and corn bill approved by Congress during its special session in view of the workable transition and financing system incorporated in the revised bill to meet the objections he raised in vetoing the original bill.

He lauded the winners of the contest, especially the rice producers for surpassing the record production in Valencia, Spain, and the Po Valley in Italy. The winner of the first prize this year, Serafin Jardiola of Pavia, Iloilo, had a record yield of 281.32 cavans per hectare.

The President also lauded the officials of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources for the successful prosecution of the rice production campaign, which made the Philippines self-sufficient in rice for the first time since time immemorial. This feat alone, he said, can be considered a landmark in the agricultural history of the Philippines.

Back in Malacañang about 11 a.m. the President received Australian Ambassador Alfred Stirling, who is returning to his country for consultations, and Philippine Ambassador Pullong Arpa to the United Arab Republic, who is going back to his post after a few weeks' vacation here.

Other callers were ACCFA Administrator V. Araneta, QC Mayor Norberto Amoranto, Rep. Benedicto Padilla, Gov. Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, and Al Valencia of the Philippines Information Agency in Washington, D.C.

President Garcia, who had skipped his weekly appointment with members of the press, found out this afternoon that student editors were more unbridled and sometimes undiplomatic in their questions. This, he found out at the press conference he presided with members of the College Editors Guild.

Members of the metropolitan press were invited as "observers", and even the veteran newsmen were seen blanching at the pointed and sometimes embarrassing questions fired by college editors.

Observers found out that most of the college editors were well abreast of the Garcia-Osmeña controversy, and the students pulled no punches in espousing the cause of the suspended solon. The press conference was a real "bull session". The students raked up questions "on the top topics of the day, like the case of Lt. Cmdr. Marcelino Calinawan, Jr., the President's tiff with Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, and with the suspended solon from Cebu. The questions were tougher and more blunt than if they had been fired by newsmen.

The President received Rep. Salipada Pendatun and Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez in the evening.

President Garcia today dispatched a mercy plane to Culion, Palawan, to rush to Manila a dying 12-year old boy.

An Army plane will arrive in Culion tomorrow morning at 5 o'clock to pick up the 12-year old son of Dr. Alberto Sandoval, director of the provincial hospital in Culion. The boy is suffering from meningitis.

Presidential action on the mercy flight was based also on a telegram received by Rep. Jose J. Roy of Tarlac, asking for his intercession to the President.

July 30.—AFTER a wild bout with college editors yesterday afternoon, President Garcia stayed at his private residence today. He is expected to stay there for the week-end.

The President did not receive any caller, as he wanted to rest in his private residence and at the same time go over the pending state papers which had piled up during the week.

This evening President Garcia ordered the dismissal from the service of Ruben Villaluz, administrator of the Motor Vehicles Office, and the suspension for six months of Aurelio de Leon, assistant administrator, following their conviction of administrative charges filed against them.

Both Villaluz and De Leon had been found guilty of the general charge of gross mismanagement, inefficiency, and negligence by a presidential investigating committee composed of Justice Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez, chairman, and Laureano Ferrer of the General Auditing Office and Belarmino P. Navarro of the Department of Public Works, members.

The President had replaced the two MVO officials on preventive suspension on February 22 this year upon the institution of administrative charges against them jointly by Rep. Joaquin R. Roces, chairman of the House committee on good government, and Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno.

The special investigating committee which was subsequently formed by the President, however, found that the guilt of De Leon was "of a lesser degree" and had recommended a penalty of lighter gravity.

The President, in his administrative order, directed that the penalties imposed on the two MVO officials be made effective on February 22 this, the date of their preventive suspension. In its report to the President, the investigating committee had observed that this was not the first time that both respondents had been charged and investigated administratively.

The presidential committee recalled that in 1955, shortly after he had been appointed MVO chief, respondent Villaluz was found guilty of gross negligence, misconduct, mismanagement, and inefficiency and was suspended from office for several months.

In a subsequent case Villaluz was reprimanded and warned that commission of another offense in the future would be dealt with more severely, according to the committee.

The investigating body also recalled that about a year and a half ago, Villaluz was summoned by the House committee on good government and was advised to take immediate steps to remedy the reported negligence, inefficiency, and mismanagement in the MVO, "but he continued in his listless, unsystematic, and inefficient handling of MVO affairs."

Respondent De Leon, too, had been found guilty of an administrative charge by the commissioner of civil service for which he was suspended for 15 days without pay, reprimanded, and warned that the commission of another offense would be dealt with more severely, according to the committee.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: July 31- August 6, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 31.—THIS morning President Garcia lauded the 14th Battalion Combat Team of the Armed Forces of the Philippines for earning a well-deserved place in the forefront in the fight for freedom in Korea.

In a brief impromptu remarks during breakfast in celebration of the famous BCT's founding anniversary, the President said that PEFTOK has not only fulfilled the commitments of the Philippines to the United Nations but has laid a stake in the preservation of freedom of South Korea.

He said the achievements of the Philippine expeditionary forces to Korea, of which the 14th BTC holds signal distinction, have once again demonstrated the steadfastness of Filipino valor under fire, and their unshakable faith in democracy.

In response, Ambassador Lincoln Kim conveyed the gratitude of the people of Korea to the Philippines for its valuable contribution in the defense of South Korea against communism.

U.S. Ambassador John D. Hickerson also sent a message which was read by Lt. Col. G. V. Tobias, lauding the 14th BTC for its achievements.

Among those present at the celebration were the AFP vice-chief of staff, Maj. Gen. Pelagio Cruz; Korean Ambassador Lincoln Kim; Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug; Col. N. T. Jimenez, 14th BCT commanding officer; Brig. Gen. Dionisio Ojeda (ret.), 10th BCT commanding officer; and many others.

The President woke up early and heard mass at his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

Immediately after the mass the President motored to Fort Wm. McKinley, where he had breakfast with the officers and men of the 14th BCT.

After giving a few remarks, the President motored back to his residence where he went over pending state papers.

The President did not receive any callers the whole day.

August 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia pinned the Presidential Award Medal on Dr. Jesus V. Tamesis for giving the Philippines the distinction of being "the first in eye surgery," in a ceremony held at Malacañang this morning.

In pinning the award, the President said Dr. Tamesis' outstanding discovery in the treatment of hitherto hopeless cases of *retinitis pigmentosa* has revolutionized eye operation and constitutes a breakthrough in one of the barriers in medical practice.

Dr. Tamesis' success in the treatment of retinal degeneration by supra-choroidal implantation of the oblique muscle in the eye affected, has projected the Philippines into international focus and attracted patients from as far as the United States.

Among his recent patients from abroad was the father-in-law of President Achmed Sukarno of Indonesia, who was accompanied to the Philippines by Mrs. Sukarno for the operation.

Dr. Tamesis is also one of the founders of the Philippine Eye Bank and one of the architects of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, which will hold a conference in Manila from October 10 to 13 this year.

Dr. Tamesis was accompanied to Malacañang by Dr. Paulino J. Garcia, chairman of the National Science Development Board, and Dr. Geminiano Ocampo and Dr. Emmanuel Almeda, fellow ophthalmologists.

Later, the President received elected officials of the Philippine Historical Association who requested financial aid for the holding of the International Convention of Historians in Manila in November, and for the operation of the Association which is receiving an annual ₱10,000 subsidy from the government.

The President indicated that he will increase the annual subsidy, but impressed upon them the necessity of being impartial and objective in their writing because "history is the verdict of time."

Replying to their request for the creation of a Historical Commission, the President said, "You cannot make a historian by appointment."

He pointed out that it is necessary to keep the organization out of politics so that the cause of truth will be served.

The historians presented the President with a historical book on Rizal and a compact volume (1 year) of the historical bulletin published quarterly by the association.

Earlier in the morning, the President ordered Minister Manuel G. Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer, to send a wreath at the Mausoleum of the late President Quezon and to post a guard of honor composed of a contingent of the Presidential Guard Battalion from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the occasion of the death anniversary of the departed leader.

Then the President received callers at his study in Malacañang.

A veterans' group discussed with him a new bill in the United States Congress, for Filipino veterans, sponsored by Rep. Olin Teague (D-Texas) which is up for hearing this month.

Members of the Historical Association who called on the President were Profs. Gabriel F. Fabella, ex-president; Esteban A. de Ocampo, president; Celedonio Ancheta, vice-president; Jorge L. Revilla, secretary; Sixto Y. Orosa, auditor; Prof. and Mrs. Domingo Abella; Pacifico Domondon; and Celedonio Resurreccion.

The veterans who saw the President were Brig. Gen. Dionisio Ojeda, Brig. Gen. Margarito Torralba, Col. J. Razon, and R. O. Philipps. They were accompanied by former Ambassador Joaquin Elizalde.

President Garcia today endorsed the plan of the Manila Lions Club to set up a student government along Manila's "University Row" (Azcarraga) to improve conditions and relations among the students.

The Lions officials, headed by Andrew Gruber, president, informed the President that some 150,000 university students pose a serious problem to city authorities and that matters can be improved by setting up a student government to be financed partly with subsidies from the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

The plan is intended to keep the student population from, gambling, heavy drinking, and other vices; to help solve traffic congestion during class intermissions; and to prevent mauulings and beatings owing to school rivalries.

The student government will set up rules and regulations to be followed by the student population of the universities concerned, and will elect their own officials to enforce and prosecute the regulations, subject to decision and review by the university presidents.

The President told the Manila Lions officials to confer with the university presidents and Education Secretary Jose Romero, and then confer with him again when a definite plan will have been approved by the officials concerned.

During the call the President accepted the invitation tendered by the Manila Lions to be guest speaker at 7:30 p.m. of August 20, at the Jade Room, Aristocrat Restaurant, in Quezon City, at the Quezon Day dinner of the Manila Lions.

The Manila Lions officials who called on the President, besides Gruber, were Domingo Guevara, Clemente Abella, Hal Linn, Wm. Li Yao, Modesto Ventura, Eduardo M. Sison, Alfredo Lozano, Sotero H. Laurel, Marcial Villacorte, Perfecto Mañalac, Francisco Nicolas, and Jose Florentino.

The President today accepted the honorary chairmanship of the Friends of Roxas, Inc ; saying he is a profound admirer of the economic statesmanship of the late Chief Executive.

The President was made honorary chairman of the Friends of Roxas during their call at Malacañang to express their gratitude for his approval of the Roxas Memorial Building, which will rise on a piece of government land near Roxas Memorial.

The President also signed two copies of HB No. 4754, one of which will be preserved in the Roxasiana and the other will go into the cornerstone of the Roxas Memorial Building which will rise on a piece of government land near plaza Militar.

HB No. 4754, which became Republic Act No. 2715 last June 18, empowers the Chief Executive to transfer to the Friends of Roxas, Inc., a piece of land on which to build the Roxas Memorial Building at nominal cost.

The President accepted tentatively the invitation to be present during the signing of the deed of conveyance so that he will have a chance to meet all the members of the organization sometime next month.

Speaking for Doña Trinidad de Leon-Roxas, who could not join the group, Rep. Gerardo Roxas, son of the late President, extended the “sincerest and deepest gratitude of the family” to the President for making possible the early realization of the Roxas Memorial plan.

Those who called on the President were Rep. and Mrs. Gerardo Roxas, Mr. and Mrs. Vicente Roxas, Mrs. Medina Lacson-de Leon, Miss Rosario Picazo, Evaristo Picazo, Manuel V. Gallego, Placido L. Mapa, Pio Pedrosa, J. C. Orendain, Rep. Jose J. Roy, Alfonso Calalang, and Bert Bustos.

August 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia today adopted definite steps to expedite action on all deportation cases pending before the Deportation Board, including those on communist suspects.

In a conference with Justice Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez early this morning, the President asked that he postpone taking his seat in the Court of Appeals to render a full time job with the Deportation Board.

The President directed Fernandez to avail himself of all the assistance that would be needed from the different intelligence agencies in the government, the NICA, and the NBI.

Fernandez said there will be no change in the composition of the Deportation Board. Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke and Solicitor General Edilberto Barot are members.

Fernandez assured the President that by working overtime, including evenings, he intends to clear the dockets, of the Board in about three months time.

President Garcia thanked Fernandez for the latter's devotion to duty and service to the people and country. Fernandez, who had not yet taken his oath as member of the Court of Appeals, stands to lose in compensation by choosing to stay as justice undersecretary.

About 100 cases for deportation of undesirable aliens are pending decision with the Board, including four cases on subversive activities affecting about 120 communist suspects.

The importance of deciding these cases was emphasized during the conference between the President and Fernandez. It was pointed out that action on these pending cases affect national security.

This morning the President signed S. B. No. 574, nationalizing the rice and corn industry and creating the Rice and Corn Board for the purpose.

In signing the revised version of the bill, the President expressed satisfaction over the removal of the erroneous provisions of the bill which would have adversely affected all officials and employees covered by the Government Service Insurance System and the Social Security System.

The new bill which was signed into law also' gave the people in the industry affected, enough time to adjust themselves to the effects of the measure-and to liquidate their business gradually.

Under the law, non-Filipinos engaged in the rice and corn industry in general are required to register their business within 60 days upon approval of the law and to continue in business for purposes of liquidation, as follows: (1) two years for those engaged in retail, wholesale, culture, transportation distribution, or acquisition of rice and corn; and (2) three years for those engaged in milling and warehousing of the cereals.

The nationalization measure which was co-authored by Rep. Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna in the House and Sen. Alejandro Almendras in the Senate, appropriated the sum of ₱500,000 from funds of the national treasury not otherwise appropriated for the organization and maintenance of the Rice and Corn Board.

The board shall consist of the secretary of commerce and industry as chairman and the secretary of agriculture and natural resources as vice-chairman with the following as members: the governor of the Central Bank, the president of the Philippine National Bank, the chairman of the Philippine Development Bank, one representative each from the planters, the producers, the millers, the warehousemen, the consumers' cooperatives, and labor; and representatives from the private sector who may be appointed by the President with the consent of the Commission on Appointments.

The Act authorizes the Development Bank of the Philippines to create a ₱50 million revolving fund to be made available for loans at 7 per cent per annum and the Philippine National Bank for a like sum at 6 per cent interest which may be discounted by the Central Bank at the lowest rate possible.

Preference for loans will be given to FACOMAS, cooperatives, individual farmers, small landowners, and tenants.

The law also provides stiff penalties with immediate deportation in the case of non-Filipinos, as (follows: (1) Imprisonment from five to ten years and fines from, ₱5,000 to ₱10,000 to all violators of this law and Filipinos violating, the Anti Dummy Law;

(2) Cancellation of certificates of naturalization and immediate deportation in addition to penalties, in the case of naturalized citizens; and

(3) Dismissal and perpetual disqualification from holding public office, in the case of public officials.

The Act shall, however, not impair or abridge the rights granted to citizens and juridical agencies of the United States under existing, treaties and agreements.

Among others, present at the signing were Senators Alejandro Almendras, Pacita M. Gonzalez, Eulogio Balao; Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim; OEC Chairman Juan O. Chioco; PCAPE Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo; NAMARCO Chairman and General Manager Marcelo Balatbat; Reps. Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Ligot of Cagayan, Domitilo Abordo of Iloilo, Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Miguel Cuenco of Cebu, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, and Jose B. Legaspi of Aklan; and Filipino farmers and landowners.

The President this morning also directed the Monetary Board of the Central Bank to take up the petition of the Plywood Manufacturers Association for the stoppage of fake veneer exportation by a local manufacturer.

In his telephone conversation with Finance Secretary and MB Chairman Dominador Aytona, the President expressed fear that the export of fake Philippine plywood as reported might ruin the prestige of Philippine wood products abroad and result in the ultimate loss of the \$80 million plywood trade affecting no less than 100,000 Filipino laborers.

The President gave his order upon representations made by the PMA officials to the effect that Filipino plywood manufacturers are losing their trade owing to the ruinous competition, and may be forced to close up.

They claimed that local factory utilize Philippine mahogany for the “cover” only of the plywood, using cheap American fir veneer for the core. The product is then passed off as Philippine plywood in the United States.

They pointed out that this product is much cheaper but also much inferior in quality and durability to Philippine plywood.

The PMA officials who were accompanied to Malacañang by Rep. Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan were Artemio Lobrin and Benigno Lim, counsel and secretary, respectively.

President Garcia today received the congratulations of a large group of congressmen for having been able to strengthen the cash position of the Philippines and for nationalizing the rice and corn industry.

The President, however, in acknowledging their appreciation, gave full credit for the outstanding achievement to Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona and to LCdr. Marcelino Calinawan, who, he said was able to break a series of rackets at the customs bureau, contributing in a large measure to the increase of ₱101 million in customs revenue collections this year.

The congressmen, led by Reps. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental and Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, said the cash position of the Philippines was never stronger than it is today.

Early this morning the President held a closed door conference with Justice Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez.

After his conference with Fernandez, the President proceeded to the reception room to sign the Rice and Corn Nationalization Bill, which was attended by a good number of senators, Cabinet members, representatives, farmers, and planters.

After the signing of the bill, the President began receiving his congressmen callers at his study. Most of the congressmen who were accompanied by their respective delegations, came for relief funds, public works fund releases, roads, schoolhouses, and other public improvement project in their respective provinces.

Among the callers were Reps. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, who led a delegation of barrio lieutenants from Arayat, Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna, Jose Moreno of Romblon, Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Dominador Tan of Leyte, Ramon Durano of Cebu, and Marcelino Veloso of Leyte.

The President received his last caller at about 1:30 p.m. after which he took his lunch.

Members of Congress led by Speaker Daniel Romualdez, hailed President Garcia’s signing into law this morning of the bill nationalizing the rice and corn industry.

Speaker Romualdez emphasized that the President's positive action on the bill should be interpreted as a categorical denial of charge aired by suspended Congressman Sergio Osmeña, Jr., that there was bribery involved in the presidential veto of the rice and corn bill as approved during the regular session of Congress.

It was pointed out that the presidential veto of the first rice and corn bill was based on certain objections which were eliminated in the second rice and corn bill.

Romualdez recalled that President Garcia had expressed approval in principle of this bill in several conferences held with members of the House of Representatives.

Romualdez made his press statement on the rice and corn bill shortly after attending the oath-taking ceremonies of Rep. Cesar M. Fortich as secretary of agriculture and natural resources.

This afternoon the President expressed his confidence that Secretary Cesar Fortich of Agriculture and Natural Resources, as guardian of the natural patrimony of the country will discharge the responsibilities of his new position to the satisfaction of the Filipino people.

The President administered the oath of office to the new member of his official family at the Malacañang reception hall in the presence of Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, members of both chambers of Congress, high DARN officials, and bureaus and corporations under the department, Minister Paul D. Summers of the ICA, and close friends and relatives who practically filled the hall.

In his extemporaneous speech after signing the oath of office of Secretary Fortich, the President said that he considers the appointment one of the most important in this period when the country is putting more emphasis on the development and utilization of its natural resources.

The President added that the appointment of Fortich is significant because he comes from Mindanao where Divine Providence has placed infinite wealth.

The President pointed out the vast laterite deposits in Surigao and neighboring islands, the extensive rubber plantations, and the tremendous iron ore deposits in Zamboanga which could be fully exploited.

In this connection the President stated that the construction of 800 kilometers of the so-called development roads through the cooperation of the National Economic Council and the International Cooperation Administration has opened heretofore unsettled and uncultivated regions of Mindanao to exploitation.

Present at the oath-taking ceremony were Sen. Pedro Sabido, Sen. Domocoa Alonto, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Acting Secretary Marciano Bautista of the Department of Public Works and Communications, Reps. Justiniano S. Montano of Cavite, Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, Francisco Ortega of La Union, Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental, Benjamin T. Ligot of Cagayan, Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Delfin Albano of Isabela, Manuel Zoza of Cebu, Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental, Benedict Padilla of Rizal, Lucas Paredes of Abra, Laurentino Badelles of Lanao del Norte, Pedro Trono of Iloilo, and Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur.

Other callers included Vicente Sinco, President of the University of the Philippines; Sen. Sabido, Rep. Montano, Rep. Jose Leido of Mindoro Oriental, former Gov. Francisco Infantado, former Rep. Conrado Morente, and Rodolfo T. Andal, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System.

August 3.—THE President this morning woke up at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City with a headache and a little dizziness. A prompt examination showed that the President's blood pressure had gone up slightly.

On the advice of his doctor, the President was taken by Mrs. Garcia to the hospital at 10 a.m. today where he could have some rest. Dr. Guytingco attributed the President's ailment to overwork. He said the President had been very

busy the past weeks, working from early morning up to very late at night, attending to numerous papers, receiving callers, and presiding over many conferences.

Dr. Guytingco is being assisted by Dr. Valentin Fidelino, chief of the VMH medical department.

The regular weekly meeting of the Cabinet which was scheduled for this evening had been postponed, as all the matters listed in its agenda needed the presence of the President. Only routine matters may be taken up by the Cabinet in the President's absence when the finance secretary or some other ranking Cabinet member presides.

President Garcia is resting well at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician, announced this evening.

Dr. Guytingco said that although the President's blood pressure is still "slightly elevated," his temperature is normal, and all he needs is rest after having spent a hectic month.

A criminal complaint against three importers for alleged violation of the central bank law has been filed with the Court of First Instance of Manila on recommendation of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency.

Indicted after a joint PCAPE-CB investigation were Virginia Quiambao of 133-12th Street, New Manila; Macairog de Guia of 2125 Sto. Niño, Pandacan; and Natividad Cruz of 2020 Rizal Avenue, Manila.

The PCAPE alleged that the accused had obtained allocations for foreign exchange from the Central Bank for the importation of hospital supplies, goods, commodities, merchandise, and drugs but such allocations were used for their "personal benefit."

The irregularity is said to have caused the salting away of dollar reserves in the amount of \$1,271,883.59.

The irregularity was discovered sometime in 1957 when hundreds of imported crates were opened in the piers and found to have contained scrap newspapers and stones instead of the stipulated hospital supplies and surgical instruments.

Meanwhile, President Garcia instructed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, to verify reports received by the Chief Executive that certain fictitious importers have again renewed business, making the suburbs as the center of their *modus operandi*. The President's action was the result of a report submitted by Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, who found that a teenager was named consignor of goods in a recent import anomaly.

August 4.—"WISHING your early recovery," read a citygram delivered today to the presidential suite at the Veterans Memorial Hospital,. addressed to President Garcia from Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez.

It was one of those greetings which have started to clear the political atmosphere, presaging a successful rapprochement in a meeting between the President and Senate President Rodriguez on Tuesday. With the citygram was a bouquet.

The President spent his second day today at the presidential suite of the Veterans Memorial Hospital, where he may stay for some days on account of a "slightly elevated" blood pressure.

Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Valentin Fidelino, his physicians, said the President was no longer complaining of dizziness and headache and was well on the road to recovery. However, the physicians recorded the President's pressure at 146 over 80 which they said was generally normal, but believed the figures may go down some more.

The physicians asked the President to take a complete rest at the VMH. The President received very few callers.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo saw the President and discussed with him urgent state papers.

It was not known what subjects Secretary Castillo took up with the Chief Executive. It was indicated, however, that Secretary Castillo may have briefed the President on local political developments, including the outcome of Speaker Romualdez's talk with Senate President Rodriguez at the Manila Hotel the other day.

The President also received Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, who reported on the Sulu situation where several troopers were thrown in an effort to maintain peace and order.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable saw the President in the evening.

August 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia rested well today in the Veterans Memorial Hospital, where he performed his novena by attending mass and receiving holy communion on the first Friday of each month.

The President was swamped with telegrams and get-well cards and flowers from well-wishers, among them top executive, judicial, and Congress officials, as well as civic organizations officers.

The President was taken to the Veterans Memorial Hospital Wednesday morning, after complaining of a dizziness and a headache and a slight rise in his blood pressure, which his personal physician attributed to overwork and lack of rest. Doctors prescribed rest for the President.

The President, together with the First Lady, heard mass early this morning at his ward room.

A stream of callers arrived at the hospital to wish him well and a speedy recovery. Among his well-wishers were former Executive Secretaries Fortunato de Leon and Juan C. Pajo, and Quezon City Mayor Norberto Amoranto.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo also called on the President to discuss pending state matters. Press Secretary Jose C. Nable likewise called on the President.

Malacañang continued to receive messages wishing the President quick recovery, from public officials and private citizens all over the country.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo exhorted the members of the Philippine delegation to the Olympic Games in Rome to do their best to bring glory and honor to the Philippines and to remember always that they are their country's ambassadors of goodwill.

Representing President Garcia who is resting at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, the executive secretary received the Philippine contingent when they paid a courtesy call at Malacañang today.

In response, Antonio de las Alas, president of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation, said they are aware that the President is committed to a policy of friendship, cordiality, and amity among nations. He added that they will do their best to make it a reality.

De las Alas also thanked President Garcia for the many things he has done to promote the cause of athletics in the country.

Among the members of the delegation are 43 athletes and 17 officials. The first batch will leave for Rome tomorrow.

The President ordered the airlifting of emergency patients from the provinces for treatment and confinement at the Philippine General and National Orthopedic Hospitals.

The President gave the order in the Veterans Memorial Hospital, where he was resting.

The patients will be air-lifted from the Roxas Memorial Hospital in Roxas City and the Calamaniugan Emergency Hospital in Cagayan and Polillo, Quezon Province, by a Philippine Air Force plane.

The patients are Pedro Duran, Salvador Sevilla, Claudio Aquilino, Leopoldo Villaruz, Jose Bauron, Claudio Vicente, Cesar Oblicion, Loida Sevilla, Quirico Ubana, and Trinidad Bucayan. Most of the patients are victims of accidents in Aklan.

August 6.—THE President this day upheld the decisions of the Civil Service Board of Appeals dismissing from the service a barrio school teacher in Cebu and a chauffeur-examiner of the Camarines Sur agency of the Motor Vehicles Office.

Gregorio Flores, a classroom teacher in the Hilantagaan Barrio School, Sta. Fe, Cebu, had been found guilty of immorality while Oscar O. Alvarez, chauffeur-examiner, was found guilty of misconduct in office and abuse of authority.

Flores, it was charged, had induced a barrio belle to elope with him on a promise of marriage and later left her purportedly to get a change of clothes but did not return to the girl.

Alvarez, on the other hand, issued certificates without authority from the Public Service Commission and allowed trucks to operate as public utility vehicles.

The letter to the appellants affirming the decisions of the Civil Service Board of Appeals was signed by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo by authority of President Garcia.

The President rested well last night and the whole day today at the Veterans Memorial Hospital as his doctor continued to prescribe complete rest.

A number of visitors tried to see the President this morning, but Dr. Antonio Guytingco, Palace physician, did not permit him to receive anyone. The callers were received by the First Lady and her daughter, Mrs. Linda Campos, at the waiting room of the President's hospital suite.

The callers included Sen. and Mrs. Alejandro Almendras, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, and some other officials and friends who wanted to convey personally their wishes for the President's rapid recovery.

Meanwhile, the President continued receiving flowers, telegrams, and get-well cards from friends and well-wishers all over the country, including Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal. Presidential aides have been kept busy sorting them for submission to the First Lady, who will personally acknowledge them.

The Vice-President's wire was dispatched from on board the *M/V Elizabeth* of the Williams Lines enroute from Davao to Dumaguete.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: August 7-13, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia today continued resting well at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

The President started the day by hearing mass at 8 a.m. at the anteroom of the presidential suite. At the mass were the First Lady, Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician, and members of the hospital staff assigned to the President.

Dr. Guytingco said that the President spends his waking hours in his hospital room reading the Holy Bible.

Meanwhile, flowers, telegrams, and get-well cards continued to pour at the President's suite from friends and well-wishers all over the country, including Senator and Mrs. Estanislao Fernandez.

August 8.—FORMER President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., led a host of well-wishers who, over the week-end, sent messages to President Garcia wishing his "full and speedy recovery." The Grand Old Man of Cebu postponed his return trip to Cebu in order to be able to talk with President Garcia.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the President rested well last night and the whole day. He said doctors reported the President had a good appetite. Continued rest was prescribed by the doctors, Nable said.

Handwritten and personal get-well messages were received by the President from well-wishers from Manila, Bulacan, and Quezon City.

The President today ordered the airlifting of Juan Rivera, who is suffering from cerebral thrombosis, from Laoang, Samar, to Manila for immediate medical treatment.

From the Veterans Memorial Hospital, the President directed Col. Jorge Delarmente, his senior aide, to coordinate with the U.S. Air Force through the Manila Rescue Coordinating Center, to effect successful airlifting of the patient.

Two previous attempts failed when the Philippine Air Force mercy plane developed engine trouble last Saturday, and another PAF plane on a second mission suffered damages while maneuvering in the rough sea.

The successful airlift was effected by a PAF Albatross which left Samar at 2 a.m. and arrived in Manila at 6 p.m. today with the patient. Immediately upon arrival at Nichols Air Base, the patient was taken to the North General Hospital aboard a PAF ambulance.

August 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia today completed a full week's stay inside his suite at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, and reports indicated he has improved considerably.

Several messages continued to pour in at the VMH, all wishing the President "early and full recovery."

The President ordered the airlifting of four more emergency patients for hospitalization in Manila.

Airlifted today from Cotabato upon the President's order were: (1) Luis Palma who is suffering from paralysis; (2) Eduardo Labapie, who sustained a bullet wound which penetrated his skull and lodged at the occipital portion of the brain; and (3) Emiliana Rodriguez, suffering from an acute ulcer and prolonged neuro-circulatory.

The patients were taken to the National Orthopedic Hospital and the North General Hospital for treatment.

Another patient, Panyang Capistrano, was ordered airlifted from Misamis Occidental. Capistrano, who is suffering from cerebral concussion with bleeding jaw and nose, was taken to the North General Hospital.

Both rescue missions were undertaken by Philippine Airforce C-47 planes despite inclement weather.

August 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia continued to receive hand-written messages, special delivery letters, get-well cards, and telegrams from people of all walks of life, from public officials, civic organizations, and simple private citizens who all wished him good health.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the President rested well the whole day. The President's continued stay in the Veterans Memorial Hospital has been prescribed by the doctors.

The President today ordered the airlifting of two patients from Malaybalay, Bukidnon, who figured in an auto accident.

The patients, Vicente de Guimpa and Numeriano Quinado, Jr., were flown to Manila on a Philippine Air Force plane and were taken to the National Orthopedic Hospital for emergency medical treatment. They were given emergency medical care at the Bukidnon Provincial Hospital. Guimpa was semi-conscious while Quinado was unconscious when they were flown to Manila. The third victim, Peregrina Ibura, died before she could be airlifted.

The President had ordered the airlifting of these patients upon the request of Gov. Lope Damasco of Bukidnon, who wired the Chief Executive about the plight of these victims.

President Garcia today directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to release initially ₱20,000 from, the President's contingent fund for the repair of roads destroyed by heavy rains in Zambales.

Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales reported an estimated damage of about ₱1. 5 million, to provincial properties wrought by the heavy downpour and landslides in Zambales.

A portion of the ₱20,000 will be used to regulate the overflow of the Sto. Tomas River that cuts through Olongapo town. Preventive boulders will be built on the river strata to quail any possible recurrence of treacherous flood.

Gov. Barretto personally called on Secretary Castillo and appraised the Executive Secretary of the conditions obtaining in his province. He informed Secretary Castillo that the Sto. Tomas and San Narciso Rivers continue to threaten residents of Olongapo.

Gov. Constantino Navarro of Surigao, on the other hand, took up with Secretary Castillo the appointments of the officials of the new province of Surigao del Sur, which is tentatively scheduled to be inaugurated on September 18 with President Garcia as the guest of honor.

Reps. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental and Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental also discussed local matters affecting their respective provinces with the Executive Secretary.

Others who called on the Executive Secretary were Governors Jesus Almero of Masbate, Bienvenido Ebarle of Zamboanga del Sur, and Vicente Duterte of Davao; Vice-Governor Inday Melencio, Nueva Ecija; Mrs. Remedios Fortich, NARRA general manager; Sen. Pedro Sabido; Rep. Emilio Cortez; and former Rep. Esmael Veloso of Davao.

Former French Minister Antoine Pinay today lauded the quick economic recovery and strong fiscal position which the Philippines had attained in the last two years.

The former French Minister, who arrived in Manila Tuesday evening for a two-week stay as official guest of the Philippine National Bank, made these remarks during his courtesy call at Malacañang.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who received the visiting French minister on behalf of President Garcia, expressed the hope that his stay in the Philippines will be greatly beneficial to the Filipino and French peoples.

Minister Pinay told Secretary Castillo that he was here in 1957 and was witness to the precarious economic and fiscal position then obtaining in the country. He added that the rapid strides attained since then were short of miraculous and could have been achieved only through the extreme sacrifice of the people whose very survival was threatened.

Minister Pinay, who was responsible for the imposition of austerity measures when General De Gaulle took over the reins of government in France, recalled that the situation in France then was similar to the situation in the Philippines in 1957.

Minister Pinay will meet local economic and fiscal experts and conduct a study of the fiscal and economic set-up of the country for the Philippine National Bank during his stay here.

He was accompanied to Malacañang by Ignacio Debuque, assistant to the PNB president.

August 11.—THE President today appointed Valeriano Fugoso, Jr., as chairman, and Vicente Castro Ponce and Angelina I. Ponce, as members, respectively, of the Board of Examiners for Midwifery.

The board had been created by Republic Act No. 2644, which was passed by Congress during its last regular session and subsequently approved by the President on June 18 this year.

Previous to the creation of the board, examinations for midwifery were handled by the board of Medical Examiners.

Meanwhile, Malacañang continued to be flooded with letters, get-well cards, and telegrams from the President well-wishers.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the President had a good sleep last night and rested well this afternoon. He said doctors' prescription for a good rest was enforced.

Leading those who wish the President quick recovery were United States Ambassador and Mrs. John D. Hickerson and Korean Ambassador Lincoln Hoon Kim and his staff.

Messages were also received from Commerce Secretary and Mrs. Manuel Lim, Rep. and Mrs. Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan, Rep. and Mrs. Jose Legaspi of Aklan, Auditor General Pedro M. Gimenez, Agriculture Undersecretary and Mrs. Jose M. Trinidad, Philippine Ambassador to the U. A. R. Pullong Arpa, Philippine Consul to Hongkong Jose Syquimsiam, Gov. and Mrs. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental, Mayors Tolentino of Batangas and Jacinto Castillo of Sto. Tomas, Batangas, Mr. and Mrs. Conrado Marapao of the Reparations Commission, Customs Commissioner and Mrs. Eleuterio Capapas, General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal on behalf of officials and employees of the Government Service Insurance System, Chairman Gonzalo Gonzalez of the Social Security Commission, Acting Manager Kiamco of the Development Bank of the Philippines in Tacloban City, President Yu Khe Tai of the Federation of Chinese Chambers of Commerce, President Francisco Dalupan of the University of the East, Florencio Balilay of Tondo, Fr. Mariano Gaviola of Manila, the Municipal Council of Orani, Bataan, Socorro Ke Ladrera of Tacloban City, Col. and Mrs. Basilio Pineda of Pasay City, Sergio Isidro of Quirino District, Dr. and Mrs. Baylon of Locsin, Albay, and Judge and Mrs. Estipona of Iligan City.

President Garcia proclaimed August 19 this year as a special public holiday in commemoration of the 82nd birthday of the late President Quezon, Malacañang announced today.

The President, in his proclamation, expressed his desire to give the people full opportunity to render homage to the memory of the illustrious Filipino leader on his natal day.

The President also decided to give a “Golden Heart” as a posthumous award to President Quezon, who is one of the foremost architects of Philippine Independence.

Every year August 19 is also celebrated as Citizenship Day. This is in consonance with a Presidential proclamation dated August 4, 1952, which also declared the date a special public holiday.

In proclaiming President Quezon’s birthday as a special public holiday the President enjoined the observance of the day with appropriate ceremonies “designed to enculcate upon our people, especially the youth, the rights and duties of good citizenship to the end that they will consecrate themselves to the ideals and traditions of our Republic.”

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo swore into office Jose Mapa Gomez and Manuel Elizalde as members; elf the new Sugar Quota Board in a ceremony held at Malacañang today.

The board was created by House Bill No. 5026, which was passed during the last special session of Congress and signed into law on July 25 by President Garcia.

Gomez and Elizalde are the presidents of the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters and the Philippine Sugar Association, respectively.

The two who were appointed by the President will, together with the Sugar Quota Administrator, undertake the allocation of sugar quotas.

House Bill No. 5026 makes the allocation of sugar quotas a joint undertaking of the Sugar Quota Administrator and a representative each of the sugarcane planters and millers, i.e., Gomez and Elizalde.

Their term of office will be (for three years subject to the consent of the Commission on Appointments and unless shortened by the President upon recommendation of the respective association with Gomez and Elizalde represent for loss of confidence.

Under the new law, disagreements or conflicts between the representatives of the planters and millers and the sugar quota administrator will be forwarded to the secretary of commerce and industry for decision.

The commerce secretary’s decision may be appealed to the President whose decision is final.

August 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia’s blood pressure had returned to normal Press Secretary Jose C. Nable announced today.

However, attending physicians deemed it prudent to retain the President in the Veterans Memorial Hospital for a continued rest. They said the President’s blood pressure had been unstable the past days up to this day.

The President had a good night’s sleep and rested well this afternoon. His appetite was also reported good by the President’s doctors.

The President directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to represent him in the kick-off ceremonies formally opening the anti-tuberculosis drive on Tuesday, August 16.

The President approved the citation and granting of the Golden Heart award to Mrs. Julia Vda. de Ortigas in recognition of her invaluable work in combatting tuberculosis in the Philippines.

The President today continued acknowledging numerous messages from well-wishers all over the country and expressing his gratitude for the prayers and holy mass they had offered for his speedy recovery.

President Garcia dispatched mercy planes to airlift three more emergency patients from Zamboanga del Sur, Iloilo City, and Palanan, Isabela, for hospitalization in Manila.

The mercy flights returned to Manila today and the patients were taken to the San Lazaro and the North General Hospitals for treatment.

The rescue missions, despite inclement weather, were undertaken success-fully by Philippine Air Force and U.S. Navy planes. The U.S. Navy mercy plane flew from Palanan and landed at Sangley Point in Cavite, where the patient was picked up by a local Air Force rescue plane.

Airlifted from Palanan by a U.S.N. plane upon the President's request was Catalina Flores who is suffering from "lockjaw, backbone curving with general pains and muscular cramps." She was rushed to the San Lazaro Hospital upon arrival.

The other two patients who were also airlifted from Iloilo City and Zamboanga del Sur were Zacarias Miravite and Rebecca Chiong.

Chiong has difficulty in breathing and was confined for emergency treatment at the Aurora Provincial Hospital in Zamboanga before she was airlifted to Manila. Local doctors said the patient was "highly febrile with dysphagia and paralytic symptom on her upper extremities." She was taken to the San Lazaro Hospital.

Miravite is suffering from "PTB bilateral" and hardship in breathing purportedly because of abdominal new growth. Miravite was confined at the North General Hospital.

President Garcia today directed the PC APE to investigate and submit its recommendation on charges filed against an ACCFA governor by ACCFA Administrator Vicente Araneta.

Acting through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, the President specifically directed the PCAPE to inquire formally into charges that ACCFA Governor Rafael Piguing had reportedly "abused and betrayed the duties of his office" in the granting of a loan to a FACOMA in Antipolo, Rizal.

The letter of Administrator Araneta addressed to the President and containing the charges was filed at Secretary Castillo's office today.

August 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent today his tenth consecutive day at the Veterans Memorial Hospital. He continued resting in his suite at the VMH.

The President's blood pressure was reported to be normal, having been recorded the other day at 126-70.

Although the President's blood pressure was said to be "normal," hospital physicians advised him to rest some more to avoid any relapse.

Malacañang said the President received a message from Sen. and Mrs. Ferdinand Marcos, who expressed their hope for President's Garcia's early recovery.

The Senate minority floor leader also informed the President in his message that he and Mrs. Marcos had offered a mass for the President's early recovery, at the San Juan parish church.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: August 14-20, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia was reported today disturbed by the continuous heavy rains caused by the seasonal southwest monsoon which have inundated several sections of Manila and the suburbs.

Reports reaching the President indicated that the floods this day had paralyzed vehicular traffic in many busy sections of the city.

He contacted Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and directed him to adopt measures to extend immediate assistance to flood victims.

The President said he wanted an early assessment of the damage in life and property in order that proper relief could be administered as soon as possible.

President Garcia spent his eleventh consecutive day at his suite at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, where he was confined last August 3.

The President heard mass this morning before an improvised altar inside his suite. With the President were the First Lady, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, and Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's physician.

August 15.—THIS morning the President mobilized the National Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee and ordered the initial release of ₱100,000 for the relief of typhoon-flood victims in Central Luzon towns.

In an early morning conference with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo at his Veterans Memorial Hospital suite, the President ordered the use of Army helicopters and Navy flat boats to reach marooned people in the flooded areas, wherever trucks cannot be used.

The President also directed Secretary Castillo, NERCC chairman, to move relief supplies and personnel into the disaster areas as fast as the flood waters receded, and to conduct a general survey of the damages wrought by the floods with the view to effecting the rehabilitation of the flood victims, most of whom not only lost their homes but their crops for this year.

Secretary Castillo will go to the field tomorrow morning and conduct on-the-spot inspection of the flooded areas. He will be accompanied by Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez.

The President expressed concern over the loss of lives and the heavy damage to crop and property.

Only casualties reported so far involved one who was electrocuted by a live wire in the flood and a truck driver who jumped off the vehicle and was carried away by the swift current.

At Malacañang, Secretary Castillo directed:

- (1) Suspension of all classes in the flood areas to prevent loss of life, particularly among school children;
- (2) Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to make immediately available for relief purposes the ₱100,000 ordered released by President Garcia;
- (3) Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema to make a survey of the disaster area by helicopter; and

(4) An emergency meeting of the Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee at the Malacañang Council of State room to carry out the President's order.

During the meeting at Malacañang, Secretary Castillo expressed to the committee the President's desire to render full and immediate assistance to avert loss of life and outbreak of epidemics, and the institution of rehabilitative measures to restore normalcy in the area.

To determine the extent of damage and the amount of funds needed for rehabilitative work, Secretary Castillo invited the members of the NERCC to go with him to conduct an ocular survey of the damage tomorrow morning.

The NERCC survey team which will be headed by Secretary Castillo will leave Malacañang 7:30 a.m. tomorrow and will motor to Malolos, Calumpit, San Fernando, and Lubao in Pampanga, and probably Concepcion in Tarlac.

Secretary Castillo pointed out during the meeting that almost all of the flood victims will not be able to harvest their crops this year, and that a big majority of them will have to rebuild their houses, if not construct new ones.

Acting Defense Secretary Mariano Yenko, Jr., who attended the meeting, reported that Pampanga, Tarlac, and Bulacan were hardest hit.

Secretary Yenko said that personnel of the Social Welfare Administration, the Philippine National Red Cross, the Philippine Constabulary, the Philippine Army, and the Clark Air Force Base were cooperating in evacuating and rendering relief to the flood victims.

Secretary Yenko reported that naval assault boats and amphibious trucks had been moved into the area to evacuate flood victims and that three helicopters and 15 heavy army trucks have been assigned to haul relief goods and personnel.

Yenko reported that as of 10:30 this morning, the following towns were still under water as a result of the breaching of the Arnedo dike in several places: Concepcion, Tarlac, Arayat, Candaba, San Luis, San Simon, Masantol, Apalit, and Guagua in Pampanga.

Also badly affected were Hagonoy, Calumpit, and Paombong in Bulacan; and Aliaga, Cabiao, and Zaragoza in Nueva Ecija where damage crops was reported to be heavy.

Dr. Elena Perez-Ompoc, representing SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor who is abroad, reported to the committee that a total of 322 sacks (100 kg each) and canned sardines had been sent to several towns in Tarlac, Pampanga, and Bulacan, but that some trucks had to turn back because the roads were impassable.

Among the towns for which SWA relief had already been sent were Concepcion in Tarlac; Bahay Pare, Calumpit and Hagonoy in Bulacan; Punta in Sta. Ana, San Simon and other towns in Pampanga; Pateros, Pasig, Navotas, and Malabon in Rizal.

Mrs. Ompoc requested the Committee to authorize the immediate purchase of 1,000 sacks of rice (56 kg each), 250 cases of sardines, and a large stock of ready made clothing to meet immediate and expected demands from the flood victims. Mrs. Ompoc said the SWA has virtually no stock of clothing.

Present at the Malacañang conference which started at 10:30 and ended at 12 noon were Secretary Castillo (presiding), Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Acting Defense Secretary Mariano Yenko, Jr., Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Dr. Ompoc, Estelito Emboltora of the SWA, Col. V. O. Tionson, and Capt. Auxencio Peharanda of the Armed Forces.

President Garcia today appointed Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema as acting Social Welfare Administrator, vice Mrs. Amparo P. Villamor, who is abroad.

The President appointed Secretary Quema as social welfare administrator in order to effect a speedier and more effective relief program for the flood victims in Pampanga, Bulacan, Tarlac, and Rizal.

Secretary Quema took his oath of office as acting SWA Administrator before Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo this afternoon.

Secretary Quema earlier had been directed by Secretary Castillo to make an aerial survey of the inundated area in an Army helicopter.

After his trip, Secretary Quema reported that he had not been able to land in any town along the route because most of the towns were still under water.

Secretary Quema landed at Camp Olivas in San Fernando and at Clark Field and made the return flight to Manila non-stop, arriving at Nichols Air Base Operations at 2 p.m.

Secretary Quema suggested that the survey team which is scheduled to leave for the flooded area tomorrow morning make the survey on helicopters to be borrowed from the United States Navy.

He informed Secretary Castillo, who is heading the survey team, that from what he had seen, roads will still be impassable early tomorrow because the water is still too deep in places and the roads may have been cut in many places.

This afternoon the President honored the delegates to the 11th session of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization with cocktails in Malacañang.

Executive Secretary Castillo, who received the delegates on behalf of the President welcomed them to the Philippines and thanked them for the benefits that the Philippines has been receiving from the world organization.

Secretary Castillo expressed regret that the President, who is still confined at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, could not be personally present to meet them but conveyed to them the President's sincere wishes for the success of their meet in Manila.

The delegates to the 11th session of the Regional Committee of WHO are holding their meeting in Manila on August 12-17, 1960.

Represented in the conference are 18 countries, two United Nations specialized agencies, and 12 inter-government and non-government organizations.

August 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today declared Pampanga and Bulacan under a state of emergency as he harnessed the entire government machinery to rush aid to thousands of homeless flood victims in four other provinces.

Presidential action swiftly came close at the heels of a report made by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who together with national and provincial officials, made on-the-spot investigations of conditions in Bulacan. The President at the same time directed the officials of the Manila Railroad Company to double their schedule of trips in Central Luzon provinces principally for the purpose of rushing relief work and assistance to flood victims in Pampanga, Bulacan, Tarlac, Nueva Ecija, and Pangasinan.

He also made public his appreciation and thanks to officials of Clark Air Force Base and the United States naval station in Olongapo for their help and contribution of relief goods to flood victims.

President Garcia expressed deep concern over the plight of thousands of flood victims. He specifically directed Secretary Castillo to submit progress reports on the extent of relief work accomplished by the government agencies.

In a detailed report to President Garcia, Gen. Manuel Cabal chief of staff, said the Armed Forces were doing their utmost to help flood victims.

He specifically reported that medical teams were dispatched early today specially equipped with halazone tablets to watch out in particular against possible outbreak of epidemic. He said the shortage of potable water in the flooded areas could give rise to epidemic. He, however, allayed fears of its breaking out, as he pointed to Army water trucks sent to the flooded towns for the use of residents.

In places where communications have been cut off, the Army has put up temporary signal communications, Gen. Cabal said.

In Camp Olivas alone there were about 1,000 refugees housed in Army barracks, he said.

President Garcia received detailed reports from fieldmen on relief work in six provinces, including emergency activities of social workers and red cross personnel.

In Tarlac, the towns of Paniqui and Concepcion were reported under water. Clark Field authorities sent 24 trucks to assist in the evacuation of flood victims. Constabulary officials also borrowed commercial trucks to help in relief work and in the evacuation of flood victims.

In Pampanga, all towns were reported under water except Angeles, and the Angeles-Magalang bridge was reported destroyed. Relief work, including distribution of foodstuff, started in this province.

In Bulacan, the towns of Bocaue, Marilao, Calumpit, Hagonoy, Paombong, Meycawayan, and Pulilan were reported under water. Twelve Army trucks helped evacuate flood victims. Social Welfare and red cross personnel distributed relief goods and foodstuff.

In Pangasinan, the following towns suffered losses (partial) in public works and buildings: Asingan, ₱36,090; Binalonan, ₱20,000; Pozzorubio, ₱13,000; Tayug, ₱15,000; Natividad, ₱56,000; Villasis, ₱14,000; Alcala, ₱6,000; Bayambang, ₱18,000; and Bautista, ₱20,000. The report submitted were based on partial estimates and did not include damage on private properties and crops.

In Bataan, Dinalupihan, Hermosa, Orani, Samal, Abucay, and Balanga were reported under water. Reports said the water level was still rising.

President Garcia also authorized Secretary Castillo to release initially ₱20,000 from his contingent funds for the emergency repair and reconstruction of public works projects in Pangasinan. The President yesterday released ₱100,000 for purchase of foodstuff and their distribution to flood victims.

Emergency measures for Pangasinan were made upon request of acting Governor Nancy Q. Sison, who personally reported to Malacañang the extent of damage sustained in her province.

Governor Sison said thousands of hectares of ricelands were inundated in her province because of the breakage in the Arnedo flood control dike. She also said that several concrete boulders built on the river beds along Pangasinan towns broke owing to heavy pressure of flood waters.

The flood destroyed about 85 per cent of the province's staple crops, Governor Sison reported.

Six lives were reported lost in Pangasinan and the flood left in its wake an extensive damage to public roads and public buildings as well as private buildings.

THIS afternoon the President formally opened the 1960 National Fund and Educational Drive of the Philippine Tuberculosis Society with a personal contribution of ₱1,000 at the kick-off ceremonies held in the Malacañang Social Hall.

At the ceremonies, Dona Julia Vda. de Ortigas, PTS president, received a Golden Heart presidential award of the first degree “in recognition of her meritorious and distinguished services to the Republic and in the amelioration and improvement of the moral, social, and economic conditions of the masses of our people.”

In his speech read by Assistant Executive Secretary and concurrently acting SWA Administrator Enrique C. Quema, the President pointed out that the Philippines is set back every year by an amount estimated to be not less than ₱800,000 as a result of the depredation tuberculosis has wrought upon the population.

The President added that now when much of the national effort is devoted to productive enterprises to the end that a progressive economy shall be developed in the Philippines, death and disability caused by the White Plague have accounted for such a heavy drag on the Philippine capacity for productive effort.

Mrs. Ortigas, the moving spirit behind the Philippine Tuberculosis Society for the last 31 years, was awarded the Order of the Golden Heart “not only for her leadership in the prevention and control of TB but for having devoted the best years of her life to the service of her fellowmen.”

Francisco Delgado, general chairman of the fund and educational drive, received the collections and pledges made by the division chairmen and other volunteers.

August 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia this evening, on the recommendation of the Cabinet, adopted massive measures to extend immediate and maximum relief to thousands of flood victims in Pampanga, Bulacan, and other Central Luzon provinces laid waste by the recent typhoons.

The President authorized an unprecedented release of one million pesos from his contingent fund for the immediate relief and rehabilitation of the flood victims.

Called to an emergency session by President Garcia, the Cabinet also:

1. Adopted positive measures to prevent a possible outbreak of epidemic in evacuation centers and flooded towns while at the same time belying reports that an epidemic had broken out;
2. Directed the Philippine Constabulary to arrest profiteers in prime commodities and transportation;
3. Directed the NARIC to make immediately available all the rice needed by government agencies in distributing this cereal to the flood victims, and to set up rice stalls for the sale of this cereal at as low as ₱.85 per ganta in flooded areas;
4. Dispatched the Armed Forces engineer construction battalion to flooded areas to give immediate assistance to construction and repair of public installations and roads;
5. Contributed among themselves the amount of ₱1,000 which was turned over to Mrs. Carlos P. Garcia for the purchase of relief goods and their distribution to flood victims; and
5. Authorized the immediate release of ₱300,000 for the repair of roads in Manila, ₱60,000 for Rizal and Caloocan, ₱50,000 for Quezon City, and ₱40,000 for Pasay City. This sum was earmarked from the contingent fund and the highways fund of the Department of Public Works.

Mrs. Linda G. Campos, daughter of the President, this afternoon visited flood victims in Malolos and Calumpit, Bulacan, where she distributed sandwiches and other cooked foods for the sufferers in the inundated areas. Mrs.

Campos was accompanied by Gov. Tomas Martin, local Red Cross and SWA officials, and some personnel from the social secretary's office in Malacañang. Canned goods and rice were also distributed to the needy families, most of whom had been temporarily housed in public school buildings.

On the recommendation of his Cabinet which met by his order, the President approved the additional and immediate release of ₱200,000 for the purchase of relief supplies by the Social Welfare Administration. This latest release from the President's contingent funds brings the total fund releases for flood victims to ₱470,000.

The Cabinet received the reports of Secretaries Castillo and Quema, who had made on-the-spot survey tours of the flooded localities the whole day yesterday and later reported to the President on their observations.

The two officials also discounted reports of the outbreak of epidemics in some localities, saying that neither of them ever received such information from the field. Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, Constabulary chief, who had been invited to the Cabinet meeting, also said he had not received any word about epidemics from his provincial commanders.

Secretary Elpidio Valencia earlier today spiked reports of an epidemic outbreak. He said health conditions were being strictly observed. He has been on field inspection the whole day today.

Secretary Quema, who had been designated acting administrator of social welfare, informed the Cabinet that the relief supplies being dispatched to the critical areas included 36,000 tablets of Halizone and a water purifier, one of the measures taken to obviate the possibility of epidemics.

The Cabinet also:

- (1) Directed the chief of the flood control division, the chief of the AFP engineer corps, and a representative of the railroad to determine ways of hastening the receding of flood waters which was said to be very slow owing to elevation of railroad tracks; and

- (2) Re-examine the government policy regarding the exportation of rice to insure an adequate supply of this staple commodity after the crop-destroying flood waters in Central Luzon;

Col. Eugenio Acab, deputy PC chief, also reported that Highway 5 which passes through Nueva Ecija is now passable. However, according to reports as of 2 p.m. today, Highway 3 which passes through Pampanga and Bulacan is still not passable.

Under study by the Cabinet is the feasibility of evacuating some 5,000 families in Apalit and San Simon, Pampanga, to dry towns of nearby Bulacan, if necessary.

Col. Acab also reported that vehicles being used in the relief work included 72 trucks, three of which are amphibians, six C-47 planes of the Air Force, four helicopters from the Philippine and U.S. Armed Forces, 20 navy assault rafts, and six navy boats. The deputy PC chief said that there are 10 medical teams on a 24-hour alert on duty in the area.

Chairman Paulino Garcia of the National Science Development Board who is also chairman of the board of governors of the Philippine National Red Cross, also reported to the Cabinet that the Red Cross had released ₱25,000 so far from its total appropriation of ₱100,000 for the flood victims. He said that Red Cross workers in the field had not reported the outbreak of any epidemic in the area.

Secretary Quema said that although the visited areas were inundated, not much destruction had been sustained by buildings. Most of the rehabilitation to be undertaken by the Department of Public Works and Communications would probably be on roads and bridges.

The Cabinet meeting was presided by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo.

Meanwhile, during a half-hour conference between PCAPE chairman Justice Buenaventura Ocampo and Gen. Leoncio Tan, NARIC general manager, this afternoon at the office of Justice Ocampo, the PCAPE chief informed Gen. Tan that from reports received by his office from the PCAPE survey team in the flooded areas, the prices of prime commodities had risen to prohibitive levels and that profiteering and hoarding was prevalent, especially in remote and isolated places.

Gen. Tan informed Justice Ocampo that the NARIC has over one million cavans of palay stocked in various NARIC warehouses in Bulacan, Pampanga, Tarlac, and Nueva Ecija and that reports received said more than 16,000 cavans of palay were damaged in the province of Bulacan alone and that probably hundreds more were expected damaged in Pampanga, Tarlac, and Nueva Ecija.

The NARIC manager further reported that six NARIC rolling stores each in Bulacan, Pampanga, and Nueva Ecija were selling rice at ₱.85 a ganta. Tan added that at this cost the government corporation is already losing thousands of pesos.

President Garcia today dispatched a mercy plane to Cagayan de Oro City to airlift Salvador Virtudazo, a laborer, for emergency treatment at the National Orthopedic Hospital.

Virtudazo is suffering from a two-inch open fracture on the head and had been confined at the Cagayan de Oro provincial hospital before he was airlifted to Manila.

August 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia signed into law the bill appropriating ₱10 million for the rehabilitation of the damages caused by typhoons and floods, Malacañang announced today.

The new law was among the measures passed by Congress in the recent special session. The law provides that ₱5 million of the amount will be expended in the Bicol region, including Masbate. Albay will get ₱3 million of the ₱5 million.

Disbursements of the balance of ₱5 million will be made in accordance with certifications of the district engineers as verified by the Department of Public Works and Communications on a *pro rata* basis on the damage suffered by the provinces and cities affected by typhoons and floods.

The ₱10 million will be used for the rehabilitation, construction, or replacement of public buildings, including temporary and P.T.A. school buildings, roads, bridges, installations, and other public services damaged by typhoons and floods in the fiscal years 1959-1960 and 1960-1961.

The President this day was assured by Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, that the conditions in the flooded areas of Pampanga and Bulacan were under control.

Cabal's report to the President was in line with the latter's instructions that progress reports be submitted regularly.

In his report to the President, Gen. Cabal said that the water in the flood areas have receded considerably. Gen. Cabal also reported that the new leak in the Arnedo dike southeast of Arayat, Pampanga, did not develop into a breakage. He said that the portion of the flood control dike will hold on and does not pose a serious treat to the townspeople.

He listed the problems in the flood-stricken towns in Central and Northern Luzon as follows: (1) the need for more relief goods and a more effective manner of distribution; (2) lack of potable water; and (3) prevention of possible outbreak of epidemic as indicated by isolated breaking out of cases of measles and dysentery in the flood areas.

Gen. Cabal reported to the President that he had authorized the issuance of additional transportation facilities to help ease the problem of distributing emergency relief goods. He also reported that Army guards in the inundated areas have been reinforced to see to it that relief supplies reach the destination.

As to the water problem, Gen. Cabal said that he had deployed all available water purification units and water trailers of the AFP for the use of needy victims in the flooded places. He said that water purification units were also loaned from the United States Armed Forces by the AFP to supplement their equipment now in use in the said areas.

All medical units helping thwart any possibility of an epidemic have been dispatched to the flood areas, Gen. Cabal added.

President Garcia this morning sent a congratulatory message to Gabriel Flash Elorde for his second decisive victory over Harold Gomez, in a championship fight in San Francisco.

President Garcia signed into law the anti-graft bill approved by Congress during the last special session as he beat the deadline for presidential action on bills enacted by Congress, Malacañang announced this afternoon.

The new law deals severely with public officials as well as private individuals by providing for their perpetual disqualification from public office and criminal prosecution.

It also strictly requires all public officials to file their statement of assets and liabilities before and after their terms of office as well as in January of every year.

The amended anti-graft bill as approved by the President meets the Chief Executive's objections raised in the veto of the original bill. In a memorandum for the President, the legal staff of Malacañang led by Judge Salvador Esguerra emphasized the following:

(1) The original bill which the President vetoed did not clearly define the term "close personal relations" which the offender may have with any public official to serve as the primary consideration in receiving any favor from another person who has certain dealings with the government.

The vetoed bill did not also clearly require as an element of the crime that such person shall have capitalized or exploited those close personal relations, or should have prevented such close relation, to induce another person to engage him to intervene in his dealings with the government.

The new bill as approved by the President now clearly defines the term "close personal relations" to include close personal friends, social or fraternal connections, and professional employment as giving rise to intimacy which assures free access to such public officer.

The new bill also clearly defines the term "family relation" to include spouses or relatives by consanguinity or affinity within the 3rd civil degree; and by requiring as element of the crime that the family or close personal relations be capitalized or exploited.

(2) The second ground for the veto of the original bill is the provision making it unlawful for the spouses and for any relative within the 3rd civil degree of consanguinity or affinity of the President, the Vice-President, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to intervene in any manner or capacity, directly or indirectly, in any business, transaction, contract, or application with the government.

The main objection to this provision is that a relative of the above-mentioned officials who practices his profession before any government office other than the courts or who himself personally applies for any grant or rights, privilege, or concession commits an unlawful act punishable by law.

The new bill corrects this objection by providing that it shall not apply to any application the approval of which is not discretionary- on the part of the official or officials concerned but depends upon compliance with the requisites provided by law, rule's, or regulations nor to any act lawfully performed in an official capacity in the exercise of a profession.

(3) The original bill as vetoed by the President provides it unlawful for any member of Congress, during his term, to acquire or receive any personal pecuniary interest in any specific business enterprise which will be directly and particularly favored or benefitted by any law or resolution authored by him or adopted by Congress during his term.

This provision makes applicable to the President who recommended to Congress the enactment or adoption of such law or resolution, as well as to members of the Cabinet who recommended to the President the approval of such law.

The new bill eliminates the objections raised by the President on certain objectionable features embodied in the original bill.

(4) The original bill would make the President liable to criminal prosecution during and after his term for an offense committed during his incumbency.

It is a well-settled principle of political law that the head of state is immune from court processes during his term. This immunity he carries with him even after the expiration of his term, unless in an impeachment proceedings instituted during his incumbency he is found guilty and convicted; Impeachment proceedings may result in his removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of honor, profit, or trust in the Philippine Government without prejudice to criminal prosecution if the act for which he was impeached constitutes a offense. But if no impeachment proceedings were instituted during his incumbency, it is doubtful if he can be prosecuted subsequently for acts done during his term. To hold the President so amenable would be destructive of the honor and dignity and authority that go with the high office of head of state.

President Garcia vetoed House Bill No. 5021, passed in the recent special session of Congress, proposing amendments to the Reparations Law.

This is the second reparations amendment measure disapproved by the President in view of substantial objectionable features he found in the bills. The first was House Bill No. 4467, passed during the regular session of Congress, which the President had returned with his veto message pointing out his objections to the bill.

The President said that the one ground for his veto of the first bill was that its Section 2 imposed additional burden on applicants by requiring them to canvas world prices in order to have a comparative statement of the value of Japanese goods and those of other nations. He had pointed out in his veto message that, this was an obligation of the Reparations Mission and should not be thrust upon applicants.

The second bill had not corrected this objectionable provision. On the other hand, it imposes another additional burden; namely, the submission of an evaluation report under oath on the estimated cost of the consumer goods, including a study of the itemized cost of the goods in relation to the prevailing export and domestic prices for like products in Japan to accompany every application for goods other than capital goods.

Another ground for the veto of the previous bill was that Section 4 limited the tentative schedule to the funds available to the corresponding reparations year plus one-half of those available for the succeeding year. The President's veto message had stated that the limitation in effect reduced the present tentative schedule to \$17 million a year which was not enough to meet current obligations and commitments, and omitted the most important items, including allocations for small industries.

The second bill, on the other hand, limits the tentative schedule to funds available for the corresponding reparations year, plus one-half of the funds available for one reparations year, instead of the succeeding reparations year as provided in the previous bill. The correction, however, was not considered substantial.

A further ground for the disapproval of the first bill was that Section 8 provided for requirements that are already embodied in the Commission rules and regulations. It also required additional but unnecessary publications of procurement orders and their amendments, thereby adding more expenses and prescribing more red tape without giving any public benefit or service. The President believes that the second bill has not corrected these defects.

In vetoing the second reparations amendments measure, the President emphasized his desire to have the benefits of reparations spread to as many people as possible, giving preference to small applicants. A provision in the second bill, however, requires “a down-payment of not less than ₱5,000 nor more than one per cent of the value of the project whichever is the higher.” The President considers this requirement too harsh for small applicants.

House Bill No. 5021 is the only one vetoed of the five measures passed during the special session of Congress.

August 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia, through Executive Secretary Natalia P. Castillo, this morning posthumously conferred a “Golden Heart” award to the late President Manuel L. Quezon for his invaluable work in combating the dreaded disease of tuberculosis in the Philippines.

In bestowing the award, the Chief Executive also cited President Quezon’s humanitarian efforts in the promotion of the social as well as economic advancement of the country and people.

President Garcia said that the brand of leadership displayed by the late Filipino statesman is an inspiration and a guiding ideal of our people.

The award was received by the only living children of President Quezon, Mrs. Zeneida Q. Avanceña and Manuel, Jr.

The simple award rites were held at the ceremonial hall in Malacañang, highlighting President Quezon’s 82nd natal day.

Drs. Basilio Valdez and Bienvenuto Diño, official and private physicians, respectively, of President Quezon, ranking public officials, close friends, and relatives of the recipients of the award were present during the occasion.

This evening the President warned profiteers in foodstuff in flooded areas that they would be severely dealt with.

He directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to enforce strictly the presidential proclamation placing under a state of emergency Pampanga and Bulacan.

The governors of Pampanga and Bulacan are authorized to enforce strictly the price control law and to seek the immediate assistance of the Philippine Constabulary if necessary, the President said.

He emphasized that taking advantage of the misery of fellow countrymen is the most un-Christian act that may be committed.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia visited flood-stricken areas in Central Luzon today to see for herself the extent of damages wrought in the localities and personally supervise the distribution of a third batch of relief supplies sent to needy sufferers by Malacañang to supplement the efforts of various relief agencies in the field.

The First Lady sent last Thursday her daughter, Mrs. Linda G. Campos, who distributed sandwiches, cooked foods, clothing, and medicines in evacuation centers set up in different towns in the area. Last Wednesday, a team of Malacañang household personnel also took truckloads of foodstuffs and distributed them to hungry families rendered homeless by the floods.

Mrs. Campos spent the whole day Thursday touring flooded areas in Pampanga and Bulacan, distributing relief goods donated through her mother by civic-spirited citizens and organizations. The President’s daughter rode on an amphibian truck during her tour.

The First Lady was accompanied by Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez and some Cabinet and congressional ladies in her tour this day.

Mrs. Garcia and party left Manila about 8 o'clock this morning. She took a special train at the Tutuban Railroad Station.

At Apalit, the party boarded three amphibian trucks and penetrated deep into the interior towns and barrios. They lunched from lunch boxes as they went along.

Returning to Apalit at 3:40 p.m., Mrs. Garcia boarded the train and proceeded to San Fernando in order to be able to extend relief to as many flood victims as possible.

Upon arriving at San Fernando, the First Lady accompanied by Rep. Emilio Cortez, Health Secretary and Mrs. Elpidio Valencia, and others, proceeded to the Provincial Hospital where she delivered a large quantity of medicines for respiratory and intestinal ailments.

At the hospital, the First Lady visited the various wards accompanied by Dr. Angel C. del Corro, chief of the hospital.

Dr. Del Corro told Mrs. Garcia that the hospital has been made ready to accommodate flood victims who had been exposed to the floods so long and may be suffering from ailments, and that all hospital personnel had been alerted to cope with the emergency.

From the hospital, the First Lady changed to a six by six truck and proceeded to Camp Olivas, the only evacuation center nearby, traveling over roads under three feet of water.

Upon arrival at Camp Olivas, the First Lady was greeted by some 1,000 evacuees with lusty shouts of "Mabuhay!"

The First Lady, assisted by Mesdames Valencia, Daniel Romualdez, Jose Aldeguer, and others started distributing food packages to the evacuees, each package containing two hard-boiled eggs, rice, a sandwich and hopia as well as separate packages of biscuits and loaves of bread.

Nene Licasno, a SWA special assistant who was with the party, estimated that no less than 5,500 sufferers were benefited by the distribution of relief goods by the First Lady.

After making a tour of the towns of San Simon, Apalit, and San Fernando, Mrs. Garcia, upon representations made by Rep. Cortez, decided to allocate another 1,000 sacks of rice for the Pampanga flood sufferers.

Among those with the First Lady were Secretary and Mrs. Valencia, AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, PC Chief Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, Mesdames Daniel Z. Romualdez, Dominador R. Aytona, Natalio P. Castillo, Lita Rocas, SWA Regional Director Silvia Monte, and a special assistant, Nene Liscano, and many others.

The First Lady took along for distribution besides medicines, 3,500 individual food packages, three heavy crates of cooked rice, ten crates of camotes, 29 cartons of biscuits, and four bales of clothing from Malacañang; and 25 cases of sardines, 2,000 loaves of Tasty bread, 2,500 packages of biscuits, 1,800 pieces of assorted clothing, and ten sacks of rice from the Social Welfare Administration.

The party left San Fernando about 6 p.m. and arrived at the Manila Railroad station at Tutuban at about 7:30 p.m.

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo today recommended to the President a one-year moratorium on crop loan payments and the condonation of unpaid real estate taxes by the flood victims in Bulacan, Tarlac, Pampanga, and Nueva Ecija.

The PCAPE chairman made these recommendations after returning from an ocular survey of the flood relief situation where he had been sent by President Garcia earlier to assess the condition and to coordinate all relief activities.

In his recommendations to the President, the PCAPE chief said that the water had started receding the peace and order situation was under-control. He also informed the President that relief work was proceeding smoothly although some isolated barrios have not yet been reached by either Social Welfare Administration or Philippine National Red Cross relief.

Justice Ocampo also informed the President that after his conference with Bulacan Governor Tomas Martin and PC Provincial Commander Major Laureaga, who had told him that most of the sufferers had lost their crops, he was convinced that the flood sufferers will not be in a position to meet their crop loan amortization due government lending institutions, nor to pay their real estate taxes at least for the current year

Justice Ocampo pointed out that if this holds true in Bulacan which fared better than Pampanga, it may also holds true in the case of Pampanga, Tarlac, and Nueva Ecija.

August 20.—THE President today ordered the immediate payment of retired government officials and employees who had not received their full pensions.

The President issued the order on hearing reports that a considerable number of retired government personnel had not been paid their pensions owing to the failure of the national government to remit to the Government Service Insurance System the premiums corresponding to these retirees.

In a memorandum directed to Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, the President said:

“I want you to look for funds and remit immediately to the GSIS a sufficient amount to enable these pensioners to be paid the amounts due them. As long as I am President, I want no suspension or reduction in the payment of these pensions.”

The President dictated his memorandum in the course of his conference with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who called at the Veterans Memorial Hospital this afternoon to consult him on urgent state matters.

On receipt of the memorandum later this evening, Commissioner Sy-Changco promised he would raise the necessary funds which he estimated at about ₱9 million and remit them to the GSIS immediately.

The Budget Commissioner explained that no remittances could be made in the past owing to lack of funds. He said that with the very much improved fiscal position of the government, it would be easier for him to look for the required amount.

Commissioner Sy-Changco said that there are more than 12,000 government retirees, about 2,300 of whom are waiting for their five-year lump sum payment after having retired at the age of 65. The amounts to be paid these retirees will depend on their length of service and the amount of their salary, he said.

The President this day set the government machinery working for the immediate implementation of the new Anti Graft Law.

He directed three Cabinet members, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Justice Secretary Mabanag, and PCAPE Chairman Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, to discuss ways and means on how the new law can reinforce the Administration's current campaign against graft and corruption. Secretary Castillo scheduled the conference to take place early this week.

Simultaneously, acting through Executive Secretary Castillo, the President directed Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona to submit early this week his recommendation on the proposal to grant a one-year moratorium on crop loan payments and the condonation of unpaid real estate taxes by flood victims in Bulacan, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, and Pangasinan. Deadline for the Aytona recommendation is August 24.

The original proposal for a moratorium on crop loan payments and condonation of unpaid real estate taxes was submitted to the President by PCAPE Chairman Ocampo after an on-the-spot investigation of conditions in the flooded areas late last week.

President Garcia also directed Secretary Castillo to look into the reported non-coordination of government agencies in the distribution of relief goods to flood victims. Secretary Castillo's report is scheduled to be submitted Monday morning.

The President took the occasion to warn that politics should in no way deter the distribution of relief to the flood victims.

He emphasized that relief work should be the rallying point for all officials regardless of political color to join hands and serve the people at this time of dire need.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Official Week in Review: August 21 – August 27, 1960

August 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received Mayor Florencio Carlos of San Luis, Pampanga, who asked for the use of an amphibian truck to accelerate the distribution of relief goods in his flooded town.

The San Luis town executive was accompanied by Provincial Fiscal Nicanor Nicolas of Rizal and Mrs. Teresita Alcantara.

Mrs. Garcia gave Mayor Carlos rice, clothing, and other relief goods for distribution to the flood victims.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, by authority of the President, directed Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, PC chief, to furnish the needed amphibian truck to Carlos.

Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, concurrently acting SWA Administrator, was directed by the President to rush relief goods to San Luis.

The President did not receive any other caller the whole day.

The President with the First Lady heard mass said in his room at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

August 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today branded his critics as demagogues distorting the problems that beset the incumbent public officials.

The President's statement was part of his message which Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo read during the opening ceremony of the second public relations week held in the Malacañang Social Hall this morning.

The greater disservice, the President emphasized, is found in the fact that they (the critics) bring about the "erosion of the people's faith in their government which is a basic ingredient for our continued stability and progress."

In his message the President also called upon the people to insist from his administration their right to avail of the highest possible level of public service.

The President also strongly urged the development of a civil service that will be very highly respected, adding that he has earnestly tried to place our civil service outside the sphere of influence of politicians.

The Chief Executive reiterated the Administration's continued efforts towards the attainment of "that kind of public service that will make each citizen feel that, indeed, sovereignty resides in the people and that government is constituted to promote their welfare and well-being.

"I have just described," the President explained, "what I consider as the basic aspect of our public relations program in the government—that of truly rendering efficient public service to the people."

Touching on government expenditures in the public relations offices, the President warned against concealing from the public eye and from corrective administrative action, acts of malfeasance that discredit the sincerity and devotion which characterize the actions of a large majority in the government service.

The President also advised the public relations men to be prompt, courteous, and imaginative in attending to the needs of the people.

"We should make the lazy, incompetent, discourteous, and dishonest public officials a faded thing of the past," the President asserted.

In his message to the public relations men, President Garcia also reiterated his personal support to programs aimed at achieving the highest possible level of public administration.

The President recalled that he had relentlessly prosecuted a campaign to weed out of public service incompetent and corrupt officials.

“Of course,” the President said, “in the process of weeding out undesirables in the government, I have always respected their constitutional rights and have done it with due process of law.”

The President’s message sought to establish a pattern of good and effective public relations in the government service by telling the people of what is being done for them and the problems that are faced by the government in the implementation of programs for their welfare.

The President interpreted the importance of telling the people about the problems faced by the government in the implementation of programs for their welfare as an urgent one.

Equally significant, he said, is the role of public relations men to let the people understand the validity of an advice for patience. It is in this area, the President observed, where the bitter critics of my administration are rendering disservice to our country.

THIS evening Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia launched “Operations Puso”, a nationwide effort to bring immediate relief to the thousands of flood victims in Central Luzon, and appealed to all the people for wholehearted support.

At a special press-radio-TV conference which was held at the Malacañang state dining hall this evening, the First Lady enlisted the support of the press, radio, and television to spearhead the drive for relief because “their (flood victims) relief must be the primary concern of the rest of our countrymen.”

The First Lady announced at the conference that she had wired all provincial governors, presidents of the different chambers of commerce, heads of religious organizations, and presidents of the Rotary, Lions, and Jaycee clubs, and trade organizations in Manila and the provinces not affected by the floods to help in the all out drive for donations.

Mrs. Garcia personally started the drive, aptly called “Operations Puso” from the heart-shaped package of rice cooked and wrapped in palm leaves. Besides supervising the cooking preparation, and packaging of the “*puso*” rice with the help of her daughter Linda, the First Lady had also personally donated 1,000 T-shirts, 2,000 pieces of “*puso*” rice, 4,000 bananas, and 5,000 matchboxes to the flood victims.

“Operations Puso” will receive donations; such as, foodstuff, clothing, medicine, matches, and other necessities. The donations may be transmitted directly to “Operations Puso” Coordinating Center, Malacañang. Donations from the provinces may be given to the provincial governors, PC provincial commanders, or the local SWA branch, who in turn will transport the commodities to the coordinating center in Malacañang.

Mrs. Garcia urged that all immediate relief donations be transmitted within the emergency period to Dr. Feliciano Cruz, case of “Operations Puso” Coordinating Center, Malacañang.

Among those present at the conference were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, Gen. Cabal, Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, acting SWA Administrator Enrique Quema, Teofilo Zosa, MRR director, Miguel Noel of the Philippine Air Lines and Soriano y Cia., Col. Generoso Tanseco of the Filipino Shipowners Association, Jose Escallante, representing the Bus Operators Association of the Philippines, Isidro Tayag of the Public Service Commission, Dr. Feliciano Cruz, Navy Capt. Heracleo Alano, Col. Caballero, and others.

August 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed different government agencies to rush immediate aid and determine the extent of damage caused by the eruption of Hibok-Hibok volcano in Misamis Oriental.

An observation plane of the Philippine Air Force will survey the area early tomorrow morning and transport a medical team from the Health Department to the island of Camiguin, Misamis Oriental.

The President specifically instructed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo for regular briefings on the conditions in that volcanic island in order to determine the extent of government assistance that will be needed.

Philippine Navy and Weather Bureau personnel will determine the extent of damage in the area.

The President also instructed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, to send a PCAPE team to the area to take emergency measures in coordination with local officials and IV Military Area authorities.

According to Vice-Governor Alfonso Dadole of Misamis Oriental who sent a telegram to the President, through Justice Ocampo, the Hibok-Hibok volcano “exploded with fire and lava landslides which horrified the residents of Catarman, from 7 p. m. to 2 a. m. of August 22.”

Vice-Governor Dadole further reported that the local residents spent a sleepless night Monday waiting for the worst to come.

In his instructions to Navy and Air Force officials, the President through Secretary Castillo, told them to send survey teams to Camiguin and to have all Navy ships in the vicinity to be on the alert.

The Weather Bureau, on the other hand, prepared to dispatch a team of seismographic experts to the area to determine the intensity of the reported eruption with the view to recommending evacuation of the population if necessary.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia this evening underscored the important role women are playing in the administration of public affairs and justice in the world today.

Speaking before some 100 delegates to the 11th Convention of the International Federation of Women Lawyers at a reception tendered by President Garcia at Malacañang, the First Lady said women can do better than men in the administration of justice because they possess “an understanding heart.”

In accepting a plaque of appreciation in behalf of the President the First Lady said that Malacañang was truly honored by the presence of so many prominent women leaders from 23 countries.

During the reception, the federation presented the President a plaque of appreciation “for his enlightened statemanship and leadership, his devotion and concern for the realization of international goodwill.”

The plaque was signed by Josefina Phodaca Ambrosio, international president, and Rosalind Goodrich Bates, president emeritus, and attested by Isabel Siero, general secretary.

Another plaque was presented to Rep. Tecla San Andres Ziga of Albay for being among the top ten congressmen.

The plaque for the President was presented to the First Lady, who was made honorary member of the organization, by Dr. Rosalind Goodrich Bates, while the plaque for Congress was given to Rep. Ziga by T.T. Chien of Taiwan.

Among the countries represented in the convention, together with their chief delegates, were Australia, Norma Winifred Levis Roma; Brazil, Diva Maria Salvatore; Burma, Daw Mya Mya Aye; Canada, Rytsa Finkelstein; Ceylon, Madame Tatnayake; Taiwan, Madame Chien; Dominican Republic, Senator. Milady Felix De L’ Official; England, Lady G. M. Chatterjee; Japan, Madame Terutso; Korea, J. Yoon Suk Whang; Malaya, Mrs. B. H. Oon; Mexico, Esther Talamantes; Pakistan, Begum Safiya Agha; Peru, Susana R. Solano; Sweden, Advokat Margit Althin; Thailand, Chuabha Onruang; United States, Rosaline G. Bates with 37 members; and the Philippines, Josefina P. Ambrosio, president of the FIDA (Federacion Internacional de Abogadas).

The convention which began on August 19 will end tomorrow. This is the first time that the convention was held in Asia.

August 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed different government agencies to rush immediate aid and assistance to flood victims of Nueva Ecija as he received fresh reports of the extent of damages wrought by the recent typhoon and heavy downpours in Central Luzon.

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, in his report to the President stated that several towns of Nueva Ecija are still under water and that damages to crops and properties worth thousands of pesos alarmed the townspeople who feared that in their plight, hoarders and profiteers might take advantage of the situation.

The PCAPE team in Pampanga reported to the President that boatmen operating in the flooded areas of Pampanga and Bulacan were demanding high fees for transporting passengers to bus and jeep terminals.

The President upon being apprised of the situation immediately directed PCAPE and Constabulary authorities to adopt whatever measures necessary and to appeal to *bangka* owners and operators to lower the fares charged to passengers and not take advantage of the misery of their fellow countrymen.

The Chief Executive, in his desire to alleviate the plight of the flood victims, approved the following recommendations made by the PCAPE team assigned in the area: (1) that flood victims be allowed to stay in evacuation centers pending reconstruction of their houses; and (2) that material help be sent to these people who remain prey to starvation, disease, and poverty.

The President today directed Secretary Florencio Moreno of Public Works and Communications to release P100,000 for the repair and reconstruction of the national roads in Bulacan.

The directive, sent to Secretary Moreno through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, was given after Gov. Tomas Martin of Bulacan reported that the national roads were already passable.

The Bulacan provincial executive further reported that provincial and rural roads are still under water. He added that the towns of Hagonoy, Paombong, and Calumpit were still neck-deep in water.

Gov. Martin lauded the efforts exerted by Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia in initiating “Operations Puso”, a nationwide drive for donations in cash or in kind for the relief of flood victims.

In connection with the drive, Gov. D. O. Plaza contributed P10,000 while Gov. Esteban Bernido of Bohol wired the Vice-Governor of his province to send dried fish and *camotes* to Malacañang.

Meanwhile, Pedro Manayon and Zosimo Falcon were inducted this morning by Secretary Castillo as chairman and member, respectively, of the Board of Mechanical Engineering Examiners in the presence of former Chairman Luis A. Flores; Chairman Vicente Chatto of the board of examiners for electrical engineers; Jose Zafra, chairman of the board of directors and general manager of the Cebu Portland Cement Company; and George M. Sandoval and Manuel Concio, directors of the Philippine Society of Mechanical Engineers.

August 25.—THE start of a massive rehabilitation program for thousands of flood victims in five central Luzon provinces was directed by President Garcia as he received reports today that flood water was receding.

Acting through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, the President directed the amount of P500,000 as initial release for the purchase of rice seedlings and their distribution to flood victims.

President Garcia directed the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority to conduct inspection of artesian and liberty wells and assure consumption of potable water to the flood victims.

The President also directed Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia to adopt strict health measures in order to prevent the possible outbreak of epidemic in the flooded areas.

The President directed Secretary Castillo to confer with Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno to speed up the repair of national highways and roads destroyed by the flood.

The President received a report from Col. Eugenio Acab, Constabulary deputy chief, that there were no subversive activities in the flooded areas and that continued smooth distribution of relief goods were accomplished by government agencies.

In a conference between Secretary Castillo and Agriculture Secretary Cesar M. Fortich late this afternoon, it was agreed that an initial amount of P500,000 will be made immediately available for the purchase of rice seedlings and their distribution to farmers in flooded areas, after the waters have completely receded.

The amount will be released in two or three installments depending on the immediate need. A larger amount will be made available if needed, it was agreed upon.

The extent of damage to agricultural crops was reported to be extensive, particularly in Pampanga and Bulacan and certain towns in Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, and Pangasinan.

In a report to the President, Health Secretary Valencia discounted the danger of an epidemic breaking out because of the strict health measures that have been adopted by medical teams on the field. He said almost all towns affected by the flood have been visited by medical teams of the health department, the United States Veterans Administration, and a combined Jaycee-Philippine Medical Association group.

These teams have been distributing medicine and giving immunization shots to flood victims.

Secretary Valencia also reported he may put into use two mobile water purifiers offered by Clark Air Force Base authorities. According to Valencia, these water purifiers can convert muddy flood waters into potable water.

President Garcia today rallied all government employees and workers to the support of *Operations Puso* for the relief of the flood victims in Central and Northern Luzon provinces.

In his appeal before officers and members of the Confederation of Government Employees Organizations (COGEO) during the induction of officers at the Manila Hotel this noon, the President traced the circumstances which led to the launching of *Operations Puso* by the First Lady last Monday.

In his message which was read by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo because the President was still confined at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, the Chief Executive said that "there is so much to do for the living victims of the disaster, both from the official and humanitarian points of view."

"They have been reduced to such misery that anything at all, however little, that can be given them will be of some help—cash, food, clothing, medicine," the President said.

The President said that the First Lady had the harrowing experience of seeing for herself the dire sufferings of the flood victims when she toured Pampanga and Bulacan, and that from this experience was born a firm determination to help her fellow countrymen.

From this experience, the President pointed out, the First Lady initiated an unprecedented campaign to gather the food, medicine, and clothing from civic spirited citizens and business firms for distribution to the victims.

The President also reiterated his gratitude to the Armed Forces, the Philippine National Red Cross, the Social Welfare Administration, the great number of civilian volunteers, and friends from the United States military bases.

The President said that out of the desperate situation, one can derive great pride and satisfaction in the herculean efforts of civic-minded individuals, civic organizations, and friends from the United States military to pitch in wherever a helping hand was needed.

Secretary Castillo, who had also surveyed the flood during its early stage, told the COGEO that it was the worst single natural disaster to hit the Filipino people and that losses to life and property kept mounting.

Secretary Castillo inducted the new officers of the COGEO, and later presented President Garcia's personal check for P1,000 as his contribution to the construction of the Community Center for the over one half million state employees.

August 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia was reported to be recovering speedily from his recent ailment which sent him to the Veterans Memorial Hospital on August 3.

In his suite at the VMH, the President received Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

Secretary Castillo informed the President of the outcome of his second meeting with the special committee which studied the provisions of Republic Act No. 3019, otherwise known as the Anti-Graft Law.

Castillo informed the President of the need of accepting the resignations of two appointive members of the Monetary Board; namely, Roberto T. Villanueva and Gaudencio Antonino.

Villanueva tendered his resignation yesterday while Antonino forwarded his letter to Malacañang this afternoon. The third appointive MB member, Jaime Velasquez, has not submitted his resignation up to press time this evening.

Secretary Castillo informed the President that it would be unlawful for the three MB officials to continue participating in the deliberations of the Central Bank ruling body on the basis of the Anti-Graft Law.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia also reported to the President that donations poured in to the *Operations Puso* headquarters in Malacañang today. She told the Chief Executive she was going to Tarlac tomorrow morning to supervise the relief operations for thousands of flood victims in that province.

August 27.—THE PRESIDENT today signed a proclamation declaring Monday, August 29, 1960, as special public holiday in the municipality of San Juan, Rizal, in commemoration of the 64th anniversary of the battle of Pinaglabanan.

The President said that the battle of Pinaglabanan is an important event in the struggle for freedom and should be observed with fitting ceremonies.

President Garcia today ordered the release of P270,000 for various public works and community projects of Sulu, designed primarily for socio-economic upliftment of this trouble-wrecked archipelago.

Col. Vicente Tiongson, Malacañang financial assistant, was directed to fly to Sulu and handcarry the much-needed appropriation.

The amount was released upon the representation of Gov. Abubakar, Vice-Governor Salim, and Integration Commission Assistant Rasul.

Tiongson, upon presentation of the treasury warrant to Gov. Abubakar in the presence of Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, provincial and municipal officials, and civic leaders, stated that it was the desire of the President that immediate construction of the project be started and that as much as possible local labor be utilized.

Those present, led by Abubakar, expressed their gratification for the release of the fund, although somewhat surprised, for they did not expect that Sulu, a Liberal Party, province, to be the recipient of the President's favorable action.

Tiongson answered that President Garcia wants it understood that party affiliation was not taken into account but only public benefits.

The President also directed AFP contingents in the area to aid and cooperate with the civilian authorities in the various construction projects. He urged them to have a sympathetic understanding of the customs and problems of Sulu residents and to pursue vigorous and sustained efforts for the socio-economic uplift of the masses.

By order of the President, Tiongson conferred with provincial, municipal, and military officials on ways and means to bring the Sulu pacification campaign to a successful conclusion.

This evening the President listened to the report of Mrs. Garcia, who had made today a 12-hour tour of four towns and several barrios in Tarlac.

Mrs. Garcia, upon arrival at Manila, went to the Veterans Memorial Hospital, where she relayed her relief operations to Concepcion, Gerona, Paniqui, and Moncada.

The First Lady boarded a special train from the Manila Railroad Company station at Tutuban at 7:30 o'clock this morning for a 12-hour sweep of four towns and barrios in Tarlac. With her were Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, and Mesdames Jose Aldeguer, Jose J. Roy, Lita Rocas, Macario Asistio, Rosie Valencia, and Conchita Serrano.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1960). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 56(35), cccxxxiii-cccxxxix.

President's Week in Review: August 28- September 3, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia today proclaimed Friday, September 2, this year as a special public holiday in 11 provinces and seven cities in the South in connection with the feast of Naulid-on-Nabi, one of the most important holidays of Muslims.

In another proclamation, the President also declared Wednesday, August 31, as a special public holiday in Zambales to afford the people of the birthplace of the late President Ramon Magsaysay “full opportunity to celebrate his birthday with appropriate ceremonies.”

Provinces affected in the holiday proclamation in connection with the Muslim feast are Sulu, Cotabato, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, Davao, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Bukidnon, Palawan, Agusan, and Surigao. The cities affected are Zamboanga, Basilan, Davao, Iligan, Marawi, Cotabato, and Butuan.

According to the proclamation, Muslim officials and employees of the government, both national and local, performing functions outside of these provinces and cities, shall also be exempted from duty during the feast day; which shall be considered as a special public holiday for these officials and employees in their respective stations.

In proclaiming a special holiday in Zambales, President Garcia took occasion to recall that in the few years that the late President Magsaysay served the people, he had made himself “a true brother and earnest defender of the common man, dedicated himself to his official tasks with an exemplary zeal and did everything he could for the glorious future of our Republic.”

He concluded: “It is but fitting that at least the people of his birthplace be afforded full opportunity to celebrate his birthday with appropriate ceremonies.”

August 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia today was elated upon receipt of reports on the improving general situation in Sulu, particularly peace and order situation. He expressed hope that normalcy will be established so that the Muslims could devote more of their time in the socio-economic development of their province.

Col. Vicente O. Tiongson, Malacañang financial assistant, sent on a special mission to make an on-the-spot survey of the Sulu situation, reported to the President that the people welcomed the Administration's policy of sending the Army for peace and pacification campaign in Sulu contrary to reports in the newspapers.

Tiongson further informed the Chief Executive that in his conferences with provincial and municipal officials, civic leaders, and military officials entrusted with the task of restoring peace and order, he found out that land problem, loose firearms, and delayed administration of justice are the root causes of all the trouble besetting Sulu. To help solve these problems, Tiongson recommended:

- (1) The assignment of more fiscals to strengthen the prosecuting arm in Sulu;
- (2) Increase of personnel in the undermanned local Bureau of Lands; office to speed up survey and eventual award of title to owners; and
- (3) Intensification of the drive to curb smuggling and piracy.

Early yesterday morning, Col. Tiongson turned over to the local SWA office a plane-load of clothing and other relief supplies, sent over by the President, for distribution to indigent families and victims of lawless elements.

Col. Tiongson returned to Manila after a two-day observation tour of Sulu and immediately reported to the President the outcome of his mission, one of which was the delivery of a treasury warrant for ₱270,000 intended for various public works and community projects to improve the socio-economic conditions in Sulu.

A poor patient, who is suffering from “hypertrophy of prostate gland,” was airlifted to Manila today for emergency treatment at the North General Hospital following an order of President Garcia. The patient, Julio Solo of Catanduanes, is now confined at the NGH.

Solo was being treated at the Catanduanes Provincial Hospital before he was fetched by a PAF plane. He was taken to the NGH by a PAF ambulance.

The President also dispatched a mercy flight to Iloilo City to airlift a four-month old child who is suffering from “hydrocephalus,” or enlargement of the head. The emergency patient is the son of George Santisteban, a telegraph operator in Iloilo City. The child is now being treated at the NGH where he was rushed upon arrival in Manila.

The President ordered his airlifting to Manila after Dr. Victoria Pineda-Ramos, PCAPE medical consultant, had interceded with the President to send a mercy flight in behalf of the young patient.

August 30.—THE PRESIDENT today conferred with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who briefed him on some pending state papers.

Informed sources said the President may start receiving a few callers sometime next week in his suite at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

Castillo briefed the President on relief operations, while the First Lady motored anew to the flooded areas, this time to Pangasinan, which was reported to be heavily hit by floods.

Mrs. Garcia was accompanied by Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez, Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, Mrs. Dominador Aytona, Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Mrs. Lita Roces, Mesdames Alejo Mabanag, Conchita Serrano, Cipriano Primicias, Salud Mitra, Elpidio Valencia, and Macario Asistio.

The First Lady, on her third errand of mercy to the flooded areas, left Manila aboard a special train at 7:30 o'clock this morning with a big bulk of relief supplies, including 745 sacks of rice.

The First Lady and her party were met at Moncada, Tarlac, by Pangasinan provincial officials headed by Gov. Nancy Q. Sison.

Two Pangasinan solons accompanied the First Lady. They were Reps. Luciano Millan and Aguedo Agbayani.

The First Lady was met by a large crowd in several Pangasinan towns and had to stop the train to greet them. She debarked at barrios Poponto and A. Diaz, which had railroad stations. She also debarked at Bayambang and went deep into several barrios to distribute relief supplies.

Mrs. Garcia returned to Manila at 7:30 o'clock this evening after another 12-hour tour of the flooded areas.

August 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia today led the nation in commemorating the fifty-third birthday anniversary of the late President Ramon Magsaysay.

From his room at the Veterans Memorial Hospital in Quezon City, the President directed his senior aide, Col. Jorge Delarmente, to lay a wreath, and Col. Paterno Oppus, Presidential Guards Battalion commanding officer, to mount an honor guard from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Tomb of President Magsaysay at the *Cementerio del Norte*.

The President had previously proclaimed the day a special public holiday in Zambales to afford the people of his birthplace an opportunity to observe properly the natal day of their favorite son.

In the afternoon Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia and Education Secretary Jose Romero, representing the President, led the guests of honor during the conferment of the Magsaysay award on four awardees at the auditorium of the Government Service Insurance System building.

Other guests at the ceremonies are Mrs. Luz B. Magsaysay, widow of the late President, Winthrop Rockefeller and step-daughter Anne Bartley, who had come all the way from the United States for the occasion.

The awardees were Sir Henry Holland and Dr. Ronald Holland of Britain, who will split the \$10,000 award and receive individual certificate in the field of public service; Malayan Prime Minister Tungku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-haj, represented by his son, Lt. Tungku Ahmad Nerand, who received the award in community leadership; and Dr. Y. C. James of China, who received the award for the promotion of international understanding.

In the afternoon the President received news and radio representatives covering Malacañang who paid him a social call at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

The President today ordered a full dress investigation of the reported “rampant cheating” in the electrical and mechanical examinations held in Cebu City. He directed Civil Service Commissioner Amado del Rosario, through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, to conduct a thorough probe of the incident and to submit a full report and his recommendations to the President as soon as possible.

The President told Secretary Castillo that such unsavory incidents, if true, would greatly weaken the foundations of the civil service causing the people to lose their faith and confidence in it. For this reason, the Chief Executive told Castillo, they should be investigated thoroughly and the culprits punished.

The President this day received the resignation of Jaime C. Velasquez as member of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank.

In his letter of resignation, Velasquez informed the President that he may be “immobilized” for sometime owing to a serious ailment which required a series of plastic operations.

Velasquez had been in ill health since 1955, and on May 2, 1957, had requested permission to go abroad for a general check-up and medical treatment in the Cancer Memorial Hospital of New York. Velasquez then also suggested that his nomination as Monetary Board member which was then pending in the Commission on Appointments be withdrawn.

The President granted him permission to secure treatment abroad but turned down his resignation because of the “invaluable services he had been rendering to the Monetary Board.”

In submitting his second resignation, Velasquez assured the President of his readiness to serve at any time in any way he can and conveyed his gratitude for having been given the opportunity to serve the country.

September 1.—EXECUTIVE Secretary Natalio P. Castillo today paved the way for the early construction of the Roxas Memorial Building with the formal conveyance of a piece of government land in Plaza Militar, to the Friends of Roxas, as site for the building.

In formally signing the deed of conveyance at Malacañang, Secretary Castillo said he was merely implementing the desire of President Garcia, who had signed into law Republic Act 2715, authorizing the transfer of the land for the nominal price of ₱1.00 to the Friends of Roxas, Inc.

Secretary Castillo recalled that the President had always admired the economic statesmanship of the late President Roxas and had always said that his economic leadership would have been a valuable asset to the country in the present era.

Former Executive Secretary Emilio Abello, acting president and concurrently executive vice-president of the corporation, who signed for the FORI, thanked the President and Secretary Castillo for the conveyance of the property and said that the objectives of the corporation to propagate the economic policies and teachings of the late President Roxas had been given impetus.

With the signing of the deed of conveyance, a piece of government land consisting of 2,788 square meters, located in Plaza Militar, Malate, Manila, was transferred to the Friends of Roxas, Inc., as site for a permanent building to house the Roxas Memorial.

The deed, however, stipulated that the property transferred may not be leased, although space in the building to be erected may be leased to third parties if the proceeds will be used to promote the aims and purposes of the corporation.

Title to the land cannot be transferred to any person without previous authority from the President, and in case of dissolution of the corporation or the death of the last surviving member of the FORI, the land and all improvements thereon shall revert to the national government.

Present at the signing of the deed of conveyance, besides Secretary Abello, were Dr. J. C. Orendain, vice-president and legal counsel; Delfin Buencamino, vice-president and treasurer; Luis Montilla; Felixberto G. Bustos, executive secretary; Rep. Augusto Francisco (Manila); Rep. Emilio Cortez (Pampanga); Manila city councilors Alfredo Gomez, Francisco Gatmaitan, and F. Reyes Cabigao; and Andrew Escalona president of Roxas club of America.

President Garcia today conveyed the gratitude of the Filipino people to the United States President Eisenhower for making available \$1,365,740 for the construction of a Philippine-American Cultural Center in Quezon City.

In a message to President Eisenhower, President Garcia said that the center will be "a living proof of the strong ties that bind our governments and the Cultural Center will serve as a lasting monument to the friendship between our two peoples."

President Garcia also thanked today Congressman Olin Teague for his sponsoring a bill in the U.S. Congress providing for equal pay to Filipino veterans of the U.S. and the Philippine armed forces.

The Chief Executive in a cable to Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo congratulated the Ambassador for the good work he had done in the passage by the U. S. Congress of a bill amending Title 38, of the U. S. Code, with respect to payment to Philippine pensioners.

With the approval of the Teague Bill the disparity in the payment of various types of veterans' benefits to Filipino veterans of U.S. services, including Filipino citizens, will be remedied. The bill amends the provision of law limiting, the rate of one peso for every dollar in the payment of Filipino veterans' benefits.

General Romulo, in his cable to the President, said that the U. S. State Department endorsed Congressman Teague's bill to the Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee to "remove a long standing irritant to US-Philippine relations granting eligible Filipino veterans the same treatment in the payment of veterans benefits in and out of the Philippines."

Romulo added in his wire to the President that it was through the indefatigable efforts of Congressman Teague to assert the rights of the Filipino veterans that this issue has been kept alive in the U. S. Congress.

President Garcia this evening pointed to the fine record of the Philippine General Hospital as “a durable symbol of the people’s progress and faith.”

In his after-dinner speech which was read by Dr. Paulino J. Garcia at the Golden Jubilee celebration of the PGH held at the nurses’ home this evening, the President took occasion to point out that the people were “no longer as courageous, as self-sacrificing, or as wise as our forefathers and that “we despair too easily and are fast forgetting the importance of being noble.”

The President also reminded the large group of physicians, surgeons, and nurses during the celebration that in the busy work-day world of today, they must consider the patients’ welfare as the paramount concern and the focus of all attention.

“In the PGH as in any other medical work, the most important person is not the doctor, not the government official directly supervising it, not the doctors, important as they may be, but *the patient* who comes for medical care,” the President said.

A feature of the Golden Jubilee celebration was the awarding of certificates of appreciation to parties who had extended generous help to the patients, staff, and personnel of the Philippine General Hospital.

Among those given certificates of appreciation was the Malacañang Unit’s production service of the Philippine National Red Cross chairmanned by Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia.

September 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia dispatched messages of condolence to Kuala Lumpur following receipt of official confirmation from the Malayan legation in Manila today on the death of Hisamuddin Alam Shah, Paramount Ruler of Independent Malaya.

The President’s messages were sent to Her Majesty, Raja Permaisuri Agong, the widow; Prime Minister Tengku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj; and the Pimabalan Yang Di Pertuan Agong, deputy paramount ruler.

President Garcia today thanked the various civic organizations for their voluntary relief work in Central Luzon and appealed for greater aid in rehabilitating the thousands of flood victims in the area.

The President’s appeal for assistance to the rehabilitation efforts of the government was made as the end of relief measures to flood victims loomed in sight.

The President sounded this appeal through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo at a meeting in Malacañang this morning, at which the various organizations participating in flood relief work were represented.

The International Cooperation Administration (ICA) and its Philippine counterpart, the National Economic Council (NEC), also sent representatives to the meeting in order to give advice and draft plans for the long-range program of rehabilitation.

Secretary Castillo, told the conferees that the government alone is not in a position to sustain the vast relief and rehabilitation work and that major portion of the job would inevitably fall upon the shoulders of private, and civic organizations and civic-spirited citizens.

Secretary Castillo said that so far the President had already released ₱1 million for relief work and ₱500,000 for the purchase of non-seasonal rice seedlings to help put back the poor farmers on their feet.

Even the efforts of “*Operation Pusong*” which the First Lady launched recently and which is receiving wonderful support everywhere will not be enough to cope with the gigantic task of rehabilitating them, Secretary Castillo said.

Secretary Castillo said the President had called the conference to appeal directly to them because he was deeply concerned over the welfare of the farmers while they were rebuilding and replanting.

He said that although the emergency was over, the after-effects of the floods will remain for months, perhaps even years, because what has always been considered "the rice granary" of the country will not be able to harvest this year unless effective rehabilitation measures are undertaken.

The President commended the various relief organizations for their voluntary and unselfish efforts to alleviate suffering and misery in Pampanga, Tarlac, Bulacan, Pangasinan, and Nueva Ecija during and after the series of floods which inundated almost the entire central plain of Luzon.

Cited for their valuable services were the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE), Catholic World Services (CWS), and the Seventh Day Adventists.

Secretary Castillo also commended the various government agencies and military personnel of the United States in the Philippines who responded to the call in the spirit of world brotherhood during the calamity.

September 3.—THE President is expected to walk about next week at the Veterans Memorial Hospital as he enters the final stage of his recovery from his ailment. He is expected to check out from the VMH in two weeks' time.

As usual, the President conferred with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who briefed him on pending state matters, topped by the resignations of three appointive Monetary Board members.

The President decided to refer the resignations to the Department of Justice in order to have a legal basis for whatever he may take on their cases.

The three MB officials are Roberto T. Villanueva, Gaudencio Antonino, and Jaime Velasquez.

While the President stayed at the VMH, Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia went the rounds this morning and brought cheer to hundreds of patients at the V. Luna General Hospital on the occasion of the 14th anniversary celebration of the Army hospital.

The First Lady inaugurated the main gate to the hospital, while Ms. Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., opened the X-ray ward and Mrs. Daniel Romualdez, the medical library.

During her tour of the different wards, the First Lady was touched by the case of Pfc. Narciso Drillo, who is waging a losing battle against unusual ailment called Beorger's disease.

The First Lady arrived at the hospital at 9:50 a.m. accompanied by Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, and Mesdames Rodriguez, Romualdez, and Lita Rocas.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: September 4-10, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 4.—THE President, through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, today urged active participation in the voluntary payroll savings plan established for the benefit of government officials and employees who may wish to invest in public works and economic development (PW & ED) bonds.

In a memorandum circular issued through Secretary Castillo, the President enjoined government personnel to subscribe to government bonds and public securities, saying that this investment would not only work towards the employees' welfare but also assist in the effective prosecution of the nation's investment program and contribute to the solid security of the government.

Secretary Castillo in his memorandum circular recalled that the PW & ED bonds had recently been increased from ₱70 million to ₱100 million in order to accommodate more government personnel who may desire to save and invest in the government bonds which, by all standards, are sound and safe. It was pointed out that these bonds being issued by the government carry the full guarantee of the Philippine Government.

Payroll savings plans for these bonds may be arranged with the Securities Market Department of the Central Bank of the Philippines, the memorandum circular said.

President Garcia today ordered the airlifting of three more patients from Masbate, Roxas, and Davao Cities for emergency treatment and further hospitalization in Manila.

The needy patients who were airlifted on a Philippine Airforce plane were Ereto Asuncion of Masbate, Leonardo Daliva of Roxas City, and Mora Ibon of Davao City.

Asuncion is suffering from an infection of tetanus and was taken to the San Lazaro Hospital upon his arrival in Manila. The other two emergency patients, Daliva and Ibon, were taken to the National Orthopedic and Philippine General Hospitals, respectively.

Daliva is reported suffering from a "fracture of the neck, numerous right shoulder, inability to open both eyes, vomiting blood, and scrutal lacerites." Ibon, on the other hand, is suffering from "cerebro vascular, accident traumatic in origin."

September 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today spurred full compliance with the Anti-Graft Law by enjoining all public officers to file sworn statements of assets and liabilities before September 16, the deadline set by Republic Act No. 3019, otherwise known as the Anti-Graft Law.

The President also enjoined all department heads, chiefs of bureaus, offices, government agencies and instrumentalities, and government-owned or controlled corporations to furnish their respective employees with sufficient copies of the new prescribed form and to see to it that they file their statements before the deadline and every January thereafter.

The President emphasized that non-filing of said statement on time, if proven in proper administrative proceedings, is sufficient cause for removal or dismissal of the subject public officer even if no criminal action is instituted against him.

The true, detailed, and sworn statement required of every public officer under the law to be filed before September 16 for the one-year period ending August 31, and for every calendar year thereafter in January.

The President today lauded the launching of the "Seeds for Survival" project by the Philippine National Red Cross and congratulated the organization for its splendid work during the floods in Central Luzon.

The President told the PNRC board of directors, through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo at a conference in Malacañang this afternoon, that the “Seeds for Survival” project provides the best answer to the mounting clamor for seedlings from the farmers who had already prepared their lands to be replanted after the last floods.

The project launched by the PNRC will be a joint effort of the public schools which will provide the garden nurseries, the schoolchildren who are members of the Philippine Junior Red Cross and who will tend the seedlings, and the PNRC which will provide the seeds.

Dr. Calasanz, PNRC director, told Secretary Castillo that part of the donations received by the PNRC from the *Manila Times* readers will be earmarked for the procurement of sitao, cabbage, eggplant, pechay, and other native seeds for the project.

The Presidential Assistant on Community Development last week had also revealed the launching of a barrio adoption project to help stock the flood victims with pigs, chickens, goats, and other animals for breeding.

Ramon Binamira, PACD chief, had told Secretary Castillo that his appeal to barrio councils all over the Philippines for donations was warmly received and that donations has been coming to his office in increasing volumes.

The President this day sternly warned traders and merchants against profiteering in the sale of rice seedlings to farmers who lost their crop as a result of the devastation caused by the recent flood in central Luzon. He emphasized the profiteers will be dealt with severely.

The President at the same time directed Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to step up the distribution by government agencies of selected rice seedlings to farmers in the flooded areas as a substitute to crops which were destroyed by the flood.

Secretary Castillo reported to the President that provincial seed committees have been formed to assist in the distribution of the selected rice seedlings.

A directive was issued by Secretary Castillo calling on the Bureau of Plant Industry and the Presidential Assistant on Community Development (PACD) to cooperate and coordinate their work. Both government agencies will help in the distribution of the rice seedlings.

The seedlings will be distributed through the barrio councils in Pampanga, Bulacan, Tarlac, Nueva Ecija, and Pangasinan.

President Garcia had previously authorized the amount of ₱500,000 for the purpose of purchasing selected rice seedlings and their distribution to farmers in the flooded areas.

President Garcia today approved the release of ₱686,000 for the reconstruction of the heavily damaged irrigation and flood control dikes and other public works wrought by the recent typhoon and heavy downpour that inundated five provinces in Central Luzon.

The President, through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, directed the Budget Commission to release immediately the funds for these purpose so that the thousands of people rendered homeless and destitute may be afforded the opportunity to reconstruct and return to their normal chores in the fields and other means of livelihood.

The release of funds was made upon representation of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, who had earlier directed public works and district engineers to survey and assess the extent of damages and to determine the project or projects that needed immediate action.

Earlier, Secretary Castillo administered the oath of office to Esteban Mayo, GAB commissioner, as acting chairman of the Games and Amusement Board, vice Manuel Nieto, Jr., who is now abroad on official mission.

Albay Gov. Nicanor M. Seva, accompanied by Mayors Antonio Berces of Tabacco and Teodoro Regalado of Malinao, called on Secretary Castillo to request aid for his province under the typhoon aid bill enacted by Congress and signed into law by the President, setting aside ₱10 million as aid to provinces laid waste by recent typhoons.

September 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today was pronounced physically fit and may start walking out into the open sunshine today preparatory to his checking out of the Veterans Memorial Hospital by the middle of the month.

He conferred briefly with the First Lady, who entertained this day for Nueva Ecija in her final mission of mercy to the flood victims of Central Luzon.

The President then received Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, whom he designated to represent him at the inauguration of the Universal Cement Company in Cebu City next Friday. The President had been invited to inaugurate the new cement firm.

As the President stayed in his suite at the hospital, the First Lady left for Nueva Ecija where she toured several barrios of heavily-flooded towns.

With her were Press Secretary Jose C. Nable; Dr. Paulino J. Garcia, chairman of the National Science Development Board; Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, chief of staff of the Armed Forces; Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo chief of the Constabulary; Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez; and Mesdames Daniel Z. Romualdez, Lita Roces, Salud Mitra, and Dolores Nable.

Economic Coordinator Juan O. Chioco, who arrived late at the Tutuban railroad station, caught up with the First Lady's party at Bigaa. With Chioco was Mrs. Conchita Serrano.

The First Lady toured on bumpy roads, damaged by the floods. In Aliaga the road was still under water.

After touring several towns and barrios, the First Lady returned to Gapan where she took the special train, arriving in Manila at exactly 7 o'clock in the evening.

She immediately reported to her mission to the President at the VMH.

September 7.—THIS day the President started strolling inside the Veterans Memorial Hospital compound. He spent half an hour walking around, shaking his leg which had been flabbied by over a month-long confinement at the VMH.

The Chief Executive was accompanied by Dr. Antonio Guytingco and Dr. Valentin Fidelino, his physicians. The President went to some hospital projects and inspected the rehabilitation center of the VMH.

Malacañang said the President was feeling fully recovered. He is expected to continue his strolling exercises daily.

After his morning walk, the President received Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto M. Serrano, who consulted him on some appointments in the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Serrano also discussed plans of going to the United Nations to head the Philippine delegation to the General Assembly sessions. The President did not make any decision on Serrano's trip.

It was learned that the President and Serrano conferred for only 12 minutes. After his conference, the President rested inside his suite. He listened to his hi-fi and played his favorite records.

September 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia this noon directed the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency to study other means by which the government could extend full assistance to poultry farmers whose flocks are being dwindled by a “mysterious” fowl disease.

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, and upon receiving the directive, immediately summoned Animal Industry Director Anacleto Coronel who apprised him on the different steps his bureau had taken to establish definitely the cause of the disease and on other measures adopted for the protection of the consuming public, as well as the poultry raisers.

Director Coronel reported that his office is conducting a 24-hour laboratory test in order that a definite conclusion as to the cause could be established. So far, they had eliminated almost all the possible sources of food poisoning resulting from poultry feed, by performing chemical analysis, bacteriological and pathological examination of different food specimens gathered during the survey, and field investigation conducted by the bureau, Coronel stated.

The only possible source of food poisoning left, are Botulinus toxin, and ptomaine poisoning due to protein split product. The examination and chemical analysis on these two possible causes, will be undertaken by the bureau as soon as the anti-toxin drug needed will be available, Director Coronel said.

Director Coronel estimated the damage caused by the chicken disease at ₱800,000, and he believes that it might reach the million mark if the disease remains unchecked.

Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE acting vice-chairman, informed Director Coronel of the intention of several poultry farmers from 33 municipalities affected, to sue the manufacturer of the feed product for complete indemnity for damages.

Mayor Alberto V. Biologo of San Ildefonso, Bulacan, also informed the director that a certain manufacturer of feed products from whom they purchased the feed and whose product might have been the cause of the losses to poultry raisers is extending cash loan and poultry feeds on credit.

President Garcia was reported today to have recovered fully from his ailment and has scheduled his first caller this morning.

Since his confinement at the VMH last August 3, the President has never scheduled visitors to his suite except government officials with urgent matters to discuss with him.

However, after his daily strolls on the VMH grounds, the President said he could start resuming his daily chores.

Malacañang said the President went on an hour-long stroll this afternoon. It was his second stroll in the open sunshine. He started his daily stroll yesterday when he went walking for about 30 minutes. With the President were his physicians; namely Dr. Antonio Guytingco and Dr. Valentin Fidelino.

During the course of his stroll, the President mingled with the other patients of the VMH and. discussed with them their problems. Most of the patients were veterans.

While the President stayed at the VMH, the First Lady went to Malolos, Bulacan, where she launched “*Operations Bagang Buhay*,” a campaign intended to resettle deserving families to settlement farms of the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration in Palawan and Mindanao.

Mrs. Garcia motored to Malolos starting from Malacañang at 11:15 o’clock this morning. She was accompanied by Mrs. Daniel E. Romualdez and Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez.

In Malolos the First Lady was welcomed by a large crowd headed by Gov. Tomas Martin and Mayor Felix Reyes.

September 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia today appealed to businessmen to help keep down the price of prime commodities in central Luzon provinces which reportedly increased as a result of a shortage created in the flooded areas.

In a conference with Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim in the Veterans Memorial Hospital, the President directed Lim to refrain from using force in the pegging of prices.

Two laws, Public Act 4146 and Republic Act 2610, gives the President full powers to control prices and to declare an emergency in any given area of the country.

President Garcia and Secretary Lim agreed that both laws should be enforced only as a last resort, after an appeal to the business sectors have failed.

The President's appeal was directed at the humanitarian and Christian spirit of local businessmen to extend their full cooperation in alleviating the sufferings and hardships experienced by thousands of flood victims in Pampanga, Tarlac, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, and Pangasinan.

President Garcia also directed Secretary Lim to avail himself of all government transportation facilities in order to transport prime commodities to central Luzon thereby increasing the depleted stock of prime commodities in the flooded areas. The President specifically mentioned the use of Army planes and Navy boats to transport prime commodities from surplus stocks in Mindanao and Visayas.

President and Mrs. Garcia led the nation in extending felicitations to former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., on the occasion of the latter's birthday anniversary today.

The President and the First Lady also felicitated Sen. Quintin Paredes whose birthday anniversary falls on the same day.

President Garcia today hailed the Universal Cement plant in Danao, Cebu, as a positive step in the dispersal of industries enunciated by him.

In a speech which was read at UNICECO inauguration by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, the President said the modern plant would contribute to the rapid growth and progress of the country's economy and the enjoyment of greater benefits by a wide sector of the population.

This, the President said, would in turn pave the way for the even circulation of money and remove the top-sided feature of the economy of extreme wealth and extreme poverty now obtaining. Ultimately, the President said, this means better employment, more benefits to the people, and better education of their children.

The President said that in addition to preventing total destruction of industries in case of atomic war, he aims to stop also the influx of population to cities which may leach dangerous proportions and prevent economic dislocation in some parts of the country.

The President this day ordered the airlifting of two emergency patients, a poor mother from Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya, and another patient from Botolan, Zambales, for immediate hospitalization in Manila.

Airlifted were Teresita Lopez, who is suffering from an acute complication of "liver cholelithiasis," and Serafin Rabaca, afflicted with tuberculosis of the bone.

The mercy flights were undertaken by a Philippine Air Force plane and a U.S. Marine helicopter. The PAF rescue plane brought Lopez from Bayombong and was later admitted for hospitalization at the V. Luna General Hospital.

The other patient, Rabaca, was flown from Botolan by a U.S. helicopter which the President had requested. He was fetched on his arrival by a PAF ambulance which took him to the National Orthopedic Hospital.

Rabaca had been confined at the Zambales provincial hospital before he was airlifted to Manila for further medical treatment.

September 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered the suspension of the exportation of rice as a means of averting possible shortage of this staple commodity as a result of the destructive flood which swept the nation's rice granaries in Central Luzon recently.

The order was given to Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim in the course of the call of members of his Cabinet at Veterans Memorial Hospital this noon.

The President said that although technical surveys undertaken by the Department of Agriculture showed that crop losses had been negligible, it was always best to take all precautions to insure an adequate supply of food for the people the whole year.

Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich reported to the President that the total production of the areas affected in six provinces of Central Luzon was estimated at 1,578,885 cavanos of rice valued at ₱6,406,120. The provinces are Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pangasinan, Pampanga, and Tarlac.

Secretary Fortich also reported that Cotabato and some other southern provinces had recently reaped their best rice crops which could be transported to Luzon in the event of any shortages in this part of the country.

Most of the flooded areas in Central Luzon had already replanted with seedlings distributed by the government in connection with President Garcia's program of rehabilitation in the stricken localities. Fortich said that many farmers in Bulacan and Nueva Ecija had already replanted even without the assistance of the government.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo recommended the funneling of 10,000 kilowatt of electric power from Maria Cristina to Cagayan de Oro to help new industries rising in that city.

The Executive Secretary made these recommendations to President Garcia at the Veterans Memorial Hospital immediately upon his return from a four-day official tour in the South.

Secretary Castillo informed the President that after conferring with the district engineer and the provincial and city officials at Cagayan de Oro, he was convinced that the harnessing of the Bunuan waterfalls to furnish electricity for the city was costly and impracticable.

This conclusion supported the previous recommendation of the National Power Corporation which had made surveys of all available water resources for possible exploitation around Cagayan de Oro.

Secretary Castillo said sprouting industries, such as coffee and chocolate processing, hollow block manufacturing, meat packing, and refrigeration need far more power than the Bunuan waterfalls could provide.

He also informed the President that the strategic location of the city and the completion of the Mindanao highways network have made it a natural manufacturing and shipping center for the entire island of Mindanao.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: September 11-17, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia today lauded the determined efforts of the provincial officials of Zambales to cooperate in the implementation of his avowed policy of carrying the all-out war against government graft and corruption down to provincial and municipal levels.

On being presented with a copy of an executive order issued by Gov. Manuel D. Barretto of Zambales creating a Governor's Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (GCAPE), a counterpart of the presidential committee in the province, the President said that other provincial and municipal executive might find a similar agency worth-while organizing.

The President said that such agencies in provinces and municipalities would be an effective arm in assisting the National Government in its efforts to promote efficiency in the public service.

Gov. Barretto, in creating the GCAPE, said in his executive order that the main purpose of the organization was to carry out the announced policy of President Garcia of ferreting out inefficiency, graft, and corruption in the provincial and municipal levels, and to coordinate and collaborate with competent authorities in the enforcement of Republic Act 3019, otherwise known as the Anti-Graft and Corrupt practices law.

The President, meanwhile, spent his Sunday quietly at the Veterans Memorial Hospital with members of his immediate family.

Waking up about 7 a.m., the President started the day by hearing mass at his room in the hospital. Present at the mass were Mrs. Garcia, Maj. Jose Estrella, junior aide, Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Valentin Fidelino, and a few members of the hospital staff.

About 9 a.m., the President went out to the hospital grounds for his daily stroll. He stayed out more than one hour, chatting with fellow patients and visitors whom he came upon in the grounds.

Returning to his room shortly after 10 a.m., the President found Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona and Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo waiting for him. The two officials had not been with their fellow Cabinet members who nailed as a group at the VMH yesterday morning.

Other callers this morning were Conrado Sevilla and Fortunato de Leon of the Philippine National Bank and former Chief of Staff Alfonso Arellano, who paid him a social call.

Shortly before lunch the President called up by telephone Speaker Daniel Romualdez, whom he felicitated on his birthday.

The Chief Executive did not receive any other caller the rest of the day.

September 12.—THREE members of the Philippine panel negotiating with Japan for a treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation strongly denied today the reported dissension among members of the panel.

Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, chairman of the Senate committee on foreign affairs; Rep. Ramon Mitra, chairman of the House committee on foreign relations; and Deputy Governor Andres Castillo of the Central Bank today called on President Garcia in the Veterans Memorial Hospital to render a factual report on the progress of the negotiations.

Their coming to Manila together and on the same plane was purely a coincidence, each returning for a different reason. Sen. Sumulong and Rep. Mitra returned for personal matters, while Governor Castillo will take over the

Central Bank upon the departure of Governor Miguel Cuaderno for the forthcoming conference of the International Monetary Fund in Washington.

Sumulong, Mitra, and Castillo deplored speculations that they submitted a joint memorandum to Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano on their reported disagreement on substantial provisions of the proposed treaty with Japan. There is no such thing, they stated.

President Garcia today directed Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno to continue with the preparation of the construction of the Marikina multi-purpose project subject to the recommendation of an international body of consultants which will study the safety angle of the dam construction.

In his conference with Secretary Moreno at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, the President directed Moreno to confer with the proposed members of the international body in Tokyo, where Moreno will attend the 27th Executive meeting and conference on concrete for large dams.

The members of the international group to study the safety angle of the proposed dam includes leading geologists and engineers from different countries, among which are the United States and France. Secretary Moreno submitted a list of five members of the international board of consultants.

President Garcia conferred lengthily with Secretary Moreno and threshed out unresolved problems affecting the Marikina project, the National Integrated Steel, and the Telecommunications Expansion and Improvement projects.

The President authorized Moreno to make a 15-day trip to Tokyo to attend the 27th Executive meeting and conference on concrete for large dams.

Incidental to this trip, the President also authorized Moreno to take up with the Reparations Mission and the Japanese Government, unresolved questions on the Marikina project, to wit:

1. The reparations procurement for transmission line materials and explosives to be used for the access road and power supply at the Marikina dam site; and
2. Discussion of a few remaining stumbling blocks in the cooperative arrangements between the Japanese and the Philippine contractors to undertake the joint civil works of the project in the construction of the main dam.

The President also directed today officials of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources to redouble their efforts in implementing the massive reforestation program of the Administration.

As a first step, the President directed the implementation of Republic Act No. 2706, which creates the Reforestation Administration to take over the functions of the Reclamation and Reforestation Division of the Bureau of Forestry.

The presidential directives were transmitted by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to Agriculture Undersecretary Jose M. Trinidad at a conference held this day in Malacañang

The President expressed the hope that with the P2 million appropriated by Congress for reforestation, and the reforestation funds collected pursuant to R. A. No. 115, the reforestation program will get a good boost. The program is intended to avoid the destruction caused by floods, preserve watersheds, and avert erosion.

Aside from the regular forests charges provided for under the National Internal Revenue Code, R. A. No. 115 provides for the collection of the amount of fifty centavos on each cubic meter of timber for the first and second groups and forty centavos for the third and fourth groups cut out and removed from public forests for commercial purposes.

All reforestation funds will have to be turned over to the Administrator of the Reforestation Administration to be spent exclusively for reforestation purposes, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture. All areas reforested shall be considered as permanent forest reserves.

For the current year, all appropriations under the budget which pertains to the Division of Reclamation and Reforestation of the Bureau of Forestry are transferred to the Reforestation Administration.

September 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia received today former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., principal mediator in the controversy between the Chief Executive and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

The Grand Old Man of Cebu saw the President in his suite at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, and raised speculations that the former President had sought to bring together President Garcia and Senate President in an effort to thresh out their political rivalry for the Nationalista presidential nomination. Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said that Osmeña's visit was a "purely social call."

In spite of the Malacañang announcement that the visit was a social call, it was believed that Osmeña apprised the President of the conditions imposed by the "Senate President before a new "gentlemen's agreement" is drafted.

Rodriguez had spurned the previous draft of a proposed gentlemen's agreement which would impose a moratorium on political attacks against each other.

The President also received Reps. Wenceslao Rancap Lagumbay of Laguna and Nicanor Yñiguez, it was learned, informed the President of his plans of revamping the immigration laws in order to put to a stop the entry of "pre-arranged alien employees." Lagumbay took up problems of his district with the Chief Executive.

President Garcia continued his daily stroll along the hospital grounds. He may check out this Saturday from the VMH.

September 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the National Rice and Corn Corporation to utilize all available funds to stock up palay in order to stabilize the price of rice and place this staple commodity Within the reach of the poor at all times.

The President this afternoon also approved the appointment of Jose Viado, chief of the reclamation and reforestation division of the Bureau of Forestry, as administrator of the newly-created Reforestation Administration, to start a massive reforestation program and make up for the widespread reforestation of the country's watersheds.

During a conference with NARIC Chairman Jose V. Rodriguez and Assistant General Manager for Operations Luis Quebranza, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo expressed the President's deep concern over the reported gradual rise in the price of rice.

Secretary Castillo conveyed the President's desire for the NARIC to take immediate steps to stabilize the price of rice before it got beyond the reach of low-income groups. The President directed the purchase of palay from Mindanao provinces which had been reported to have recently harvested bumper crops.

NARIC officials assured the President that some ₱5 million is available for immediate palay purchases. They agreed, however, that alien price manipulators had already jacked up the price of palay from ₱6.50 to ₱9.50 or ₱10 a cavan in their effort to corner the cereal.

In approving the appointment of Viado, the President stressed the necessity of setting up the new Reforestation Administration as soon as possible. He called attention to the mounting danger from floods and droughts caused by indiscriminate deforestation.

Secretary Castillo, who had conferred with Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich on the matter, said that the recent series of floods in Manila and Central Luzon areas were directly traceable to wide deforestation.

Viado will take his oath tomorrow morning before Secretary Castillo at Malacañang.

President Garcia today received Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez in his suite at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

Although Malacañang billed the Romualdez visit as “a purely social call” informed sources said the House leader took up proposals to mediate the worsening rift between the President and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

Nacionalista leaders are worried that unless the Garcia-Rodriguez row is patched up soon, it might split the party and insure the victory of opposition candidates in the 1961 elections.

President Garcia also received Rep. Ramon D. Bagatsing Manila, who reported to the Chief Executive on the progress of the sixth conference of the Peoples’ Anti-Communist League held in Taipei. Bagatsing was head of the Philippine delegation that attended the conference.

With Bagatsing in his visit to the President today were Dr. Jose M. Hernandez, Major Medardo Justiniano, Capt. Carmelo Quiban, and Cesar B. Templo, who were members of the Philippine delegation. The group was accompanied to the President by Defense Secretary Alejo Santos.

President Garcia said he will utilize the group’s report in the present campaign against Huk resurgence in the Central Luzon areas.

Before receiving his callers, the President went on his daily strolling exercise.

He was accompanied by his physicians, Dr. Antonio Guytingco and Valentin Fidelino, and Major Jose Estrella, his military aide.

Malacañang today received a formal administrative complaint against City Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson for grave abuse and misconduct in office.

The complaint which was filed With the Office of the President by Lt. Commander Marcelino Calinawan, Jr., chairman of the Presidential Fact-Finding Committee, asked the immediate investigation of Mayor Lacson on three counts; namely, (1) unauthorized and illegal inquiry into the status of complainant’s naval rank for evil and illegal purposes; (2) unauthorized, unlawful, and confidential investigation of studies undertaken by the complainant abroad, and into his educational qualification for office; and (5) illegal imputation and condemnation of crime without investigation, trial, or evidence.

Lt. Commander Calinawan alleged that Mayor Lacson “by taking undue advantage of his official capacity as mayor of Manila, undertook to attain his unlawful, nefarious, and evil purpose of exposing complainant to public hatred and shame.”

The complainant sought (1) formal investigation of his charges by any official or committee designated for the purpose, (2) respondent’s preventive suspension pending investigation of the charges, and (3) eventual removal from office.

September 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, to confer with forestry and parks officials to check on the reported wanton destruction of forests and the illegal cutting of timber in national parks and reservations.

The President’s move was motivated by his desire to avoid, as much as possible the recurrence of the destructive floods that rendered thousands of people in Central Luzon homeless and miserable.

Justice Ocampo immediately called Forestry and Parks Officials to a conference to find ways and means for the strict enforcement of forest laws and the preservation of timber lands.

Meanwhile, the PCAPE chief requested the Department of Foreign Affairs to expedite the formal turn-over of the U. S. military reservation in Mariveles, Bataan, which was cited in Memorandum of the US-PI Military Bases Agreements in 1947, wherein an estimated 43,000 hectares of rich virgin forest will be turned over to the Philippine Government.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo today took the first concrete step towards a program of countrywide reforestation by inducing into office Jose Viado as chief of the Reforestation Administration.

Secretary Castillo told Viado after his induction at Malacañang that the President was impatient to see his massive reforestation program started and that he expected Viado to immediately organize the Reforestation Administration and to spearhead the drive.

Viado was, until his induction, chief of the Reclamation and Reforestation Division of the Bureau of Forestry, which will form the nucleus of the new administration created by Republic Act No. 2706.

The President had time and again voiced concern for the start of his massive reforestation drive owing to the increasing danger of floods and droughts as a result of large-scale deforestation throughout the country.

Present at the induction ceremonies were Agriculture Secretary Cesar M. Fortich, Sen. Quintin Paredes, Reps. Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur and Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, Ilocos Sur Gov. Godofredo S. Reyes, and relatives and close friends of the inductee.

Secretary Castillo later received French Ambassador Francois Briere at the Malacañang Council of State room.

The French dignitary called at Malacañang to convey personally his felicitations to the President for his recovery, and to thank the Philippine Government for the cordial reception and cooperation extended to former French economist Antoine Pinay during his visit here.

Ambassador Briere informed Secretary Castillo that although the results of Pinay's extensive studies are not yet known, he was of the belief that economic conditions obtaining here are conducive to larger participation of French business interests.

The President this day directed the Department of National Defense to provide Philippine navy boats to the National Rice and Corn Corporation for the effective stabilization of the price of rice.

The President gave this order through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo upon the request of NARIC Acting Chairman and General Manager Jose V. Rodriguez, who informed the Chief Executive that the NARIC needed shipping bottoms to ship rice stocks to critical areas in order to maintain the price level.

Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenko, Jr., told Secretary Castillo that he will make available to the NARIC a Philippine Navy vessel to enable it to meet expected rise in prices or artificial shortage of the cereal.

Some 20,000 sacks of palay in the NARIC bodegas in Cotabato will be shipped to Manila and the Bicol region so that they will be ready for immediate sale to the public.

Secretary Castillo said that the President desired the government corporation to take immediate steps to stabilize the price before it gets beyond the reach of the poor.

The NARIC officials assured the President that some ₱5 million is available for the purpose. They warned, however, that alien price manipulators had already jacked up the price from ₱6.50 to ₱9.50 and ₱10.00 per cavan in their effort to corner the cereal.

President Garcia today authorized the release of ₱190,000 from his contingent fund for the purchase of cables to replace the old and badly battered ones damaged during the last four typhoons and floods that hit Manila and the provinces.

The President had previously directed the Budget Commission to release ₱290,000 from the reserved fund of the Bureau of Telecommunications for telephone, telegraph, and radio systems requirements of the government.

The President's authority was given upon request of Telecommunications Director Jose S. Alfonso, who presented the Chief Executive with a summation of the extent of damage to various telecommunications facilities in Manila and 33 other provinces.

Director Alfonso also reported to the President that owing to extensive damage to cables and wire facilities of the telephone systems in Manila and the provinces, there were more than 3,000 telephones out of order and line interruption was noted in several localities.

Among the provinces and cities where damages to telecommunications facilities were reported are Manila, Cebu, Aklan, Antique, Albay, Bataan, Batangas, Bohol, Cagayan, Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte, Catanduanes, Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte, Isabel Iloilo, Laguna, La Union, Mindoro, Mt. Province, Leyte, Negros Occidental, Nueva Ecija, Nueva Vizcaya, Pampanga, Pangasinan, Quezon, Surigao, Sorsogon, Romblon, Tarlac, and Zambales.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo said today that the prescribed form released by the Office of the President requiring government employees to submit their assets and liabilities not later than tomorrow is a faithful implementation of the anti-graft law.

Secretary Castillo's statement was made to correct misimpressions that the prescribed form is incorrect-and will therefore need to be amended.

"The form prescribed by the President in Administrative Order 334 will remain in force and unaffected by opinions to the contrary," he said.

Castillo emphasized that the President believes the prescribed form to be a faithful implementation of the anti-graft law. He reiterated the warning of President Garcia for the strict compliance of the anti-graft law, emphasizing that government employees who fail to meet the deadline tomorrow will be dealt with severely in accordance with the penalties provided for by the new anti-graft law.

"The legislative and judicial branches of the government," Castillo continued, "may adopt their own forms, they being separate and independent of the executive."

According to Secretary Castillo, the new prescribed form of assets and liabilities merely amends a previous administrative order issued by the late President Magsaysay and implemented by President Garcia which required government employees to file a report on assets and liabilities.

The new prescribed form, however, is more strict and embraces a wider field of information, Castillo said. He also mentioned the fact that the prescribed form of assets and liabilities strengthens the report submitted annually to the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

September 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received members of the diplomatic corps who called on him at the Veterans Memorial Hospital to express their most profound satisfaction at your Excellency's complete recovery of health."

In brief remarks delivered on behalf of the corps, Msgr. Salvatore Siino, apostolic nuncio and dean of the group said: "While the Chiefs of Mission congratulate you and thank God that your Excellency has completely recovered from such a long illness, it is their earnest desire that your renewed strength will enable you to carry on the duties of your office for the welfare of your country and your people."

The President thanked them for their solicitude over his physical well-being. He also took advantage of the occasion to convey personally his gratitude for the numerous letters, telegrams, and other get-well messages he had received from them and from the heads of their respective countries.

The Chief Executive expressed hope that he would be able to assume fully his official duties soon.

He also expressed his desire to catch up on international developments.

The diplomatic call lasted about an hour with each of the 26 chiefs of missions present given a chance to speak with the President for one minute.

Ambassador Pir Ali Muhammad Rashdi of Pakistan and Ambassador Ransiyakorn Aphakorn of Thailand were not with the group because they were indisposed. Ambassador Morio Yukawa of Japan who is in Tokyo was represented by Minister Shigezo Yoshikawa, charge d' affaires of the Japanese embassy in Manila.

Earlier this morning the President had his usual one-hour stroll around the premises of the hospital. He received members of the diplomatic corps at about 10 a.m. He did not receive any other caller the whole day.

The President today authorized the release of ₱90,000 for the construction of a grandstand and school building at barrio Bagong Pook, San Pablo City. The grandstand will be used in the Southern Tagalog Athletic Association meet which will be held next year in San Pablo City.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo released three checks from the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes for charity aid and maintenance of PCSO barrio projects launched sometime ago. The checks were for ₱7,462.50 for the Asilo de la Milagrosa in Cebu City, which was turned over to Sister Natividad Abella of Sta. Isabel College; and ₱2,449 for the construction of the health center building in barrio Junstion, Cavinti; and ₱4,975 for maintenance and operation of the Laguna Chest Center, which were received by Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna.

September 17.—THE President is scheduled to have the Veterans Memorial Hospital on Wednesday, September 21, after six-week confinement for hypertension.

Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician, said that the President's discharge from the hospital which had been tentatively scheduled for this week was postponed a few more days to insure that the President was fully rested and completely recovered before "exposing him once again to the cares and manifold problems of his office."

The President, meanwhile, issued a proclamation declaring Monday, September 19 this year, as Law Day to bring to the attention of the people the vital role played by lawyers in the administration of justice which, he said, is "indispensible to a sound and vigorous democracy."

The Chief Executive receive a few callers at his hospital room today. Sen. Quintin Paredes, who had not seen the President since his confinement, called to felicitate him on his recovery. The senator had just come from the wedding of the President's nephew, Manuel Garcia, and Edith Strauz of Baliuag, Bulacan, at the St. Paul Church on San Marcelino in Manila where he and the First Lady stood sponsors.

The President took a long stroll around the hospital grounds this morning accompanied by friends and attending physicians. Dr. Guytingco felt that the President was already in fine shape.

During his stroll the President received Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, who came to pay his respects after a month's sojourn abroad.

Among those who accompanied the President in his stroll were Gov. Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur, Gov. Jose Dinglasan of Capi, Vice-Gov. Inday Melencio of Nueva Ecija, MRR General Manager Teofilo Zosa, Dr. Guytingco, and Dr. Valentin Fidelino, chief of the VMH medical services department.

Lone caller of the President in the afternoon was Gov. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: September 18-24, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia today gave another indication of his determination to enforce strictly the anti-graft law as he urged the public to take advantage of a “10-centavo telegram” made available to them to send complaints direct to Malacañang against any erring government personnel.

The President reminded the people that this cheap and expeditious method of communication may also be availed of in case assistance is needed to meet an emergency beyond the capacity of local authorities to cope with.

Telegraphic offices all over the country had been circularized since the time of the late President Magsaysay to charge only ₱0.10 for these public service telegram. They should be addressed to the chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE) and the message should begin with the word, “Complaint.”

The President, meanwhile, spent a quiet Sunday at the Veterans Memorial Hospital. He did not receive any caller. Waking up early in the morning, he started the day by hearing mass said at his hospital room. “With him at the mass were Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President’s personal physician; Dr. Valentin Fidelino, chief of the VMH medical services department; Miss Benedicta Dignadice, nurse; and Major Ciriaco Jocson, junior military aide.

Mrs. Garcia, who usually hear mass together with the President on Sundays, had left earlier in the morning for Naga City on a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Peñafrancia, the miraculous patroness of Bicolandia whose feast day is being celebrated today.

After a light breakfast, the President went out of his room for his usual hour-long morning stroll around the hospital grounds. He was accompanied on his stroll by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, chief of the Constabulary; General Manager Teofilo Zosa of the Manila Railroad Company, and aides.

The President retired early in the evening.

September 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning ordered the PCAPE to investigate and file criminal and administrative charges against government employees found guilty of collecting “overtime” pay without actually rendering service.

The President issued the order upon being informed that thousands of government employees are collecting the additional compensation, resulting in depredation of government funds estimated roughly at half a million pesos a year.

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, upon receiving the order, created a special inspection team to conduct surprise visits to all government agencies to check on the attendance, whereabouts of each employee if not found in the immediate premises of the office, and to dig deeper into the records to verify the information.

Rodolfo Ocampo, secretary to the chairman who made special studies along this line at the U. S. Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, was designated to head the special team.

Preliminary PCAPE findings reveal that many government employees are habitual absentees but their time records are marked to show that they are present and rendering work for the government, or are rendering overtime services for which they are being paid additional compensation, when in fact they are attending classes in some schools or attending to outside jobs, instead of rendering proper work in their respective offices in violation of the law.

President Garcia today appealed to both the public and the government personnel, especially those in areas affected by the recent calamities, to refrain from extravagant spending and lavish display of same during the period of reconstruction and rehabilitation.

The President's appeal was coursed through Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman. The PCAPE has several teams in the affected areas coordinating all relief aid and assistance extended by various government agencies to alleviate the plight of the flood sufferers.

The President today designated Roberto T. Villanueva as technical adviser to the Philippine Delegation to the International Monetary Fund Conference in Washington D. C. Villanueva, who recently resigned from the Monetary Board, left for the United States last week. All expenses incident to the trip will be paid for by Villanueva.

President Garcia today took his longest morning stroll around the grounds of the Veterans Memorial Hospital feeling hale and fit to check out tomorrow.

The President walked more than two kilometers around the hospital compound accompanied by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Pangasinan Gov. Conrado F. Estrella, GSIS General Manager Rodolfo P. Andar, PHHC Director Enrique Ruiz, Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician, and VMH chief of clinic, Dr. Valentin Fidelino.

The President this evening enlisted the support of all members of the civil service in the fight against graft and corruption to insure for the people the highest standard of public service possible.

In his speech before the Personnel Officers Association of the Philippines, which was read by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE), the President envisioned the early and effective reformation of the entire public service which, he said, lies at the very core of his plans for the advancement of the country.

The President was scheduled to be guest speaker at the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the Civil Service at the Manila Hotel this evening, but he could not attend the affair.

The President in his speech traced his fight against graft and corruption with the organization of the PCAPE which he had given sufficient authority to root out all sources and instruments of incompetence, inefficiency, and corruption in the government shortly upon assuming office. Later, he spearheaded the passage of an effective anti-graft law designed to protect the deserving and remove the unfit from the service.

The President pointed out that extreme care had been taken so that the process of purification can be both thorough and fair and that the removal of the dishonest personnel be itself an honest process, free of malice and unjust premeditation.

The President also lauded the efforts of POAP and other groups of association for providing the initiative, cooperation, and fresh and effective techniques which are indispensable in the changes for the better in the entire civil service.

September 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia issued a proclamation declaring September 28 this year, as a special public holiday in Camarines Norte on the petition of the people of the province who wanted to be afforded (full opportunity to celebrate the birthday of the late Wenceslao Q. Vinzons.

The proclamation was issued on representations made by Rep. Pedro Venida and Mayor Soteo V. Valde of Vinzons, Camarines Norte.

Vinzons was former delegate to the Constitutional Convention, former governor and representative of Camarines Norte, and one of the nation's outstanding heroes during the last war.

Earlier this morning the President had his usual hour-long stroll around the hospital grounds. He also spent time visiting a number of wards at the ground floor of the VMH and chatting with patients.

President Garcia received a few callers today.

He received this morning Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias, Sen. Domocao Alonto, and Gov. Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur.

In the afternoon the President also received Rep. Salipada Pendatun.

President Garcia today directed the Department of National Defense to expedite the award of all benefits due the surviving heirs of the 11 officers and men of the Armed Forces who perished in the tragic plane crash in Guam yesterday.

The President this evening also designated Col. Jorge Delarmente, senior aide, to represent him in ceremonies scheduled at the international airport on the arrival of the bodies of the Filipino crash victims.

The Chief Executive, meanwhile, sent messages of condolence to the families of all the six officers and five enlisted men whose careers were cut short by the plane crash while they were on their way to pursue further studies in the United States.

Officials of the U. S. Department of Defense and other allied agencies concerned with foreign relations have expressed their belief in the unquestioned leadership of President Garcia in the Philippines, according to a written report submitted by Secretary Alejo Santos of National Defense.

Santos reported that in a series of conferences and calls he had made during his recent official visit to the United States, American officials had also expressed their belief in the steadfast love of the Filipino people for the democratic way of life.

Secretary Santos arrived last September 10 from a two-month visit to the United States at the invitation of the U. S. Defense Secretary Thomas S. Gates, Jr.

September 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia checked out from the Veterans Memorial Hospital shortly before 5 p.m. today after six weeks' confinement for slightly elevated blood pressure.

Accompanied by the First Lady and their children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, the President motored direct to Malacañang.

The President this morning received former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., who called at the hospital to say goodbye prior to his departure for Tokyo.

The Chief Executive also received Agriculture Undersecretary Jose M. Trinidad, who called to pay his respects, and Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, whom he designated as his personal representative to the inauguration of the Federation of Nigeria on September 28.

Earlier this morning the President and the First Lady stood sponsors at the wedding of Col. Joaquin Sanchez, VMH director, and Anita Moran in simple rites officiated by Major Juan Tugadi, navy chaplain, at the hospital chapel.

After the ceremony, the President went out to the hospital grounds for his usual hour-long stroll. He had to cut short his stroll, however, when he was caught by a sudden heavy rain in the middle of the field.

He returned to his room under an umbrella held by a security officer.

The Chief Executive did not receive any caller at Malacañang this afternoon.

September 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today proclaimed September 27 this year a special holiday in Batangas province and Lipa City to commemorate the birthday of General Miguel Malvar, the last Filipino general to surrender to the Americans.

The President also ordered the airlifting of Anita Mopera from Polillo, Quezon, to Manila by the Philippine Airforce for treatment at the Philippine General Hospital.

The President declared September 27 as Malvar Day in order to afford the people of Batangas, where he was born, an opportunity to honor fittingly the famous hero and patriot with appropriate ceremonies.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo will be the guest speaker at the Malvar Day celebration in Santo Tomas, Batangas.

Mopera's airlifting was requested by Dr. Azarias, the municipal health officer of Polillo, who informed the President that the patient was in shock condition due to ectopic pregnancy.

Dr. Azarias, Who performed an internal examination of the patient, said her blood pressure was 70/40, and her abdomen was tender with vaginal bleeding.

The patient was airlifted to Manila on a PAF helicopter and taken immediately to the PGH for treatment.

The President spent the whole day going over important state papers which had accumulated during his confinement. Some papers were brought over by Executive Secretary Castillo when he called on the President in the morning to consult him on pressing matters.

The President received no other callers the whole day.

The President this morning ordered the filing of criminal action against a second lieutenant of the first infantry division at Fort Magsaysay, Laur, Nueva Ecija, for allegedly having criminally forced a 14-year old girl to submit to his carnal desire.

The Chief Executive who was irked by the alleged criminal act of 2nd Lt. Bonifacio Singson, Jr., and the alleged delay in the prosecution of the erring officer ordered Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, to dispatch immediately by special messenger the pertinent papers and assist in the filing of the corresponding criminal action against the lieutenant with the proper court in Nueva Ecija.

Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE acting vice-chairman said that Sergeant Alfonso Talop, and his wife, Mrs. Perfecta Rosales y Talop, step-father and natural mother of the victim, respectively, appeared before him this morning and complained about the alleged delay in the prosecution of the case by the military authorities. The complaint was filed September 8, this year.

The victim related to Major Natividad that last August 23, at about 1 p.m., the lieutenant and a driver by the name of Sergeant Muli invited her for a jeep ride. She consented to the invitation considering that the lieutenant is a family friend. They drove as far as Cabanatuan City and on their return trip, after reaching a certain place, the lieutenant asked the sergeant to wait for him at a corner.

Despite her protest the lieutenant drove to an isolated place and at the point of a dagger forced her to submit to his desire. Then they returned to where the sergeant was waiting, and the three of them drove to barrio Militar where she and her parents are residing. She was dropped near her home at about six o'clock that afternoon.

At first she tried to hide the incident from her parents but the parents that evening noticed the apparently uneasy feeling of the child. The mother then asked the child what was bothering her, and she started relating to her the experience she had earlier with Lt. Singson.

The parents to avoid a scandal, talked to the lieutenant to make good his promise to marry their daughter. They discovered later that the lieutenant was a married man.

They filed the complaint with the provost marshal of the Fort. The military authorities after conducting an investigation of the charge, placed the lieutenant under technical arrest; nevertheless he was able to come to their residence and threatened them to withdraw the complaint or else he (the lieutenant) would file a civil action for damages against the family.

The PCAPE conducted a preliminary investigation of the case and, at this writing, are still consolidating the verified statements of the complainants, to be forwarded to the provincial fiscal of Nueva Ecija for immediate action.

The President this afternoon ordered the Director of Forestry to suspend the logging operation of timber license holders who failed or neglected to settle their accounts with the bureau.

The Chief Executive issued the order after having been informed by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, that the loggers are still continuing their logging operation in full blast despite the fact that their licenses have not yet been renewed by the bureau.

The reason for the non-renewal of their licenses is the failure of the loggers to settle their accountability in forests charges and other fees with the Bureau of Forestry, which has reached the staggering amount of ₱4 million as of June 30, 1960, Ocampo said.

September 23.—EARLY in the morning, the President took a 40-minute stroll at the Malacañang Park grounds, accompanied by Dr. Antonio Guytingco, Dr. Valentine Fidelino, Col. Mamerto Montemayor, and a VMA nurse.

After his stroll, the President got dressed and heard an early morning mass at the Malacañang chapel, which was offered as thanksgiving by members of the Malacañang household for his complete recovery.

Among those who heard the mass were Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, their children Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, relatives and close friends of the family, including Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Romualdez, and Mrs. Joaquin Rocas, wife of the congressman.

Later, the President had a long huddle with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who consulted him on pressing matters.

The President was not able to receive an old friend, Col. Sir Malcolm Stoddart-Scott of London, now in Manila enroute to the International Parliamentary Conference in Tokyo as a British delegate.

Col. Stoddart-Scott, who had met the President during one of the latter's visits to the British capital, left his card with Minister Manuel G. Zamora at Malacañang.

In the afternoon the President received his only caller, Sen. Sabido.

President Garcia this afternoon received Sen. Pedro Sabido, who called for final instructions before leaving Sunday night for Tokyo to attend the forthcoming International Parliamentary Conference.

Sen. Sabido is vice-chairman of the Senate panel representing the Philippines at the IPC which will be held in the Japanese capital from, Sept. 29 to Oct. 8.

Other members of the Senate panel are Sen. Cipriano P. Primicias, chairman, who had gone ahead; and Sen. Estanislao Fernandez, member, who is leaving Sunday evening.

During Sabido's call, the President asked the Senator to take advantage of his trip to make a thorough survey of the cottage industries in Japan.

President Garcia today appointed Marcelo Balatbat, general manager of the National Marketing Corporation, and Mariano Peñaflorida, former governor of Iloilo, as members of the monetary board of the Central Bank.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said that the third vacancy in the board would probably be filled by the President next week.

The three vacancies were occasioned by the recent resignations of three members of the board; namely, Roberto Villanueva, Jaime Velasquez, and Gaudencio Antonino.

September 24.—THE President this morning received Rep. Ramon P. Mitra of Mt. Province, Rep. Jose Laurel III of Batangas, and Jose Laurel IV, who called for instruction before returning to Tokyo for the resumption of negotiations for a treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation between Japan and this country.

The Chief Executive also received Homer Ferguson, judge of the United States Court of Military Appeals and former U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines, who called to pay his respects following his recent arrival in Manila enroute to Tokyo to attend the forthcoming International Parliamentary meeting to be held at the Japanese capital.

Earlier this morning, the President had his usual hour-long stroll around the Malacañang Park grounds. He was accompanied by Dr. Antonio Guytingco and aides.

Returning to Malacañang about 9:30 a.m., the President had a half-hour conference with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and other Malacañang assistants who consulted him on various pending matter.

The Chief Executive did not receive any other caller the whole day.

President Garcia today ordered the suspension of Director Mariano Ledesma of the Bureau of Printing pending investigation and disposition of the administrative case against him for dishonesty, gross negligence, and incompetence.

The President, at the same time, formed a committee to investigate the suspended printing director composed of Justice Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez, chairman, and Laureano Ferrer of the General Auditing Office and Major Teodulo Natividad, acting vice-chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, members.

The Chief Executive instructed the committee to start its investigation and submit its findings and recommendations as soon as possible.

Ledesma's suspension and investigation by a presidential probe body had been recommended by Acting Secretary Serafin Salvador of General Services. His recommendation had been based on the report of a fact-finding committee created by the department which undertook preliminary investigations in the Bureau of Printing.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: September 25 - October 1, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 25—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning was pleased to see the myriad flowers blooming in his garden when he visited for the first time his Quezon City home since his return to Malacañang from the hospital.

Among the many plants which were in full bloom were the Indian guavas heavy with their first fruits. The President sampled a ripe, juicy guavas the size of *caimitos*.

The President, together with his children and close relatives, heard an early morning mass at the Malacañang chapel.

After taking his breakfast, the President accompanied by Dr. Antonio Guytingco, his personal physician, and Major Ciriaco Hocson, his aide, motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, where he took his daily stroll.

After admiring his plants, the President played a round of billiards before leaving for Malacañang at 11 a.m. for lunch.

The President rested the whole day and did not receive any callers.

September 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning expressed his full confidence in the integrity and ability of Marcelo Balatbat and Mariano Peñaflorida, who were inducted as members of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank.

In his short extemporaneous remarks after inducting the two officials, the President said that Balatbat, as general manager and chairman of the NAMARCO, had completely removed all criticisms against the state corporation during his brief incumbency of six months.

In the case of Peñaflorida, the President said that on his record alone as a three-term governor, he can be considered a man of executive ability as a public official.

The oath-taking ceremonies were held at the spacious Malacañang ceremonial hall at 10 a.m. in the presence of high government officials, business leaders, close relatives, and friends of the inductees.

Among those present at the induction were Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Sens. Fernando Lopez and Alejandro Almendras, Reps. Domitilo Abordo and Jose Aldeguer of Iloilo, and Manuel Zosa and Ramon Durano of Cebu, PNB President Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Capiz Gov. Jose Dinglasan, NDC Chairman Jose Rodriguez and Assistant Manager Isabelo Sales, CB Deputy Governor Andres V. Castillo, former Assistant Executive Secretary Sofronio C. Quimson, Jose Y. Orosa, Teofilo Reyes, Alfonso Calalang, Hilarion G. Henares, Sr., Alfredo Montelibano, Dr. J. C. Orendain, and Francisco Delgado;

Immediately after the induction, the President received a 30-minute briefing from CB Deputy Governor Andres V. Castillo;

Later in the afternoon the President motored to the Manila International Airport to greet President" Sukarno of Indonesia who was on a one-hour stop-over in Manila en route, to New York to attend the United Nations General Assembly. (See separate release.)

In his closed-door conference with Deputy Governor Andres V. Castillo of the Central Bank at Malacañang, the President was informed that there was remarkable progress in all sectors of the Philippine economy which was reflected by greater, employment and better living standards for the people.

Castillo reported to the President that the international reserve rose by \$60 million during a 12-month period, from \$141.9 million in June 1959 to \$201.89 in June 1960. Castillo pointed out that this increase in the country's balance of payments was due mainly to increased exports as well as to increased prices of Philippine export products in the world market. He said that foreign receipts exceeded disbursements by \$14.53 million during the first quarter of 1960, despite reduction in United States Government expenditures in the Philippines.

Governor Castillo also reported that the rigid economic and fiscal policies adopted by the government had completely averted inflation which had threatened the country since 1957. He emphasized that, without the corrective measures to stop inflation, prices of commodities would have increased drastically above the 3.7 per cent for wholesale and 6.4 per cent for retail between June 1959 and June 1960.

Another result of these measures, according to Castillo, was the moderate rise in the money supply level from ₱1,790.5 million in June 1959 to ₱1,799.99 million in June 1960, or only ₱9.49 million. He said this is far below the ₱152.5 million increase during the June 1958-59 period.

In production, Castillo said, the index of physical volume of production in 1959 was 124.5 compared to 117.1 in 1958, and only 62.4 in 1950. Agricultural production was 5.3 points higher in the crop year 1959-60 than it was in 1958-59, while manufacturing made an impressive showing of 153.7 in the first quarter of 1960 against 137.9 for the same period the previous year, or a rise of 11.5 per cent.

Governor Castillo reported to the President that the only drawback in production was in mining. He said there was a cutback of 11.1 per cent in mining production, but this was due to a general slump in the world market. He pointed out that this general trend in economic improvement was also reflected by an increase of 2.1 per cent in the level of employment in the first semester of 1960 over the same period in 1959.

President Garcia today appointed Jose Y. Orosa as general manager of the National Marketing Corporation to replace Marcelo Balatbat, who was appointed by the President as member of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank.

President Garcia this afternoon accepted a personal invitation to visit Indonesia from Indonesian President Sukarno, who made a brief stopover at the Manila International Airport on the way to the United Nations in New York. No date has been fixed for the projected state visit of President Garcia to Indonesia.

President Garcia motored from Malacañang to the Philippine Air Force headquarters in Nichol's Air Base at about 12:35 p.m., where he waited for the Indonesian President. National Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, AFP Vice-Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, and Gen. Molina accompanied the President.

President Sukarno arrived at the MIA at 1:15 and was met by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, Indonesian Ambassador to the Philippines Nazir D. T. Pamontjak, and the chiefs of diplomatic missions in the Philippines.

The Indonesian Chief Executive, dressed in his uniform as Supreme Commander of the Indonesian Army, was whisked to the PAF headquarters in a No. 1 presidential car.

He was met at the door of the PAF headquarters by Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora, Presidential Senior Military Aide Col. Jorge Delarmente, and Dr. Antonio Guytingco, personal physician of President Garcia.

After exchanging greetings, the two Presidents sat down and exchanged pleasantries. The half-hour conference was held in an atmosphere of warm cordiality and friendship.

During the meeting President Garcia and his guests were served with typical Philippine refreshments by Indonesian girls dressed in their native costumes. President Sukarno mistook one of the girls for a Filipino. When told that the girls were Indonesians, President Sukarno talked to one of them in the Indonesian language.

The two Presidents parted at about 1:50 p.m. President Garcia escorted the Indonesian Chief Executive to his car parked in the driveway of the PAF headquarters. President Sukarno was escorted to the International Air Terminal by Secretary Serrano.

President Garcia this afternoon ordered a full-dress investigation of alleged irregularities being committed in the purchase of supplies by the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The President issued the order after he was informed by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, that a complaint was lodged with the PCAPE by former Nueva Vizcaya Gov. Demetrio Quirino charging a certain top AFP Quarter Master official with irregularities in the purchase of printing ink.

September 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning had his first heavy schedule of callers since his return from the hospital last week. Callers included senators, congressmen, and town mayors.

During a conference with Sen. Arturo M. Tolentino, the President expressed the view that the anti-graft law should be given a chance to work and that if there were any defects, Sen. Tolentino, author of the act, could introduce amendments at the next regular session of Congress.

In another conference with Rep. Tobias Fornier of Antique, the President was informed that Philippine embassy and consular establishments in the United States were overstaffed while those in Europe were short-handed.

Rep. Fornier, who returned recently from an inspection tour of Philippines embassies and consulates abroad, informed the Chief Executive that new diplomatic establishments can be put up by appointing only the principal officials and drawing from the excess personnel from Philippine offices in the U.S. Rep. Fornier pointed out that the San Francisco consulate personnel can be reduced by 10 and that of New York can be cut by one-third of the present force without adversely affecting their efficiencies.

On the other hand, Rep. Fornier said that the Paris, Rome, and Madrid establishments were staffed by only eight employees each. The Philippine Embassy in Rome, according to him, had a tough time taking care of Filipino visitors during the last Rome Olympics.

The President received a request from Rep. Fornier and Antique Gov. Josue Cadio for the release of ₱100,000 for the reconstruction of the Antique provincial capital which was burned down in 1957.

The President referred to Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy Changco the request of Rep. Felipe Abrigo of Samar for ₱50,000 for the TB pavilion in Guiuan and ₱350,000 authorized under Budget B for a pearl culture and tuna canning pilot plant in Samar.

Rep. Abrigo was accompanied by Mayors Conrado Vallez of Dolores, Crispino Escate of Sulat, and Florencio Glino of Barancaya.

Other presidential callers included Reps. Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, accompanied by Mayors Felix Tenorio of Labo and Nicolas Herico of Paracale; Rep. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan; and Rep. Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan.

Rep. Venida requested the release of ₱100,000 from the Typhoon Aid fund, and asked for more prefabricated schoolhouses, while Rep. Ligot sought early construction of four major bridges in his province at a cost of ₱8 million which, according to him, the Central Bank's monetary board was willing to underwrite.

Meanwhile, President Garcia summoned Andres V. Castillo, deputy governor of the Central Bank, to a conference tomorrow morning to discuss financing arrangements for the proposed integrated steel plant in Iligan, Lanao. Also invited to the conference was Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno.

President and Mrs. Garcia greeted Vice-President Macapagal today, eve of the latter's 50th birth anniversary tomorrow.

The President appointed today Associate Justice Dionisio de Leon as presiding justice, and Judge Bonifacio Ysip of the Manila Court of First Instance and Dean Francisco Capistrano as associate justices of the Court of Appeals.

The President also signed today the appointment of Jose Y. Orosa as *ad interim*, general manager of the National Marketing Corporation, vice Marcelo Balatbat, who had been appointed member of the monetary board of the Central Bank.

Justice de Leon, who is the ranking member of the appellate court, succeeds Presiding Justice Jose Ma. Paredes, who had been elevated to the Supreme Court.

Judge Ysip and Dean Capistrano take over the vacancies in the court of appeals created by the recent elevation to the highest tribunal of Associate Justices Paredes and Arsenio P. Dizon.

September 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up before sunrise this morning for a surprise visit at the Manila International Airport to find out the progress in the construction of the terminal building.

Surprising officials and laborers, the President left Malacañang by car 6:30 a.m. and personally inspected the progress on the construction project at the MIA. The presidential car bogged down twice before reaching the new MIA building because of the thick mud, and the President had to transfer to a jeep.

"This project will be a big boon to our tourist industry," the President said after he had been around the new MIA terminal building, the jet runway and apron and after going through the old MIA terminal building.

The President left Malacañang with Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, his personal physician, Dr. Antonio Guytingco, and Major Ciriaco Hocson, presidential aide. Transferring to a jeep after his car bogged down twice at the MIA grounds, the President motored directly to the new MIA terminal building.

The Chief Executive caught everybody by surprise at the new MIA building. The foreman and the laborers were just beginning to start work on the almost completed project. Construction foreman Ponsiano Gallardo accompanied the Chief Executive around the construction project.

Following his inspection of the project, the President ordered the completion of the "International Finger" wing of the new MIA terminal building advanced by one month. The wing was scheduled to be ready for use by December this year. With the President's order, the wing will be made ready for use by the end of November this year.

From the new MIA terminal, the President walked extensively to and around the 14 inch-thick cement apron of the jet runway which is being expanded from its present length of 7,500 feet to 11,000 feet at a cost of ₱3 million.

The Chief Executive crossed the runway during his stroll. While walking around, the President's foot sunk in the muddy grounds several times. During his inspection tour of the MIA project, the President saw for the first time a Pan-American jetliner coming in for a landing on the newly-lengthened runway.

After walking around the apron of the runway, the President crossed a talahib field in order to reach a runway. He boarded his car for the return trip near the MIA tower after walking around quite a long distance.

On his trip home, the President passed by the old MIA terminal building and was able to compare with it the new building.

Before returning to Malacañang, the President motored to Pier 3 where he met the First Lady, who just returned on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* from Mindanao where, together with Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, she attended the inauguration of the new province of Surigao del Sur.

President Garcia today formed a Cabinet committee to study the proposed floatation of bonds to finance, initial steps for the establishment of the projected integrated steel mill.

The proposal was to sell these bonds to private investors interested in entering into a joint venture with the government in the operation of the steel mill. The bonds will be converted into shares of stocks which will form part of the capital of the new corporation.

This *ad interim* step was deemed advisable in view of the absence of a law authorizing the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation to enter into such joint venture with private entities/ Proceeds from the sale of bonds will be utilized for the initial payment of machinery and other equipment necessary to start the project.

The committee is composed of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, chairman; and Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Education Secretary Jose Romero, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano and Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, members. Simeon Gopengco, government corporate counsel, was designated technical assistant of the committee.

Earlier this morning, the President directed Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno to explore all means of getting the integrated steel mill in Mindanao started immediately.

During their lengthy conference at Malacañang, at which Central Bank Deputy Governor Andres V. Castillo was also present, the President said the steel mill project should be given top priority because it is the biggest contribution factor in the growth of heavy industries in the country.

According to Secretary Moreno, early implementation of the project hit a snag when Congress failed to amend the charter of the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation (NASSCO) during its last session, in order to authorize the corporation to invest with private groups in the huge steel processing project.

Secretary Moreno had proposed two alternatives in view of the failure of Congress to empower the NASSCO to spearhead the project; namely, (1) utilization of Central Bank resources for the project's dollar needs totalling \$70,274,000; and (2) sale of NASSCO through public bidding to help finance government participation in a joint venture.

Under the plan, the government will initially control and own 51 per cent of the subscribed capital stock of the corporation while a private group will control the remaining 49 per cent, with the understanding that the government will gradually dispose of its shares retaining only 34 per cent.

Secretary Moreno said the government has already advanced \$1,696,000 on NASSCO machinery requirements under existing contracts, and that some of these were ready for installation and delivery.

This morning the President administered the oath of office to Jose Y. Orosa as general manager of the National Marketing Corporation (NAMARCO) at Malacañang. In congratulating Orosa, the President expressed confidence that the good reputation of the state corporation which it has earned during the last seven months would continue or be even surpassed.

The President pointed out that Manager Marcelo Balatbat had effectively stamped out all criticisms against the NAMARCO because he had the strong support of the NAMARCO board, of which Orosa was an active member.

Present at the induction ceremonies were high government officials; business leaders; relatives and friends of the new NAMARCO manager, including Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim,

Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, PCAPE Chairman Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, Court of Appeals Presiding Justice Dionisio de Leon, Justice Bonifacio Ysip; Monetary Board Members Mariano Peñaflorida and Marcelo Balatbat; CB Deputy Governor Andres V. Castillo; Iloilo Gov. Jose C. Zulueta; MRR Chairman Juan J. Carlos; NAMARCO Assistant Manager Juan Noble; NAMARCO Directors Eriberto Aguinaldo and Felix Opimo, Primitivo Lovina; Hilarion G. Henares; Gil Carlos; Francisco Delgado; and Mrs. Orosa, wife of the inductee.

President Garcia was informed today that government agencies led by Army engineers successfully plugged leaks in the Arnedo dike, thereby preventing the flooding of seven towns in Pampanga.

In a report to the President, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos said government agencies worked overtime and continuously for 36 hours to restore washed away portions of the Arnedo dike.

On receipt of a report of impending threat to the dike, President Garcia directed government agencies to rush to the threatened areas to prevent further damage. Rising waters threatened to break through the Arnedo dike at Apalit, Pampanga. Seven towns were in danger of being flooded; namely, San Simon, Apalit, San Fernando, Bacolor, Guagua, Masantol, and Macabebe.

September 29—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning met at Malacañang with members of the Philippine panel negotiating a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation with Japan. During their almost two-hour closed door conference, the panel members submitted a partial report and gave the President a briefing on the status of the Philippine-Japan talks.

Present at the conference, which was also attended by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano and Deputy Central Bank Governor Andres V. Castillo, were former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr., panel chairman; Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa, Rep. Antonio Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, Rep. Jose Laurel IV of Batangas, Jose Laurel III, and Prof. Monico Vicente.

The President later received Liberal Gov. Arsenio Villarosa of Mindoro Occidental, who requested the release of ₱290,000 for his provincial Capitol building and other budgetary aids.

Gov. Villarosa was accompanied to Malacañang by Lubang Mayor Francisco Sanchez, who reported to the President heavy damage to crops and public works projects in his town and sought release of funds as typhoon aid.

This evening the President conferred with officials of the National Development Company on the proposed contract for the lease of the 12 ocean-going cargoliners acquired from Japan to form the nucleus of a Philippine merchant marine.

The President directed NDC officials to finalize the contract with the Maritime Company of the Philippines and the United Philippines Lines, which submitted the highest offers.

NDC Board Member Protacio C. Licsi, head of the committee on award, briefed the President on the salient parts of the proposed contract. Licsi explained that the charter rental for each of the 12 ships for a period of five years will not be less than the highest bid which was more than ₱511,000 a year. However, he added, the charterer will be given concessions in the first two years to pay less, but the rentals will be increased in later years so that the total rentals will amount to more than ₱511,000 a year.

After the lease period, the five-year rentals, will be considered as the 25 per cent down payment to the total cost of the vessels as required by Republic Act No. 1407.

The President expressed his desire that the contract be signed as soon as possible so that the vessels could start earning dollars. Seven vessels have already been delivered to the NDC. Of these vessels, three are in the port of Manila and four are still in Japan. The remaining five are expected to be delivered within this year.

The United Philippine Lines will be awarded seven vessels and the Maritime Company of the Philippines will get five, as it already has two vessels of the same type.

The President emphasized the importance of balancing the number of vessels operated by the two companies to encourage a healthy competition and insure lower rates and better service.

Also present at the conference were NDC Board Chairman Jose S. Rodriguez, Government Corporate Counsel Simeon Gopengco, Directors Genaro Sarmiento, Celestino Cortez, Joaquin L. Panis, and Agustin Caseñas, Board Secretary Jose R. Platon, and F. Agoncillo, senior executive assistant.

September 30.—EARLY this morning President Garcia sailed up the Pasig River for an ocular inspection of the industries along the river just when they were beginning to bustle with activity at the start of the day's work. Boarding the presidential launch behind Malacañang Palace, the President made his way upstream and saw for himself the great strides that Philippine industrial companies along the river have taken on the road to progress.

The President left Malacañang at 6:30 with Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, his personal physician, Dr. Antonio Guytingco, and a military aide, Maj. Jose Estrella. He first went to the Malacañang Park for half an hour's stroll around the golf course.

During his stroll the President talked with the golfers among whom were Telecommunications Director Jose Alfonso; Feliciano J. Ledesma, dean of the San Beda College of Law; Leon Ma. Gonzalez, former director of the Bureau of Census and Statistics; and Miguel Y. Garcia, former Malacañang Engineer. The golfers jokingly asked the President when he will start playing golf.

From the Malacañang Park, the President boarded the presidential launch for the trip up the Pasig River. Along the river, which is an industrial center used by factories and markets as a transportation line, the President heard the heavy roar of machines that testified to the work within the factories. Just before reaching the Nagtahan Bridge, he ordered the presidential launch to slow down, and made an ocular inspection of the progress on the repair of the bridge.

Among the factories that the President saw were the Marcelo Steel Mill, the Atlantic Gulf and Company, the Veneer Plywood factory, and the gasoline companies. The Chief Executive sailed past the San Juan bridge before he decided to return to Malacañang where some engagements were awaiting him.

The President said today that the industrial development of Mindanao will be a continuing program of the government. In his conference with officials of the Mindanao-Sulu-Palawan Association (MINSUPALA) at Malacañang, the President pointed out that all factors vital to industrial development favor Mindanao, which has ceased to be a mere "land of promise" and is now regarded as "the land of fulfillment."

The President emphasized that the industrialization of Mindanao will be carried out along his policy of dispersal of industries in order to make the benefits of development available to as wide a sector of the population as possible.

The President also told the MINSUPALA officials that the steady flow of immigrants to the South has eased unemployment in centers of population, like Manila and suburbs, resulting in higher standards of living for the people and economic prosperity for the entire country.

Present at the conference were Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich, Sens. Alejandro D. Almendras, Roseller T. Lim, and Domocao Alonto, and Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato.

The President also received Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa, who submitted to him a report on negotiations for the acquisition of a hospital ship for the Philippine Government through Japanese reparations.

The President had commissioned Sen. de la Rosa to canvass shipping firms in Japan and open bids for a hospital ship that could be utilized to handle emergencies anywhere, at the quickest possible time.

President Garcia said the hospital ship would serve the people in the Visayas, Mindanao, and Sulu.

Sen. De la Rosa also took the occasion to thank the President and Mrs. Garcia for the relief extended to the people of Pampanga through *Operations Puso*, which had been launched by the First Lady, and other government agencies which participated in the relief work such as, the Social Welfare Administration, the Health Department, and the Philippine Army and Constabulary. De la Rosa informed the First Lady that he had been swamped, by delegations from his province lauding the First Lady for conducting relief work during the floods in Central Luzon through *Operations Puso*. Later, the President also took up the Jalaur multi-purpose project in Iloilo with Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado. The project will not only provide cheaper electricity, but will also serve as irrigation system and flood control for the entire province.

The President also received Rep. Jacobo Gonzales, of Laguna and Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon province.

Rep. Gonzales thanked the President for making possible the development of Lecheria Hill in Calamba, Laguna, as a Rizal shrine to perpetuate the life and teachings of the great hero.

Rep. Guinto accompanied Mayor Cesar Angelo of Gumaca and the municipal secretary, Saturnino Cortes, who took their oaths of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party before the President.

The President appointed today Jose Y. Tuazen as *ad interim* undersecretary in the Department of Education replacing Daniel Salcedo, who retired from the public service.

The new undersecretary of education is at present the superintendent of the division of schools in Davao and president of the division superintendents' association. He is a native of San Isidro, Nueva Ecija. He is a career man having rose from the ranks.

President Garcia also extended the term of Manuel Castañeda and Julian U. de Vera by reappointing them administrator and chairman of the board of the Land Tenure Administration and associate administrator, respectively.

A new face was introduced in the LTA with the appointment by the President of Adriano D. Lomuntad as association administrator. He was chief of the legal department of the LTA. He replaced Numeriano Fabie, whose term expired. Lomuntad was former congressman of Samar. The LTA officials took their oaths of office before Secretary Castillo this evening.

In appointing the top men for the newly-created Veterans Board, President Garcia implemented RA 2664 which consolidates the Board of Pensions for Veterans, Philippine Veterans Board, the Veterans Back Pay Commission, and the Veterans Claims Commission.

Appointed in an *ad interim* capacity were the following: Brig. Gen. Margarito Torralba as administrator, who was chairman of the Veterans Claims Commission; Col, Antonio S Martinez as first deputy administrator; Juan L. Gacad as second deputy administrator; former Capt. Sofronio Tagaro as third deputy administrator; and Honorio Lopez as fourth deputy administrator, who was former governor of Leyte and chairman of the Board of Pensions.

The new veterans officials will take their oaths of office before the President next week.

This evening the President received a delegation of Nacionalistas from three Ilocos provinces who pledged to support him in the 1961 elections.

Members of the delegation were Gov. Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Col. Cecilio Peñaflor, who ran against Garduque in the last gubernatorial elections, Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela, Gov. Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Vice-Governor Delfin Albano, Jr., of Isabela, former Gov. Felix Carp of Isabela, and Mayor Honesto Adviento of Gataran, Cagayan.

The group took up with the President the release of funds for several projects in their respective provinces. In this connection, the President authorized the Budget Commissioner to release funds for the construction of the Isabela Athletic Stadium.

Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato also saw President Garcia to report that Cotabato City has been under Water for the last eight days owing to heavy rains.

Other callers included former Press Secretary Juan Orendain and Kenneth M. Barbier, president of the International Telephone and Telegraph Company of Puerto Rico.

October 1.—WAKING up about 6 a.m. today, the President boarded his car and motored to the Malacañang Park grounds for his daily stroll. He was accompanied by Dr. Antonio Guytingco, his personal physician; Major Ciriaco Hocson, junior military aide; and some other assistants who briefed him on various matters as he walked briskly from one end of the park to the other.

The Chief Executive spent more than one hour going around the grounds, pausing now and then to chat with golfers he found playing in the premises, and watched them as they made their drives.

At one point during the stroll, Dr. Guytingco handed the President a golf club and asked him to try his grip. The President made a few swings with the club.

In the course of the briefing, the Chief Executive was glad to learn that Sen. Claro M. Recto, who had suffered a heart attack in Rome, was reported to be improving. He said that on his return to the Philippines, the Senator probably would like to join him in his daily strolls or might even play a few holes of golf with him.

Shortly before 8 a.m., the President proceeded to the Luneta where he inspected the progress of the work on the Rizal centennial memorial. He spent about 30 minutes climbing, high mounds of earth overlooking the deep excavations, and piles of logs strewn about the premises. He also spent some time talking to a handful of laborers he found in the area.

Returning to Malacañang about 9 a.m., the President had breakfast with Mrs. Garcia to whom he voiced his disappointment over the slow progress of the work on the Rizal memorial.

Then he received a group of provincial governors and city mayors at the music room in Malacañang. The callers were Govs. Conrado F. Estrella of Pangasinan, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, D. O. Plaza of Agusan, Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, and Mayors S. Leroy, Brown of Basilan City, and Jose Teves of Dumaguete City.

The President did not receive any other caller the whole day.

President Garcia today directed the Department of Commerce and the National Rice and Corn Corporation to look into reports of increased prices of rice in certain Central Luzon provinces and to make immediate measures to keep the staple commodity within the reach of the poor at all times.

In a directive dispatched this afternoon to Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim and NARIC Chairman and Acting General Manager Jose V. Rodriguez, the President called their attention to news reports about certain officials in Bulacan who allegedly claimed that the price of rice was spiralling in all towns of that province.

The President directed the two officials to check the report, not only in Bulacan but also in other provinces, and to take prompt steps to stabilize the price of rice as well as of other prime commodities for the benefit of the lower-income of the population.

The Chief Executive had previously ordered the NARIC to utilize all available funds to stock up on palay for price stabilization purposes. He had also ordered the suspension of the exportation of the commodity as a means of averting possible shortage as a result of the destructive floods which swept the nation's rice granaries in Central Luzon recently.

The President said that although technical surveys undertaken by the Department of Agriculture showed that crop losses in Central Luzon had been negligible, it was always best to take every precaution to insure an adequate supply of food for the people the whole year round.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: October 2-8, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 2.—EARLY this day the President started practicing with clubs loaned to him by his son-in-law, Fernando Campos, his golf tutor. The two practiced swinging at President Garcia's lawn in Quezon City.

The President spent ten minutes learning the proper grip on a golf club and driving balls toward the general direction of an imaginary hole.

Before his daily stroll, the President heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. With the President were Mrs. Garcia, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, and Major Ciriaco Hocson, presidential aide.

Returning to his private residence after breakfast in Malacañang, the President strolled about in his yard.

President Garcia was shocked this evening to learn that his close political friend, Senator Claro M. Recto, had succumbed to the heart attack that struck him last Thursday.

News of Sen. Recto's death was phoned by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable to the President at his private residence in Quezon City, where he stayed the whole day this day.

The President issued the following statement to the press:

"The death of Senator Claro M. Recto comes as a shock to millions, of Filipinos who have regarded him as statesman and a leader. His life was dedicated to the service of our people and country. His brilliant literary and legal mind will long be remembered, but more important still Senator Recto will forever live in the memory of a grateful people for his untiring efforts to achieve for them the independence of our country. Historians will refer to the name of Senator Claro M. Recto as synonymous to nationalism.

After issuing a statement to the press, the President and Mrs. Garcia wrote a message to Mrs. Aurora Recto in Rome condoling with her on the sudden deaths of the illustrious statesman and nationalist.

October 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia today led the nation in mourning the death of Senator Claro M. Recto as he directed funeral honors to be rendered the late statesman and leader.

The Chief Executive had earlier this morning directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to prepare the details for funeral honors for the late Senator Recto.

It will tentatively consist of full military honors at the airport and again at the time of Senator Recto's burial ceremonies in addition to the placing of flags at half mast from the date of the arrival of the remains until the date of internment.

The proclamation declaring the period for national mourning may be signed by the President not later than Wednesday noon after Secretary Castillo would have ironed certain details such as the date of internment.

It was pointed out that military honors cannot be rendered after nightfall. The President was informed that the remains will arrive Thursday evening.

The President designated Philippine Ambassador to Rome Roberto Regala as his personal representative to accompany the remains of Senator Recto from Rome to Manila. Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano conveyed the President's designation to Ambassador Regala.

The government will shoulder the transportation and funeral expenses in Rome. The President offered to shoulder the transportation expenses of Mrs. Aurora Recto, the Senator's widow.

The President directed Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora to call on Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez and coordinate with the Senate Committee on the funeral rites and honors for the late Senator.

Still grieving over the passing away of one of the staunch figures in the Senate and a close friend, President Garcia devoted a great part of his time the whole day reminiscing his friendship and association with Don Claro.

Treasured now by the President is a book of Spanish poems entitled *Las Mas Bellas Poesias para Recitar*, which was loaned to him by Senator Recto before the late solon left on the special mission for the Chief Executive. The President said that he will keep the book in his personal library as a remembrance of Senator Recto.

Among the poems personally recommended by Don Claro for the President's reading was *Adios* by Paul Gerald. In the pages of the book are distinguished names in Spanish poetry like Ruben Dario, Amado Nervo, and Juan Ramon Jimenez.

Poems in the book were written by leading Spanish poets of the new and old literary world. Senator Recto had personally selected and marked the poems he had recommended the President to read.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia expressed the grief of Filipino womanhood in a message of condolence wired to Doña Aurora Recto this day. The First Lady and Mrs. Recto are close personal friends.

In her message of condolence, the First Lady assured Mrs. Recto that "the entire Filipino womanhood shares with your mourning for the loss of a great leader whose thoughts have illumined the national path over a period of four decades."

The President took an early morning stroll this morning around the Malacañang golf course for 45 minutes.

Accompanied by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable and a military aide, Major Ciriaco Hocson, the President boarded the presidential launch at the back of Malacañang Palace at 6:30 a.m. and sailed across the Pasig River to the Malacañang Park where he strolled around.

After walking around for 45 minutes the President sailed down the Pasig River on board the presidential launch; He reached up to Fort Santiago before returning to Malacañang for breakfast at about 8 a.m.

Immediately after the breakfast the President called Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel Zamora and discussed with them details of the late Senator Claro M Recto's funeral rites.

President Garcia today assured rural bankers that he will seriously study ways and means to remedy the plight of some 40 rural banks in the provinces of Bulacan, Pampanga, Pangasinan, Nueva Ecija, and Tarlac whose operations are being hampered or suspended owing to lack of funds.

The President was informed by Jose E. Desiderio, acting president of the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines, that because of the recent flood that destroyed crops in the five provinces the rural banks are now in financial difficulties as their clients consisting of small farmers and merchants cannot meet their obligations.

Desiderio further told the President that although Central Bank authorities would like to extend a helping hand to the rural banks of Central Luzon by releasing funds, the CB auditor objected, stating it was against the CB charter.

Desiderio also suggested that in order to generate funds to help rural banks extend financial assistance to rural folks, the funds earmarked by the Development Bank of the Philippines as counterpart funds for development banks to be

organized be temporarily channelled as counterpart funds for rural banks to be refunded early next year from the ₱7 million appropriated by R. A. 2702.

Desiderio and other RBAP officials were inducted into office this morning in Malacañang by President Garcia. Other RBAP officials are Jose S. Rodriguez, president; Virgilio M. Garcia, vice-president, Visayas; Licario Floirendo, vice-president, Mindanao; Eduardo Barretto, secretary-treasurer; and Procopio Reyes, Alfonso Tabora, Sergio Noguiat, Jose Segismundo, Deogracias Reyes, Amparo Hocson, Gaudencio Poblete, Nestor Jalandoni, Manuel Locsin, Augusto Gonzalez, and Ramon Saura, directors.

The President also inducted the following officers of the Society for Public Administration of the Philippines: Secretary Serafin Salvador, president; Bernardo Bumatay, vice-president; Fred R. Aldaba, secretary; Mrs. Maria D. de la Cruz, treasurer; Joaquin Santo Domingo, auditor; Leon Meer Manipol, PRO; and Conrado Magat, Mrs. Maria S. Luna, Ruperto Eliseo, Jose Navarro, Justo Racimo, Romulo Mar Adeva, and Vicente Valdellon, directors.

Officers of the Society for the Advancement of Management in the Philippine Government were also inducted by President Garcia. They are Ruperto Eliseo, president; Jose Navarro, vice-president; Jose Bueno, PRO; Remedios Azcuna, treasurer; Dionisio Recto, auditor; and Lucas Agbayani, assistant secretary.

Ambassador Trinidad Legarda reported to President Garcia on the situation in Southeast Asia, especially Laos.

Other callers were former Senator Vicente Francisco and former Education Secretary Cecilio Putong.

October 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the Department of Public Works and Communications to submit its study of the Aklan River irrigation project prior to the release of initial funds for the construction of the project.

The President issued the directive at a conference with Rep. Jose B. Legaspi of Aklan and Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbokon at Malacañang.

The Aklan solon informed President Garcia that the project, which will irrigate seven towns in Aklan with a total acreage of about 8,000 hectares, will accelerate the development of his province and improve the living conditions of the inhabitants.

The release of ₱20,000 for the construction of a chest center in the City of Cagayan de Oro was also sought by Rep. Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental at a conference with the President.

Other callers were Representatives Dominador Tan of Leyte, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon, Apolinario Apacible of Batangas, and Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan.

Earlier, Senator Quintin Paredes called on the President to report on his tour of Mindanao and Visayan provinces from which he just returned.

Waking up early this morning, the President crossed over to the Malacañang Park where he had a full-hour golf practice session. He was accompanied by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable and Maj. Jose Estrella, junior military aide.

This afternoon the President gave the “go-signal” for the establishment of PCAPE provincial units all over the Philippines in an effort to bring to the provincial level his all-out drive against graft and corruption and to promote efficiency in the government service.

The present plan of the Chief Executive is to ask civic groups in the provinces to aid the local units so as to increase civic participation in governmental affairs.

Each PCAPE provincial unit will be manned by a lawyer or a law graduate who will be paid from PCAPE funds in order to insure effective discipline and diligent performance, and the office expenses will be borne or supported by

an assisting local office in the provinces like the local auditing office, the Constabulary command, or the office of the governor.

The general duties of the PCAPE representative shall be to serve as the liaison officer of the PCAPE with all government units in the provinces, and to relay to the Manila office complaints, requests for assistance, and other official communications pertaining to the PCAPE.

The PCAPE representative shall act as public affairs officer in his province, and for this purpose will be advised by a committee composed of leading citizens or representatives of civic organizations of known integrity.

The provincial unit offices will be strategically located so that it will be accessible to everybody.

This evening the President ordered an extensive and intensive reforestation program to get in full swing as a means of averting future calamities resulting from floods and droughts.

The President also took steps to save the rice and corn crops in Mindanao by releasing ₱200,000 from the Rat Eradication fund to fight the pest which has been infesting several provinces, especially Cotabato.

The President, in his conference with Jose Viado, Reforestation Administration chief, expressed eagerness to get the reforestation program started right away in the wake of reports that Cotabato, which bids fair to becoming the rice bowl of the country, was inundated by flood waters from the Rio Grande River.

The President told Administrator Viado to get his new office organized right away because every moment's delay would mean disastrous losses to life and property in the flood areas.

The President had summoned Administrator Viado to Malacañang to discuss precautionary reforestation measures in Cotabato following reports that some 1,500 families in Cotabato had been adversely affected by the floods.

Administrator Viado informed the President that the Reforestation and Reclamation Division of the Bureau of Forestry, which forms the nucleus of the Reforestation Administration, has at present 61 projects throughout the country and 13 nurseries. Two of these projects, Viado said, are in Dinaig and Kidapawan, Cotabato.

Viado informed the President that the new office is still in the staffing and organizational stage but will be able to take over operations as soon as it is properly set up.

Viado said that he plans to give top priority to the watersheds, along the Agno and Pampanga Rivers to prevent floods and also to protect the hydro-electric plants along the rivers, among them the Binga and the Ambuklao watersheds, both of which are in operation.

Cotabato Rep. Salipada Pendatun called on the President to request fund releases from public works appropriations, the river control, and the typhoon and floods funds.

Pendatun confirmed reports of extensive losses to crops as well as public works due to the recent flood in Cotabato.

In ordering the release of ₱200,000 for the eradication of rats in Mindanao, the President told Rep. Canute Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur that the populace should be made to realize that every effort must be exerted to save their crops to avert a possible rice shortage.

The rat eradication fund was released to the following provinces: Cotabato, ₱50,000; Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, ₱30,000 each; and Misamis Occidental, ₱20,000.

The President directed Rodolfo P. Andal, general manager of the, Government Service Insurance System, to expedite negotiations for the purchase of Manila Railroad lots in Pasig and Gainta for resale to the tenants.

The GSIS had given assurance that it will purchase the ₱1 million property from the MRR and sell it to the tenants at nominal cost.

The President gave his directive to Manager Andal upon representations made by Rep. Francisco Sumulong of Rizal and Angono Mayor Saturnino Tiamco.

Other presidential callers in the evening were Reps. Justiniano Montano of Cavite and Vicente Gustilo of Occidental Negros, and Mauricio O. Bas Ocampo of the Reparations Commission.

Reps. Montano and Gustilo also took up with the President problems affecting their respective jurisdictions.

October 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed two graft busting, government agencies to conduct a systematic check on the statements of assets and liabilities of top ranking officials and certain employees occupying “sensitive” positions in the government.

In twin directives to the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency (PCAPE) and the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee (PAGC), the Chief Executive said that the checking operation is the second positive steps adopted in the implementation of the Republic Act 3019, otherwise known as the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Law. The first step was the filing of the “statements.”

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, conferred with Fiscal Leonardo Lucena, PAGC chairman, and Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE acting vice chairman, this afternoon on ways and means to coordinate the work of the two committees, including the operational aspect of the checking on the statements submitted by government officials and employees.

It was agreed during the conference that both committees will first gather the statements submitted by those officials and employees, in compliance with R. A. 3019, and those submitted as required by Executive Order No. 304 issued by the late President Magsaysay. These statements of assets and liabilities will subsequently be subjected to a thorough examination.

The President signed today the reappointments of Rodolfo P. Andal, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, and Ildefonso I. Remolona, a labor leader, as *ad interim* commissioners of the Social Security System.

The President’s appointments were in implementation of Republic Act No. 2658 passed during the last session of Congress amending the social security act and providing for the reorganization of the composition of the commission.

Under the new amendment, the commission is composed of the secretary of labor as *ex officio* member and six other appointive members; namely, two from labor, two from management, and another two from the general public.

Andal represents management and Remolona represents labor Gonzalo G. Gonzalez had, likewise, recently been re-appointed chairman of the commission under the new set-up.

Before the amendment, the commission was composed mainly of *de officio* members; namely, the secretary of health, the secretary of labor, the administrator of social welfare, and the manager of the government service insurance system. The remaining two members were from the general public.

The President also appointed today the members of the newly-created Board of Examiners for Midwives, the chairman of the Cebu Fire Damage Commission, and promoted a consul to consul general with station in Europe.

Appointed to the Board were Valeriano Fugoso, Jr., as chairman and Mrs. Vicenta Castro-Ponce and Angelina I. Ponce as members.

Primo Alves, a prominent Cebu civic leader, was appointed chairman of the Cebu Fire Damage Commission, vice Gil Garcia who resigned.

Consul Manuel Cumagun, at present detailed at the home office, was appointed consul general with station in Bonn, West Germany.

President Garcia today approved the floating of bonds to speed up the establishment of the integrated steel mill in Iligan, Lanao, in order to provide basic materials for the nation's heavy industries.

The President's approval was based on the recommendation of Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona during the Cabinet meeting last week, and on an encouraging reports from NASSCO General Manager Bernardo Abrera that the plan to sell bonds to finance the project was received by the public enthusiastically.

Manager Abrera reported at the regular weekly Cabinet meeting this evening that since the publication of the proposal to sell bond in the local papers, he had been receiving many telephone inquiries as to the terms and conditions of the sale and as to whether the general public will be allowed to purchase the bonds.

The proposal to sell bonds to the public was being taken as an *ad interim* arrangement pending congressional action during its regular session next year to amend the NASSCO charter to authorize, the government corporation to participate in a new corporation to set up an integrated steel industry.

The Cabinet committee, created by the President last week to study the Aytona proposal, recommended the sale of ₱50 million worth of bonds to meet the NASSCO peso requirements to pay existing obligations, especially on machinery and equipment.

Headed by Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, the committee, in its report, pointed out that the Aytona proposal is a better approach to the financing of the project than the outright sale of the NASSCO which may not yield sufficient proceeds to meet the requirements of the project.

The committee said that the NASSCO is authorized under Republic Act No. 1000 to float public works and economic development bonds such as contemplated in the Aytona proposal.

Private participants or bond holders will be privileged to name a representative to the Board of Directors of the NASSCO who will be appointed by the President pending the organization of the corporation.

The Cabinet committee also recommended that the sale of bonds be covered by special contracts specifying all the conditions stemming from the principles previously agreed upon, and that payment of the bonds subscribed may be made in installments based on a schedule of cash requirements to be prepared later.

Other members of the Moreno committee are Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Education Secretary Jose Romero, Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, and Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag with corporate counsel Simeon Gopengco as technical assistant of the committee.

October 6.—THIS morning the President administered the oath of office to Jose M. Tuason as Undersecretary of Education, vice Daniel Salcedo, retired.

The President said after the ceremony that he chose Tuason largely on the recommendation of the Philippine Public Schools Teachers Association which counts with a membership of 120,000 teachers.

Present at the induction held at the Malacañang reception hall were Education Secretary Jose Romero leading the officials of his department, Administrator Juan O. Chioco of the Office of Economic Coordination, Vice-President Conrado Sevilla of the Philippine National Bank, and former Gov. Leopoldo Diaz leading a big delegation of *Novo Ecijanos* and leading educators of the country.

Before his promotion, Tuason was the Division Superintendent of Schools in Davao. He is from San Isidro, Nueva Ecija.

President Garcia received a pledge of support to his proclamation setting 1961 as “Visit the Philippines—See the Orient Year” from Manila Jaycees led by their president Benjamin M. Crame.

At the same time, the Manila Jaycees head promised continued support to the program, saying he would ask the full support of the 46 chapters in the national organization to back up the program in the national convention of the Jaycees which will be held in Cebu later this month.

The President was informed that a Jaycee “Travel-Philippines” project committee had made an extensive study of the matter with the full cooperation of government and business sectors concerned with increasing tourism in the Philippines.

Other callers of the President were Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon, Tarlac Governor Arsenio Lugay, Masbate Governor Jesus Almero, and Gov. Felipe Garduque and former Rep. Domingo Siazon of Cagayan.

President Garcia today issued a proclamation declaring a period of national mourning over the death of Senator Claro M. Recto.

The period of national mourning during which all flags in government buildings and installations throughout the country will be flown at half-mast, will begin the moment the remains of the late Senator arrived on Philippine soil up to the date of his burial.

The President pointed out that the death of the late Senator was a great loss to the people and has caused deep sorrow throughout the country. Nationalist, statesman, jurist, and man of letters, the late Senator was president of the constitutional convention which drafted the Philippine constitution.

The President, meanwhile, sent Dr. Antonio Guytingco, his personal physician, to look into the condition of Mrs. Rosario Recto, Vda. de Pajarillo, 75 year-old sister of the late Senator, who had collapsed on being informed of her brother's death.

Mrs. Pajarillo who is now residing in Tiaong, Quezon, and staying temporarily at her daughter's house in Baclaran, Parañaque, Rizal, was reported to have been responsible for the schooling of her brother.

President Garcia today said he will suspend internal revenue personnel involved in the ₱1 million voucher padding scandal.

The President expressed impatience over the delay in the disposition of the charges against certain employees in the Bureau of Internal Revenue who had reportedly defrauded the government through falsified vouchers covering fictitious travelling expenses.

He directed Executive Secretary Castillo to confer with Finance Secretary Aytona on this matter.

In seeking a faster pace in the disposition of these cases, the President said that administrative charges should be filed right away against the suspects even while criminal charges are pending against them.

The President said he will act on the suspension of the suspects on the basis of the administrative charges.

A total of 41 employees in the BIR are held suspects in the ₱1 million voucher padding scandal which was unearthed by BIR Commissioner Domingo.

Secretary Aytona had recently suspended nine employees in the BIR who are suspected of being master minds in the voucher padding scandal.

President Garcia also pointed out that in the investigation of the voucher padding scandal absolute care must be observed in order not to involve the innocent.

THIS afternoon the President alerted all government and private relief agencies as Manila and suburbs braced for typhoon *Kit* which was expected to hit the city early tomorrow.

The President also directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to be ready at a moment's notice to convoke the National Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee to render immediate relief and assistance to typhoon sufferers.

The President gave his order after being informed that the Weather Bureau had cautioned residents in Manila and nearby cities and provinces to stay away from river banks and esteros and transfer to safer places for the night.

Typhoon *Kit*, which had formed over Southern Luzon and Northern Visayas, was reported to be moving towards Manila at between 90 to 60 miles per hour at 8 a.m. today.

Weather Bureau men, however, were not sure whether the strong winds would hit Manila directly, or skirt away with only the backlash hitting the city.

Among the relief agencies alerted by the President were the Social Welfare Administration, the Department of National Defense, the Department of Health, the Philippine National Red Cross, and local police agencies.

The President also advised residents along the probable path of the typhoon to take precautionary measures and stay in safe places to prevent possible loss of life and property.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo received assurance from General Manager Susano R. Negado of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority that the water supply in Manila and suburbs is safe.

The assurance was given this afternoon in response to an inquiry made by Secretary Castillo as to the potability of the city's water supply.

President Garcia had directed the Executive Secretary to look into the current controversy between the NAWASA general manager and Dr. Mariano D. Icasiano, city health officer, over the city's water supply.

Negado, in his report to Secretary Castillo, said that the water is safe for human consumption and that the NAWASA had sufficient supply of chlorine.

THIS evening the President directed the Philippine National Bank to extend crop loans to farmers on the most liberal terms to accelerate the return of the flood areas in Central Luzon to their previous productive levels.

In his conference with Eduardo Z. Romualdez, president of the Philippine National Bank, the President inquired into the money-lending policies of the government bank in his desire to alleviate the plight of the victims of the recent floods.

Earlier in the day, the President had directed Jose V. Rodriguez, general manager of the National Rice and Corn Corporation, to expedite the movement of rice stocks from areas of production to areas of critical supply in order to stabilize prices of the cereal.

In another conference with Administrator Juan O. Chioco of the Office of Economic Coordination, the President inquired into the status of government corporations, and into the feasibility of the government's withdrawing from business and the readiness of private enterprise to take over.

The President released today ₱705,000 for the immediate repair of the Manila north road and for repair of public works in Tarlac and Masbate.

The President, in his directive to Public Works Secretary Moreno, stressed the necessity of undertaking the prompt repair of the National highway which is the main artery from Manila to central and northern Luzon provinces.—He said the present condition of the road is hampering the smooth flow of traffic in one of the nation's busiest highways. The highway was badly damaged by the flood.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo transmitted the President's directive to the Department of Public Works this afternoon.

President Garcia also directed the release of ₱175,000 for Tarlac province. On representations made by Gov. Lugay, the President earmarked ₱100,000 of this amount for the repair of the Parua River dikes, and the balance of ₱75,000 for the repair of the feeder roads destroyed by the recent flood in Tarlac.

In another directive President Garcia ordered the release of ₱30,000 for the repair of the sea wall in Masbate which was destroyed partially by recent typhoons. The financial assistance to Masbate was made by the President following representations made by Governor Almero.

The President this day directed Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema to confer with public works and Armed Forces officials on control measures against the floods in Cotabato.

The President had earlier released ₱280,000 for the immediate aid and assistance to flood victims of Cotabato following a conference with Secretary Quema, who reported to the Chief Executive on conditions in the flooded areas. Secretary Quema had just returned from an on-the-spot survey of Cotabato.

Secretary Quema called to a conference Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista, Col. Eleazar Pinto of the AFP corps of engineers, and Col. Vicente O. Tiongson, Malacañang financial assistant, to study ways and means to alleviate the plight of the flood victims and to adopt remedial measures to avoid further damage to lives and property.

The conferees, agreed to send immediately flood control experts from the Department of Public Works and an underwater demolition team from the Navy with the view to blasting off certain portions of the Rio Grande River bank to provide additional outlets to waters overflowing its embankment.

October 7.—THIS morning the President administered the oath of office to Associate Justice Dionisio de Leon as presiding justice of the Court of Appeals to take the place of Justice Jose M. Paredes, who was elevated to the Supreme Court.

Immediately after the induction of De Leon, the President inducted Bonifacio Isip and Francisco Capistrano as associate justices of the Court of Appeals.

The induction ceremonies were held at the Malacañang reception hall and were witnessed by a large crowd made up of members of the judiciary, friends and admirers of the three inductees, headed by Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, and Administrator Juan O. Chioco of the Office of Economic Coordination.

Justice Isip, a native of Cabiao, Nueva Ecija, was a member of the Constitutional Convention, and prior to his promotion a judge of the Court of First Instance of Manila.

Justice Capistrano, a native of Cagayan de Oro City, was until his new appointment an associate commissioner of the Code Commission.

After the induction ceremonies, the President held separate conferences with PCAPE Chairman Ocampo, Reps. Francisco Lecaroz of Marinduque, Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, and Jose Nuguid of Bataan, who was accompanied by former Gov. Adelmo Camacho.

President Garcia this morning alerted the National Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee (NERCC) to extend immediate relief and rehabilitation measures to provinces hit hard by typhoon Kit.

The President also ordered the release of ₱100,000 from his contingent fund for the purchase of relief supplies for distribution to typhoon and flood victims in nine provinces visited by typhoon *Kit* and by the two-week old flood in Cotabato.

The President's action was prompted by an information given by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, NERCC chairman, on the extent of destruction sustained by various provinces from the typhoon. The information was based on the reports submitted by Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema and Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor.

Secretary Quema had been directed by the President to make an on-the-spot survey of the flooded areas of Cotabato while Administrator Villamor, had just arrived from the field directing the distribution of relief supplies and assistance to flood victims.

Secretary Quema reported that public works and Armed Forces personnel were working round-the-clock in order to alleviate the plight of the flood victims and to adopt remedial measures to avoid further damage to crops, lives, and properties. The President had earlier released ₱280,000 for this purpose.

Mrs. Villamor reported that a total of 6,927 families or about 29,000 persons were affected by floods in Cotabato City and five towns of the province, including Tumabao, Datu Piang, Pikit, Pagaluangan, and Dinaig.

The SWA administrator, added that she had released ₱10,000 from SWA funds for the immediate purchase of relief supplies for distribution to victims, as all crops in the area were totally destroyed.

The Chief Executive also ordered Secretary Castillo to render progress reports on damages sustained and the extent of relief and assistance needed by the provinces affected by the typhoon.

The provinces reported to have suffered from typhoon *Kit* are Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte, Catanduanes, Zamboanga del Norte, Masbate, Marinduque, Mindoro Occidental, Samar, and Romblon.

The President late last night also released ₱705,000 for the immediate repair of the Manila North Road and public works projects in Tarlac and Masbate. Of the amount, ₱175,000 will go to Tarlac and ₱30,000 to Masbate, while the balance will be used to repair the national highway linking Manila to Central and Northern Luzon provinces, which was badly damaged by the recent flood.

President Garcia today directed the Department of Education to investigate complaints from public school teachers in remote municipalities of Mindanao and Northern Luzon that insurance premiums payable to private companies were being deducted from their salaries without their consent,

The complaints were received by the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency and reported to the President by PCAPE Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren.

The teachers claimed that they were being insured with private insurance companies without their prior knowledge and authority.

The President, in his directive, told the Department of Education to look into the possibility of connivance between insurance agents and officials handling the pay checks of teachers in the commission of the reported irregularity.

This afternoon the President directed the board of directors of the National Development Company to sit with representatives of the United Philippine Lines and Compania Maritima on Monday to make the final draft of a charter contract in order to expedite the sale of 12 NDC ships.

In an effort to iron out differences between the NDC and end-users over the charter for the twelve vessels ordered from Japan to form the nucleus of a Philippine merchant marine, the President held two separate conferences with the two parties at Malacañang.

The President emphasized to the shipping officials that while the government is interested in the success of their operations under Republic Act 1407, the primary concern of the government is to protect the interest of the people.

Under Republic Act 1407, otherwise known as the Philippine Overseas Shipping Act of 1955, the government is pledged to help, assist, and encourage private investors to enter the overseas shipping business.

The shipping officials maintained that while they agreed to the general provisions, the provision in the charter empowering the NDC to terminate the contract if “in its opinion” the charterer had violated certain agreements, is unilaterally against them.

The President held, however, that the government should have the right to decide when a violation is committed, but agreed to the creation of a three-man arbitration board to decide any dispute between them.

The arbitration board shall be composed of one representative each from the end-users and the NDC and a third neutral member to be elected by the other two.

The shipping officials who conferred with the President were Ambrosio Magsaysay, Roberto Ho, and Antonio Rocha, Jr., representing the United Philippine Lines, which will get seven vessels, and Jose P. Fernandez and Abelardo Dolehdo, representing Compania Maritima, which will purchase five vessels.

The NDC directors who conferred with the President were Protasio Licsi, Celestino Cortes, and Genaro Sarmiento. Also present were Corporate Counsel Simeon Gopengco and NDC Technical Assistants Jess Platon and Francisco Agoncillo.

In the evening the President directed Chairman Leonardo Lucena of the Anti-Graft Committee to forward the cases of ten officials to the Department of Justice for prosecution.

The President gave this order after a long briefing given by Fiscal Lucena, who informed the President that the ten officials and employees were found to have acquired unexplained wealth, beyond their legitimate incomes.

The officials involved were three from the Bureau of Internal Revenue, two from the Bureau of Customs, one from the Bureau of Supply Coordination, two from the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration, one from the Bureau of Immigration, and one from the National Bureau of Investigation.

October 8.—THE President and the First Lady motored this morning to the Recto residence on Leveriza Street, Pasay City, to view the remains of the departed Senator. Leaving Malacañang at 9 o'clock, they arrived at the Recto residence half an hour later.

It was the first visit for the Chief Executive and the second for the First Lady. Mrs. Garcia visited Mrs. Aurora Recto, the bereaved widow, Friday morning and condoled with her. She had previously planned to meet the widow at the airport, but a slight indisposition prevented her from meeting the latter.

The President condoled with Mrs. Recto and recalled his last meeting with the Senator. That was when the President was confined at the Veterans Memorial Hospital. Sen. Recto paid the President a courtesy visit preparatory to his scheduled world tour.

The President recalled that Senator Recto had given him a book of Spanish poems.

Among those at the Recto residence at the time of the President and the First Lady's visit were Secretary of Defense Alejo Santos and former Secretary of Labor Primitivo Lovina.

On his return to Malacañang, the President received Dr. Rafael Samper and Octavio Arizmendi, two pensionados from Columbia, South America.

They were accompanied by Ramon Binamira, chief of the Presidential Assistant on Community Development; Dr. Alan Kline and Roberto Lmder, outgoing and incoming CARE chiefs, respectively.

Also present during the call were Jose Ma. Rocha, presidential special assistant, and Alvaro L. Martinez, PACD senior executive assistant.

President Garcia today, received a wire from Generalissimo Francisco. Franco of Spain extending condolence for the death of Senator Claro M. Recto.

"I have learned with deepest sorrow of the passing of Senator Claro M. Recto," Gen. Franco said in his message in Spanish and addressed to the President. "In the name of my government and my own, I wish to convey to Your Excellency our sincerest condolence over a loss which means for the Philippines the disappearance of such an eminent and illustrious personality."

Spain was among the countries Senator Recto intended to visit in his cultural world tour as personal representative of the President of the Philippines with the rank of ambassador.

The President also received a similar message from Minister Yehiel Ilzar of Israel, which said:

"Deeply grieved by untimely death of Senator Recto. The people of Israel mourn with me the bereavement of the Filipino nation for its great son. The loss of this outstanding Filipino is a loss to mankind and to the world conscience."

This afternoon the President ordered the filing of criminal and administrative charges against 81 officials of the National Rice and Corn Corporation for failure to account for some ₱12 million worth of corporate assets.

The order was issued to Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who appraised the Chief Executive on the findings of an Inter-Departmental Committee composed of Ben, Hur Balboa, special prosecutor of the Department of Justice, Mario Camacho of the PCAPE, and Rolando R. Andaya, accountant of the Budget Commission.

The basis of the findings is the General Auditing Office report that ₱7 million worth of rice and corn purchases of the NARIC, and some ₱5 million of corporate funds could not be accounted for by the corporation.

The committee observed that some of the accountable officers were officials whose appointments were temporary in nature.

PCAPE Vice Chairman Maximo Maceren and Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, said the report, is the first submitted by the Inter-Departmental Committee created in September this year for the purpose of verifying the GAO report, and filing corresponding charges against the erring officials as cited by the report which cover the fiscal year 1959-60, submitted to the President by Auditor General Pedro Gimenez sometime last August.

President Garcia, after ordering the creation of the special committee, directed Justice Ocampo to tackle first the NARIC case because of the alleged serious deficiencies discovered in its fiscal operation, which he believed might affect adversely the supply of rice in the country, Natividad said.

The President upon receiving the report also ordered the PCAPE to “double-check” whether remedial measures had already been introduced by the corporate authorities to stop once and for all the repetition of the alleged irregularities and minimize the resulting losses, and to dig deeper into the records on the so-called “Operation Cotabato,” a joint venture of the NARIC and the ACCFA, where the GAO report stated, cash advances totaling P618,786.07 had not been fully accounted for despite the fact that NARIC had already closed the account. The money represents the difference between the amount advanced and the fair valuation of the stocks actually received.

Dr. Jose Rodriguez, newly appointed manager and chairman of the board of directors of the NARIC, when informed of the charges against the 81 officials, said that he will immediately create a committee to conduct the hearing of the charges against them, and that he will extend full cooperation to the PCAPE fact-finding committee with respect to other officials who might be linked to the alleged-irregularities.

The President today placed all available facilities of the Army, Air-force, and Navy to help transport rice from places of plenty to areas of critical supply.

The President’s action was prompted by a report that temporary shortages in areas which had been hit by calamities like floods and typhoons were generated by lack of transportation facilities and destruction of roads and highways.

The President was informed by Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor that even the NARIC could not meet the demand in many localities owing to failure to ship its rice stocks to places of scarcity.

Earlier in the week the President had ordered the NARIC to ship its stocks from centers of production to critical areas, especially Manila and the Bicol region, but typhoon *Kit* had considerably delayed shipments.

Mrs. Villamor informed the President that the problem of meeting the demand for rice, especially in Albay, Naga City, and Legaspi, was difficult because there were no transportation facilities and the roads were badly cut up.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: October 9-15, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the Department of Labor to expedite the settlement of the strike in the Superior Gas and Equipment Company (SUGECO) and to submit the labor dispute for compulsory arbitration if necessary.

The President issued the directive to Labor Secretary Angel Castaño on being informed that the strike-bound firm is the only plant producing chlorine locally. The month-old controversy, which had reduced the plant's operation to a standstill, covered the recent shortage of the water-purifying chemical in Manila and suburbs.

"Everything must be done to safeguard the people's health," the President said in his directive to Secretary Castaño.

The Chief Executive received Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this afternoon.

Secretary Valencia, who recently arrived from Nigeria, together with Mrs. Valencia, as Philippine representative at the recent Nigerian independence celebration, gave his impressions on the aspirations of African nations for independence and their desire for aid through the United Nations.

The President, together with Mrs. Garcia, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, and close friends and relatives, heard an early mass at the Malacañang chapel this morning.

After breakfast the President accompanied by his aide, Major Jose Estrella, motored to his residence on Bohol Avenue for his weekend stroll. The President also took his daily lessons in golf from Felix Tugot and played a round of billiards before lunch.

The President received no callers other than Secretary Valencia today. He returned to Malacañang in the evening.

October 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the Department of Labor General Manager Susano R. Negado of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority that Manila's water supply was safe and fit to drink.

Manager Negado gave this assurance upon being summoned to Malacañang by the President this morning to clarify press reports that the water supply was not chlorinated and was unsafe to drink unless it was first boiled.

The President recalled that he had authorized the importation of 60 tons of chlorine from Taipeh in the face of a prolonged strike at the Superior Gas and Equipment Company, the only local supplier of the chemical, in order to insure the safety of the water supply and the health of the populace.

Manager Negado belied the claim of Dr. Mariano Icaciano, Manila City health officer that water should be boiled before it is used for drinking purposes, because of its turbidity.

The NWSA Manager pointed out that boiling removes all traces of chlorine and if the boiled water is not drunk immediately, it becomes more susceptible to contamination when cooled, unless the containers are perfectly clean and free of bacteria.

Manager Negado informed the President that to avoid alarming the public with results of inconclusive tests, he had held a conference with Dr. Icaciano, Health Director Jesus Nolasco, and officials of the World Health Organization on the procedure for conducting tests.

Manager Negado said the conference had agreed to conduct further tests, to check and counter-check each finding and to make periodic inspections of laboratories conducting the tests to insure water potability and sanitation.

The NWSA executive admitted that not all water supplied Manila and vicinity was chlorinated because some of it comes from artesian wells, particularly in Antipolo, San Mateo, Project 6 and Project 8, San Lorenzo Village, and Forbes Park.

Periodic tests, Manager Negado said, show that water in these areas has never been contaminated.

Manager Negado explained that turbid water was caused by changes to extreme pressure in the pipelines, which agitate the silt and washes it off through the faucet.

According to Manager Negado, this happens every time repairs are made in the pipelines but that it is only temporary and is harmless.

Manager Negado also called on the President for final instructions before leaving for Tokyo, Japan, to attend the Marikina Multipurpose Project committee meeting with world consultants to verify the safety of the Marikina multipurpose dam; and the Large Dams Conference, also to be held in the Japanese capital.

The NWSA chief will also look into the possibility of acquiring from reparations badly needed equipment for the NWSA.

Earlier this morning the President received Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, who called at Malacañang to say goodbye before leaving tomorrow afternoon for the United States.

Vice-President Macapagal will address the 1960 convention of the American Legion on October 17, at Miami, Florida.

The President also received Vicente Albano Pacis, former SEATO information officer, and Manager Francisco "Koko" Trinidad of the government radio station DZFM, who both felicitated the President on his improved health.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo today administered the oath of office to Dr. Damaso Samonte as undersecretary for special health services.

Dr. Samonte will re-occupy the positions he had vacated a year ago when he ran for governor in Ilocos Norte.

The undersecretaryship for special health services is one of the two posts under the reorganized Department of Health, the other being the undersecretary for medical services.

Secretary Castillo also announced that the President had appointed an assistant fiscal, a clerk of court, and two justices of the peace. Appointed were Abelardo M. Milla as assistant fiscal of Tarlac, Enrique Casino as clerk of court of Bukidnon, and Restituto M. Mercado and Demetrio Luis as justices of the peace of Angeles, Pampanga, and Tublay, Mt. Province, respectively.

President Garcia today expressed his gratification over the pledge of support he received from the Philippine Association of Log Producers and Exporters to the reforestation program of the Administration.

The President underscored the importance of the pledge at a time when the Administration is embarking on a national scale the reforestation of denuded areas. He pointed out that the floods in Central Luzon and Cotabato can be traced to indiscriminate cutting of trees in forest areas and warned the loggers that now is the time to profit from the experience.

Valeriano Bueno and Jorge Tirador, who acted as spokesmen of the group, informed the President during their call at Malacañang this evening that the PALPE is sending a trade and goodwill mission to Japan, Korea, and Formosa to work out an agreement on quantitative requirements of Japanese and other importers, based on the capacity of PALPE members to supply and secure the stabilization of price levels, either on a quarterly or seasonal basis.

Other members of the mission who had either left ahead or were unable to see the President are Brigido Valencia, chairman; and Amado Dalisay, Napoleon Rosales, Canuto Pifianco, Jr., Pedro Majorada, Guillermo Ponce, Mamerto Sanvictores, Feliciano Sarmiento, and Tranquilino Valderrama.

The President also received this evening Roberto O. Phillips, commander of the Philippine Department of the American Legion, who reported of a favorable atmosphere in the U. S. House of Representatives committee on veterans affairs for the Teague bill which provides for a version of benefit payments to Filipinos from that of the present “peso for a dollar-to-dollar payment.

Two other Filipinos who worked for the Teague Bill, according to Phillips, were former Ambassador Joaquin M. Elizalde and General Dionisio Ojeda, head of the Philippine Federation of Veterans.

President Garcia today directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to keep him posted on developments on the efforts of the Department of Commerce and the Department of Justice to prevent profiteering and prosecute profiteers of prime commodities.

Irked by persistent reports that the prices of basic food items were unduly rising owing to practices of unscrupulous traders in the wake of typhoon Kit, the President this morning had directed Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim and Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag to coordinate the efforts of their offices to arrest the rising prices.

The President specifically directed the Department of Justice to study the possibility of implementing fully the anti-profiteering law.

Secretary Lim had previously recommended to the President against taking drastic action against the merchants. He said he would confer with the traders and enlist their cooperation towards keeping the prices down to reasonable levels.

The President, in his directive to Secretaries Lim and Mabanag, reiterated his determination to keep the prices of prime commodities within the reach of lower-income sections of the population

October 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning led the nation in paying final tribute to the late Senator Claro M. Recto at necrological rites held in the Senate session hall.

The President, visibly touched by the great loss to the nation in the death of Senator Recto, shed tears as he gazed for the last time at his personal friend and envoy who died on a cultural and goodwill mission in Rome.

The President later led the pallbearers composed of close friends and associates of the late Senator, as, well as high government officials, from the session hall to the caisson which, took the body to its final resting place at the North Cemetery.

In his funeral oration, Senator Lorenzo M. Tañada, former protegee, partner, colleague, and later running mate of Senator Recto, was overcome, with emotion as he related incidents in their long and close association.

Sen. Tañada said that it was Senator Recto, who during the liberation picked up “the precious thread of history and lifted the glorious pattern of Filipino greatness which had produced a truly great Filipino nation in the 1890’s.”

“Thus,” Sen. Tañada continued, “although he was not the creator of a noble national design, he was its faithful guardian and brave defender.”

Tañada recalled the many deeds of kindness and generosity of Senator Recto saying, “A generous man like Recto could not avoid greatness,” adding “but with all his greatness, there was a spirit of true humility.”

Foreign Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who represented the Cabinet, said that “with his death, it was as though a majestic mountain has been removed by the hand of God. Where, once it stood in solitary splendor, a vast void has been created and a sense of desolation fills the surrounding country.”

Secretary Serrano said it was ironic that a man so devoted to his people and so passionately in love with his country should die in a foreign country. “His last words ‘It is a terrible thing to die in a foreign country, was the agonizing cry of a son whose last thought was his Motherland,’” Serrano concluded.

Aklan Gov. Godofredo Ramos, in his funeral oration, said that Recto was a constructive oppositionist who dissented against what he held wrong in the eyes of his people but conformed firmly with what he believed would promote their welfare.

Other speakers at the necrological services were former Senator Vicente J. Francisco, who represented the living delegates to the Constitutional Convention, Supreme Court Justice Alejo Labrador, and Rep. Justiniano S. Montano representing the House of Representatives.

Jose Ma. Recto, son of the late Senator, who spoke on behalf of the family, thanked friends and various organizations who had extended their sympathies and rendered homage to his father.

“My father died the way he wanted to. He died in line of duty fighting to the end. Although his loss is irreparable to us, we derive consolation from the fact that he has served our country well,” he said in a half choked voice.

President and Mrs. Garcia and their daughter Linda left Malacañang about 8 o’clock in the morning and arrived at the Senate session hall 15 minutes later.

After condoling with Mrs. Recto and the members of the family, the President ascended the rostrum flanked by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez.

Also in attendance were Cabinet members, solons, members of the judiciary and the diplomatic corps, former delegates to the Constitutional Convention, close friends and relatives, and a big number of people who wanted to get a close last look at the late Senator.

Col. Nicolas Ortega, chief of the AFP chaplain corps, delivered the invocation while the Philippine Constabulary Band, under the baton of Col. Antonio Buenaventura, played *In Memoriam* and *Nearer My God to Thee*, and furnished the accompaniment to Salvacion Oppus-Ymguez, soprano who sang *Ave Maria*.

After the services, the President descended from the platform and headed the pallbearers for the late Senator. As soon as the funeral cortege had formed, the President motored back to Malacañang, arriving at the palace at 11 a.m.

Mrs. Garcia and daughter Linda joined the funeral cortege consoling Mrs. Recto, and returned to the Palace after the interment at the Manila North Cemetery.

Today the President received Philippine Ambassador to Rome Roberto Regala, who reported on the forthcoming International Conference on Diplomatic Agents and Immunities to be held in Vienna in March in pursuance of a United Nations resolution.

The President agreed with Ambassador Regala that the Philippines should be well represented at the conference.

Former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., also called on President Garcia immediately after his arrival from Cebu. The former President paid his respects.

Tomas Quirino, son of the late President Elpidio Quirino, also called on the President. Quirino is leaving for a three-week visit to Indonesia at the invitation of Indonesian President Sukarno.

October 12.—EARLY this morning President Garcia made a surprise visit to the Manila Railroad Company terminal and station in Tutuban and urged railroad officials to complete as soon as possible MRR modernization plans.

The President inspected the different offices of the MRR, including the office of the general manager, the board of directors, conference room, the terminals for passengers and freights, the passenger waiting stations, and the office of the chief dispatcher where he was briefed on the operations and movements of passenger and freight trains.

The President said that, even with the various improvements and innovations already made, there is still much to be desired by way of affording the public the comforts and conveniences of modern-day travel.

President Garcia was so impressed by the modernization plans of the MRR that he directed MRR General Manager Teofilo Zosa to start their immediate implementation.

The President also approved Zosa's plan to purchase 60 passenger coaches, ten diesel engines, and 100 flat and freight cars to accommodate the ever-increasing passenger and freight demands. Spare parts, the lack of which is holding up the repair of the railway rolling stocks, will also be imported immediately.

The modernization of the MRR communications system was also earmarked for immediate implementation.

The President, accompanied by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable and Maj. Ciriaco Hocson, military aide, left the MRR much impressed by the cleanliness and the improved facilities of the government transportation firm.

President Garcia today pressed for the immediate start of the ₱50 million bond issue to get the integrated steel mill rolling by the end of next year.

The President also urged the early establishment of a modern automatic telephone exchange at the Manila International Airport to cope with the requirements of increasing air traffic.

Secretary Moreno called on the President for final instructions this morning before leaving for Japan tomorrow to attend several conferences, among them the International Board of Consultants (IBC) meeting which will pass upon the safety factor in the proposed Marikina dam multi-purpose projects.

Much concern and uneasiness had been generated by reports that the construction of the Marikina multi-purpose project, which was planned by a Japanese firm of consultants, was not safe, thus delaying the start of construction.

Creation of the IBC, which is composed of noted world specialists in engineering, geology, and dam design, had previously been approved by the President to determine once and for all the merits of the proposed multi-purpose project at Marikina.

Members of the IBC are Dr. Frank A. Nickell, George E. Goodall, and John Hammond, Americans; Dr. Alfred Falconnier, Swiss; Dr. Joseph Duffaut, French; Claudio Marchello, Italian; and a Filipino representing the Japanese firm.

Secretary Moreno informed the President of the serious communications lack at the Manila International Airport and suggested that a modern 400-automatic telephone system be set up by negotiated sale.

Secretary Moreno said that the Tele-Service Company (representing the National Electric Company of Japan), and the ITF Philippines, a branch of International Standard Electric Corporation, are interested in handling the job, as

well as the expansion and modernization of the nationwide telecommunications system, either through reparations or through the firms, worldwide procurement method.

The President agreed with Secretary Moreno on the pressing need for an automatic telephone exchange at the MIA.

The President also discussed with Secretary Moreno and Bernardo Abrera, general manager of the National Steel and Shipyard Corporation, the sale of bonds for the integrated steel mill in Iligan, Lanao, which may be announced to the public this week.

The President again reiterated the importance of getting the mill rolling in order to keep pace with, the industrial growth of the country by providing basic materials for heavy industries.

November 4 this year has been set as the deadline for the sale of bonds for the steel mill which will be convertible into shares to stock (under separate contract) in the private corporation.

The Cabinet had also recommended that the buyer of the largest amount of bonds will lead in the formation of the private corporation which will eventually manage the steel mill, but each bond buyer is limited to not more than 34 per cent of the total amount of capital subscribed.

Also present at the conference was Chairman Rodolfo Maslog of the Reparations Commission, who briefed the President on possible prospects of securing equipments for the projects through reparations.

Secretary Moreno, who will be in Japan for two or three weeks, is the Philippine delegate strong vice-presidential candidate to the International Commission on Large Dams whose meeting he will also attend.

President Garcia today took up with his Cabinet reports on the upward swing of prices of prime commodities and decided to proclaim a state of public calamity in Manila, Quezon City, and Pasay, and seven provinces.

The Chief Executive was alarmed by reports that rice and other essential commodities, like milk and salt, have been selling at unreasonable amounts.

October 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning lauded the Philippine Constabulary for the capture last night of Casto Alejandrino, head of the Huk armed forces and No. 2 man in the Huk hierarchy.

In a citygram to Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, chief of the Philippine Constabulary, the President said that the capture of Alejandrino was a severe and telling blow to communism in the Philippines in particular, and to the communist movement throughout the world in general.

The President said that the brilliant intelligence coup which effected the prime catch spoke highly of the quality and sense of dedication to service of the men in the PC command.

The President administered this morning the oath of office to former Rep. Genaro Vizarra, as member of the Commission on Elections, vice Gaudencio Garcia, who had been elevated to the Commission chairmanship.

Present at the oath-taking which was held at the Malacañang reception hall were officials of the Commission, and relatives and friends of the inductee led by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and Animal Industry Director Anacleto Coronel.

Chairman Garcia succeeded Jose P. Carag, whose term expired June 20, 1959. Vizarra's term will expire on June 20, 1968, nine years after the expiration of Carag's term. The other members of the three-man constitutional body is Commissioner Sixto Brillantes.

Incidentally Vizcarra's birthday falls today, the date of his induction.

Earlier the President received Rafaelita H. Soriano, who reported on her recent mission with the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO).

The President also received executives of the Pacific Far East Lines who paid their respects, accompanied by Mariano Laurel, president of the Philippine Banking Corporation.

The PFEL officials who called on the President were Clarence Morse, president, George Gmelch, and Bill Harder, vice-president of the corporation. They are in Manila on an inspection of the company installations.

The President later received Ilocos Norte Governor Jose E. Evangelista, who sought budgetary and relief aid as well as public works fund releases for his province; and Vice-Gov. Inday Melencio of Nueva Ecija and three town mayors who came to thank the President for relief extended to the province.

The Nueva Ecija delegation was composed of Vice-Gov. Melencio, former Governor Jose' Robles, Guimba Mayor Virgilio Calica, Muiioz Mayor Dominador Santos, Gabiao Mayor Gregorio T. Crespo, and MVO Assistant Chief Aurelio de Leon.

The President this day mobilized all relief agencies in Manila and Central Luzon and warned people living near creeks and lowlands to move to safer places to forestall possible repetition of the May 28 disaster which wrought considerable loss to lives and property.

The President also directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to alert members of the National Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee and be ready to extend immediate assistance to typhoon sufferers. He asked his executive secretary, who is chairman of the NERCC, to keep him posted on the extent of damage and the flow of relief to needy areas.

The President also suspended all classes the whole day and sent all government employees home at noon for the rest of the day, as Manila braced for typhoon *Lola*, which was reported sweeping toward Manila from the north.

The President also enjoined all Army and Constabulary as well as police agencies not only to maintain peace but to be ready at all times to go to the aid of people needing their assistance under the fury of the raging typhoon and floods.

Among the agencies alerted by the President were the Social Welfare Administration, the Philippine National Red Cross, national and city health departments, the Philippine Army, Navy, Air Force, and Constabulary, and all police agencies in Manila and suburbs.

In his warning to the people inhabiting low grounds, the President said that the flash flood which hit Manila and nearby cities last May 28 might recur and that it would be best to evacuate to higher grounds, far from creeks and rivers, at least for the night typhoon "Lola" was expected in Manila.

President Garcia also ordered the immediate formation of price-control teams to check on rising prices of commodities in Manila, Pasay, and Quezon Cities, and the provinces of Bulacan, Rizal, Pampanga, Tarlac, Pangasinan, and Samar.

The President warned that all dealers caught violating the price control law which prohibits hoarding and sale of prime commodities at prices 25 per cent more than those prevailing a month before, will get the full measure of punishment.

The President said that people who had suffered enough from floods and typhoons should not be made to suffer further from food shortage due to rising prices but should be aided in their efforts to rehabilitate themselves.

The Chief Executive last night issued a proclamation declaring a state of calamity in Manila and suburbs as well as in nearby provinces in an effort to arrest spiralling prices of prime commodities.

October 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia today was pleased by reports that members of the Philippine delegation to the United Nations stood up against Soviet Premier Khrushchev and put up a show out-talking the Communist leader.

Impressed by the courage of the Philippine delegation, especially Senator Lorenzo M. Sumulong, the President wired the mission and congratulated it for its showing in the UN.

At the same time, the President sent a cable to U.S. President Eisenhower on the occasion of his 70th birth anniversary.

The Chief Executive, in his message to the U.S. President, conveyed the Filipino people's fervent prayer for his continued excellent health so that he can continue his vigorous leadership of the Free World against the Communist menace.

President Garcia this morning declared Zamboanga del Norte under a state of calamity, to arrest rapidly rising prices of prime commodities.

Zamboanga del Norte was the first province in Mindanao and the eleventh so far placed under a state of calamity by the President. Others are Manila, Pasay, and Quezon cities; and Bulacan, Rizal, Pampanga, Tarlac, Pangasinan, Nueva Ecija, and Samar.

The President had decreed the enforcement of the price control law in these areas, which prohibits the sale of any commodity at 25 per cent more than its price the month before, as well as hoarding.

Even while the President was waiting for the price list prepared by the Department of Commerce, he had directed the formation of price control teams by all agencies of the government concerned, to check hoarding and profiteering in the wake of calamities.

Zamboanga del Norte was placed under this state of calamity upon representations made by Rep. Alberto Ubay, who informed the President of the seriousness of the situation in his province where, according to him, the price of rice has gone up to ₱1.60 per ganta.

In a separate conference, the President placed under advisement the proposal of Rep. Francisco Sumulong of Rizal to nationalize all roads in the various projects of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation in Quezon City.

Rep. Sumulong informed the President that all project roads, particularly those in Projects 3, 4, and 8, are in a serious state of disrepair because the PHHC had no funds and the Quezon City government was reluctant to take them over in their present condition.

The President told Rep. Sumulong to submit an estimate of the cost of repair and maintenance and a resolution of the PHHC board approving their nationalization so that he can refer the matter to the Department of Public Works for further study.

The President also conferred with Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Reps. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, Joaquin R. Roces of Manila, and Aguedo Agbayani of Pangasinan, on matters pertaining to their respective provinces.

Other morning callers were Reps. Tobias Fornier of Antique and Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, who requested fund releases for various public works projects in their localities.

This afternoon the President assured Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo that the proposed Calinog multipurpose project will be placed on the agenda of the Council of State at its next meeting.

The President gave the assurance after receiving the preliminary survey report and the recommendations made by the National Power Corporation and the Department of Public Works and Communications, giving the project a high priority.

The project is estimated to cost ₱21 million to be financed out of bond issue. It is similar to the proposed Marikina multi-purpose project and will include a hydroelectric plant, irrigation system, and waterworks reservoir.

Rep. Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur also saw the President to request the release of ₱15,000 appropriated in Republic Act No. 2701 for the repair of the Cabusao-Libmanan waterworks, whose dikes were destroyed by a recent flood. The request of the Bicol solon was endorsed to Malacañang technical assistants for study.

Other callers were Ambassador Jose Imperial, who is soon leaving for his new post in Bangkok, Sen. Eulogio Balao and Rep. Benjamin T. Ligot of Cagayan, and Govs. Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte and Ricardo Castillo of Surigao del Sur, who took up local matters with the President.

October 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed members of his Cabinet to submit quarterly progress reports of the accomplishments of their respective departments.

The President said that he would like to render periodic reports to the people on the progress of various activities and projects being undertaken by the government in different fields.

“The people are entitled to know,” he added.

The President also spurred his department-secretaries to improve further their records which, he said, had already shown remarkable accomplishment in previous progress reports.

Waking up early this morning, the President boarded his launch. *The Chief*, and crossed over to the Malacañang Park where he had his daily stroll. He was accompanied by Major Ciriaco Hocson, junior military aide, and some other assistants who briefed him on varied matters as he went along.

The President also spent some time practicing power drives with a golf club with some golfers heckling from the sidelines, including Misses Dee Munson and Lilian Price, staff members of the *Foremagazine*, the only golf weekly in the country.

At the conclusion of his practice session, the President was presented with a plaque and identification card making him honorary president of the Malacañang Golf Association. The presentation was made by Justice Fred Ruiz Castro of the Court of Appeals, chairman of the club’s board of directors, in the presence of club members, including Dr. Wigberto Clavecilla, Tomas Cloma, Luis Conception, and Mrs. Constancio Leuterio.

” I thank you for this honor and I hope I will be an asset instead of a liability to the club,” the President said.

Returning to Malacañang about 9 a.m., the President had breakfast with Mrs. Garcia. Then he conferred with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who consulted him on pending matters.

In the afternoon the President motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, where he received a large group of provincial governors and city mayors.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: October 16-22, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today issued two proclamations declaring the periods from November 13 to 19 as “Business and Professional Women’s Week” and from November 21 to 27, this year, as “Accountancy Week.”

In declaring a Business and Professional Women’s Week, the President called upon all residents of the Philippines to cooperate in focusing the attention of the people on the important contribution of business and professional women to the economy of the country as well as on the problems brought about by their other dual role as homemakers and earners.

In his other proclamation the President also took cognizance of the immense contribution of accountants to the progress of the national economy by reason of the vantage position they occupy in business, finance, and industry which, he said, deserves public recognition.

The President also issued an executive order creating the municipality of San Miguel in the new province of Zamboanga del Sur upon recommendation of the provincial board.

The new municipality of Zamboanga del Sur is composed of the barrios and sitios of San Miguel, Alanguilan, Bulawan, Batinan, Daoan, Dumali-an, Fatima, Guipos, Laperian, Mati, Limonan, Tapan, Taliga, Calubi, Bagong Oroquieta, Tulabug, and Tiguha, all in the municipality of Diñas.

President and Mrs. Garcia commemorated the 26th birthday of their daughter Linda by hearing mass at the Malacañang chapel early this morning.

Among those who heard the mass were Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, Secretary and Mrs. Felixberto Serrano, Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Isagani V. Campo, Dr. and Mrs. Alejandro Gaerlan, and Mrs. Amparo P. Villamor.

Speaker Romualdez called at Malacañang this morning to say goodbye prior to his departure for the United States this afternoon.

After receiving friends at breakfast, the President and the First Lady motored to their Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City where they spent the rest of the day.

October 17.—THIS morning President Garcia ordered Acting Public Works Secretary Marciano Bautista to start immediately repair work on the Arnedo dike in Pampanga, which burst for the second time at the height of typhoon *Lola*.

Angered when informed by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable that the dike burst again, the President snapped: “What kind of engineers do we have?”

The Chief Executive promptly called Secretary Bautista by phone and directed him to visit personally the dike. The President demanded an explanation why the dike had burst again. He had been previously informed that repair was already completed on the dike the first time it burst.

The President also:

(1) Directed Health Undersecretary Rafael Tumbukon to send immediately water purifiers and medical teams and supplies to the flooded areas. He specifically alerted Tumbukon on health measures to be adopted in these areas.

(2) Ordered the Armed Forces of the Philippines to dispatch the entire corps of engineers to assist the public works department in the repair of the damaged dike; and

(3) Instructed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor to rush all relief available to the flood victims.

Immediately after the order of the President was given, Secretary. Bautista called a staff meeting of department engineers to discuss ways of repairing the dike. He said P70,000 was available. He said he would leave for Pampanga right after the conference and view the damages on the dike and on other public works.

President Garcia today assured local plywood manufacturers that he will look into their complaint against the operations of the Jones Veneer and Plywood Company of Eugene, Oregon.

The President said that he will call Central Bank officials to a conference to get a clearer picture of the matter. He was apprised of plight of the Philippine Plywood industry in the face of the operations of the Jones Veneer and Plywood Company by members of the Plywood manufacturers' Association of the Philippines who blamed the American plywood firm for the present difficulties that the local industry now faces in the United States market.

The PMAP group, composed of Nicholas N. Kosloff, president, Richard Barlett and Eduardo Cojuangco, directors, informed President Garcia that the Jones Co. buys lauan veneer in the Philippines, then converts same into plywood with Douglas fir core and backs and labels the product as Philippine plywood.

The Jones Co., the President was informed, sells its so-called Philippine plywood at a cheaper price.

In view of the competition, the President was also informed that total U.S. plywood imports from the Philippines for the first semester of 1960 was 24.3 per cent less than the same period last year.

The reduction of Philippine plywood exports to the U. S. market has, as a result, caused two plywood plants operating in the Philippines to curtail production and nine others have either discontinued or are planning to stop operation.

The President also received Ambassador Walter Hofer of Switzerland, who is soon leaving to assume his new post as Swiss ambassador to Bangkok and concurrent minister to Burma.

In bidding goodbye to the President, the Swiss envoy recalled his enjoyable stay of five years and eight months in the Philippines.

Col. Jose Lukban, chief of the National Bureau of Investigation, was able to get the President's approval to the construction of the new P1.5 million NBI building in Port Area.

Ambassador Jose Ma. Delgado called on President Garcia before leaving for his post in the Vatican. The Filipino envoy returned to the Philippines for a short vacation and celebrated here his golden wedding anniversary.

This evening, the President exchanged best wishes with President Chiang Kai-shek, of the Republic of China.

The President conveyed his greetings to Generalissimo Chiang through a big group from the Chinese National War College who paid their respects to the Chief Executive at Malacañang.

The group, accompanied by Chinese Ambassador Tuan Mao-lan, gave the President a copy of *The Works of Dr. Sun Yat Sen* and a brochure of the college. They thanked the President for making possible their visit to further their studies of the economic, political, and military set-ups of the Philippines and other countries.

The spokesman, Lt. Gen. Shu Pei-ken, personally conveyed to President Garcia the warm greetings and felicitations of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek for the Chief Executive's full recovery and well-being.

The group, which is directly under the command of General Chiang Kai-shek, is headed by its Dean, Lt. Gen. Shu, and is composed of various department heads, members of the legislative and executive yuans, and the Chinese navy.

Among the group were Lee You-lin, Pan Liang-fong, Wang Ta-jun, and James Tsao of the legislative yuan, Minister of Economic Affairs Tsai Meng-gian, Vice-Chairman of Vocational Assistance Commission for retired Servicemen Chao Tsu-yu, Director Shen Jintai of the first department, Council for US aid, and Tan Lian-chao.

The military group was composed of four lieutenant generals, one vice-admiral, two rear admirals, five major generals and one lieutenant colonel.

The group, which arrived Sunday noon, will leave Manila Wednesday for Thailand and Vietnam before returning to Taipei.

After receiving the Chinese War College group, the President conferred with Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal on the peace-and-order situation, and later received a group of municipal mayors from Cagayan.

The Cagayan delegation was headed by Senator Eulogio Balao, Rep. Benjamin Ligot, Jose P. Carag, former Cagayan governor and ex-chairman of the Commission on Election, and provincial officials, municipal mayors, and vice-mayors.

The delegation presented a resolution to the President pledging their loyalty and support to his re-election, and sought the release of typhoon relief funds for destruction wrought by the last typhoon to crops and public works projects. The resolution was signed unanimously by all the members of the delegation and 22 mayors of Cagayan.

Among the members of the delegation were Cagayan Vice-Gov. Diosdado Magayano; Board Members Mike Caronan, Consuelo Carag, and Benjamin Cortes; and some 30 municipal mayors and vice-mayors.

President Garcia today reiterated full confidence in the members of the Philippine panel negotiating a treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation with Japan.

The President categorically stated he has no intention whatsoever of appointing a substitute in place of former Speaker Jose B. Laurel as head of the Philippine mission.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the presidential assurance retaining former Speaker Laurel as chief of the Philippine mission was made to spike reports and speculations that Laurel would be changed.

The panel, led by former Speaker Laurel, conferred with the president and briefed the Chief Executive on several aspects of the proposed treaty with Japan.

The conference lasted over half an hour. Nable added that the Philippine panel members are scheduled to leave for Japan soon.

Those who met the President were former Speaker Laurel, Senator Rogelio de la Rosa, Rep. Antonio Raquiza of La Union, Central Bank Deputy Governor Andres V. Castillo, Jose Laurel III, Minister Enrique Garcia and Prof. Monico Vicente of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

October 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia today endorsed to the Department of Commerce and Industry the plan of the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters to seek additional foreign markets for the exportation of sugar.

The President also directed the Philippine embassy in Washington through the Department of Foreign Affairs to Work for the adoption of the present sugar quota in the United States on a permanent basis.

The President's action was made following a conference with Jose Mapa Gomez, president of the NFSP, who informed the Chief Executive of the bright prospect of sugar production far in excess of the local requirements and foreign quota commitments this year.

Gomez was accompanied by Rep. Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental, who asked the President for relief aid and funds for the reconstruction of several public works projects damaged by typhoon *Lola*.

The President also approved the recommendation of Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela for the reopening of several subports in the Sulu archipelago to curb rampant smuggling and piracy prevalent in the area.

Today being congressman's day, callers consisted mostly of congressmen, who requested release of funds for public works projects and relief aid for their respective districts.

Among today's callers were Sens. Arturo Tolentino, Quintin Paredes, Alejandro Almendras with Davao provincial officials, and Roseller T. Lim with a group of American businessmen; Reps. Luis Hora of Mt. Province, Leon Guinto, Jr., with District Engineer Ciceron Guerrero of Quezon, Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Lorenzo Teves and Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental with Gov. Mariano Perdices and Mayor Jose Pro. Teves of Dumaguete City, Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, Apolinario Apacible of Batangas, and Eladio Balite and Valeriano Yancha of Samar with Mayor Ildefonso Abanso of Calbiga.

October 19.—TAKING his first out-of town trip since leaving the hospital almost two months ago, the President and the First Lady left Malacañang about 7 a.m. and entrained for a surprise visit to Apalit, Pampanga, to see the extent of the damaged caused by the last flood.

The President commended MRR General Manager Teofilo Zosa for several innovations at the MRR station, especially the neatly clad MRR police which gave him a snappy salute, and the "new look" at the waiting room which greeted him for the first time.

The President also noted long lines of coaches carrying northbound commuters along the railroad tracks. Manager Zosa said that his coaches had to make four or five trips north to handle the heavy flow of daily commuters because the floods had cut up the highway making auto and bus rides hazardous and inconvenient.

Accompanying the President and the First Lady were Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Education Secretary Jose Romero, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, and GSIS General Manager. Rodolfo Andal, who were joined at Malolos by Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, PC chief.

At Calumpit the President was appalled by the waters which, although much subsided, still covered the rice paddies as far as the eye could reach. The President saw houses in two feet of water and big mango trees with only their tops above the water.

Arriving at the Apalit junction, the party was welcomed by Apalit townspeople, and officials led by Mayor Alfonso Luge and Supervising Engineer Jose B. Robles.

The presidential party boarded two buses and proceeded to Sulipan for the briefing, after which the President and several members boarded a motor launch and two motorized bancas for the last leg of the trip, to survey repair work in sitio Ungot, barrio Sukad. The President noted that the work in the 150-yard beach had just started. The President ordered Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista, to step up the repair work and complete work by Monday. He directed Bautista to stay behind and finish the repair job by employing three shifts in a round-the-clock schedule.

The President's flood control consists of a long-range project which will call for legislative approval next regular session, and a short-range project for the repair of 49 breaks in the Arnedo dike, three of them described as major breaks averaging 100 meters wide.

Secretary Bautista asked for another P250,000 in addition to P70,000 previously released to complete work on the Arnedo dike.

With the aid of large maps, Secretary Bautista explained to the President that the Pampanga and Angat rivers meet at a confluence in Calumpit, and because of the heavy sedimentation and the fishponds obstructing the outlet, the water creeps over the surrounding area inundating several towns in Bulacan and Pampanga.

Secretary Bautista proposed the construction of a 150-meter wide canal from Calumpit to Manila Bay to provide a free outlet in the Manila Bay for excess water. The project is estimated to cost P2.5 million and can be finished in 18 months.

Secretary Bautista further informed the President that even if the Arnedo dike could withstand the rampaging waters, it is not enough to prevent a flood, especially in Candaba swamp.

He said that a total of 30,000 square kilometers in Central Luzon was under water and that rice plantations in this area suffered heavy losses.

The President announced he will take up with his top advisers a huge flood control project embracing a careful study of the mountain ranges ringing Central Luzon, an extensive and intensive reforestation program under the Reforestation Office, and a further study of the problem of removing illegally constructed fishpond dikes in communal waters.

The President said that nobody had the right to appropriate communal waters for his own selfish and personal ends at the expense of the community or the public.

The Chief Executive also added that he may have to call upon the United States International Cooperation Administration for technical and financing assistance in this project.

The President and the First Lady visited the Apalit church before boarding the bus that took them to the train for their return trip to Manila.

Aboard the presidential train, the President instructed Defense Secretary Alejo Santos and General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal of the Government Service Insurance System to help expedite resettlement of squatters in the Sapang Palay project in San Jose del Monte, Bulacan.

The President registered surprise at the delay of the resettlement of squatters who had been rendered homeless last year, in Sapang Palay and another site in Cavite.

Manager Andal informed the President that the financing arrangement under which the GSIS will float bonds to finance the project at P7.5 million was still being studied by the National Economic Council.

The project involves purchase of 700 hectares of agricultural land at Sapang Palay, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan, for resale at cost to squatters from Manila, Quezon, and Pasay cities.

The President told some newspapermen in an impromptu press conference aboard the presidential train enroute to Apalit, Pampanga, that the case of ten high officials now facing prosecution for "unexplained wealth" should serve stern warning that his administration will not condone graft and other corrupt practices in the government.

The Chief Executive informed the newsmen that when the case was first reported to him, he directed Fiscal Leonardo Lucena, chairman of the Presidential Anti-Graft Committee, to gather enough evidence to support conviction.

“When he had the evidence ready and he came to me, I told him to endorse the cases to the Department of Justice for prosecution,” the President said.

The Chief Executive recalled to the newsmen that the defunct Integrity Board, which was created by the Liberals during the incumbency of the late President Quirino for the avowed purpose of fighting graft and corruption, had “almost nothing” to show by way of accomplishment.

During the conference, the President also recalled that Lt. Commander Calinawan’s clean-up job had netted the government an additional P100 million in customs revenues.

Whereas his two predecessors, Col. Jaime Velasquez and Manuel Manahan, resigned their jobs in exasperation, the President specified that Calinawan was responsible for the cleaning up of the customs bureau and broke up several rackets, among them were: (1) the protection racket at the piers;

(2) hot car racket involving over 1,300 cars purchased through American bases, for which unfortunately the innocent buyers are paying legal taxes:

(3) customs brokers racket, and (4) dollar- smuggling.

THE CABINET approved this evening the terms and conditions for the sale of P50,000,000 worth of government bonds to start the proposed integrated steel mill in Iligan City in Mindanao.

The floating of bonds was made necessary because the National Steel and Shipyard corporation could not handle the huge project by itself and has to go into the venture with the help of private capital.

Under the plan for financing the establishment of the steel mill, which would supply the basic needs of local heavy and light industries, the President would ask Congress to amend the law so that the N.S.S.C. could invest in a private corporation to establish and operate the mill.

The government would acquire through the N.S.S.C. 51 per cent of the capital stock of the new corporation to be set up. Later, the government would dispose of 17 per cent of its stocks to the general public.

Private capital may participate in the venture through the purchase of bonds. These bonds would be sold under certain conditions approved by the Cabinet this evening.

October 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed gratification over the organization of the Philippine Chamber of Maritime Commerce saying that it will help take care of the multifarious problems affecting the nation’s shipping trade.

The President praised the officers of the newly-organized chamber for the timeliness of its inception during this period when the government is embarking on a bold venture of increasing Philippine shipping tonnage so that at least 30 per cent of the nation’s export and import trade would be carried on Philippine-flag vessels.

The President’s remarks was made following the induction this morning of officers of the PCMC at Malacañang.

According to its organizers, the PCMC was founded to promote maritime interests and to foster closer understanding and cooperation among Filipinos engaged in the maritime industry.

Inducted were Tomas Cloma, president; Mauricio Gallaga, 1st vice-president; Teotimo Roja, 2nd vice-president; Benigno del Rio, treasurer; Felix Flores, secretary; and Bernardo Abrera, Capt. Pedro Tinsay, Delfin Diangco, A. Sol Alcantara, Fermin Francisco, and Felix Alberto, directors.

Earlier this morning the President received a delegation of Shriners from Tacoma, Washington, headed by Ralph Johnstone, who paid a courtesy call following their recent arrival. The Shriners of Washington is "a brotherhood organization for the promotion of goodwill, understanding, and friendship among peoples of the world."

Later, the President received some governors who consulted him on various matters affecting their respective provinces, ranging from relief aid and release of public works funds to promotion of cottage industries.

Among the callers were Govs. Miguel Manguera of Marinduque, Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, Juan G. Frivaldo of Sorsogon, and Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur.

President Garcia today lauded the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization for its vital role in the achievement of maximum agricultural production throughout the world.

The President was host at Malacañang to some 32 delegates from 11 Asian countries and their Philippine counterparts who are holding the Fifth Development Center on Farm Management conference of the FAO in Manila.

During their courtesy call the President underscored the increasing need for cooperative assistance among all nations in a universal effort towards economic self-sufficiency, and expressed hope that the conference will be able to contribute greatly to the improvement of farming methods and techniques, especially in countries devastated by national calamities.

Among those who paid their respects to the President were U Yone Shain, deputy director of Agriculture; Tenasserin, Circle, Moulmain Farm superintendent, Tatkon, Burma; Sidney de Silva, Colombo, Ceylon; Dr. Bhavaraju, Andhra University, Waltair, India; Leim Tjian Hing, Djakarta, Indonesia; Tadakazu Suzuki, Chiba University, Chaiba Prefecture, Japan; Dr. Heung Koun Oh, Institute of Agriculture, Suwon, Korea; Ahmad Bin Mohd Amin, Department of Agriculture, Malaya; Dr. Mohamad Altaf Hussain, Food and Agriculture Ministry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan; Julian Bulanadi, Bureau of Plant Industry, Philippines; Dr. Udhis Narkswasdi, Kasetaart University, Bangkok; Chenata Wong, Laichikok, Hongkong; and Buu Loan, director of Agricultural Extension, Saigon.

Accompanied to Malacañang by Agriculture Secretary Jose M. Trinidad, the delegates were led by Director Eugenio E. Cruz of the Bureau of Plant Industry, chairman of the conference Organizing and Executive Committee; Dean Dioscoro L. Umali of the College of Agriculture of the University of the Philippines; and Dr. Shao-er Ong, so-director of the Center and FAO farm management specialist.

The conference which started on October 3 at the WHO building on Taft Avenue, will end tomorrow, October 21.

The President also received Col. Ismael Lapuz, who came to pay his respects preparatory to leaving for Washington tomorrow to resume his duties as military attache at the Philippine Embassy in the U.S. capital.

Col. Lapuz has been away from the Philippines for over two and a half years, and came home recently to attend the funeral of his father.

The President signed today the appointment of Dr. Valentin Fidelino to the Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Fidelino, who is chief of the medical services of the V. Luna General Hospital, was chosen from a list of nominees submitted by the Philippine Medical Association.

The President also signed the reappointments of Drs. Cesar Filoteo, Edgardo Caparas, Antonio Guytingco, Oscar Chacon, and Jose Cacjin to the Board of Medical Examiners for another one-year term; and Dr. Pedro Bañez, as chairman of the Board of Dental Examiners for another term of three years.

Other appointments signed by the President were Tiburcio S. Serevo and Carlos Sulit as director and assistant director, respectively, of the Bureau of Forestry, and Deogracias B. Castañeda as member of the Code Commission, vice Dean Francisco Capistrano, who was appointed associate justice of the Court of Appeals.

The President this day directed Commissioner Melencio Domingo of the Bureau of Internal Revenue to report immediately on how far the bureau has gone in the collection of forest charges.

The President issued the directive upon being informed by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo that an estimated P35 million in revenue for the government from forest charges possibly have remained uncollected since 1956.

The BIR through its regional offices is vested with the power to collect forest charges, while the Bureau of Forestry is authorized to collect reforestation fees.

The “unusual” backlog in uncollected forest fees was attributed to alleged failure of the BIR agencies to press collection even after the expiration of the 60 day grace period usually given ordinary timber license holders to settle their obligation as well as the irregular granting of clearances to license holders.

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAFE chairman, disclosed that 80 per cent of the clearances received by the BF before an ordinary timber license could be renewed by the bureau were allegedly found to be irregular.

Justice Ocampo explained that a new forestry rule requires the licensees to settle their back dues with the bureau before their respective licenses could be renewed. A clearance from the municipal treasurer showing that they have paid their corresponding obligation is a condition precedent for the issuance of their license.

THIS evening President Garcia reiterated the Philippine stand on the — Quemoy-Matsu question as laid down by the National Security Council several years ago.

The reiteration was contained in his wire addressed to Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, member of the Philippine delegation to the United Nations, congratulating him for his statement regarding the Administration’s efforts to combat communism in this country.

Sen. Sumulong’s statement had been issued in reply to a misrepresentation made by Vice-President Macapagal in his speech before the American Legion in Miami, Florida.

“It is unfortunate that untruths which find no acceptance in our country should be peddled in foreign lands,” the President said in his wire.

He added: “With respect to the Quemoy-Matsu question, the United States state department had been informed of the decision we had taken in the National Security Council which is far from the opinion expressed by the Vice-President who definitely has no right to distort or misrepresent the official stand of this country.”

Meanwhile, President Garcia received a message from President Eisenhower, who expressed appreciation for the message of felicitations President Garcia had sent on the occasion of the U. S. President’s recent birthday anniversary.

October 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency to forward to the Civil Service Commission all violations of the civil service law and regulations for administration action.

The President took this move to strengthen further the civil service by weeding out all undesirables who have been the butt of public criticisms, from the state payroll.

In his directive to Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the PCAFE, the President emphasized that the ultimate goal of the present anti-graft drive is the preservation of a strong civil service system that is free from all kinds of pressures.

The President, however, did not bar the PCAPE from endorsing such cases to the Department of Justice for criminal prosecution, should the evidence be strong enough to support conviction.

The presidential directive also serves as a preventive measure against future violations, because once a case is brought against an employee by the PCAFE to the civil service, his reappointment or promotion will depend upon the outcome of the case against him.

The Civil Service Commission, after receiving such complaint from the PCAPE, will index it in the accused employee's card, and then initiate administrative action before the department head or chief of office, keeping close liaison with the PCAPE and the department until the case is finally resolved.

Justice Ocampo informed the President that he had already forwarded to the Civil Service some 40 cases for laxity and neglect of duty against classified employees and their immediate superiors in the following government offices: Bureau of Lands, Bureau of Public Works, Land Tenure Administration, Office of Parks and Wildlife, Land Registration Office, Bureau of Public Highways, Bureau of Forestry, Bureau of Customs, and Reparations Commission.

The PCAPE chairman said he will also endorse to the Civil Service Commission the case of public officials caught by the PCAFE-PC Trafcon team using government vehicles for unofficial and purely personal purposes, under Circular No. 20 of the General Auditing Office.

The public was also enjoined by Justice Ocampo to cooperate by reporting to the PCAFE any public servant who neglects his duties.

The President today reiterated his determination to rid the government of undesirable and inefficient public servants and to pursue a vigorous campaign against graft and corruption in the government in his remarks following the induction of Vice-Governor Rodolfo Albano, Jr., as governor of Isabela at ceremonies held at the Malacañang social hall this morning.

Albano will be acting governor during the absence of Gov. Melanio Singson, who is on tour of various Far Eastern countries as a PACD grantee to observe the progress and methods in community development for possible adoption in the Philippines.

A large delegation composed of Isabela provincial officials, municipal mayors, political leaders, relatives, friends, and admirers of the inductee witnessed the ceremony. Among those with the group were Sens. Quintin Parades and Eulogio Balao, Rep. Delfin Albano, Gov. Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, and ex-Gov. Felix Caro of Isabela.

The Chief Executive also administered the oath of affiliation to Mayor Herculano S. Basañez of Bislig, Surigao del Sur, in the presence of Govs. Recaredo Gastillo of Surigao del Sur, Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte, and Democrito O. Plaza of Agusan and Dr. Pio Castro, board member of Surigao del Sur.

Later the President received some congressmen who consulted him on various matters affecting their respective districts, including release of public works funds and relief to typhoon victims.

Among the callers were Reps. Tobias Fornier of Antique, Francisco Sumulong of Rizal, Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, and Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental.

The President this day directed Chairman Marcelino Calinawan of the Presidential Fact-Finding Committee to dig deeper into the alleged syndicated pilfering of goods deposited in customs warehouses at the port area.

The President issued the directive after being informed that 13 typewriters deposited at the Manila Port Service bodega, and consigned with the Presidential Assistant on Community Development “mysteriously” disappeared from the MPS warehouse in the Port Area.

PACD Chief Ramon Binamira, who was told of the alleged loss of PACD typewriters, brought the matter to the attention of the PCAFE which conducted an informal investigation of the reported pilferage.

Preliminary PCAFE reports reveal that two of the 13 allegedly pilfered typewriters were already recovered, one of which was found inside the washlocker of a certain captain connected with the MPS.

The President in his directive ordered Calinawan to look into the possibility that the pilferage activities might be syndicated and that certain MPS officials might be linked with the syndicate which has caused tremendous losses in taxes and other fees in favor of the government.

October 22 —THIS morning the President embarked upon a massive, long and short-range program of flood control with the view to saving the nation’s rice granaries in Central Luzon from recurrent floods with the assistance of the International Cooperation Administration of the United States.

The President invited Paul D. Summers, ICA chief, to a breakfast conference this morning at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He received assurance that the local ICA office will extend all assistance in getting the financial and technical support of the U.S. Government to this ambitious project.

The President also summoned Chairman Jose C. Locsin from a weekend vacation in his native province of Negros Occidental and directed him to coordinate with the ICA in drawing proposed blueprints and adopting a method of financing for this massive undertaking.

President Garcia emphasized to the two officials in his conference with them this morning the need for quick action, pointing out that the 17 typhoons which visited the country so far this year had nullified the all-out efforts of the government to restore the nation’s rice granary to its original productivity.

He said that fund releases amounting to from P100,000 to P200,000 for the rehabilitation of farmers in Central Luzon provinces as a result of the destructive floods had constituted a heavy drain from the President’s contingent fund. Seedlings purchased and distributed to the farmers were being unceremoniously washed away by the new floods, the President said.

In his inspection trip to Pampanga, where the President and the First Lady saw the breaches in the Arnedo dike caused by the recent floods, the President was appalled by the destruction to crops.

He had informed Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista that he would seek ICA technical and financial support to a gigantic flood control system embracing a careful study of the mountain ranges ringing Central Luzon, an intensified reforestation program by the Reforestation Administration, a restudy of the illegally constructed fishponds in communal waters blocking natural outlets.

The President envisioned construction of a major 150-meter wide diversionary canal from the confluence of the Pampanga and Angat Rivers in Calumpit to Manila Bay, and a system of subsidiary laterals to other outlets to prevent the water from inundating the extensive rice lands.

Undersecretary Bautista assured the President that this canal system, which will cost about P2.5 million and take 18 months to finish, will solve the flood control problem.

The President had instructed Secretary Bautista to rush the repair work on the Arnedo dike, and to use stronger materials for the job to prevent future breaks.

This noon the President showed his determination to check spiralling prices of prime commodities as he created task forces for the provincial, city, and municipal levels charged with the strict implementation of the price control law in their respective jurisdictions.

The task force for the provincial level is composed of the commercial agent as chairman, the provincial Constabulary commander as vice chairman, and the superintendent of schools and the provincial treasurer as members.

For the city and municipal levels, the city or municipal treasurers were designated chairman, and the chiefs of police, labor agents, and Constabulary operatives as members.

The task force for Manila has a different composition in that a representative of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency is made team leader, with a commercial agent from the Bureau of Commerce, a representative from the Manila Police Department or the Mayor's squad, and another representative from the National Marketing Corporation, as members.

Charged with the strict enforcement of the price control law, otherwise known as Public Act No. 4164, these task forces created in three cities and nine provinces where the President had proclaimed a state of calamity, will apprehend violators and file the corresponding charges with the fiscal's office in their respective localities.

Formation of the task forces was recommended by Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim in the course of a two-hour conference at the President's Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this noon.

Secretary Lim informed the President that the power of the task forces to confiscate prime commodities found hoarded by unscrupulous persons was still being studied by the Department of Justice.

Under Public Act 4164, violation of the price control law is punishable with a fine of not less than P200 nor more than P2,000 or with imprisonment of not less than two months nor more than two years, or both, at the discretion of the court; and confiscation of properties of the *corpus delecti*. In the case of corporations, the managers or the administrators will be held criminally liable under the law.

Secretary Lim reported during the conference that the prices of prime commodities which had threatened to go out of hand, generally had gone down or stabilized as compared to prices before the proclamation of state of calamity. He said that the prices of canned goods hardly fluctuated as a result of successive typhoons and floods owing to widespread distribution of NAMARCO goods.

The President approved Secretary Lim's recommendation not to declare as yet a state of calamity in Jolo as a result of two recent destructive fires which razed the town. Secretary Lim informed the President that he had an agreement with the Social Welfare Administration to flood the town with NAMARCO goods which will be transported by Navy boats.

Warning against unduly proclaiming a state of calamity which invariably disturbs the economy of a locality, Secretary Lim proposed to find out whether the NAMARCO goods which would be sold at Manila prices would not stabilize prices in Jolo. If not, he said, the proclamation would have to be issued as a last resort as recommended by the Sulu Constabulary provincial commander.

The President previously released P20,000 for the purchase of construction materials to house hundreds of families rendered homeless by the conflagrations.

Secretary Lim also informed the President that his recommendation to include six provinces in the Bicol region as proposed, still awaited reports from his agents whom he had dispatched to the locality to find out whether conditions obtaining there warranted such drastic action.

Provinces where the President had so far declared a state of calamity are Rizal, Bulacan, Pampanga, Tarlac, Pangasinan, Nueva Ecija, Samar, Cotabato, and Zamboanga del Norte. The cities are Manila, Pasay, and Quezon City.

Secretary Lim, during his protracted conference with the President, took up other problems of his department, including increases in its budgetary appropriations so that he could employ competent technical men which he considered indispensable for the efficient operation of his office.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: October 23-29, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed a full inquiry into the alleged arbitrary ouster of a National Development Company employee for having supplied information leading to the discovery of attempted smuggling through NDC owned cargo liners.

Acting through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, the President said an explanation from the NDC should be forthcoming.

President Garcia emphasized that if reports are true that Hernando Bautista supplied necessary information to government agencies investigating smuggling activities, then he should be commended. The real reason for the dismissal of Hernando Bautista should be explained, President Garcia stated.

The President said he will be closely watching developments in this particular case for he expects other government employees to follow Bautista's example by helping the Administration break graft and corruption in the public service. The President emphasized he will not tolerate acts of reprisal by higher government officials on government employees who perform their duty by exposing graft and corruption.

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, announced a conference tomorrow with members of the NDC Board of Directors.

President Garcia had last week directed the PCAPE to turn over pertinent papers to the presidential fact-finding committee chairman, Marcelino Calinawan, in connection with investigations on alleged smuggling through NDC-owned cargoliners.

The PCAPE also received report that four other NDC employees, one a legal officer, may also be dismissed for their alleged complicity in divulging information to the PCAPE and subsequently relayed to the PFFC on the alleged smuggling, Major Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, said.

The first to fall in the move to "silence" allegedly witnesses in the NDC case was Hernando Bautista, and NDC general inspection agent, who is also a PCAPE liaison officer in that corporation.

Bautista last week conferred with Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, upon requests of the PCAPE, to clarify certain matters asserted: in the documents linking top NDC officials in alleged smuggling in four other voyages of the corporation-owned ocean-going vessels.

The President this day directed the Reparations Commission to work for easier terms of payment in the \$250 million economic development loan component of the Reparations Agreement with Japan.

The President gave this directive upon being informed that Filipino industrialists and businessmen are reluctant to take advantage of the huge loan opportunity because the Japanese group imposes stiff terms of payment which they found Very hard to meet.

Chairman Rodolfo Maslog of the Reparations Commission had reported to the President earlier that only one Filipino firm, the General Shipping Company, had applied for loan under this provision in the five years the agreement had been in effect.

The General Shipping Company had obtained a \$1.4 million loan for the purchase of an interisland passenger-cargoship, making a down payment of 20 per cent and paying the balance over a period of seven years at the prevailing international rate of interest.

The President told Maslog to secure revision of the terms of payment, so as to provide for a ten per cent down payment and amortization of the balance over a ten-year period under the same rate of interest.

Members of the Cabinet have decided to celebrate President Garcia's birthday by going out to the typhoon and flood stricken areas to distribute relief to the victims, in deference to the President's wishes.

The Cabinet resolution was in answer to the President's request that instead of spending for the traditional *asalto* on his birthday, they instead utilize the money for relief and go out to their respective regions to distribute it to the needy.

The President told the Cabinet that he was keenly desirous of furthering the First Lady's pet obsession of helping the needy, and that he wished his birthday to be devoted to an extension of *Operations Puso* which was launched by the First Lady.

October 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia was reported today to have given Isabelo Sales, acting manager of the National Development Company, a dressing down for the NDC action in firing Hernando Bautista from the agency.

At his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, the Chief Executive called down Sales for what the President said was an attempt by the NDC to subvert his administration's campaign to stamp out graft and corruption in the public service.

The President this morning signed an executive order creating the new municipality of Barobo in Surigao del Sur.

Creation of the new-town was recommended by a resolution of the provincial board of Surigao del Sur in answer to the petition of the residents of all the barrios and sitios comprising the new municipality.

The municipality of Barobo as constituted will comprise of the following barrios and sitios of Lianga, Surigao del Sur, Barobo, Wacat, San Vicente, Anaga, Bohi, Canbagang, Javier, Yaco, Dapdap, Kinaya, Rizal, Gamit, and Cabacongan.

Present at the signing of the executive order at Malacañang were Gov. Recaredo B. Castillo of Surigao del Sur, Gov. Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte, Gov. Esteban Bernido of Bohol, Provincial Board Member Pio Castro of Surigao del Sur Barobo Mayor Felix Urbiztondo, and Vice-Mayor Domingo N. Sarcos.

Later the President received Jesus Cabarrus, president of the Marinduque Iron Mines and Acoje Mining Company, who reported on the progress of negotiations for development loans from the Export-Import Bank of Washington to develop copper, zinc, iron, and chrome ore deposits in Mindanao.

Cabarrus informed the President that he had finalized negotiations for a \$16.5 million loan for the Marinduque Iron Mines, to set up an integrated copper-zinc mill in Iligan, Lanao, and another \$1.5 million for the Acoje to set up a ferro-chrome processing plant also in Iligan.

Other morning callers were Gerald F. Wilkinson of Theo H. Davies and Company, NAMARGO General Manager Jose Y. Orosa, and Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who discussed pending official matters with the President

The President motored to Malacañang from his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, arriving at past 10, for the conferment of the Philippine Legion of Honor (Commander) on Ambassador Delgado.

After the ceremony the President started receiving callers. He received callers up to past 12:00 noon.

This morning the President conferred the Philippine Legion of Honor with the rank of Commander on Ambassador, Jose Ma. Delgado for outstanding service in promoting harmonious and cordial relations between the Philippines and the Holy See.

In conferring the award, the President said that Ambassador Delgado's "deep and solid humanistic training and dynamic Filipinism has earned for the Philippines the respect and esteem of the cultured and diplomatic world of Rome," thereby contributing to the promotion of cordial relations between the two states.

Present at the award ceremonies, which were held in the President's study room at Malacañang, were Mons. Salvatore Siino, apostolic nuncio; Mrs. Felisa Delgado, wife of the Ambassador; Mr. and Mrs. Francisco Delgado; Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Delgado; Mr. and Mrs. Felipe Enage; Mr. and Mrs. Guillermo Garcia; Mr. and Mrs. Teofilo Villongco; Jose Delgado, Jr.; Leocadio de Asis; Malacañang Protocol Officer Manuel G. Zamora; and Galo B. Ocampo.

President Garcia directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo today to initiate criminal proceedings against two Malacañang assistants nabbed by the Philippine Constabulary while allegedly extorting money.

The President's order was made after he directed the dismissal of the two assistants, Jose L. Pascual and Damaso Corsiga. Secretary Castillo said Pascual and Corsiga were fired effective October 21 in accordance with the President's instructions.

The two Malacañang assistants were caught by a PC team headed by Capt. Fabian Ver while allegedly extorting money from the owner of the Shopwell Grocery Store on Shaw. Boulevard, Mandaluyong, Rizal, in the morning of October 20.

Pascual and Corsiga were with two others when they were nabbed by the PC. Capt. Ver said that Pascual and Corsiga yielded ₱200 in marked bills handed to them earlier by the grocery store owner.

It was, further reported that the PC team produced a concealed camera and a tape recorder which had set down the movements and recorded the conversation between the grocery store owner and Pascual and his companions.

Pascual and his companions, the PC team said, had visited the grocery store twice before they were caught.

October 25.—THIS morning the President addressed an appeal to young men of the medical profession to establish their practice in the rural areas where their services are needed most.

The President also recommended passage of legislation to remedy reported inequities in the salaries of government personnel in hospitals, puericulture centers, and rural health units.

The Chief Executive referred to the National Power Corporation for study a plan to extend the Maria Cristina hydroelectric power lines in Iligan so as to provide surrounding areas with cheaper and better light facilities and to encourage the growth of small industries.

In his conference with Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, concurrent chairman of the Senate committee on social justice and a joint congressional committee conducting a national health survey, the President said the Administration has been encouraging medical practitioners to establish themselves in the barrios so as to afford the barrio folks the benefits of modern science and medicine.

The President said this will also prevent over-concentration of professionals in cities and other centers of-population which might result in harmful competition.

Sen. Gonzalez informed the President that there was widespread inequity in the pay of government personnel in hospitals, puericulture centers, and rural health units which should be remedied by legislation.

She also recommended the placing of puericulture centers under the national government in order to assure regular service and security of tenure for the personnel.

Upon recommendation of Rep. Laurentino L. Badelles of Lanao del Norte, the President told the National Power Corporations to map out a rural electrification program by extending the Maria Cristina electric lines to the surrounding towns of Capatagan, Causwagan, Bacolod, Maigo, Kolambugan, Tubod, Baroy, and Salvador in Lanao del Norte.

The President said, if the plan works out, the people in these towns will not only get better and cheaper lighting but will increase their incomes by promoting home industries.

The President later received Rep. Jose D. Moreno of Romblon, who reported on the convention of American Hospital Associations which he had attended in San Francisco, California, from August 28 to Sept. 1 this year.

Rep. Moreno was accompanied by Mayor Sancho Faigao of San Agustin, Romblon, who requested seedlings to replant the ricelands which had been destroyed by the last typhoon.

Rep. Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur also called on the President to request development of Zamboanga City, Pagadian in Zamboanga del Sur, and Isabela in Basilan, into national ports.

It being Congressmen's Day at the Palace, the President also received Reps. Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan and Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, who sought public works and relief fund releases for their respective districts; and Rep. Jacobo Z. Gonzales of Laguna, Emilio P. Cortez of Pampanga, Lorenzo G. Teves of Negros Oriental, Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, and Inocencio Ferrer of Negros Occidental, who consulted him on matters pertaining to their provinces.

The President today congratulated the officers and men of the Armed Forces responsible for the capture of the No. 2 Huk Leader, Ignacio Dabu, at Pasay City last night.

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo today ordered the immediate dismissal from office of a Malacañang employee who received a sum of money from a claimant in consideration for the speedy action on his claim.

Secretary Castillo's action was in line with the Administration's drive to rid the government of misfits and inefficient public servants.

Ordered separated from service was Alex Granado, an employee of the Executive Office who admitted having received a certain sum from one Magno Vito. Vito was formerly with the Presidential Committee on School-house Program and has filed a disability claim with the Office of the Executive Secretary.

"Let this be a warning to all those who would take undue advantage of their connections with this office," Secretary Castillo said. "I will not tolerate the commission of corrupt practices here or in any other office under me," he added.

October 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received at Malacañang a 25-man farmers' delegation from California.

The farmers informed the President that, although the progress of agriculture in the Philippines was relatively faster than in other countries they had visited during the last few years, still much can be achieved by introducing scientific cultivation and farm mechanization on a major scale.

The President pointed out that a rice research project had been established at Los Baños precisely for this purpose and that he was very optimistic of rapid strides in agricultural production as a result of researches and studies being undertaken at the institute.

The President suggested that the group go out to the provinces and see for themselves actual conditions in the countryside so that they can take home with them a realistic picture of Philippine country life.

Composed of successful farmers in their respective communities in California, the group is on the last leg of a study group of farming techniques in all Pacific and Southeast Asian countries. During their four-day stay in Manila they will be conferring with high government officials in charge of implementing the agricultural program of the Administration and with prominent Filipino planters.

The members of the delegation were Henry Schacht and Carol Keyes, spokesmen, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Benbow, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson Homage, Mr. and Mrs. James Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Sieh, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Sims, Harry C. Christen, Reba Edwards, Dr. Lenore D. Campbell, Edna Paar, Vera Webb, and Mesdames Eva H. Christensen, Lilian M. Kelley, Orenia Menzel, Milton Parrar, Florence Sisk, Arthur E. Show, and Merritt A. Trease.

The President also received Gov. Feliciano Leviste, who sought release of funds for public works improvements in Batangas province.

In the evening the President presided over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet.

This afternoon the President directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, to send immediately a team of PCAPE investigators to Cotabato to verify reports that part of Social Welfare Administration relief goods for distribution to the flood victims had been channelled to the "blackmarket" by SWA employees in that province.

Preliminary PCAPE findings submitted by Sergio Tocaó disclosed that some of the SWA employees of the province allegedly took advantage of their position in falsifying documents to profit from whatever relief aid was given by the President.

Tocaó claimed that emergency relief payrolls were allegedly made to show that three gantas of rice and three cans of sardines were delivered and received by each flood victim, when in fact what were actually delivered and received were two gantas of rice and two cans of sardines. The entries were padded by altering the figures appearing in the documents of disbursements, according to Tocaó.

Justice Ocampo named Gerardo Lituanas and Matias Ranillo, PCAPE special investigating attorneys, to verify this report and if true, to file formal charges, against all the SWA employees linked in the anomaly.

President Garcia this afternoon also directed Justice Ocampo to conduct a complete performance and management survey of the National Development Company to verify reports attributed to Jose S. Rodriguez, NDC board chairman, that the corporation is in the verge of bankruptcy due to mismanagement and inefficiency.

The Chief Executive issued the directive upon being informed by the Natividad committee of the PCAPE conducting a formal inquiry into the alleged arbitrary ouster of Hernando Bautista, that the root of all the squabbles in the NDC is the reported feud existing between the NDC board on one hand and the management of the corporation on the other.

Meanwhile, reports reaching the PCAPE reveal that the NDC board, in a meeting this afternoon restored the item of Bautista. The board in restoring the item declared that the finality of the restoration is conditioned upon Bautista's being able to explain satisfactorily his own alleged involvement in smuggling through NDC-owned cargo-liners.

Rodriguez claimed during the conference with the Natividad committee that the only unit of the corporation that is making profit is the textile unit, but this is not enough to defray the operating expenses of the entire corporation, considering that the other units are losing very heavily.

President Garcia this evening was reported to be studying plans for reorganizing the National Development Company after Economic Coordinator Juan O. Chioco stated at the Cabinet meeting that the conflict between the board and the management appears to be “irreconcilable.”

The President took up the reported feud between the board and the management of the NDC which has been blamed for the heavy losses sustained by the agency.

Jose S. Rodriguez, NDC board chairman, had told the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency that the cause of the inefficiency in the agency was the rift between the board and the management.

Rodriguez had charged the NDC with mismanagement and claimed that it is on the verge of bankruptcy.

Chioco recommended the reorganization of either the board or the management, or both in an effort to bail the NDC out from its present mess. He said he had tried to reconcile both factions but failed.

During its meeting the Cabinet also approved contracts entered into by the National Rice and Corn corporation and two firms on the barter of rice.

The two firms, Herminio G. Teves and the Philippine Associated Development Company, had paid in cash for rice from the Naric for barter abroad.

But after the contracts were signed, President Garcia declared a ban on the barter of rice, and the two firms had to sell their rice locally, losing from ₱3 to ₱4 a cavan.

Teves had paid ₱1.7 million in cash for the 4,000 metric tons of rice allotted to him and the P.A.D.C. had paid ₱761,036.55 for 2,236 metric tons of the 4,000 tons awarded to it.

The decision to allow the two firms to import was approved by the Cabinet because these firms had already made commitments abroad.

However, the President instructed Chioco to determine the extent of the commitments. He said the two firms could only import as much as they had already been committed to their contracts abroad.

October 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today renewed his plea for national discipline which, he said, posed “a supreme challenge to every citizen of our Republic.”

In his keynote address which was read by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable before some 500 college editors and writers at the spacious Baguio City auditorium at Burnham Park this morning, the President emphasized that “national discipline is a most potent element in our efforts at national construction in order to enjoy the bounties of a free and democratic life.”

Press Secretary Nable represented the President as keynote speaker before the Third National Student Press Congress and 30th Annual Conference of the College Editors Guild of the Philippines currently being held at the Pines City.

In his prepared address the President lashed at some so-called leaders who had shown latent lack of national pride by washing political dirty linen in foreign lands, and the professional critics of the Administration whose negative thinking has rendered them virtually, incapable of constructive criticism.

“National discipline means a positive and dynamic mental attitude vibrant with invincible faith and confidence in ourselves. A defeatist mental attitude is suicidal. It is inimical to the interests of the state,” the President warned.

The President today directed the National Rice and Corn Corporation to send immediately 1,000 sacks of rice to Nueva Ecija to relieve the reported rice shortage in the province.

In his directive the President told the NARIC to avail of heavy trucks of the Armed Forces to send at least six rolling stores to the hinterlands where people were reported badly in need of the cereal.

The President also directed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor to extend all possible assistance to the province, upon representations made by Vice-Gov. Inday Melencio and a 50-man delegation composed mostly of town mayors who called at Malacañang this morning.

The Nueva Ecija delegation was received by Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia and Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who immediately contacted SWA and NARIC officials to relay the President's order.

Secretary Castillo requested the town mayors to submit an estimate of their road needs so that they can be included in the programming of public works projects for their province.

The Nueva Ecija delegation called at Malacañang not only to seek assistance, but to thank the President and the First Lady for making possible the continuous flow of relief to the province, and the launching *Operations Puso* by the First Lady, which helped much to alleviate the plight of the flood victims.

Among those who called at Malacañang were Cabanatuan City Mayor Mario Garcia, Provincial Board Member Sixto Lustre, City Health Officer Melquiades Ronquilio, PNB Vice-President Conrado Sevilla, General Alfonso Arellano, Ex-Rep. Celestino P. Juan, former Govs. Leopoldo Diaz and Jose Robles, Jr., and the mayors of Licab, Jaen, General Natividad, Cabiao, Talavera, Muioz, Aliaga, Guimba, Zaragoza, Gabaldon, San Isidro, San Leonardo, Laur, Pantabangan, Caranglan, and Rizal.

The President did not receive any caller. He spent the morning with Malacañang assistants clearing his desk of important papers.

Earlier this morning the President sent a message of condolence to the wife of Italian Ambassador to the Philippines Alberto de Clementi, who succumbed to a heart attack at the Manila Doctor's Hospital last night; The President also directed Minister Manuel G. Zamora to send a wreath to the bereaved family of the deceased diplomat.

Waking up early this morning, the President boarded a Palace launch and. crossed over to the Malacañang Park where he had a half-hour practice golf session. He was accompanied by Major Jose Estrella, junior military aide, and Felix Tugot, his golf instructor.

Returning to the Palace about 8 a.m., the President had breakfast with Mrs. Garcia. Then he held a protracted conference with Executive Secretary Castillo, who consulted him on various pending matters.

This afternoon the President directed two graft-busting committees of the government to "spare no one" in the prosecution of those involved in the recently-unearthed alleged smuggling through NDG-owned cargoliner.

In a conference this afternoon at the office of Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, attended by PFFC Chairman Marcelino Calinawan, it was agreed that both their committees will mobilize their legal and investigation divisions to cope with the big number of cases to be filed and to enable them to comply with the President's wish for them to institute the corresponding criminal and administrative charges as soon as possible.

PFFC Chairman Calinawan disclosed that 50 persons will be charged for smuggling, violations of the Central Bank rules and regulations, customs rules and regulations, and the Anti-Graft Law for using government property and equipment for personal profits. The 50 persons include two NDC board members, three captains of vessels, three customs inspectors, 16 barge crew members, 12 customs inspectors, and two officials of the office of the ships' agents. The rest are consignees.

It was agreed during the conference to call the individual consignees of the allegedly highly dutiable goods to explain or shed light on the cases so that proper disposition of the charges could be made.

It was also disclosed during the conference that four boats might be seized by the government as forming part of the so-called "instrument of the crimes."

Present during the conference, aside from Justice Ocampo and Calinawan, were Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren, Major Teodulo Natividad, Inspector Rosalino Abaya, Antonio Lopez, Mario Camacho, and Major Federico Salcedo, all from the PCAPE.

Meanwhile, Major Natividad, head of the three man committee conducting a complete performance survey of the National Development Company, recommended to the Chief Executive the immediate recall of NDC Manager Jose Panganiban from Japan so that he could present his side in the NDC squabble.

The recommendation was given to Justice Ocampo in the evening for transmittal to the President, who earlier expressed his desire to have a definite picture of the actual situation obtaining in the corporation.

President Garcia also directed today the PCAPE inter-departmental committee to file criminal or administrative charges against persons found responsible in the alleged anomalies unearthed in the defunct Philippine Veterans Board, now the Philippine Veterans Administration.

Auditor General Pedro Gimenez had submitted to the President early this year the result of the GAO program audit conducted on 48 different government agencies. The report had included these alleged anomalies in the former Philippine Veterans Board.

The directive was issued through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, after he was informed that the PCAPE committee verified and confirmed the GAO findings.

The President, in giving top priority in the investigation of the agency, took into consideration the fact that most of the beneficiaries of the agency are widows and orphans of veterans whose main source of support come from these pensions.

Members of the PCAPE interdepartmental committee are Mario Camacho of the PCAPE, Ben Hur Balboa of the Department of Justice, and Rolando Abaya, accounting analyst of the Budget Commission.

Brig. Gen. Margarito Torralba (ret), new head of the PVA, said that he will turn over to the committee all the documents and papers necessary for the prosecution of the case.

October 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia today paid final tribute to the late Italian Ambassador Alberto de Clemente, whose remains will be shipped to Rome tomorrow.

The President took time out from his official duties and motored to the Italian Embassy on Libertad, Pasay, at 9:30 a.m. accompanied by his daughter Linda, Minister Manuel G. Zamora, and Tarlac Vice-Gov. Benigno Aquino, Jr.

During his visit at the Italian Embassy, the President offered prayers for the deceased and, stayed for a few moments to comfort the bereaved widow and extend his condolence and those of the First Lady.

Returning to Malacañang at 10:15 a.m., the President received some congressmen who discussed with him matters affecting their respective districts.

Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo, chairman of the House committee on health, briefed the President on the findings of a joint congressional survey of health conditions in the southern Tagalog and Bicol provinces.

Rep. Ladrido thanked the President for once more showing his concern for the barrio folks when he advocated the sending of more doctors to the rural areas to extend the benefits of modern science and medicine to those who needed them most.

Rep. Francisco Sumulong of Rizal also thanked the President for expediting negotiations for the proposed purchase of Manila Railroad lots in Rizal by the Government Service Insurance System for resale to bona fide tenants at cost.

Rep. Sumulong informed the President that the next step was for the GSIS, as purchaser, and the MRR as seller, to come to an agreement as to the purchase price, so that the land can be acquired by the GSIS for subdivision and sale at nominal cost.

Rep. Sumulong was accompanied by Mayors Teodulo Barnados of Tanay, Manuel I. Santos of Taytay, Jose Alegre of Morong, and Francisco Francisco of Teresa, who requested the release of funds for road building and repair in their respective municipalities.

Other callers included Rep. Salipada Pendatun and Integration Commission Chairman Lugum Uka, who petitioned the President for liberal loans from the Development Bank and the Philippine National Bank, to the Jolo fire victims, for three months' advance salary for government-employees fire victims, and for the immediate payment of their backpay claims, if any.

Other callers were Rep. Tobias Former of Antique, Rep. Dominador Tan of Leyte, and Rep. Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, who requested relief and budgetary aid.

Rep. Ubay was accompanied by Provincial Board Members Germanico A. Carreon and Guardson R. Lood, and Labason Mayor Gervacio B. Tocong.

The President issued today Proclamation No. 715, declaring 1961 as Jose Rizal Year, with the slogan "Visit the Philippines—See the Orient."

In another proclamation the President declared Tuesday, November 1 this year as a special public holiday, to give the people, especially those in the provinces, the opportunity to pay homage to their dead on all Saints' Day in keeping with the Filipino tradition.

Next year being the first centenary of the birth of Dr. Jose Rizal, foremost Filipino patriot and hero, the President declared it Jose Rizal Year—a year dedicated to a study of the work of the hero—in order to inspire the people to live the Rizal way.

The President adopted the slogan "Visit the Philippines—See the Orient" to give greater impetus to the development of international tourism and to broaden the significance and meaning of the Rizal Centenary by making its scope international.

In his proclamation the President renewed his invitation to "the peoples of the West to share beauty and enchantment of the East and, if possible, share the joy of honoring Dr. Rizal, who had attained international fame through his deeds and writings."

The President called upon all government officials, individual Filipinos, societies, and associations to observe Rizal Year in a manner commensurate with the honor, dignity and traditional hospitality of the country.

The President today directed Jose V. Rodriguez, board chairman and general manager of the National Rice and Corn Corporation, to buy corn in Visayas and Mindanao and peg the price of corn grit at ₱0.50 a ganta.

The President expressed the belief that the pegged price would protect the consuming public and give sufficient incentives to corn producers.

The NARIC head informed President Garcia that he had reached an understanding with Cebu corn millers and dealers to sell corn grit at the pegged price. He also informed the President that the spiralling of the price of corn grits in Visayas and Mindanao was caused by the manipulations of alien merchants.

The President was informed that the NARIC branch in Cebu had started disposing of its stock of *hinumay* rice amounting to about 1,600 cavans at ₱1 a ganta in an effort to stabilize the price of rice.

Rodriguez was authorized to utilize NARIC funds for the purchase of corn in Mindanao, especially in Davao where it is now being harvested.

October 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed General Manager Bernardo Torres of the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation to speed up the squatter resettlement projects in Sapang Palay, Bulacan, and in Cavite.

The President also conferred with the members of the Philippine panel negotiating a treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation with Japan, who called for final instructions before leaving for Japan on November 9, to resume negotiations.

No details were released as to the nature of the President's instructions to the panel, and both Secretary of Foreign Affairs Felixberto Serrano and former Speaker Jose Laurel, Jr., chairman of the panel, withheld comments beyond saying that the panel was leaving November 9 for Tokyo.

Those present at the conference which was held from 9 to 10:30 a.m., at President Garcia's Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City were Secretary Serrano, Speaker Laurel; Senator Rogelio de la Rosa, Rep. Antonio V. Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, Central Bank Deputy Governor Andres V. Castillo, Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto E. Laguio, Minister Enrique Garcia, Jose Laurel III, and Monico Vicente.

In his later conference with PHHC Manager Torres, the President expressed concern for the immediate resettlement of squatters from Manila and Quezon City slums who had been rendered homeless by succeeding typhoons and floods, at Sapang Palay, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan, and Cavite.

Manager Torres informed the President that the only thing holding up the project was the implementation of the financing arrangement under which the Government Service Insurance System was to purchase bonds up to ₱7.5 million for the acquisition of the 700-hectare Sapan Palay estate in San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan.

Flotation of the bonds, however, has yet to be authorized by the Council of State as required by law.

Sapang Palay alone will accommodate some 15,000 squatter families, Torres informed the President.

The President said he could not convene the Council of State earlier for lack of a quorum because most of its members were out of the country. He assured the PHHC manager that he will convene the council as soon as a quorum can be had.

The President also showed deep concern over the fiscal position of the government housing corporation. He said that he was worried over the foreclosure of PHHC properties by the Government Service Insurance System because it would be unwise for the GSIS to be undertaking too many business enterprises. Besides, the President said, if the GSIS were to develop the properties it has acquired, the houses will be sold only to the policy holders, for to sell them to outsiders would be contrary to the corporate charter.

Chairman Torres informed the President that drastic cuts in the overhead expenses had greatly strengthened the PHHC's cash position and that its total indebtedness of ₱32 million to the GSIS had already been reduced to ₱22 million through cash payments and property transfers.

Manager Torres said that the indebtedness of the PHHC to the GSIS can be further reduced to ₱15 million so that, the amortized payments will be well within its means to meet.

Manager Torres said that in the last eight months the PHHC had been paying an average of ₱250,000 monthly to the GSIS, but if the total indebtedness could be reduced to ₱15 million, it would be paying only ₱166,000 monthly.

President Garcia today released ₱150,000 from the pork barrel fund of Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa for the flood victims of Pampanga, upon Senator De la Rosa's request.

The President later received Ambassador Leon Ma. Guerrero, who came to say goodbye before returning to his post in London as Philippine envoy to the Court of St. James.

Reacting sharply to press reports that the National Rice and Corn Corporation suffered a ₱31 million loss, the President told Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the PCAPE, to investigate the reported loss, pin-point responsibility, prosecute the culprits, and to spare nobody who had anything to do with the anomalies.

The President also directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to submit to him immediately the report of the General Auditing Office regarding the alleged NARIC losses so that he may be guided accordingly.

Secretary Castillo, when contacted, said he had not finished studying the progress report but that as soon, as he was through, he would brief the President on the alleged NARIC losses.

President Garcia is considering the placing of all government corporate auditors in the pay of the General Auditing Office as one means of stamping out the commission of anomalies in state firms.

The President said that corporate auditors must be independent of the corporations as much as possible, and that the only way to do it is to place them under the pay of the GAO central office so that corporate officials and employees cannot exercise influence over them.

The President said that the present set-up in which the corporation pays the salary of its auditor, places the auditor at the mercy of the board of directors who can increase or reduce his salaries and allowances anytime.

Thus, the President said, he can: be pressured into "closing his eyes" or "looking the other way," and this probably explains why so many irregularities and anomalies are discovered only after they had become too big to hide, thus costing the government enormous losses.

If the auditors were more independent, maybe they could do a better job, of fiscalizing and enforcing to the letter audit rules and regulations, the Chief Executive said.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: October 30- November 5, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent this day quietly at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City studying state papers which he had brought along from Malacañang, including the records of a number of deserving prisoners recommended for pardon by the Board of Pardons and Parole.

The President expressed his desire to extend executive clemency to a group of prisoners in connection with his forthcoming birthday, November 4.

Early this morning the President had a practice golf session on the lawn of his Quezon City residence. Then he heard mass at the living room of his home. Also at the mass were Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo and Maj. Ciriaco Jocson, junior military aide.

The President later had breakfast with Gen. Campo, who briefed him on the general peace-and-order situation in the country, including the current campaign recently launched by the Constabulary for the capture of Huk leader, Dr. Jesus Lava. After breakfast the President repaired to his study where he stayed the rest of the morning.

In the afternoon President Garcia and the First Lady, together with some close relatives and members of the household staff, held a Novena in honor of Our Lady of Fatima.

The President today received a wire from Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, informing of his arrival in his province aboard a Navy ship with relief supplies he obtained from *Operations Puso*, the Department of Health, and the Social Welfare Administration. Rep. Guinto thanked the President in behalf of numerous typhoon sufferers in his district.

This afternoon the President directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, to inquire into a report that another three National Development Company cargoliners are lying idle in Tokyo Bay and spending \$4,000 each per day for their maintenance.

The three cargoliners are the MV. Philippine President Quirino, MV Philippine Corregidor, and the MV Philippine General Antonio Luna.

Another NDC ship expected to be delivered tomorrow, October 31, is the MV Philippine President Magsaysay.

The presidential directive, issued through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, specifically directs to the PCAPE to inquire into the reasons why the ships had not been brought to the Philippines despite their having been turned-over to the NDC about more than a month ago.

The President said that if the ships were docked here in the Philippines, the government would be saving dollars, in addition to the economic benefits our local suppliers would gain in the provisioning of the ships.

October 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning assured officials of the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities that he would confer with heads of different government agencies concerned to thresh out certain problems facing private educational institutions.

At a conference held in Malacañang, the President as informed by PACU President Pablo L. Meer of the basic problems of private educational institutions.

The PACU officials complained against the apparent discrimination against private colleges and universities in dollar allocations, both in amounts granted and in rates of exchange charged.

Dean Meer informed President Garcia that private educators could not understand why remnant dealers deserve better treatment than private colleges and universities which educate 87 per cent of college students and 62 per cent of secondary students in the country.

The President was also informed of the apparent discrimination against private colleges and universities in the allotment of foreign aid and grants, particularly from the ICA-NEC aid program which are channeled only to the University of the Philippines and other government entities. The PACU officials also charged discrimination in the enjoyment of the benefits under the Colombo Plan and the National Science Development Board scholarship plan.

The PACU officials pleaded for preferential treatment in dollar allocation at the rate of ₱2 for \$1 in foreign exchange for Filipino students who are completing their courses abroad.

They asserted that these students and their parents should be spared from the ill effects of partial decontrol which they did not foresee nor could have foreseen in order to enable them to finish their courses.

The President also heard the bitter protest of PACU officials against a new regulation of the Bureau of Private Schools allegedly issued without the approval of the Department of Education which compels all private colleges and universities lawfully incorporated as stock corporations to reincorporate as non-stock corporations.

Dean Meer bitterly assailed the regulation and branded it not only unconstitutional and impractical in operation but also anti-Filipino, alleging that, if implemented, all Filipino financed schools will be forced to close, leaving only the sectarian schools.

The PACU officials also batted for the appointment of educators in the Board of Review for Motion Pictures, expressing the conviction that it would help solve the problems of juvenile and adult delinquency in the country.

They also expressed their concern about the kind of motion pictures released to the public, affecting the moral and sense of decency for both youth and adults.

Other PACU officials present at the conference were Dr. Leoncio B. Monzon, president, MLQ University; Miss Helen Z. Benitez, executive vice-president, Philippine Women's University; Dr. Gregorio Zara, executive vice-president, Feati University; Dean Jose Acleva, Lyceum of the Philippines; Jose Abad Meneses, executive dean, Araneta University; Virgilio de los Santos, executive vice-president, University of Manila; Prof. Ramon L. Recio, FEU; Federico Oliveros, Manila Central University; and Amado C. Dizon and Petronilo A. Decena, PACU staff officials.

The President also received Rufino Cardinal Santos, who reported on his recent trip to Germany.

Secretary Cesar Fortich of Agriculture and Natural Resources informed the President that if the present good weather continues, a rice surplus of about two million cavans during this crop year can be realized. Although the recent floods and typhoons affected slightly the rice production, many farmers were able to plant again, Fortich asserted.

Other callers were Dr. Richard S. Pittman, director of the Summer Institute of Linguistics of the University of North Dakota, and Dr. Howard P. McKaughan, director of the Philippine branch of SIL.

This afternoon the President approved a recommendation of the Philippine panel to renew the permits of two American airlines to make use of airport facilities in the Philippines.

Directly benefitted are the Pan American Airways and the Northwest Airlines whose permits were scheduled to expire November 4 but were granted an extension of 90 days. The extension period carried the same terms and conditions previously granted.

The Philippine panel, led by Foreign Affairs Secretary Serrano, briefed the President on the status of the Phil-American traffic rights negotiations.

Lasting for almost one hour, the conference was attended also by Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, CAA Administrator Urbano Caldoza, Hans Menzi, PNB President Eduardo Romualdez, Eliodoro de la Rosa, and Minister Simeon Roxas, members. Daniel Gomez of the Philippine Air Lines also attended as observer.

In the interest also of public necessity and convenience, it was reported that the President had directed Philippine Air Lines, through Secretary Serrano, to take such measures as would be necessary to cope with such contingencies as could possibly arise in connection with the future status of PI-US traffic rights, which may be exchanged, restricted, or denied at the expiration of the 90-day period of extension.

Specific reference was made to the necessity of the Nation's Flag Carrier's preparing itself for the introduction of its own services or the establishment of the desired arrangements for convenient connecting services, as the case may be, depending on future developments as mentioned.

November 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia today led the nation in paying homage to the dead by ordering the laying of wreaths and mounting of honor guards at the tombs of former Chief Executives and national heroes. Units of the Presidential Guard Battalion were mounted at the tombs of former Philippine Presidents and national heroes, where wreaths had also been laid upon order of the President.

Among these tombs were those of President Manuel L. Quezon, Manuel A. Roxas, and Ramon Magsaysay; Senators Claro M. Recto and Jose P. Laurel; Governor-General Francis Burton Harrison; and the *Veteranos de la Revolucion*, all in Manila's North Cemetery; the tomb of President Elpidio Quirino at the South Cemetery; the Rizal Monument on the Luneta; the *Libingan Ng Mga Bayani* and the American Battle Monument in Fort Wm. McKinley; the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier; and that of the Fort Santiago War Victims in Fort Santiago, Intramuros.

Early this morning the President and the First Lady, together with their children, close relatives, and friends heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. Among those who attended the mass were Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos and Col. Jorge Delarmente, chief presidential aide.

After breakfast the President accompanied the First Lady and their children to the airport where they took off for Talibon, Bohol, to fulfill the annual pilgrimage of the President to the tomb of his parents.

From the airport the President proceeded to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City and spent most of his time going over state papers, among them those pertaining to deserving prisoners recommended for executive clemency by the Board of Pardons and Parole. The President had expressed his desire to extend executive clemency to a number of deserving prisoners on his birthday, November 4.

November 2.—TODAY President Garcia did not receive any caller, as he went over the agenda of last night's Cabinet meeting.

During the Cabinet meeting the President took up a proposal to import agricultural commodities from the United States under a U.S. public law. The Chief Executive took up this plan in order to boost his agricultural development program.

The Cabinet approved the proposal and decided to take up the details of the importation in the next meeting with his advisory body.

Operations Dispersal was decided upon the Cabinet at its meeting today in deference to the President's express desire that they forego traditional *asalto* on his birthday but instead spend the money for relief goods so that the neediest barrio people can be benefited.

Members of the Cabinet will trek to the provinces Friday, November 4, to celebrate President Garcia's birthday by distributing relief goods and foodstuffs to the flood and typhoon victims.

The President, in his recent trip to Pampanga, was appalled by the destruction wrought by the series of typhoons and floods which visited this country and had quietly instructed his Cabinet secretaries to send survey teams in their designated areas to canvass the neediest who may be served on his 64th birthday.

The President was the recipient of messages of gratitude from the barrios and towns which had been served by *Operations Puso*, Mrs. Garcia's pet project which had covered the entire Central Luzon at the height of the calamities.

The President said that a worthy project as *Operations Puso* deserves emulations, even on a minor scale and thus *Operations Dispersal* was conceived.

The President discouraged the sending of gifts on his birthday, but requested those who desire to help *Operations Dispersal* to send in gifts in the form of foodstuffs, clothings, and other prime necessities which could be distributed to the flood and typhoon victims.

President Garcia will formally launch *Operations Dispersal* at 5 o'clock tomorrow afternoon when he will turn over token relief goods to Cabinet members in a simple ceremony at Malacañang's study room. The turnover will signify the President's distribution of relief goods to flood typhoon victims.

Nacionalistas in two provinces called on President Garcia this evening to run for reelection and resolve his controversy with Senate President Rodriguez in order to maintain party unity.

A resolution urging President Garcia to run for reelection was approved unanimously by the Toledo city board (Cebu).

Another resolution approved by the provincial and municipal committees of Iloilo province appealed to President Garcia and Senate President Rodriguez "for an early settlement of their controversy which, if concluded at an early date, will augur well for our party."

The Iloilo resolution was approved by representatives of 42 municipalities representing Iloilo province and was terminated to President Garcia by Sen. Fernando Lopez after a report was made by Fortunato A. Padilla, secretary of the NP provincial committee of Iloilo.

November 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia was honored today the eve of his birthday, by the Armed Forces of the Philippines with a testimonial parade and review held at Camp Murphy.

A testimonial breakfast at the Central Officers' Club preceded the review, during which Auditor General Pedro Jimenez and nine former defense secretaries were awarded plaques for meritorious services rendered to the country and the AFP.

The other recipients of the awards were Teofilo Sison, Gen. Basilio Valdes, the late Tomas Cabili, Alfredo Montelibano, the late Ruperto Kangleon, the late President Magsaysay, Justice Sotero Cabahug, Sen. Eulogio Balao, and General Jesus Vargas.

The President received full military honors upon his arrival and departure, rendered by the cadets of the Philippine Military Academy.

The composite regiment that passed in review before the President consisted of two battalions of PMA cadets, one battalion of the Philippine Constabulary, one battalion of the Philippine Air Force, one battalion of the Philippine Navy, the First BCT of the Philippine Army, and units of the Presidential Guard Battalion. The composite unit was

under the command of Brigadier General Isagani Campo, PC head, whose staff was composed of the following deputy major services commanders: Col. Eugenio Acab (PC), Capt. Simeon Castro (PN), Col. Francisco Licuanan (PA), and Col. Pedro Bartolome (PAF).

A formation of 21 PAF Sabrejets flew by the grandstand during the parade.

After the review, Lt. Gen, Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, delivered a few remarks. Defense Secretary Alejo Santos introduced the President.

In his speech the President also announced that he had approved the list of 555 AFP officer's recommended for promotion by the defense department.

President Garcia today virtually launched his bid for reelection in next year's presidential elections before a large gathering of provincial and municipal officials representing Central and Northern Luzon provinces.

Thirty-one provincial governors and board members, city mayors, and councilors, as well as top Nacionalista Party leaders, signed and submitted to the President a resolution enjoining President Garcia to run for reelection and pledging their whole-hearted support for the President.

In an extemporaneous speech of appreciation before the delegation, President Garcia thanked the Nacionalista leaders for their endorsement of his reelection and the confidence expressed in his leadership in the party and in the affairs of state.

President Garcia emphasized that before he could announce his decision to run for reelection he would first hear from the rest of the country; such as Southern Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

In another conference Defense Secretary Alejo Santos and provincial, municipal, and NP leaders from Bulacan submitted a separate resolution indorsing the President's reelection.

In his speech the President said the resolution "has touched me deeply and I should like to express my appreciation from the deepest recesses of my heart for this open, frank, and straightforward manifestation of your confidence in the leadership with which I have carried on as head of this Republic these several years that have passed. And, indeed, I wouldn't be human if I did not say that I felt touched for the recital of some of the achievements that our administration has been able to attain since 1957, when I took over the reins of government."

The President reminded the NP leaders of a statement that he often repeated in the course of the last three years. He said, "The press has been asking me, after my election in 1957, whether it was my desire to seek a re-election. I made the following answer, which I reiterated many times thereafter: "that by the end of 1961, which is the end of my term, I shall have served our country 38 years, three of those years under appointive positions and 35 of them in political positions conferred upon me by our people."

He added: "This period of 38 years is long enough for any Filipino. In fact, I consider myself a fortunate man for having deserved the confidence of the Filipino people during 35 years of my public service."

"So it was, and still is, my personal desire to retire from active political life," he said. Continuing: "Since then, my friends, the press has been asking me what I should do if there was any move to draft me again into public service. My answer has been and will always be, that my desire to retire from public service is my personal desire but that if the people have other desires for me, I shall always subordinate my personal wishes to the desires of the people."

At this juncture, the President's speech was interrupted by a prolonged applause from the delegation.

"So, my friends," the President continued, "I can only say on this occasion, vis-a-vis the resolution presented to me asking me to seek for another term, that if the sentiment expressed here by the leaders of the provinces in Northern

and Central Luzon finds echo in Southern Luzon in the Visayas, and in Mindanao, you can have my assurance that I shall not shrink the responsibility—I shall respond to the call of the nation.”

The President was stopped for the second time by applause.

In concluding, the President reiterated his gratitude for “this very important resolution that you have passed which no doubt is backed up by your considered opinion and sentiments.”

The President today directed the retention of Maximo M. Macatao to his position as record custodian of the Commission of Parks and Wildlife.

The directive was issued through Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren of the PCAPE upon being informed that Macatao, who is a “star” witness in the administrative case against Commissioner Vicente de la Cruz of the

Commission of Parks and Wildlife, was being transferred to Cebu regional office allegedly upon the instigation of Commissioner de la Cruz.

Macatao, who had appeared before Major Teodulo C. Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, this morning said that he had received an order transferring him to Cebu City with instructions to proceed to his new post “at the first available transportation.”

The President, when informed of Macatao’s case, directed his immediate retention to his former position. He said that if the allegations of Macatao is true, that he is being transferred to another because of his being a witness against Commissioner de la Cruz, he will see to it that disciplinary measures is taken against the officials concerned.

Irked by the report, the Chief Executive emphasized that he will not tolerate any act on the part of government officials exerting pressure upon employees who are witnesses in any investigation being conducted by his graft-busting agencies.

President Garcia this day, eve of his 64th birth anniversary, appealed for national unity in order to achieve earlier the objectives of his administration for a better way of life for the Filipino people.

In his message to the nation President Garcia said that a deep, abiding faith in God and the capacity of Filipinos working as one can only bring about the full realization of our objectives.

He said: “As I approach another milestone in life, my thoughts naturally turn to the less fortunate among our countrymen and to the prospects of a bright future for our young Republic; to what has been accomplished and to what remains to be done.”

President Garcia then expressed his belief that “it is a time such as the present that we should be more concerned with helping each other. If our country has been blessed more than others, considering that there are parts of the world where actual strife, hunger, and disease prevail—it is perhaps because a Filipinos have shown and demonstrated more care and deeper solicitude for our fellow countrymen.”

“This evening the President enjoined the members of his Cabinet to go out to the provinces in order to extend relief to the neediest on his natal day, Friday, November 4.

In turning over to the Cabinet secretaries relief goods for distribution to the poor, the President and the First Lady told the officials that the best gift that the President expected of them was actual service to the indigents who had been left destitute by a series of national calamities which beset the country in the last three months.

At an informal ceremony at Malacañang, the President turned over to the Cabinet members 220 sacks of rice, 110 cases of sardines, 2,200 pieces of blankets, and 2,200 pieces of clothing for distribution in 11 provinces. The Cabinet members named the campaign *Operations Happy Birthday*.

Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor informed the President that, in deference to his wish, the Cabinet members had contributed to a pool which was spent for the purchase of these relief goods so that flood and typhoon sufferers in several provinces can be extended relief.

November 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia today formally announced his bid for reelection in next year's presidential elections after 48 Nacionalista governors, mayors, and top Nacionalista leaders from Visayas and Mindanao provinces clamored for his continued leadership.

The President expressed confidence in winning again in the forthcoming polls and pledged to a cheering crowd that he will attain economic independence for the country through his policy of Filipino First.

Two resolutions signed by Visayas and Mindanao provincial, municipal and NP leader were formally presented to the President at noon today, hardly 24 hours after 31 top Nacionalistas from Central and Northern Luzon provinces themselves clamored for his reelection,

The Garcia-for-reelection move continued snowballing as the President kept receiving pledges of support and appeals to run for reelection not only from NP leaders but also from student and civic organizations.

Among the resolutions clamoring for President Garcia's reelection were those from Nacionalistas in Manila and members of the Youth Leaders Association of the Philippines.

In his acceptance speech President Garcia thanked the NP leaders for their expression of confidence in his leadership manifested in resolutions submitted to him.

Mayor Leroy Brown of Basilan City presented 11 resolutions approved unanimously by the Lions Club, Rotary Club, Jaycees, NP chapters, and civic organizations of his city greeting the Chief Executive on his birthday and assuring him of their loyalty and support.

Officers, ward delegates, and delegates of the Nacionalista Party (Francisco Wing) in the fourth district of the City of Manila also presented a resolution endorsing wholeheartedly and unconditionally the reelection of President Garcia.

Members of the Youth Leaders Association of the Philippines, an organization of student leaders from different colleges and universities all over the Philippines, also presented a resolution "as a token of our sincere gratitude to him for his meritorious public service and as a sign of renewed pledge of support to his tested leadership and future plans for public service."

In separate resolutions, the City mayors and chairmen of City NP directorates, and the provincial governors and chairmen of provincial NP directorates in the Visayas, pledged their overwhelming support to the President in his bid for reelection next year.

The resolutions came as a virtual echo of the appeal of the provincial governors and provincial NP directorates of Northern and Central Luzon for the president to run for reelection.

The President, after expressing his gratitude to the delegation from Northern and Central Luzon yesterday, had assured them that "if their sentiment found echo in the Visayas and Mindanao, he will again answer the call of the nation."

In their resolution, the provincial and city executives and NP chairman from the Visayas urged the President to run for reelection because the country needs a man of his intellect, political stature, international renown statesmanship, executive competence, and a high sense of nationalism.

Meanwhile, Admiral Charles Griffin, commander of the U. S. Seventh Fleet, who was in Manila a few days ago, radioed his message of congratulations to President Garcia on his birthday, from aboard his flagship, the USS *St. Paul*.

President Garcia extended executive clemency to some 120 deserving prisoners upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole. The names of the prisoners granted executive clemency will be released later.

The President today expressed his gratitude to thousands of well-wishers here and abroad who had personally and in writing conveyed messages of felicitations on the occasion of his 64th birthday.

The President and the First Lady spent more than two hours shaking the hands of a long line of Well-wishers who streamed to Malacañang this morning.

The well-wishers came from all walks of life ranging from top ranking officials of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government, members of the diplomatic corps, representative of private firms and civic organizations and students, to the so-called *bakya* crowd composed of men, women, and children from slum and squatter areas of Manila and suburbs. . The First Lady gave the President as a birthday gift the following books: *Pentelicas* by Cecilio M. Apostol, *Bajo Los Cocoteros* by Claro M. Recto, *Tierra* by Lopez y Fuentes, *Anguish*, *Fullness* and *Nirvana* by Alfredo S. Veloso, and *Spanish Poetry* by Janet H. Perry.

After breakfast with Mrs. Garcia, members of his family, close relatives, and friends, the President led his guests to the Malacañang Social Hall to hear mass. The President received Holy Communion. Among the guests were early well-wishers, including Sens. Quintin Paredes, Gil J. Puyat, Fernando

Lopez; Rep. Francisco Sumulong of Rizal; and Gov. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas.

After the mass the President and the First Lady received well-wishers in the Malacañang reception hall. Among the first to greet the birthday celebrant were Rogelio de la Rosa and members of the local diplomatic corps led by the Papal Nuncio, Msgr. Salvatore Siino.

At the traditional exchange of toast between the dean of the local diplomatic corps and the President, Mesgr. Siino said:

“On this dear day in which Your Excellency celebrate your birthday and the feast of your patron saint, allow me, Mr. President, in the name of the Diplomatic Corps, to put in words our sincere desire of all good things for your illustrious person, for that of your gracious lady, and of all your honourable family, gladly associating ourselves with the national rejoicing, and will all those who affectionately surround you, I have the honour to invite all present to drink a toast to the personal health of Your Excellency, and to the ever-increasing progress and prosperity of this noble Republic.”

Responding extemporaneously, the President expressed his gratitude for the good wishes of the diplomatic corps and reciprocated with a toast for the continued good health of the heads of states represented on the occasion.

After the exchange of toasts, the President and the First Lady continued receiving well-wishers, among them were students in uniform with books tucked under their arms who apparently had skipped classes to shake the President's hands. Others from the slum districts came in bakya or slippers, some of them mothers with months-old babies in their arms.

A delegation composed of officials of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines led by Jorge B. Vargas and Ralph Hawkins presented to the President a certificate of Honorary Patron of World Scouting signed by D. C. Spry, director of the Boy Scouts International Bureau, for his interest in the boy scout movement.

After receiving well-wishers the President received provincial and city executives, as well as NP political leaders who presented resolutions urging him to run for reelection and pledging their whole-hearted support.

Then the President and First Lady had lunch with immediate members of his family, and those of past Presidents, among them, Tommy Quirino, Ruby Roxas-Roxas, Mrs. Luz Magsaysay, Nini Quezon-Avancena, and Nonong Quezon.

In the afternoon the President received a big delegation of officials and labor leaders of the Manila Railroad and the Manila Port Service headed by MRR Manager Teofilo Zosa and MPS Manager Francisco Medrano.

The delegation likewise felicitated the President and reiterated their pledge of loyalty and support.

Labor leaders included President Roberto S. Oca of the Associated Workers Union and KMP; Vicente Guevara, president of the Mechanical Department Labor Union; Bonifacio Reginaldo, MDLU general secretary; and Presidents Moises Ilauria of the Station Employees Union, Jose Capistrano of the Union de Maquinistas, Eusebio de la Cruz of the Yard Crew Union, and Emilio Gaboy of the Union de Empleados de Trenes, and others.

In the evening President and Mrs. Garcia attended the reception at the Apostolic Nunciature commemorating the second anniversary of the coronation of Pope John XXIII.

President Garcia today expressed gratification to members of the Cabinet who went to flood and typhoon-stricken provinces to distribute relief goods to indigent and needy families as their birthday present to him. He said that his department secretaries had given him the best gift on his 64th birthday by attending to the needs of thousands of families left destitute by a series of national calamities which beset the country in recent months.

Dubbed *Operations Happy Birthday*, the members of the President's official family early this morning fanned out to the provinces to distribute relief goods.

Encouraging reports of the success of *Operations Happy Birthday* poured in this evening thanking the President "for his kind thoughts" and extending their sincere greetings.

From San Carlos City, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo reported on the warm response of the people to *Operations Happy Birthday* and wished the Chief Executive many happy returns of the day. Secretary Castillo was in San Carlos to represent the President on the occasion of the formal inauguration of that new city.

November 5.—THE President played his first nine-hole golf today with a score of 49 which was considered good for a beginner at the par 30 course in Malacañang Park.

Out of nine tee shots, the President was reported to have made eight "wonderful" drives, using the so-called baseball grip which is considered unorthodox by golf enthusiasts but which is being used by some champions.

The President enjoyed the hour-long game immensely and, like a true golfer, kept ribbing his opponents all along the course.

According to his pro, Felix Tugot, his main difficulty was putting. He said that the President has a tendency to over-put.

Returning to Malacañang about 9 a.m., the President had breakfast with Mrs. Garcia.

Then he had a long conference with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who reported on his trip from San Carlos, Negros Occidental, where he had represented the President at the inauguration of the new city. After the conference the President closed himself in his bedroom, reading some papers left with him by Secretary Castillo for study.

In the afternoon the President motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City where he spent the night.

President Garcia today dismissed from office the justices of the peace of Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro, and Maddela, Nueva Vizcaya, on the strength of administrative charges filed against them.

In dismissing Justice of the Peace Romeo L. Venturanza of Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro, the President found respondent unfit for the office of justice of the peace because of partiality and abuse of authority.

Justice of the Peace Venturanza was charged administratively by Dominador Tolosa with partiality for refusing to accept a criminal complaint filed by him against a rural policeman, Lazaro Baon, and two others.

It appears that on October 29, 1958, at barrio Balete, Pinamalayan, an incident happened which gave rise to a criminal complaint filed by policeman Lazaro Baon against Tolosa and two others for assaulting a person in authority, with physical injuries.

Subsequently, Dominador Tolosa vainly filed countercharges against the rural policeman and two companions for frustrated homicide, alleging that the policeman inflicted serious physical injuries with intent to kill.

Although the latter complaint was signed by Chief of Police Marcelo C. Diona and properly supported by a medical certificate showing that Tolosa suffered two wounds which required medical attendance of five and 40 days, respectively, and admission by policeman Baon that he did inflict the wounds on the complainant, and several affidavits from witnesses, respondent justice of the peace refused to entertain the complaint.

At first the justice of the peace refused to accept the charges on the ground that Police Chief Diona did not swear to them, and later, in the absence of Diona who was suspended, when the complaint was being refilled by Police Chief Dominador Sotto, Justice of the Peace Venturanza reasoned out that the proper charge should be serious physical injuries, as there was not intent to kill present in the commission of the crime.

On January 27, 1959, respondent justice of the peace found Alberto Medran and Jovito Francisco guilty of slight physical injuries on the rural policeman, but acquitted Tolosa who appeared to have merely pacified the parties.

It was found later, however, that on the day previous to his acquittal, Tolosa was prevailed upon to signify his lack of interest in prosecuting the rural policeman on the promise of acquittal by the justice of the peace himself and his brother.

The President opined that respondent's refusal to entertain the charges against Baon were flimsy and that he tried all possible means to shield the policeman from the criminal complaint by placing all conceivable obstacles and even promising acquittal in return for Tolosa's desistance from the filing of his complaint.

The President pointed out that by so doing, respondent thwarted the course of justice by enabling Baon to escape criminal prosecution despite his open admission that he inflicted the injuries on Tolosa, subject of the complaint.

In accordance with the recommendation of the secretary of justice, the President found Venturanza unfit to remain in office as justice of the peace, and considered him as resigned from office without prejudice to reinstatement in another branch of the government and the enjoyment of his leave and retirement privileges.

In the other case the President found Justice of the Peace Jose V. Ylanan as justice of the peace of Maddela, Nueva Vizcaya, guilty of immorality and electioneering.

It appears that respondent justice of the peace who was legally married to Dominga Oliver, a Manila school teacher, assumed office in 1946 and contracted illicit relations with one Marcelina Canda of Maddela, Nueva Vizcaya.

Justice Ylanan and Canda lived as husband and wife for many years, behaving as such privately and publicly, out of which relations they begot stillborn twins, and a third child, Renato, with whom they posed in a family group on Renato's fifth birthday.

In the general elections of November, 1955, Marcelina Canda ran for mayor and Justice Ylagan campaigned actively for her, at one time destroying sample ballots belonging to her opponent and scolding the parties distributing them, according to the findings of the district judge who investigated the case.

Although the investigating judge recommended one-year suspension from office, the President concurred with the recommendations of the secretary of justice that the nature of his acts called for more than mere suspension, and therefore considered him as resigned from office.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: November 6-12, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today continued to receive pledges of support and resolutions urging him to run for reelection in 1961.

Among such resolutions was that of the Barrio Lieutenants League of Iloilo, which was unanimously adopted at its Provincial Assembly inaugural session recently.

The barrio league with a membership of 17,232 barrio lieutenants and barrio council officers throughout Iloilo, assured the President of grass-root support and a solid vote of 350,000 under its command.

The resolution was given to the President in appreciation for his determined policy to work for the welfare of the rural masses which, they said, should be given a chance to succeed by extending the term of the President to the full period allowed by law.

The league, which operates in four levels—barrio, municipal, provincial, and district—assured the President of full and complete support in his bid for re-election.

The President also received pledges of support and endorsement of his reelection bid in 1961 from some 500 electorates of Navotas, Rizal.

The Navotas supporters conveyed their assurances of support through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo at a mass rally called by Marcelo de la Cruz in Navotas, recently.

The President resumed today his daily golf exercises and showed indications he is improving in his new sport.

Early in the morning the President, accompanied by his aide, went down to the lawn of his private residence in Quezon City and practiced swinging his golf clubs. He spent about 30 minutes perfecting his grip and swing.

After his golf session the President heard mass before an improvised altar at his private residence in Quezon City.

After the mass the President and the First Lady had breakfast. The President then retired to his private room where he went over pending state papers, including the list of prisoners recommended for pardon by the Board of Pardons and Parole.

The Chief Executive was expected to release the list of pardoned prisoners this week. He intended to release the list last Friday.

November 7.—THE President today declared that the construction of the Manila Railroad extension lines to Cagayan and Sorsogon will soon be undertaken, as negotiations for financing arrangements reached the final stage.

The President told Sorsogon Gov. Johnny Frivaldo, who came to Malacañang to inquire about the status of the project, that he was eager to get the project completed because it would hasten the linking of Luzon and Mindanao by an overland route and solve some of the most pressing economic problems.

The President told Governor Frivaldo that MRR General Manager Teofilo Zosa is leaving for the United States to conclude negotiations for financing the project with the two companies which submitted the most favorable offers.

The President pointed out that nine bids had been received and two had been chosen as the most acceptable to the Philippine Government. Manager Zosa will discuss with them whether they will undertake the projects singly or pool their resources and work jointly.

The plan is to extend the MRR line from Damortis to Cagayan Valley in the north, and from Legaspi city to Matnog, Sorsogon, in the south.

From Matnog, a ferry service operates to the northern tip of Samar where another railroad line runs to the southern tip which can be connected by a bridge across San Juanico Strait to Leyte. From Leyte, another ferry service is operating to Surigao province, which is connected to the rest of Mindanao by a system of highways.

The President said, completion of the MRR extension from Legaspi to Matnog, which forms one link in the chain, will be a big step forward to the plan to connect the entire Philippines by land transportation.

Realization of this project, he said, will induce people from centers of population in Luzon and the Visayas to migrate to Mindanao, which is still comparatively sparsely populated, thus relieving unemployment, artificial food shortages, and criminality which are generally caused by overpopulation or uneven distribution of population.

Migrating labor will also play a major part in the economic development and industrialization of Mindanao where abundant mineral resources are now being exploited industrially, the President added.

Earlier, the President administered the oath of office to Salvador Cunanan as acting undersecretary of agriculture and natural resources, vice Jose M. Trinidad, retired.

Present at the induction ceremonies which were held at the Malacañang reception room were a large group of American tourists who happened to be sightseeing at the Palace when the President came out of his study, employees and laborers of the department, as well as relatives and friends of the inductee.

Among those present were Lands Director Zoilo Castrillo, Plant Industry Director Eugenio E. Cruz, Mines Director Benjamin Gozon, Reforestation Administrator Jose Viado, Fisheries Director Heracleo Montalban and Assistant Director Deogracias Villadolid, Assistant Agricultural Extension Director Nicolas Peñamora, and Mrs. Lorenza Cunanan, wife of the new undersecretary.

American tourists who arrived on the *S. S. Cheng-Ti* expressed delight at the rare opportunity of seeing the President personally. They had a field day taking pictures of the occasion.

Later the President received Andrew Escalona of California organizer of the Roxas-for-President clubs of America in 1946, who congratulated the President for the mounting support he has been receiving in his reelection bid.

Escalona was accompanied to Malacañang by one time Press Secretary J. C. Orendain.

The President endorsed favorably today to Col. Urbano Caldoza, head of the Civil Aeronautics Administration, the request of Col. Jose Lukban, director of the National Bureau of Investigation for a site at the CAA compound in the Manila International Airport for the proposed NBI building.

Col. Lukban informed President Garcia that the amount of ₱1.5 million appropriated by Congress for the construction of the NBI building will be available as soon as the NBI locates a site.

Former Speaker Jose B. Laurel, head of the Philippine panel which is negotiating in Tokyo a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation with Japanese authorities, called on the President for last-minute instructions. He was accompanied by his brother, Jose Laurel III, member of the technical staff of the Philippine panel. The Laurels are leaving on tomorrow for Tokyo.

Rep. Jose Laurel IV, who was also with the group, Mayors Miguel Lino of Lipa City and Jacinto Castillo of Sto. Tomas, and former Gov. M. Malvar also called on the President.

Former Rep. Cesar Sotto paid a courtesy call on the President and reported on his work as Philippine cultural and press attache in Argentina.

President Garcia today continued to receive resolutions unconditionally endorsing his reelection bid for the presidency in next year's polls.

Forty-one mayors from, Iloilo province unanimously approved and submitted to the President a resolution expressing their wish that President Garcia run for reelection in the 1961 general elections in order that he can Continue his program of economic and social development for the Filipino people."

President Garcia wired his thanks to the 41 Iloilo mayors and assured them that he would "continue serving the best interests of our people and country as well as the Nacionalista Party."

The President emphasized that the NP has an impressive and long line of public service and that he will do his utmost to continue with this brand of service. He added that the NP stands for a better way of life for all our people.

November 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia today administered the oaths of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party to municipal councilors of Gumaca and Perez, Quezon province.

In announcing their decision to join the NP, Ex-Rep. Gaudencio Vera of Quezon said the former Liberals decided to cast their lot with the majority party so that they can support the President unconditionally in his bid for reelection in 1961.

The Quezon local officials thanked the President for his interest in the welfare of their province and said that they will back his candidacy so that his program of community development and economic welfare of the people, especially in the barrios, can continue.

One group, which was headed by Governor Claro Robles of Quezon, was composed of Ex-Rep. Vera, PTA President Florencio Poblete of Perez, Mayor Amadeo Almadrones, Vice-Mayor Victor Manlogon, Councilors Nacionciano and Placido Villabroza, Manuelito Escanilla, Glicerio Febrer, and Roberto Manlogon.

The Gumaca councilors who took their oaths in a separate ceremony were accompanied by Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., Mayors Godofredo Tan of San Narciso, Amando Aguirre of Mulanay, Vicente Martinez of Pitogo, Francisco de Leon of San Andres, Cesar A. Angulo of Gumaca, and Gregorio Edaña of Aurora.

The Gumaca officials who joined the NP were Vice-Mayor Juan Evangelista; Councilors Celestino Cortez, Jesus Oliveros, Diman Marco, Primo Anacion, Quirico Diongco, and Norberto Flavier; and Dr. Meliton Querijero, chief of the Gumaca Emergency Hospital. ‘

The President also received renewed pledges of support from Mindanao mayors who were brought to Malacañang by Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato.

The mayors paid their respects to the President before returning for their respective municipalities after undergoing intensive training under the Presidential Assistant on Community Development.

The Mindanao delegation included Mayors Rodolfo Buenaflor of Mlang, Dima Dalid of Carmen, Datu S. Baraguir of Nuling, all in Cotabato; Bonifacio Anislag of Clarin, Misamis Occidental; and Antonio Tulio of Nabun-turan, Davao, who was accompanied by his engineer, Rudy Tupas.

Among other callers who were received by the President were Sen. Quintin Paredes, Reps. Justiniano Montano of Cavite, Numeriano Babao of Batangas, and Maximino Noel of Cebu.

It being Congressmen's day at the Palace, the President's callers consisted mainly of solons who requested fund releases for public works improvement, community development, and typhoon aid.

The President also, received pledges of support from civic and political leaders of Cardona, Rizal, who are working in close liaison with the Garcia Administration Supporters Association (GASA) headed by Antonio C. Pilapil, founder-president.

Early in the morning the President crossed over to Malacañang Park to play a round of golf and had an opportunity to watch members of the

President's Security Unit (PSU) display their skill and marksmanship during a field drill at the park.

The PSU members had just finished a course prescribed by Director Jose Lukban of the National Bureau of Investigation, and were going through their paces under the command of Major Adinago Ortiz, chief of the PSU, when the President happened to pass by.

Meanwhile, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo referred to Judge Salvador Esguerra for study a plan to reserve for cultural minorities some 7,000 hectares of public land in Pulot and Calasogon, Palawan.

The Executive Secretary, who had assigned the President receive his unusually big number of callers this morning, referred the matter to Judge Salvador Esguerra, legal adviser, upon representations made by Rep. Gaudencio Abordo, who said that some 20,000 minorities or non-Christians in Palawan pose a serious problem.

The Palawan solon said that minorities need government help because the lands which were occupied and allegedly bequeathed to them by their predecessors were not titled to them and they might be ejected by the title holders.

The President this day sternly warned against the use of threat to reporters and photographers of newspapers engaged in legitimate news gathering for public information.

The President directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, to inquire formally into the reported threat of bodily harm made against representatives of afternoon dailies while covering their beat. He emphasized he will not tolerate such infringement on press freedom as long as he is President of this Republic.

Justice Ocampo was directed specifically to look into the reported assault on a news reporter-photographer in Batangas, Batangas, while gathering news and pictures of a court murder hearing, and the threat to newsmen in Tondo.

The Chief Executive was irked by a report that the assault took place right inside the courtroom, allegedly perpetrated by two men who were determined to stop the newsman-photographer from performing his legitimate work.

Justice Ocampo later ordered Major Teodulo Natividad to look into the report and find out what the Constabulary in Batangas had done by way of bringing the culprits to justice.

Justice Ocampo also earlier appealed to the different police agencies to extend full police protection to newspapermen covering the Tondo gang war to avoid repetition of the incident that happened the previous day where four newspapermen were allegedly accosted and threatened.

President Garcia issued a proclamation declaring a state of public calamity in Jolo, Sulu, as a means of arresting the reported spiraling of prime commodities in that fire-ravaged town and place them within the* reach of the lower-income sections of the local population, Malacañang announced today.

The President in his proclamation pointed out that the conflagration which destroyed ₱1.6 million worth of property in Jolo recently had “caused suffering among the people by reason of the resulting scarcity of prime necessities of life.”

“Such a situation demands that effective measures be taken to cope with the emergency,” the President added.

The proclamation of a state of public calamity makes it unlawful to: (1) Sell or offer for sale palay, rice, corn, cloth, milk, canned goods, sugar and other foodstuffs, building and construction materials, and other prime necessities at prices higher than 25 per cent of their average current local prices one month before the occurrence of the calamity; and

(2) Aggravate the crisis by refusing for the purpose of profiteering to sell at the lawful price, or by hiding, concealing, or hoarding the goods for the same purpose.

The Department of Commerce was authorized to implement the proclamation and to call upon entities and instrumentalities of the government as may be needed to give the necessary cooperation for the successful prosecution of the work.

This evening the President received Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, who briefed him on the agenda of the forthcoming XIII SEATO military advisers’ conference in Bangkok.

The President was also briefed on recent talks Gen. Cabal had with Admiral Harry D. Felt, commander of the United States armed forces in the Pacific on the Laos situation. Felt who had been on a five-day visit here is attending the SEATO conference.

Gen. Cabal is leaving on Sunday for Bangkok to attend the SEATO conference. Three members of the Philippine delegation are leaving next Saturday.

The AFP head also conferred with President Garcia on the acquisition of a parcel of land needed by the AFP. Present at the conference were First Assistant Solicitor General Guillermo Torres, Cols. Manuel V. Reyes and Isauro Sison, and Solicitor Dominador Quiroz.

Earlier in the afternoon, the President and his daughter, Mrs. Linda Campos, previewed with Caltex officials and their ladies the documentary film, *Voyage of Discovery*, sponsored by Caltex on the industrial growth of the Philippines.

November 9.—THIS morning President Garcia thanked the Met-Pro and Universal Purification Corporation for making available to the flood sufferers three water purifying units during the last floods.

The President personally conveyed his thanks to German Goldstein, president of Universal Water Purification Corporation (distributors), and Mr. and Mrs. Mathew Messa of Met-Pro, Inc. (manufacturers), who paid their respects at Malacañang.

Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia informed the President that the American businessmen, with the cooperation of the U. S. 13th Airforce, which airlifted the units, had made the water purifiers available to the flood victims when most needed. Valencia said this contributed in some measure to the prevention of epidemics among the flood sufferers in Central Luzon who in the past had been using river water for their daily needs.

The American businessmen, according to Secretary Valencia, shipped the water purifiers to the Philippines even while payments were still pending with the Central Bank. Valencia said acquisition of more units would be of invaluable help in promoting health and hygiene among the people of the rural areas.

Of the three units being operated by the health department, one was turned over to the Armed Forces while another unit, the one donated to *Operations Puso* by the Marinduque Iron Mines, is being used in Cotabato City, which also suffered from a series of floods.

NAWASA General Manager Susano R. Negado, who also accompanied the American businessmen, said water purifiers could be utilized in relieving recurrent water shortages and in providing potable water to islanders, such as in Jolo, where water is sold like any prime commodity.

Goldstein informed the President that the three units airlifted to the Philippines by the 13th Air Force were the first to be sold outside the United States, except for one unit purchased by the Chilean government.

The American businessmen were also accompanied to Malacañang by Manager Negado, Secretary Valencia, Dean Conrado Benitez, and Miss Helen Z. Benitez, vice-president of the Philippine Women's University.

The President later administered the oath of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party to Mayor Leon B. Hulipas and Councilor Santos T. Nisperos of Ma. Aurora, Aurora subprovince.

Mayor Hulipas, who is the only Liberal town executive in Aurora sub-province, was accompanied to Malacañang by Lt. Gov. Estrella T. Ong and municipal officials of his town.

This evening President Garcia sent a congratulatory message to Senator John F. Kennedy on his election as the 35th President of the United States. He also sent a similar message to Vice-President-elect Lyndon B. Johnson.

The President's congratulatory message to Kennedy which was sent by cable late this afternoon was as follows:

"On behalf of the Filipino people, as well as of my own, I congratulate you most heartily on your spectacular election as the 35th President of the United States of America.

"On this great moment of your victory, allow me the privilege of re-affirming the special bond of close friendship which has underscored for several decades the sincere and warm, relations between the Philippines and America. It is a historical fact that my country achieved independence at a time when the Democratic Party held the reins of your government.

"Under your dynamic and able leadership, 27 million Filipinos now eagerly look forward to even closer relationship between your country and mine.

"As a member of the free countries of the world, the Philippines looks to you as the new leader of a great nation engaged in a sincere effort to attain world peace with honor among nations.

"In electing you into office, the great American people have once again convincingly demonstrated the great power of the free ballot as the only true expression of the people's will and as a major democratic institution that continues to make the United States the acknowledged leader of the Free World."

THE Cabinet this evening decided to call for another public subscription to government bonds to finance the establishment of a ₱50 million integrated steel mill in Iligan.

The Cabinet decided on a second call after the private response to the first subscription announcement failed to raise even 50 per cent of the expected capitalization of the proposed steel mill.

Government bonds were offered for sale to private businessmen interested in joining the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation as partners in the operation of the proposed steel mill.

Malacañang said that those who had offered to buy government bonds so far were: Jacinto Steel Mills, ₱24 million; Jose R. Ocampo, ₱1000; Koppers Co., Inc., ₱50,000; Francisco Javier, ₱100,000; General Electric Company, ₱50,000; Westinghouse International ₱50,000; and Leewy Mydropress, Inc., ₱50,000.

The Cabinet accepted all those offers but the total amount of subscription was tallied at only ₱24,202,000.

At the same time, the Cabinet designed the Jacinto Steel Mills as the leader participant among private investors.

The Cabinet accepted the offer of the International Cooperation Administration to lend experts to help the government map out a flood control program.

It also approved the importation of agricultural equipment under US, Public Law 480, which provides for payment on a long-term basis.

November 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today was officially, assured by the International Consultants Board for the Marikina Dam project that the plan for construction can go right ahead without endangering public safety.

The President received this assurance from Dr. Frank Nickell and members of the international body who paid their respects at Malacañang this morning before returning for their respective countries Saturday.

The international body of consultants had been engaged by the Philippine Government to determine the safety factor in the Marikina Multi-Purpose project, the plan for which had been submitted by a Japanese firm. Fears had been expressed publicly that construction of the dam at Marikina would endanger public safety around the project.

Dr. Nickell informed the President that the board was confident of the safety of the dam, and that the fears expressed regarding its dangers should be allayed.

The President was also informed that further studies are going on to plan the control of water seepages in order to strengthen further the dam, although these seepages would not necessarily endanger public safety.

Those who called on the President were Dr. Nickell (American), chairman; Dr. Joseph Duffuat (French), Dr. Claudio Marcello (Italian), Alfred Felconnier (Swiss), Dr. Manuel Rocha (Portuguese) and Nobuki Kumakawa (Japanese) members.

The international body was accompanied to Malacañang by Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, NAWASA General; Manager Susano R. Negado, and Rep. Jose Moreno of Romblon.

Gov. Nepomuceno called on the President to convey the gratitude of his province for the relief and aid the flood victims had been receiving, especially from *Operations Puso* and to invite the First Lady as guest of honor at an appreciation program in San Fernando, Pampanga, on November 30, National Heroes' Day.

The President assured Pampanga Gov. Francisco Nepomuceno that a huge flood control program is under serious study to end once and for all the flood problem in the whole of Central Luzon.

Gov. Nepomuceno and Board Member Amado Castillo, Mayors Julito Espino of Arayat, Marcos Padilla of Mexico, Patricio Gomez of Santo Tomas, and Paquito de los Reyes of Mabalacat informed the President that the people had voted to convey their gratitude publicly to Mrs. Garcia and others who had contributed services and goods to the flood victims.

The President also received Mr. and Mrs. Satoshi Kinase of the Japanese Embassy, who came to say goodbye before leaving for Japan this afternoon.

Kinase, who had done his best to improve Philippine-Japan relations as press attache in Manila, returned to Tokyo to assume an important position in the Japanese foreign affairs office.

The President earlier received Robert Blum and Patrick Judge, presidents of the Asian Foundation in San Francisco, California, and Manila, respectively, who came to pay their respects to the President.

Blum was on a brief stopover in Manila before proceeding to other Southeast Asian countries to inspect the Foundation's educational and cultural activities in the area.

Another big delegation of callers was composed of 10 municipal mayors who are leaving for the provinces after an intensive training under the Presidential Assistant for Community Development.

The President instructed the local executives to return to their respective communities and practice what they had learned. He assured them that the government will always be behind them in the promotion of the welfare of the rural population.

Members of the delegation who were accompanied by Rep. Lorenzo Teves of Negros Oriental were Mayors Lucio O. Ortiz of Ronda, Cebu; Alejandro Cadigal of Mabini, Bohol; Benigno P. Ayuda of Pasuquin, Ilocos Norte; Naning Actub of Opol and E. Aguilar of Medina, Misamis Oriental; Maximo Conge of Motiong and Conrado Valles of Dolores, Samar; Benjamin F. Arao of Pagadian, Zamboanga del Sur; Milena V. Paras of Guihulngan and Jose R. Luzuriaga of Tayasan, Negros Oriental.

Other presidential callers were a delegation from Pangasinan, another from Mountain Province, and officials of the Philippine Chamber of Industries.

The Pangasinan delegation which discussed local problems with the President was composed of Gov. Conrado Estrella, Vice-Governor Nancy

Sison, Board Members Dolores Acuña, Adriatico Golea, and Cesar Tigno, and PNB Director Porfirio V. Sison.

A delegation from Mt. Province which was composed of Rep. Luis Hora, Gov. Bado Dangwa, and Baguio City Mayor Luis Lardizabal, requested public works fund releases and the relocation of squatters from Baguio City to a site outside city limits.

The President, in receiving officials of the local Chamber of Industries, urged the organization to assume a more vital role in the industrial growth of the country.

The officers of the PCI who called on the President were Teofilo Reyes, Jr., president; Manuel T. Leelin, director; Augusto Cesar Espiritu, executive secretary; and Emeterio Pascual, member.

In separate ceremonies this day the President inducted into the Nacionalista Party municipal officials of Palauig, Zambales; Mati, Davao; and Mayor Alejandro Cadigal of Mabini, Bohol.

The Zambales town officials accompanied by Gov. Manuel Barretto inducted into the NP were the following: Palauig Mayor Ben Altares, Jr., Vice-Mayor Laureano Alves, Councilors Adentro Landero, Marcos Aranas, Guabing Chiong and Feliciano B. Fontileras; and Police Chief Jose A. Apatan.

Also inducted into the NP were Mati of Davao Ex-Mayor Pedro Ilustre, and Councilors Leopoldo and Vicente Ilustre.

President Garcia this morning directed the relaxation of all travel and tourist regulations and suspension of those that are hampering the facilitation of foreign tourist travel to the Philippines in an effort to boost tourism in the country and implement his declaration of 1961 as "Visit the Philippines, See the Orient" year.

President Garcia, at the same time, instructed Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim and acting Tourism Commissioner Augusto Ressorreccion to implement immediately the order.

The directive was contained in an executive order concerning all government agencies dealing with travel and tourism, the Board of Travel and Tourist Industry, Department of Foreign Affairs, Central Bank, and Immigration Bureau.

The President in his order emphasized the need for establishing a competitive position for the Philippines in international tourism and of encouraging and facilitating foreign travel to this country as a means of further enhancing the nation's prestige abroad and strengthening its economy.

The President explained that the relaxation of travel and tourist regulations applies only to *bona fide* foreign tourists. However, he added that Filipinos residing abroad and desiring to visit the Philippines in 1961, may remain here during that year for not more than 59 days and will be accorded every privilege extended to *bona fide* foreign tourists, including exemption from routine requirements to which they are ordinarily subjected.

President Garcia today directed Manila City Engineer Ladislao Tolentino to study the feasibility of putting up a park and playground in Bangkusay, Tondo, to stamp out the root cause of juvenile delinquency in that district.

The President took this step after being informed by Manila Councilor Francisco Varona, that the crime situation in Tondo has not improved in the last few days and that immediate remedial steps are necessary along all levels.

The Manila councilor proposed that one way of solving the crime was to strike at the root cause by establishing recreational facilities so that the youths will not have idle time in their hands which they could devote to evil doings.

Ben Rubio, chief of police of Bacolod city, who accompanied Councilor Varona, informed the President that idleness in the life of the youth was the chief cause of juvenile delinquency because a young man is restless and always eager to do something.

Councilor Varona sought presidential approval of his plan to use a portion of the 40-hectares reclaimed land in Bangkusay for the construction of a recreation center, and requested ₱150,000 from the President's contingent fund for the project.

The President this day approved the 1961 budget of the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration in order to bolster the resettlement program of the government, including "*Operations Bagong Buhay*." At a conference held in Malacañang with NARRA general manager Bruno Aparri, the President approved a budget of expenditures amounting to ₱21.2 million, together with the program of activities of the NARRA for the fiscal year ending in June 1961.

At the same time, the President directed Chairman Jose Locsin of the National Economic Council to continue the commodity and technical assistance to the NARRA.

The President also directed the continuation of the NEC-ICA support for the land reform group composed of the Agricultural Tenancy Commission, Court of Agrarian Relations, Land Tenure Administration, and Tenancy Mediation Commission.

These agencies are all creations of the Administration aimed at the strengthening of the economic, social, and institutional foundations of Philippine agriculture by accelerating and intensifying the present land tenure reform program.

Earlier, the President was interviewed by Jerry Schecter of the *Time* magazine. Then he received Francisco Cantarell and Fernando Gari, executive directors of the Tabacalera head office in Barcelona, Spain, who were accompanied by Ramon Barata, local general manager, Alfonso Dampiere and Col. Salvador T. Villa of the Tabacalera, and Manuel Nieto, Jr., son of the former Philippine Ambassador to Spain.

November 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia approved the sending of a four-man Philippine delegation to the International Sugar Conference in Mexico to be held late this month.

In sending a delegation to the world conference, the President instructed Jose Ma. Gomez and Ramon Nolan, president and secretary, respectively, of the National Federation of Sugar cane Planters, to explore additional markets for Philippine sugar abroad. The President also urged the sugar cane planters to increase production to be able to meet additional demands arising from the increased U.S. quota and other possible outlets.

The NFSC officials presented the President with a testimonial plaque which was to have been given on his last birthday for signing Republic Act No. 3017, which gave them representation in the Sugar Quota Administration.

Rep. Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental, who accompanied Gomez and Nolan, also took up with the President a plan to establish a fertilizer plant at Toboso, Negros Occidental and to improve roads and highways leading to the new city of San Carlos. Gustilo informed the President that the fertilizer plant which could supply 20 per cent of the country's urea fertilizer needs can be built in four years at a cost of P15 million through reparations.

Rep. Gustilo also informed the President that the only convenient route to San Carlos was via air travel because the roads are bad. He pointed out that during the inauguration of the city last week, many cars broke down on the way, causing a lot of inconvenience to traveler.

The President received Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Rep. Jose Aldeguer of Iloilo, Aklan Gov. Godofredo Ramos, Ex-Rep. Carmer D. Consing, and Nueva Ecija Vice-Gov. Inday Melencio, who took up the local health conditions with the Chief Executive.

The President later received Rep. Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, who accompanied Mayor Jose S. Gurat of Bayombong, Mayor Romualdo D. Xibando of Villaverde, Vice-Mayor Ruperto Basig of Aritao, and eight town councilors.

Rep. Perez sought the release of a communal forest in barrios Aggub and Bascaran, of Solana, Nueva Vizcaya, to bona fide occupants who had made improvements on the land and financial aid for public works improvements in his district.

Rep. Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, accompanied by Ex-Gov. Wilfredo Panotas and Mayors Sofio V. Bake of Vinzons and Felix Tenorio of Labo also called on the President to request aid from the typhoon funds.

The President also received Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa, who thanked the President for the P150,000 release from his pork barrel for the typhoon and flood victims of Pampanga and bade goodbye before leaving for Tokyo to join the Philippine panel negotiating a treaty of friendship, navigation, and commerce with Japan.

It being Maricar's first birthday, the President and Mrs. Garcia, together with immediate members of the family and close relatives, heard mass at the Malacañang Chapel, after which they had breakfast together.

The President started receiving callers at 10 a.m., and finished well at past 12 noon.

This afternoon the President underscored the important role of radio and television in the process of nation-building.

In his brief remarks as guest at the inauguration of the Alto Broadcasting System's modern building on Dewey Boulevard, Pasay City, the President expressed the hope that the ABS radio and television station will serve as an

instrument of unity, welding the people together and exposing them to a wholesome national culture. The President said that in this way it will become useful to the advancement of education both at home and in the classroom, besides serving as a medium of information, culture, and entertainment.

The President pointed out that it was in recognition of the tremendous role played by radio and television that he had created a radio-television section in the Malacañang Press Office upon recommendation of Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

The President stated that in this modern age, instead of being inimical to each other as before, the trinity of mass information—press radio, and television—which have attained full development in the country, is complementing one another in their common purpose of mass information.

The President also traced the growth of local radio from two stations in 1946 to 77 at present, 23 of which operate in the Manila area. These stations, according to the President, serve one million receivers and 6.5 million radio fans, with half of the radio receivers and 2.5 million of the radio fans in Manila and suburbs.

In concluding his speech, the President congratulated the owners and staff of the ABS for having been able to put up a modern building which will not only be a welcome addition to the beautiful, city landmarks but a lasting monument to the growth and development of radio and television as media of mass information, culture, and entertainment.

November 12.—THE President today directed the Department of Foreign Affairs to keep him posted on latest developments in Vietnam where a coup had reportedly imprisoned President Ngo Dinh Diem.

The President viewed with misgivings outbreak of hostilities in the young Republic owing to the presence of numerous Filipino professionals and technicians in Saigon who have been helping in the development of Vietnam.

The President issued his directive after receiving news briefing while he was playing a nine-hole golf match at the Malacañang Golf Course this morning.

After playing at the Malacañang Park, the President received Don Sergio Osmeña, Sr., who called at Malacañang to pay his respects.

The President later ordered the Department of Public Works to direct the district engineer in Tago, Surigao del Sur, to inspect the damage on the river dike in that town caused by the tidal wave which hit the province October 22. The President gave his order upon representations of Councilor Florentino C. Falcon of Tago, who requested release of funds for the building of river dikes as stop-gap measures to protect further damage to crops and property.

In the afternoon the President laid aside a bundle of papers he was working on to answer a letter of an Illinois high school student.

The student, Joyce Yellin of Oak Park-River Forest High School had written asking for the President's opinion on who is or was the most outstanding person in the United States in the 20th century. The President frankly admitted that the question was indeed a difficult one but added that history will judge who the greatest American of the present century is.

In the afternoon the President motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, where he spent the night.

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman late this evening re-commended to the Chief Executive that Jose Panganiban, National Development Comply manager, be required to explain within 72 hours why he should not be suspended.

Justice Ocampo made the recommendation after he was informed by Major Teodulo Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator and head of the special committee looking into the quables in the NDC, that four charges against Manager Panganiban had been received by his committee.

The President's action on the recommendation is expected momentarily.

President Garcia today expressed his appreciation to labor unions and labor leaders all over the country who had decided to organize and unite to support him "against all comers" in his bid for reelection.

In a telegram received at Malacañang this morning, the labor groups informed the President: "Labor Unions and Labor leaders organized for your reelection against all comers. We pledge all-out support believing firmly in your program of uplifting Filipino workers."

The wire was sent by the Labor for Garcia Reelection Movement which had been organized at a meeting of about 80 labor leaders at the Moonlit Terrace last Wednesday evening. The telegram was assigned by members of a coordinating committee formed by the movement composed of Cipriano Malonzo, president of the Mindanao Federation of Labor, chairman; and the following members: Guillermo, Sambo, president of the Philippine Trade Union Council; Pedro Fernandez, president of the Union Obreros Estivedores de Filipinas; Ricardo Buyco, president of the interisland Labor Organization; Israel Bocobo, vice-president of the Philippine Association of Free Labor Unions; and Ildefonso Remolana, vice-president of the Mindanao Federation of Labor.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: November 13-30, 1960

Official Week in Review: December 18 – December 24, 1960

December 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning scored his first golf victory by beating a tandem composed of Supreme Court Chief Justice Ricardo Paras and retired Justice Marceliano Montemayor at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club course.

The Chief Executive paired with Chairman Paulino J. Garcia of the National Science Development Board against the Paras-Montemayor team.

Malacañang reported that the Garcia-Garcia team won. However, it did not release the score.

The President was reported to have said it was a good start. He played nine holes, and like a true winner and in the fashion of a victor in golf, the President and his partner, Chairman Garcia, were treated to a free breakfast by the defeated jurists.

Some kibitzers who witnessed the President's debut at Wack Wack golf course, also participated in the spoils of the victors.

Pleased with his victory, the President returned to his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City where he tackled pending state papers. He did not receive any callers the whole day. Before going to the Wack Wack golf course, the President and the First Lady heard mass at their residence.

December 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia assured today members of the Textile Manufacturers Association of the Philippines, the Philippine Association of Embroidery and Apparel Exporters, and the Embroidery Contractors Association of the Philippines of government assistance and protection.

The President first received the members of the Textile Manufacturers Association of the Philippines who informed him that local textile millers are now ready to go into full scale production of cotton to fill the needs of the industry and to save dollars.

The textile millers, accompanied by Rep. Salipada Pendatun, requested the President to direct different government agencies concerned to coordinate their policies to protect the cotton growing project of the TMAP.

Jesus Yujuico, president of the TMAP, advocated a government policy that would limit importation of textile to cover the shortage of local production which at present amounts to 70 million yards. He also plugged for an intensified drive to curtail importation of textile through barter, smuggling, and personal effects.

Members of the Philippine Association of Embroidery and Apparel Exporters and the Embroidery Contractors Association of the Philippines, who were accompanied by Rep. Lorenzo Teves, informed the President of the problems facing their industry. The Chief Executive pledged government assistance in order to expand their industry upon which about 540,000 homeworkers in Central Luzon and Mindanao depend.

The embroiders requested the President to recommend to the Monetary Board the adoption of a 100 per cent decontrol policy on embroidery exports so that the true value of the peso can be realized from embroidery exports.

The President assured the embroiders that he would direct corresponding government agencies to expedite clearance of import shipments of the industry following the complaint of the embroiders that unusual delay in clearance is causing disruption of production and laying off of employees.

The embroiders handed a resolution to the President pledging their full support to the Chief Executive's all-out drive against graft and corruption. They added that they were willing to help the government prosecute to the full extent any member of their association who, illegally imports textile for sale in the local market. They told the President that they were not importing textile other than for embroidery purposes.

Members of the embroidery group included ECAP President Ramon Estacio, PAEAE President Quintin Santiago, Leonardo Feltman, Armand Picciotto, Jack Nasser, Ronald Reynolds, Zoilo Lopez, Telesforo Reyes, and Jose Castillo.

The President today directed Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag to study immediately the complaint against Gov. Ali Dimaporo of Lanao del Norte, who allegedly threatened with death provincial Fiscal Januario Lagrosas, Assistant Provincial Fiscal Salvador LI. Laya, and Casimiro T. Juarez, all of that province.

Acting on a resolution of the Iligan City Legal Practitioners' Association in behalf of the complainants requesting the Chief Executive and the Secretary of Justice to send an investigator to Iligan City to make an inquiry into the complaint, the President ordered Secretary Mabanag to make a study of the case right away for proper action.

He pointed out to Secretary Mabanag that if the complaint is found true, it should be prosecuted so that the faith of the people in the law enforcement agencies of the government will not be shattered.

In the complaint Fiscal Laya and Juarez alleged that at about 5:30 p.m. on December 14 while they were riding with Provincial Fiscal Januario Lagrosas in a car bound for Iligan City from Tubod, where they attended the prosecution of six criminal cases against Mayor Arsenio Quibranza, they were stopped by Gov. Dimaporo near the bridge at Muntay, Kolambugan.

Laya and Juarez claimed that their car was approached by Gov. Dimaporo with his eight provincial policemen deployed in the area with cocked rifles pointed at them.

Then, the two complainants further alleged, Gov. Dimaporo threatened them with liquidation for pushing through the prosecution of the criminal cases against Mayor Quibranza in the municipal court of Tubod.

"Why you are persecuting my men? I will have liquidated!" Gov. Dimaporo was reported to have told Laya and Juarez.

Gov. Dimaporo was also alleged to have included Sen. Domocao Alonto and a brother and the Lluch family of Lanao del Norte in his threat of liquidation.

Dimaporo was likewise charged with uttering defamatory words against the complainants.

Mentioned in the complaint to have witnessed the incident were Vice-Gov. Valerio Rovira and Conrado Hingco, who were said to be also in the group of G. Dimaporo.

December 20.—THIS morning the President played his second nine-hole golf at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club and registered his second consecutive victory against the tandem of Supreme Court Chief Justice Ricardo Paras and retired Justice Marcelino Montemayor.

The President scored 57 while his team-mate Chairman Paulino J. Garcia of the National Science Development Board tallied 53 points making a total 110.

Malacañang denied charges aired recently by Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson of Manila that the President had brought with him a big retinue of security men.

"Lacson sees too many things behind his colored glasses," a Malacañang spokesman said.

This evening President Garcia conferred with Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez in his private residence in Quezon City where the latter reported on the outcome of his meeting with Sen. Cipriano Primicias to bring about a reconciliation between the Chief Executive and President Eulogio Rodriguez. The conference started at *merienda* time and wound up after 8 o'clock this evening. The President was optimistic that his hopes of preserving party unity will be

realized. The Chief Executive's optimism was inspired by Speaker Romualdez's report that Senate President Rodriguez would attend a Council of Leaders meeting which the President would call in the first week of January.

Before the President's conference with Speaker Romualdez, the President conferred with Rep. Salipada Pendatun, former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo, and officials of the Pampanga Sugar Development Company and the Prudential Bank.

The Pasudeco officials present at the conference were Alfonso de Leon, Jesus A. Lazatin, Francisco D. Gamboa, and Nicolas Belmonte. The Prudential Bank officials at the conference were former Secretary of Finance Pio Pedrosa, Augusto A. Santos, and George Litton, Sr.

The President took up with Pasudeco and Prudential Bank officials the problems facing the tobacco, sugar, and textile industries.

December 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today awarded the Philippine Legion of Honor (commander) to Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Sr., for the latter's outstanding achievements during his long and distinguished service to the country.

The citation mentioned Gov. Cuaderno's prominent role in the drafting of the Philippine Constitution. It also cited Mr. Cuaderno's efforts towards currency stabilization and decontrol programs to strengthen the Philippine fiscal position.

Present at the ceremonies held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall at 5 p.m. today were high government officials, business and financial leaders of the community, friends, and relatives of Governor Cuaderno, among them:

Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, Major-General Pelagio Cruz, former Executive Secretary Emilio Abello, DBP Chairman Gregorio S. Licaros, former Finance Secretary Pio Pedrosa, Monetary Board Members Marcelino Balatbat and Mariano Peñaflorida, and many others.

The President and the Cabinet this afternoon authorized NASSCO General Manager Sofronio Abrera and a representative of the Jacinto Steel Inc., to meet with representatives of Koppers, Inc., and the Export-Import Bank in Washington, D.C., in order to expedite financing arrangements for the projected integrated steel mills.

The President and his Cabinet, during their regular weekly meeting, made this decision in order to prosecute more vigorously and without further delay establishment of the integrated steel mills in Iligan, designed to furnish raw materials for Philippine heavy industries.

This action was also taken on the suggestion of Samuel C. Waugh, president and chairman of the board of directors of the Export-Import Bank of Washington, that "it is now in order" to formulate a definite decision regarding the application for financial assistance of the NASSCO for the integrated steel project.

Waugh recommended the sending of a Philippine team consisting of representatives from the Government and from the Jacinto Steel, to meet with American representatives of the Koppers Company and the Export-Import Bank.

American Ambassador John D. Hickerson officially transmitted to Secretary Florencio Moreno Waugh's communication.

The President and the Cabinet also gave formal approval to the "Report on the Integrated Steel Plant" prepared by Koppers Co., Inc., which had already been thoroughly studied and generally accepted by the Export-Import Bank.

In his report to the Cabinet, Public Works Secretary Moreno, chairman of the Cabinet committee for the Integrated Steel Project, said basic engineering for foundations, building designs, roadways layouts, wharf construction, and installation of machinery for handling equipment and materials can be started immediately without further delay.

Secretary Moreno said, this would normally take four months to finish.

December 22.—THIS morning President Garcia directed the management of Philippine Air Lines to suspend “Stardust” flight until further notice.

Presidential action came close at the heels of a conference this morning with Miguel Noel, PAL executive, who reported to the President on the air crash in Cebu City early this morning. The meeting was held in the President’s Quezon City residence.

The President was appraised of the circumstances of the air crash which took the lives of 29 persons from a reported passenger list of 34. The plane came from Manila and landed in Cebu. Its destination was Davao.

The President was informed that the suspension of night flights would minimize the possibility of air accidents. Darkness is a definite disadvantage when plane instruments fail, it was explained.

President Garcia directed PAL officials to keep him well informed on developments. He expressed deep sympathy and condoled with the families of the air crash victims. The President has scheduled a conference with PAL officials and Civil Aeronautics Administration officials early next month to discuss added safety measures for interisland air travel. The President had recently directed PAL officials to look into the installation of radar equipment in all PAL planes as an added safety factor. The President stated that the PAL accidents should teach us a lesson.

President Garcia today congratulated six recipients of the “Soldier of the Year” award on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the armed forces of the Philippines.

“I am sure this is an honor you richly deserve considering that you have sworn to give the best years of your life to the service of your country and your people,” the President told awardees.

“The six armed forces personnel to whom congratulatory letters were sent were S/Sgt. Perfecto S. de la Rosa as AFP Soldier of the Year; S/Sgt. Benjamin Y. Gonzaga as GHQ Soldier of the Year; S/Sgt. Ciriaco A. Bumanglang as PA Soldier of the Year; T/Sgt. Vicente C. Agustin as PC Soldier of the Year; M/Sgt. Demetrio F. Galvez as PAF Airman of the Year; and EN-1 Serapion de la Cruz as PN Sailor of the Year.

President Garcia today approved the promotion to full colonel of 30 lieutenant-colonels of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The President also approved the one-rank promotion of two outstanding Army officers responsible for the capture of two top Huks; namely, Casto Alejandrino and Silvestre Liwanag, *alias* Linda Bie.

Those given temporary promotion were Major Wolfredo Encarnacion to lieutenant-colonel, for the capture of Linda Bie on June 21, 1960; and 1st Lt. Laudemer Kahulugan to captain, for the capture of Casto Alejandrino on October 12, 1960.

December 23.—THE President issued today a Christmas message to the nation and stressed the importance of Christmas.

He said the message of “goodwill and cheer is addressed to all, regardless of religion, color, rank, and property. The spirit that flows through our commemoration of the Nativity transcends all the barriers that keep men apart in other times.”

The President did not receive any caller as he went over pending state papers in order to clear his desk before Christmas Day.

President and Mrs. Garcia this evening joined about a thousand of Malacañang employees to the traditional Christmas party held at the Palace Pasig River lawn.

The President and the First Lady joined the Malacañang employees shortly after nightfall and were received with cheers by Palace officials, clerks, janitors, and household help.

President Garcia contributed P1,000 as a jackpot prize for the raffle which climaxed the celebration. The First Lady, on the other hand, donated P500 as the second prize.

During the celebration, the President addressed the Palace employees and thanked them for their cooperation in his administration. He said he wanted to join them this evening to share with them the blessings of Christmas.

President Garcia also expressed the hope that he would receive the same cooperation the employees had given him during the last four years he has stayed in Malacañang.

The President and the First Lady greeted all the employees as they arrived at the party.

December 24.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia led the faithful in the traditional observance of Christmas Eve by hearing midnight mass at the Malacañang chapel, together with Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, their son-in-law, and daughter.

Close friends and relatives of the First Couple also heard mass and joined the President and the First Lady at a subsequent midnight snack, a traditional repast during Christmas Eve, held at the Palace dining hall.

Earlier during the day, the President sent a Christmas greeting to Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez. The President's message was sent by a special courier.

The President took time out from his official duties to scribe a note of hope to Miss Doris Ridgway of Virginia, United States, the victim of an incurable bone cancer, who expressed her last wish to receive Christmas cards from sympathizers.

Upon reading the news item, the President wrote in his own hand-writing: "Don't give up hope. God bless you!"

The President also appealed to the public to give Miss Ridgway a happy Christmas which may be her last, by sending a Christmas card at Route 1, Hardy, Virginia.

The President also signed pardon papers for 190 national prisoners who were recommended for executive clemency by the Board of Pardons and Parole.

At 5 o'clock this afternoon the President received Malacañang newsmen who wished him a Merry Christmas.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1960). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 56(52), dxix-dxxiii.

President's Month in Review: December 25-31, 1960

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

December 25.— PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet Christmas today at Malacañang with the members of his family.

After a late night where he attended the traditional, midnight mass on Christmas Eve, the President woke up a little late but spent the early mornings in a game of billiards with his aide, Lcdr. Melchor Fronda.

The President did not receive any callers, but intimate friends and relatives were reported to have visited him and the First Lady.

He had breakfast with the First Lady and then pored over state papers in his study room.

About midnight last night, the President received members of the Malacañang Newsmen's Association and, between sips of brandy, assessed the political situation.

He kept all talks on his assessment of the political situation "off the record" but gave every indications that he was confident of re-election in the 1961 presidential polls.

The President impressed that he was keenly abreast of political developments, and has been receiving confidential information from opposition quarters in the Liberal Party and even from his own party.

The Chief Executive also counselled newsmen as a Christmas message to stress more on the positive side of the news in order to "generate confidence" in the masses. He said that "negative thinking" has its adverse effects on the morale of the people and in their faith in the government and its leaders.

The President today ordered the National Emergency Relief Coordinating Committee to rush relief supplies and medicine to the victims of the P2 million Christmas Day fire which broke out in Lamitan, Basilan City.

The President expressed grave concern for the welfare of some 6,000 fire victims who lost their homes during the fire which also razed the public market to the ground.

Upon receiving telegrams from "Mayor Leroy Brown and Vice-Mayor Jose A. Legaspi of Basilan City, the President contacted the Social Welfare Administration, the Philippine Constabulary, the Department of Health, and the Philippine Airforce to coordinate their efforts in rushing relief to the fire victims.

The President also directed the NERCC to submit a report on the extent of the damage wrought by the recent fire in Lucena, Quezon, and to take precautions against the recurrence of fires in all areas, especially with the advent of the hot season.

The President said fires not only affect the people but also the general economic prosperity of the country in terms of property, manpower, time, and effort lost.

The President ordered that priority be given in the airlifting of medical supplies and doctors to prevent outbreak of epidemics, of relief goods for the immediate needs of the sufferers, and of Army pup tents for their temporary shelter.

In his wire to the President, Mayor Brown said the fire which broke out at 2 a.m. on Christmas Day, burned the public market and residential district of Lamitan, causing P2 million damage and rendering 1,000 families

A second telegram from Vice-Mayor Legaspi said a total of 6,000 persons were rendered homeless by the fire.

December 26.— PRESIDENT Garcia today discussed with public works Secretary Moreno the 1960-61 public works program with emphasis on increasing projects in the rural areas.

Secretary Moreno also took the occasion to clarify a statement attributed to Speaker Romualdez that the release of public funds had been frozen by the Administration. Moreno said a total of P26 million from the general fund had been released to date.

“There’s no such thing as freezing the release of funds for public works projects,” Moreno informed the President. “As a matter of fact, the greater bulk of the P26 million release was made on recommendations from senator and congressmen,” Moreno added.

President Garcia singled out three major items for possible inclusion in his state-of-nation speech before a joint session of Congress on January 23. He discussed in detail with Secretary Moreno the proposed 1960-61 public works program of his administration.

Mentioned for possible recommendation to the next regular session of Congress are:

1. Increased participation of provincial and municipal governments in the special highways funds by amending the special Highways Fund (Republic Act 917);
2. A financing plan for flood control projects; and
3. The construction of permanent or concrete highways.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said the presidential message to Congress in January may emphasize on the importance of legislating funds for flood control, especially in Central Luzon provinces. He said the President will draw from the bitter lesson of the recent floods where thousands of residents in Central Luzon provinces suffered tremendous loss, not to mention the loss to government properly.

Since the floods in these provinces, the President had directed technicians and engineers in the Department of Public Works and the Armed Forces to study the flood problem and submit their respective recommendations in time for possible inclusion in the President’s state of the nation speech, Nable said. The proposal to increase the participation of local governments in the special highways funds is in line with the President’s desire to grant local autonomy. It will be recalled that Congress approved last session the collection of an additional two centavos tax per liter of gasoline.

An improved method of collection of this additional levy was discussed by President Garcia and Secretary Moreno.

December 27.— THIS day President Garcia stayed at his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, where he received some callers.

In the morning the President received Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, who briefed him on news developments. Nable reported to the President the increasing political attacks from members of the Nacionalista Party, especially from Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, who fired a broadside against the Garcia administration on the first leg of his southward stump yesterday.

Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson also vowed to light President Garcia in a statement issued on the occasion of his 48th birth anniversary.

The President appeared unperturbed by these attacks. He expressed the hope that he would be able to preserve unity in the administration party.

In the afternoon the President received Gov. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas, who discussed the political developments in his province with the Chief Executive.

Rep. Benjamin T. Ligot of Cagayan also saw the President. He discussed some problems confronting his district.

Fred Archibald, vice president of the Hearst Publications, also called on the President. Archibald arrived in Manila yesterday and paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive. He was accompanied by L. Mathewson, head of the United States Information Service in Manila.

December 28.— THIS morning the President went over the treaty on amity, commerce, and navigation with Japan. He studied the provisions carefully in preparation for his scheduled meeting with the Philippine panel headed by former Speaker Jose B. Laurel.

The Chief Executive also spent the day going over pending state papers.

This evening the President received a briefing from Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano on various matters, including the treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation signed by representatives of the Philippines, and Japan in Tokyo.

Serrano saw the President after he had received reports that the President would meet members of the Philippine panel tomorrow. Informed sources said Serrano has some misgivings on some provisions of the treaty.

Serrano also briefed the President on his forthcoming trip to Japan early next year. Serrano is leaving in the first week of January for an undisclosed mission. He informed the President of reports he had received on Malaya for President Garcia's information in connection with the latter's four-day state visit to Kuala Lumpur in February.

Serrano was the only caller today at President Garcia's private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City.

President Garcia today declared Saturday, December 1, a special public holiday to enable the people to enjoy an uninterrupted New Year's holiday without prejudice to public interests.

The presidential proclamation will also give private banks and business firms ample time to close their accounts or to make inventories, as their business which would normally close on December 31, will end at the close of office hours tomorrow.

"With this proclamation the people will be in for a four-day New Year's vacation starting December 30 (Rizal Day), and ending January 2, 1961, which will automatically be a holiday since New Year falls on Sunday.

December 29.— PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed general satisfaction over the terms of the Pi-Japan treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation. However, in a brief, impromptu/press conference at his study in Malacañang this morning, the President told the newspapermen, covering Malacañang, that the text, of the treaty was still classified matter and will not be officially released until it was declassified by both the Philippine and the Japanese governments.

The President also informed the newspapermen that he will convene the Council of Leaders at the latest a few days before Congress opens in January, to give him time to take up the legislative program for the year and incorporate it in his state-of-the-nation message to Congress.

The President expressed desire to have Senate President Rodriguez attend the meeting, tentatively set for January 4, 1961, adding he might even postpone it if Senate President Rodriguez requests postponement and returns early enough from his campaign trip to the South.

Regarding the possible shifts in foreign policy by the new United States Administration, especially in the Orient, the President counselled a “wait and see” policy.

The President said that any talk of possible shifts in foreign policy at present is mere speculation, adding that Foreign Secretary Serrano must have been misquoted in the use of the word “Misapprehension” when he was alleged to have expressed misapprehension over shifts in U.S. foreign policy.

The President counseled a period of waiting until the new U.S. President defines his policy on foreign relations in his inaugural address.

The President held his press conference immediately after inducting into office the newly elected officers of the Malacañang Newspapermen’s Association.

Inducted were Mabini R. Centeno of *Liwayway Publications*, president; Artemio Garlit of the *Philippines Herald*, vice-president; Ben David of the *Manila Times*, secretary-treasurer; and Amante Bigornia of the *Bulletin*, Francisco de Leon of the *Chronicle*, Silvino Caparas of the *Daily Mirror*, Vivencio Isaac of the *Evening News*, Celestino M. Vega of the *Taliba*, Pete Mangahas of the *Mabuhay*, and Jinny Wu of the *Great China Press*, directors.

Present at the induction were Press Secretary Jose C. Nable and Assistant Secretary Elpidio de Peralta.

Earlier this morning, the President also inducted into office Dr. Federico Cruz and Mrs. Lourdes T. Echaz, as chairman and member, respectively of the Board of Pharmaceutical Examiners.

Present at the oath-takings were close relatives and friends of the inductors, members of different boards of examines, and officials of the Civil Service Commission; reps. Inocencio Ferrer of Negros Occidental and Vicente R. Gustilo of Negros Occidental; Dr. Pedro Bañez, chairman of the board of examiners for dentistry; Fr. Lorenzo Rodriguez, dean of the UST College of Pharmacy; Mrs. Federico Cruz; Romeo R. Echaz; and Tobias Marcelo, Jovito Rivera, Cantuc Pefianco, Insurance Commissioner Ceferino Villar, and Jesus San Luis.

The President later received a large bronze replica of Jose Rizal’s *Mi Ultimo Adios*, which was donated by the Bachelors Club of the Philippines to the Rizal Centennial Commission.

The three-by-five feet bronze plaque was presented to the President by Serapio Canceren, club president, in the presence of Director Luis Montilla of the National Library; Dr. Josa Fontanilla, Jorge Freire, and Major Arturo Sevilla, club members; Julia Pilcher, daughter of the British ambassador; and Linda Sebastian and Mrs. Rosita S. Peñera of the Rizal Centennial Commission.

The President later conferred with members of the Philippine panel which negotiated the treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation with Japan, during which he also expressed general satisfaction over the terms of the treaty.

Present at the conference were Chairman Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa, Rep. Antonio V. Raquiza of Ilocos Norte, Central Bank Deputy governor Andres V. Castillo, Minister Enrique Garcia, Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto E. Laguio, and Jose Laurel, III. Also present were Director Jose Panganiban of the Institute of National Language, Professor Monico Vicente, and Major Arturo Sevilla.

The President later received Manager Filemon Zablan of the National Power Corporation, who reported to the President on prospects for a \$36 million loan with the World Bank to underwrite construction of the Angat multipurpose project.

Zablan, who arrived from abroad last December 15, informed the President that the NPC might be able to get a \$36 million loan from the World Bank instead of its previous application for \$25 million. He said that after consultations

with officials of the Harza Engineering firm of Chicago, he was convinced the power capacity for the project can be increased from the proposed 167 megawatts to 208 megawatts.

Zablan said this increase will take care of the multipurpose aspect of the project. He said this can be done by tapping the full capacity of the waterpower, which would not only be economical in the long run but will be adequate to meet the rapid rise in power shortage due to industrialization and rural electrification.

The President told Zablan that he expects the National Power Corporation to keep apace with the electricity needs of expanding industries” and added he had certified to the urgency of a bill to Congress increasing the equity capitalization of the corporation from P100 million to P200 million. Present air the conference were NPC Assistant Manager Jose Lahoz, Jorge Gonzales, and Isidro Santos, chief of the survey and investigation division of the NPC.

The President today extended executive clemency to an additional 95 prisoners now sewing terms at the state penitentiary in Muntinglupa, Rizal, on the occasion of Rizal Day. Of the 95 prisoners, 11 were granted absolute pardons and 84 were extended conditional pardons.

The President had previously extended clemency to some 190 prisoners on the occasion of Christmas Day. All these grants to deserving prisoners had been made on the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

December 30.— THIS morning President Garcia showed marked improvement in his golf practice, scoring 41-43 in two 9-hole games at the Malacañang golf course. He played his matches against veteran golf players Col. Emilio Borromeo, Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan, and Commander Melchor Fronda, presidential aide.

After his games which lasted from 6:30 to 11 a.m., the President received an allegorical lantern from Major Teofilo Zosa, general manager of the Manila Railroad company, which depicted Philippine industry on the move.

The lantern featured a Filipino workingman turning the wheel of industry, a moving MRR train, and a small lighted map, showing the MRU lines and proposed extension to Cagayan Valley in the North and Sorsogon in the South.

The President had the lantern displayed at the front door of the Malacañang Palace.

The President later had a conference with Foreign Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who briefed him on the international situation, including the latest developments in strife-torn Laos.

The President was the guest of honor and principal speaker at the 1980 Rizal Day celebration held at the Luneta Grandstand this afternoon under the auspices of the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission.

The President arrived at the grandstand at 3:15 p.m. accompanied by Education Secretary Jose Romero, chairman of the Rizal Bay executive committee.

The arrival of the President signalled the start of the civic parade, preceded by composite units of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Secretary Romero introduced the President. In the grandstand were members of the Cabinet, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, high government officials, members of the local diplomatic corps, AFP brass, and members of the Order of the nights of Rizal, Squires of Rizal, Kababaihang Rizalista and Kabataang Maka-Rizal.

December 31.—THIS morning the President motored to the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club and played a nine-hole golf with the pair of Chairman Paulino J. Garcia of the National Science Development Board and Emerito Ramos, a local businessman. Paired with the President was Francisco Aguinaldo, another businessman.

The Garcia-Aguinaldo team lost by two strokes, President Garcia scoring 54 for nine holes.

From the Wack Wack club, the President drove back to his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, where he received at breakfast Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez.

Romualdez, one of the mediators in the President's political feud with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, was reported to have taken up with the Chief Executive the Administration's legislative program.

However, political sources said the President and Romualdez also took up the possibility of preventing the Garcia-Rodriguez rift from getting out of hand as the Senate President has consistently lashed at the President in his political stump in Mindanao.

The President and the First Lady later motored to the residence of Sen. and Mrs. Reseller T. Lim, where they had been invited to a dinner.

President and Mrs. Garcia stayed until past midnight, as they held a traditional New Year's Eve party to welcome the advent of the New Year 1961.

To the President, 1961 is a year of utmost significance, as it is a presidential election year. He has announced his availability for re-election.

In a message he issued today, the President said that "whatever the old year did not bring, the coming one, we hope, will vouchsafe."

He has been full of optimism over the coming year, and stated "we look to the future in its brightest colors." President and Mrs. Garcia had Vic Damone, noted American singer, as their special guest.

Among those invited to the Malacañang New Year's Eve affair were members of Congress and the Cabinet. The affair was held at the Malacañang social hall.

Source: National Library of the Philippines

President's Week in Review: January 1-7, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

January 1.—

PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia were “at home” today to receive a host of well-wishers on the occasion of New Year's Day. Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal led the well-wishers on the traditional courtesy call at Malacañang. He was accompanied by his wife and three children Maria, Gloria, and Diosdado, Jr.

People from all walks of life, of varied political affiliations, ranking government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, cosmopolitan groups, AFP brass, newspapermen, and representatives of civic organizations, joined the long line of callers who trooped to Malacañang to extend their greeting to the first couple of the land.

At the traditional exchange of toasts with members of the diplomatic corps, President Garcia expressed the hope that the long cherished dream of world peace would be achieved in 1961 so that all peoples could live in honor and freedom.

He also pictured a rosier outlook for the new year despite some gloomy spots prevailing in the world today. Apostolic Nuncio Msgr. Salvatore Siino, as dean of the diplomatic corps, in turn, expressed the hope that the President will “enjoy unfailing health during this year, and that all your undertakings for the welfare of the nation be attended with favorable outcome and success.”

The Nuncio continued: “We pray that this year will bring many blessings to the people of the Philippines; that it will be a year of continuing prosperity; and that all will feel the benefits of the national progress and development.”

He asked all the members of the diplomatic corps to join in a toast to the health, happiness, and well-being of the President, as well as to the continued progress and prosperity of the Philippines.

Opposition stalwarts, like Sens. Jesus Mariano Cueneo and Estanislao Fernandez, joined the host of well-wishers. Other members of the Senate who greeted the President and his Lady were Cipriano Primicias, Mrs. Pacita Gonzalez, Gil J. Puyat, and Pedro Sabido.

Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Romualdez led members of the Lower Chamber and their ladies in greeting President and Mrs. Garcia. Defense officials and AFP brass headed by Secretary and Mrs. Alejo Santos, Undersecretary and Mrs. Mariano Yenke, Jr., Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Manuel Cabal, Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Pelagio Cruz, Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Alfredo Santos, Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Isidro Campo, and Commodore Jose Francisco also trooped to Malacañang to extend their greetings to their commander-in-chief and Mrs. Garcia.

Along about noontime, the *bakya crowd* joined the well-wishers, many of whom brought along their children, dressed in their Sunday best.

The continuous flow of people that filed past the reception line had to be interrupted many times as the President and the First Lady shook hands and had brief chats with the children.

President and Mrs. Garcia stood at the reception line for more than two hours.

*January 2.—*This morning the President played an 18-hole golf at the Malacañang Park after another attempt to win: his first full game at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club last Saturday.

The President played with Press Secretary Jose C. Nable and his two physicians, Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Alejandro Gaerlan, who have also picked up the game along with their patient.

This evening the President summoned Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano to, an urgent conference on the flaming Laos, situation which threatened to involve the Philippines.

Philippine involvement was clearly indicated by this day's development following appeals by the United States to call for a meeting of member nations of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organizations.

The, Philippines is a member of the SEATO and, although Laos is not affiliated with the SEATO, the organization is committed to defend it against any intervention which may threaten the security of countries with the area.

Up to press time, the President and Serrano were still in conference.

It was learned that Serrano briefed the Chief Executive on developments in Laos where communist forces allegedly from North Vietnam had joined hostilities bringing about a case of foreign intervention for the SEATO powers to discuss and possibly take action on.

The-President and Serrano also took up the plight of Filipinos who are in Vientiane either employed as mechanics or with the *Operations Brotherhood*.

January 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia said that the Philippines would be completely back to free economy by next year if the present "spectacular recovery" in the country's financial stability continues. The President made the statement at a luncheon held at the Manila Hotel in commemoration of the 12th anniversary of the establishment of the Central Bank of the Philippines.

In an extemporaneous speech the President underscored the important role played by the Central, Bank in propping, up the sagging national economy during the 12 years of its existence. He lauded retired CB Governor Miguel Cuaderno for his fine stewardship of the financial institution, especially during the fight to recovery and decontrol.

Immediately after the war, the foreign exchange reserve of the country amounted to \$670 million, but the work of rehabilitation and reconstruction ate up the reserves to such, an extent that in 1949, it dropped to \$420 million, the President stated.

In 1949, when the Central Bank was established and exchange controls were imposed, the reserve further dropped to \$250 million, or a loss again of \$160 million, he added.

The President said that during the Magsaysay administration the reserve dropped down to \$140 million at the end of 1957 as a result of an aggressive policy of economic development, exploitation, and utilization of natural resources.

Tracing the fight to recovery and decontrol, the President said that his administration was forced to adopt several stabilization measures in spite of vigorous opposition here and in the United States.

However, he continued, opposition to, the measures were overcome and the march to recovery and decontrol started with the adoption of stabilization measures consisting mainly of: (a) Dollar margin law; (b) retrenchment of budgetary expenditures; (c) retrenchment of bond issues; (d) restraint of credit, especially under CB Circular No. 79; (e) the raising of percentage for the reserve ratio for demand deposit from 18 to 21 per cent; and (f) basic rediscount rate increase from 1% to 2 per cent, later on the 4 ½ and even on 6 per cent.

After the adoption of the stabilization measures, marked improvements in, the national economy began to be felt, the President pointed out. Thus for the first, time since the war started, the Philippines had a favorable balance of trade and balance of payments, which was already considered an achievement.

The President also underscored the fact that the dollar reserves of the country showed spectacular 'recovery at the end of 1959 with \$163 million, after deducting the payment of all foreign short term debts amounting to about \$66 million and in addition to the payment of some longer term obligations which all in all totalled about \$80 million.

And not so easy, thing to achieve, he stated, was the increase-in 1959 of the gross national product at a rate double that of 1958, He further stated at with the dollar reserve standing now at \$205 million, he is “looking forward to a dollar reserve beyond \$300 million at the end of 1961” He based his optimism on the increase of the Philippine sugar quota due to the Cuban situation.

While speaking on the “spectacular recovery of Philippine financial stability, the President said that the International Monetary Fund in its 1959 report on the Philippines commented that the Philippines is now ready to reduce to the minimum the exchange controls and go back to a free economy

“The recovery of our financial stability was such that it made possible in April of 1980 the first phase of a four-year gradual decontrol program which I announced shortly before the approval of the dollar margin law” the President said.

He added that the implementation was so successful and the stability of the currency gained in strength that it eliminated the need to wait for one year for the implementation of the second phase of the decontrol program.

“There was produced after the implementation of the second, phase of the decontrol program a new high in the business optimism of the country that it was amply warranted to announce, as I did so last December 11, that the four-year decontrol program might be completed in three years and, if the present trend continues, by 1962 we shall be completely back to free economy,” the President asserted.

At the same time that the second phase of decontrol was implemented, the President said, the rigid restrictions imposed” by CB Circular No. 79 were lifted and the reserve requirements against demand deposit which was raised to 21 per cent was lowered back to 19 per cent and later on further reduced to 18 per cent.

An additional fund of P150 million is now available to expand the credit capabilities of Filipino private banks, the President also stated.

Even as he lauded Gov. Cuaderno for his role in the recovery of the Philippine financial stability the President expressed the hope that he would like to see “final attainment of free enterprise and free economy system.”

He also said that he would like to see a “more aggressive, economic nationalism under the enlightenment of our 12 years experience in banking, making Philippine economy least vulnerable to outside economic distresses.”

In concluding his well-applauded speech, the President pledged that his administration will launch a more aggressive policy for an expanded and: diversified foreign trade, while he assured full central banking support for the rapid implementation of the industrial dispersal program to establish a latter equilibrium, of “our economic development and to establish greater employment opportunities not only in the area of Greater Manila but also in all the eight regions of the Philippines.”

On the occasion, Cuaderno received a bronze plaque for meritorious service from Domingo Enerio, president of the Central Bank 49ers Club.

The President’s extemporaneous speech lasted more than one hour. He was introduced by Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, presiding officer of the Monetary Board.

At the presidential table also were MB members Marcelo Balatbat and Mariano Peñaflorida, and past MB members Pio Pedrosa and Antonio de las Alas.

This afternoon the President directed the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency to investigate alleged rampant irregularities in the registration of land in Baguio.

The Chief Executive issued the directive upon being informed by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo that Councilor Yarañon of Baguio came to the PCAPE to report on the alleged “big racket” in the filing of land registration proceedings based on a new law allowing judicial re-opening of land registration cases in the townsite of Baguio.

Councilor Yarañon reported to the PCAPE that titles had been awarded to several persons based on 30 years continuous and actual possession of the land in the concept of an owner. He claimed that the area could not have been occupied by the awardees continuously for 30 years, for some of the land in question had been reforested by the Bureau of Forestry since 1932.

Major Teodulo C. Natividad, PCAPE chief, investigator, said that information received by the intelligence unit of the PCAPE tends to show that the registration and subsequent issuance of title were made through the intervention of a certain forestry official.

President and Mrs. Garcia today sent a message of condolence to the family of former Sen. Juan S. Torralba, who died at 1 o'clock this morning at the Army Station hospital in Cebu City.

The deceased had served as governor and congressman of Bohol, and as senate of the pre-war 11th senatorial district which included his province.

He is survived by his wife, Isabel, and seven children; namely, Edilberto Manuel, Catalina, Zenaida, Mila, Nicolas, and Cirila.

The body will be shipped to his home town, Tagbilaran, Bohol, tomorrow.

January 4.—THE PRESIDENT did not receive any caller this morning. He called an emergency meeting of the National Security Council at Camp Murphy at 9 p.m. yesterday and the conference adjourned at 3 o'clock this morning. The President woke up late this morning.

The Cabinet in its first meeting of the year, moved this evening to implement President Garcia's policy of noncompetition with private business as it approved the sale of the Insular Sugar Refinery and created a committee to handle the liquidation of two government-owned textile mills.

The Cabinet also created a committee to look into the proposal of the GSIS to develop the housing projects acquired from the PHHC at a cost of P27 million.

The sugar refinery sale to the Sugar Refineries Association was approved as recommended by the Office of Economic Coordination which ran the public bidding.

The price was quoted at P6,180,000. The only other bidder was the Central Azucarrera de Tarlac-Tarlac Development Corporation combine, which bid P2,250,000 for the refinery. The floor price was quoted as having been fixed at P4,750,000.

The Sugar Refineries Association agreed to retain as many employees as possible. Those laid off would be given the equivalent of one month's pay for, every year of service plus a one-month bonus.

In moving to speed up the disposal of various industries now competing with private business, the Cabinet created a committee to set the terms and conditions as well as the invitation to bid for the purchase of the NDC textile mills in Manila and the Ilocos Textile Mills.

Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag was appointed chairman of the committee with Economic Coordinator Juan Chioco, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, and NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin as members.

The committee created to look into the GSIS proposal to go into housing project development is headed by Locsin with Chioco, Castaño, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, and Education Secretary Jose Romero as members. The GSIS proposed to develop as a starter, Area "C" of Project 8. for which an initial appropriation of P1 million was requested for the purchase of heavy equipment.

President and Mrs. Garcia left tonight for Cebu, scene of a political storm in the last elections. The President and the First Lady boarded the presidential yacht *Lapu-Lapu* this evening. They are scheduled to arrive at Toledo City Friday morning.

The Chief Executive's arrival is expected to touch off a political rally endorsing his re-election.

Toledo is the scene of mining boom, it being the site of the first oil deposits to be unearthed in the country. It is the second city in Cebu.

The President and the First Lady motored to the presidential yacht after the Chief Executive had adjourned the regular meeting of Ms, Cabinet this evening.

January 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today said the Philippines wants the United Nations to take initial action in strife-torn Laos to prevent the conflict, from spreading beyond the borders of the tiny Southeast Asian kingdom.

At the same time he urged Southeast Asia Treaty Organization members to move cautiously on the crisis, since evidence of alleged foreign intervention have to be considered before a collective decision can be made.

The Chief Executive bared this Philippine posture on Laos on board *RPS Lapu-Lapu* which is taking him to Toledo City, Cebu, two days after the National Security Council, in an emergency session with him had recommended this stand on the conflict.

In advocating UN action in Laos, the President pointed out that the world body would be more effective and expedient in handling the veritable powderkeg that threatens to involve other nations, including the Philippines.

The President pointed out the following factors which influenced the nation's stand in favor of an initial UN move on Laos:

1. The UN is a bigger organization with 99 members.
2. It would be more expedient, as the UN does not need a formal request from a beleaguered state for help.

Asked by newsmen on a report from Bangkok that the SEATO shuns military action in Laos, President Garcia answered that the Philippines makes her decision only after she has assessed all evidence on intervention.

He also said the eight-nation alliance's charter provides as a requisite prior request for help from protocol states, like Laos, before the SEATO nations can send military assistance.

He said, "The Philippines cannot act on mere fragmentary reports. Even the United States, with all its facilities has not gathered all evidence regarding alleged Russian or communist intervention."

He stressed that the Philippines will reach "the hour of decision" only after she has been furnished with all evidence of intervention.

President Garcia stated that he was watching developments in Laos closely and is daily receiving confidential reports on the situation in that kingdom.

The Chief Executive said Thailand has committed herself to intervene in Laos because the country's security is immediately threatened by the present civil strife.

President Garcia is scheduled to reach the port of Toledo, a Cebu coastal town until its creation into a city by Congress, at 8 a.m. tomorrow.

The President confined himself in his cabin, poring over state papers brought to the ship for his study. He met newsmen briefly at noon.

The President is accompanied on board ship by Sen. Gil Puyat, a candidate for the Nacionalista vice-presidential nomination. Education Secretary Jose Romero, and Agriculture Undersecretary Salvador Cunanan.

Before he sailed last night, the President received Manila Councilors Alfredo Gomez, Ernesto Maceda, and Francisco Varona.

January 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today inaugurated Toledo City as the s 34th chartered city of the Philippines. In his speech during the inauguration program, he pledged to give ail he can “in the service of the people and the country” if he is nominated by the Nacionalista convention. He also bared his legislative program topped by plans for a full scale exploitation of the rich natural resources of the country.

The President also acknowledged in his address, receipt of a resolution endorsing his re-election in 1961. The resolution was adopted by 47 municipal mayors of Cebu during a convention last night. President Garcia expressed his gratitude to the framers and supporters of the resolution.

The President and his party left at 6 p.m. today for Talibon, Bohol, where he will inaugurate a church and a hospital. From Talibon, he will proceed to Tagbilaran where he will open the East Visayan athletic meet on Sunday.

January 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia landed from the yacht, *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, at Talibon, Bohol, at 4 p.m. today from Cebu province where he had inaugurated Toledo City.

On his way to Talibon, the President discussed with Sen. Gil Puyat plans of tapping P260 million in frozen funds from the Central Bank margin foe on dollars to finance productive enterprises. The plan was to implement an earlier announcement he made to channel the funds to finance productive industries on a credit basis through the banks.

President Garcia minimized Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez's political tour of Cebu saying that Amang cannot hope to swing to his favor what he called the *baluk* area. By this, he meant Mindanao and the Visayan where he mesmerized Rodriguez political stump in Cebu, he voiced the hope he would be reconciled with his arch-rival for the presidential nomination to preserve the unity of the Nacionalista Party.

Forum Talibon, President Garcia will sail to Tagbilaran where he will formally open the East Visayan meet tomorrow afternoon.

Source: National Library of the Philippines

President's Week in Review: January 8-21, 1961

President's Week in Review: January 22-28, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

January 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed the whole day this day aboard the yacht *Lapu-Lapu*, putting the finishing touches to his state-of-the-nation message he will deliver before Congress tomorrow afternoon.

The President finished his congressional message underscoring his program of industrial and agricultural development.

The President conferred with Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta this morning, who briefed him on the preparations in Congress for its opening ceremonies.

Earlier this morning the President and Mrs. Garcia heard Sunday mass aboard the yacht.

January 23.—THIS MORNING President Garcia received members of the special committees of the Senate and the House, who officially informed him that Congress had opened its regular session and ready to hear his state-of-the-nation message.

The Committees boarded the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* at 11:15 a.m. and left 30 minutes later, after discharging their mission.

Members of the committees were Sens. Pedro Sabido, chairman; Pacita M. Gonzales representing the majority party, and Estanislao Fernandez representing the minority; Reps. Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, chairman; Eladio Balite of Samar representing the majority party, and Ramon Bagatsing representing the minority.

The President was busy until late in the morning polishing the recommendatory portions of his address to Congress. He finished the final draft shortly before the arrival of the Senate and House committees.

THIS AFTERNOON President Garcia addressed a joint session of both houses of Congress and recommended a 28-point legislative program for congressional implementation.

The Chief Executive delivered the longest state-of-the-nation message in the memory of newsmen. He spoke for one hour and 21 minutes. The longest speech known to have been delivered lasted one hour and 20 minutes.

President Garcia arrived at the session hall shortly before 5 o'clock, the time scheduled for him to deliver his message.

He left the *Lapu-Lapu*, where he stayed since the weekend to write the final draft of his message. He was accompanied by the First Lady and his son-in-law Fernando Campos.

During the course of his speech, the President took potshot at Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal. He branded as "political heresy" Macapagal's theory of command responsibility which in effect would blame the President for graft and corruption in the government.

As he flayed the Vice-President, who is the presidential candidate of the Liberal Party, the President was applauded lustily.

He was congratulated by Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez after his speech.

His meeting with the Senate President seemed to indicate that the rivals for the Nacionalista presidential nomination are heading towards a political rapproachment.

January 24.—THE President and the First Lady were overwhelmed by the warm and spontaneous welcome accorded them by large crowds who braved the hot sun to greet them, all along the way from Dagupan City.

These demonstration and the repairs on the railway tracks in barrio Tabang, Guiguinto, Bulacan, earlier in the day delayed the President's arrival in Vigan, Ilocos Sur.

The Chief Executive left Tutuban station with his party at 7:30 a.m. and made a whistle stop at Dagupan, where a huge welcome crowd headed by Gov. Conrado Estrella, Vice-Gov. Nancy Sison, and City Mayor Liberato Reyna pledged unconditional support to the reelection bid of the President. Also present were Grand Alliance leaders from Pozorrubio, Manaoag, and San Carlos, who took their oath of affiliation as Nacionalistas.

Pangasinanes hailed President Garcia as the foremost exponent of Filipino First policy and urged his continuance in office as the best guarantee for the attainment of economic independence.

At San Carlos, Mrs. Garcia laid the cornerstone for the ₱1 million GSIS building which will house its regional office for Northern Luzon as well as branch offices of the Social Security System and the Department of Labor.

Arriving at San Fernando at 2 p.m., the President was surprised by the huge rally staged by local officials headed by Gov. De Guzman. Then the President and his party proceeded by car to Vigan, making whistle stops in the barrios and towns where large human roadblocks made progress impossible until the President and Mrs. Garcia had alighted to receive the greetings from enthusiastic crowds.

Upon arrival at Vigan, the President and Mrs. Garcia proceeded to the Cathedral to attend a *te deuma* after which the President addressed a huge rally at Plaza Burgos.

After dinner at the residence of Mayor Lorenzo Formoso, Jr., Mrs. Garcia crowned Miss Ilocos Sur at the Vigan Carnival.

With the presidential party are Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Sens. Quintin Paredes, Domocao Alonto, and Pacita Gonzalez, Rep. Faustino Tobia, and Jose Aspiras, NP congressional aspirant of La Union.

January 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia today earmarked \$5 million annually from reparations for cottage industries to boost the family income in the rural areas.

The President also gave support to the proposed Quirino Memorial site bill as submitted by Eliseo and Antonio, brothers of the late President Quirino.

The President barnstormed for the second day in a strong bid to break the opposition's solid North, delivering 17 speeches and holding conferences with provincial, municipal, and barrio officials. He expressed satisfaction over the trip's results as he assessed the political situation.

Meeting with local officials, he reiterated his appeal to the people to improve the quality of tobacco to meet the expected demand of the United States market due to adverse relations with Cuba. The President said this calls for mechanized manufacturing of cigars.

The President pledged anew to continue the struggle for economic independence as the guiding principle of NP policies, adding "it's high time our young nation should be able to shape its own economy for the benefit of Filipinos who have been for centuries under foreign rule."

President Garcia released ₱275,000 of public works funds, ₱64,000 from the Sweepstakes for 34 towns. He also distributed 10 transistor radios donated by CARE in the presence of Robert Linder, Manila CARE chief.

The President inducted Liberal Mayor Concordio Apayo and 10 councilors of Del Pilar, also Cervantes Vice-Mayor Felipe Uparel, independent as NPs.

Vigan Mayor Formoso boosted the President's stock with a resolution of the municipal council indorsing President Garcia's reelection.

The President earlier heard mass at the cathedral. He visited Archbishop Sison and lunched at the House of Gov. Godofredo Reyes at Santo Domingo,

President Garcia entrained for Manila before twilight this afternoon, ending a two-day whirlwind stump of Ilocandia. He is expected back in the city at midnight.

He arrived in San Fernando, La Union, shortly before 5 this afternoon and motored to the house of Rep. Francisco Ortega, where he had lunch. He expressed confidence he has cracked the much-vaunted solid North, and based this on the warm reception he received in towns he passed and visited.

January 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia relaxed this morning by playing a nine hole golf game at the Malacañang Park. It was a big relief for the President after a hectic two-day visit to Vigan and several towns of Ilocos Sur where he delivered some 17 speeches.

Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela saw the President today and reminded him of his invitation to inaugurate the Northern Luzon Athletic Association meet.

While the President believed that he has not accepted the invitation the solon had previously offered, Rep. Albano urged the Chief Executive to fly to Isabela tomorrow to open the athletic meet.

Even the Malacañang appointment's office was surprised by the Albano invitation. Appointment Secretary Agerico Palaypay said he was not aware of any invitation to Isabela which the President had accepted.

President Garcia felicitated Gen. Douglas MacArthur on the occasion of the latter's 81st birthday anniversary today.

In a cable dispatched early this morning to Gen. Douglas MacArthur now residing at the Waldorf Astoria in New York, the President said that the Philippine liberator will continue to inspire all men in uniform of the whole Free World.

In the evening the President received Oscar Calvento, one of the commissioners in the Home Financing Commission, who indicated his decision to run for a congressional district in Rizal.

Calvento also informed the President of his plan to put up a rural bank in Binangonan, Rizal.

The President received his evening callers at his private residence in Quezon City, where he retired for the night.

The President today directed the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency to conduct a preliminary inquiry of a complaint filed with the office of the President against an assistant provincial fiscal for alleged immorality, serious misconduct, unfitness, and incompetence.

The President issued the directive through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, and was transmitted this afternoon to Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, for implementation.

The complainant, in a letter to the Chief Executive, alleged that her daughter and the assistant fiscal were engaged to be married. The date and time, as well as the preparations had been set, but last November 2, the assistant fiscal married another woman leaving his daughter in a "very embarrassing situation."

The complainant informed the President that the fiscal through promise of marriage had induced his daughter to have carnal knowledge with him, as a result of which she is now in the family way.

When she became aware of her pregnancy, the victim, wrote the assistant fiscal informing him of her condition and in reply to the letter, the assistant fiscal allegedly wrote back reiterating his promise of marriage, the complainant said.

When she learned of the marriage of the assistant fiscal to another woman, she filed an administrative case with the Department of Justice on October 2, 1960, which until now, had allegedly remained pending.

The respondent assistant fiscal had been able to work for his detail with the Department of Justice which fact is seemingly “unfair and dangerous,” especially when the respondent allegedly had said that he could influence his co-prosecutors to side with him and assert influence for his subsequent acquittal, the complainant said.

The President in directing the PCAPE to investigate the case, pointed out that prosecutors are bound by their oath to uphold the law so that justice and equity should prevail.

“As they are government prosecutors, members of the community look up to them as their protectors and champions and not as the ones who would take advantage of their ignorance and frailties. It is for this reason that intellectual fitness of prosecutors is not enough. The highest degree of moral fitness is also required, aside from other qualifications the law imposes upon them to satisfy,” the President said.

President Garcia received at Malacañang a ten-man delegation from Marikina that thanked him for expediting the sale to landless occupants of a 52-hectare property in Rizal belonging to the Manila Railroad.

The delegation, accompanied by Rep. Francisco Sumulong of Rizal and headed by Andres Paz, Irineo Cruz, and Enrique de la Cruz, conveyed the gratitude of the 4,000 Marikina occupants of the land for the President’s solicitude for their welfare.

January 27.—THIS morning the President received at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, John I. Snyder and R. H. Wright, president-chairman and vice-president, respectively, of the U.S. Industries, Inc., mother company of Koppel Philippines, Inc.

The American business executives, who are holding consultations in Manila on company problems, were accompanied in their call of J. G. Hohmann, president and general manager of Koppel (Philippines), Inc., and Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Philippine National Bank president.

After receiving the American businessmen, the Chief Executive motored to Malacañang where a long list of scheduled callers awaited him.

Among other callers received by the President in Malacañang were:

(1) A Quezon province delegation headed by Mayors Godofredo M. Tan of San Isidro, Vicente Martinez of Pitogo, and Francisco de Leon of San Andres municipal district, accompanied by Remy Aguila of the PCAPE, who sought funds for public works and asked for the conversion of San Andres into a municipality;

(2) Rep. Jose B. Legaspi of Aklan, with Ex-Board Member Digno Alba, and Malinao (Aklan) Mayor Juan Iturralde, who sought public works fund releases;

(3) Rep. Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, accompanied by Ex-Gov. Paciencia Ysalina, Ex-Board Member Ignacio Calingin, NP Vice-Chairman Concordia Diel of the province, and many others, who sought revamp of the NP directorate to replace supporters of LP vice-presidential candidate Emmanuel Pelaez from the directorate; and

(The delegation who reiterated their loyalty to the Chief Executive said that it was impractical to retain known supporters of Senator Pelaez who has gone over to the opposition, particularly in view of the choice of Cagayan de Oro as site for the Liberal Party secretariat in Mindanao.)

(4) A Catbalogan, Samar, delegation composed of Mayor Pablo Cinco, Vice-Mayor Alejandro Gui, Jr., and the municipal councilors. They were accompanied by Reps. Manuel A. Zosa of Cebu, Valeriano C. Yancha and Eladio T. Balite of Samar, and Mayor Guillermo Altar of MacArthur, who took up local politics with the Chief Executive.

The President signed this morning an executive order converting Libungan, formerly a barrio of Midsayap, Cotabato, into a full-fledged municipality.

Present at the signing of the order creating the new municipality, at Malacañang, were Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, Deputy Gov. E. Cedeño, Mayor T. Balayan, Councilors B. Fajardo and B. Eugenio of Tacurong, and others.

January 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia pledged today the full backing of the government to any enterprise aimed at developing the dairy industry in Isabela and to boost the manufacture of native cigars for the American market.

The President gave this pledge before the people of nine provinces competing in the North Luzon Athletic Association meet at closing ceremonies at the Albano Stadium in Ilagan, Isabela.

The President was applauded several times when he announced the plan to establish the first government dairy plant in Isabela and the plan to construct the San Mariano-Palanan road to open the vast virgin lands and provide Isabela with a seaport at Palanan.

The President said that he had already released a total of ₱350,000 from his contingent funds for public works in Isabela and had earmarked ₱300,000 of public works funds for the San Mariano-Palanan road.

The Chief Executive also announced he had sent Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich to Isabela to organize the first government dairy plant because the Philippines is spending much needed dollars for the importation of 85 per cent of the country's dairy needs.

The President also urged the people to plant more tobacco and to mass-produce cigars because the time has come when the Philippine tobacco can gain a firm hold on the American market with the severance of relations between the U.S. and Cuba.

Gov. Melanio T. Singson, who said he was "a Liberal by accident," and Ilagan Mayor Veriancio Gangan were given a loud approbation by the crowd when they pledged their support to the President so that his present policies can continue.

"Although belonging to the opposition Gov. Singson said: "We are with you in your dedication to the service and welfare of our people; we are with you in your crusade for better, honest, and efficient government. We want you to know, Mr. President, that personally we are behind you, heart and soul."

In reply, the President expressed gratitude for their boldness and frankness in crossing party lines to further the interests of their constituents.

The President, accompanied by Education Secretary Jose Romero, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, and Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, arrived at Cauayan, Isabela at 9:30 a.m. aboard the Friendship Fokker plane.

On hand to greet the visiting Chief Executive was a huge delegation representing a cross-section of the people of the region, headed by Sens. Eulogio Balao and Quintin Paredes, Rep. Delfin Albano, Govs. Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos

Sur, Jose Espino of Nueva Vizcaya, and Jose Evangelista of Ilocos Norte, Mayor Tranquilino Dalupang of Cauayan and 27 other municipal mayors, Vice-Gov. Rodolfo Albano, and members of the provincial board.

The welcoming crowd, complete with brass bands, fireworks, and flower girls, waved various placards, mostly endorsing the Garcia-Paredes ticket in 1961, and a few requesting public works improvements in different municipalities.

After receiving the honors and welcome at the airport, the President motored to Ilagan, some 30 minutes ride, for the Te Deum and the NLAA closing ceremonies at the Albano Stadium.

After the closing ceremonies, the President proceeded to the Capitol building where he was luncheon guest of the provincial officials of Isabela. During the luncheon the President distributed ₱23,000 from public works funds to the various town mayors.

After luncheon the President motored to the 17-hectare Cagayan Valley tobacco experiment station of the Philippine Tobacco Administration where he expressed amazement at the size of the leaves of a three-month old tobacco plant being cultivated as an experiment.

From there the President motored direct to the Cauayan Airport and took off at 3 p.m., arriving at the Manila International Airport an hour later.

From the MIA the President returned to Malacañang.

This evening the President sounded an invitation for foreign capital investments here and stressed that foreign assistance in the country's economic development was not inimical to his "Filipino First" policy.

The President defended his call for foreign capital in the course of his speech at the annual dinner awards given by the Standard Vacuum Oil Company for outstanding newsmen in 1959 at the National Press Club building.

He said that although the Philippines would look abroad for partnership and assistance in the prosecution of its economic development, "it will not do so at the expense of its national integrity."

The President then cited other underdeveloped countries who had sought financial assistance through foreign investments.

"They do not want the domination of their economies by aliens, as it was in their colonial past. Rather they look for partnership between citizens and foreigners on the basis of mutual understanding and mutual benefit," he stressed.

The President, however, reconciled his call for foreign investments with his Filipino First policy.

While he said there was a positive embodiment of nationalism in the Filipino First policy, he added that "we do not regard this policy as an exclusivistic movement to shut out foreign participation.

"On the contrary," he stressed, "the government recognizes the value and assistance of foreign capital and technological aid in our development."

"I have time and again, emphasized this fact in public statements, he averred.

The Chief Executive recalled that most underdeveloped countries have come to accept the fact that external assistance can play a potent role in the acceleration of economic progress.

This evening President Garcia inducted the officials of the Philippine Carabaos, Inc., at ceremonies held at the Rafael Palma Elementary School on Vito Cruz Street.

The President was fetched from his Quezon City residence by Manila Councilor Alfredo Gomez.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: January 29 - February 4, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

January 29.—THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia heard mass about 6:30 this morning at the Malacañang chapel.

After mass the President motored to the Manila Golf and Country Club. He played in a foursome with Jimmy Terassa, Dr. Paulino Garcia, and Justice Roberto Concepcion. The President and Mr. Terassa won the first 9 holes by 2 strokes.

After having coffee and sandwiches, the game was resumed. The President and Terassa won the second round by 5 strokes.

From the golf course the President and party repaired to the nearby residence of Tony Araneta for lunch. The President returned to his Quezon City residence at 2 p.m.

January 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia today forseees a stronger campaign in the extermination of the *cadang-cadang* disease affecting the coconut industry with the helping hand that private enterprise is extending to the government.

The President said that he would “be glad to see the day when the disease is exterminated.” He pointed out that the disease has rendered eight million coconut trees fruitless and caused an estimated damage amounting to ₱40 million annually.

The President officially opened the *cadang-cadang* fund campaign of the Cadang Cadang Research Foundation, Inc., in his Quezon City residence in the presence of high government officials, prominent businessmen, U.S. Ambassador John Hickerson, and German Ambassador von Furstenberg.

The Foundation, founded in July 1960, is the first private research foundation in the country and is now engaged in a five-year program of research to determine the causes and ways of exterminating *cadang-cadang*.

The first charter members to contribute to the Foundation through the President were Caltex Philippines represented by R. J. Monical; Shell Company of the Philippines represented by G. W. Churchill; Philippine Manufacturing Company represented by Bunnet Howe; Philippine Refining Company represented by William Gailbraith and Bob Robertson; Franklin Baker Company, represented by Hans Rothkirch; PHILCOA represented by Board Chairman Feliciano de Gala; National Science Development Board represented by Chairman Dr. Paulino Garcia and Vice-Chairman Casimiro del Rosario.

Present at the kick-off ceremonies were J. P. Roxas, Robert McCombe, Ike Garrido, James Jacobi, James Liu, W. E. Manefee, R. F. Johnson, R. J. Connor, C. M. Grossett, L. Dawson, Eugene Ranson, Fr. William J. Schmitt, Dr. Robert Chandler, director of the International Rice Research Institute of the Rockefeller Foundation, Frank Co Tui, Canuto Manuel, Howard Hick, L. D. Harrison, Hans Hohman, Dra. Josefina Magno, and Dr. Dionisio Birosel.

Earlier this morning, President Garcia formed a committee to draft the bills he had recommended in his recent state-of-the-nation message to Congress.

With only a 30-day deadline, the committee will start meeting tomorrow.

The committee is composed of Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, as chairman; DBP President Gregorio Licaros, GSIS General Manager and Board Chairman Rodolfo Andal, Dr. Cecilio Putong, Isidro Macaspac, Dr. Nathaniel Tablante, Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, Dr. Amando Dalisay, and Malacañang Legal Adviser Salvador Esguerra among others, as members.

The President accepted an invitation to inaugurate on April 8 the STANVAC refinery in Limay, Bataan. The invitation was extended by C. A. Larsen, F. L. Fourrier, J. R. Re villa, and A. A. Narciso.

Other presidential callers were Consul Leon Garcia, Dr. Sotero Laurel, Marjorie S. Ravenholt, Clarence Hulford, Rep. Salipada Pendatun, Labor Secretary Angel Castano, P. L. Lim, Harry Stonehill, Fernando E. V. Sison, G. Lee, J. Kui, R. Villonco, and Bob Brooks.

This afternoon the President called upon the youth to join the fight against graft and corruption and help in the preservation of the sanctity of the polls in the coming elections.

The President issued this challenge before the officials, faculty members, and student population of the Far Eastern University who overflowed the FEU quadrangle during the opening ceremonies of the 27th anniversary celebrations of the university where he was the guest speaker.

In his 30-minute speech, the President vowed that he will not tolerate, much less allow, the commission of frauds during the forthcoming elections, and called upon the student body to help preserve clean honest elections as they did once before.

The Chief Executive also urged the student population to organize for civic service so that they can become potent weapons against graft and corruption, the rising incidence of juvenile delinquency, and the continuing war against communism.

Once organized, the President said, the youth of the land can provide an effective helping hand to the government not only in the eradication of graft but also in the preservation of forests and natural resources.

The President, however, opposed the proposal by the Opposition to regiment the youth through state control as smacking of Fascism which, he said, may be the forerunner of the Brown Shirts and the Black Shirts.

The President also lashed at the critics of the Filipino First policy which they sought to depict as an anti-foreign and exclusivistic policy, in their desire to perpetuate the Filipino nation groveling in the misery of prostrate *status quo ante*.

The President was introduced by Dr. Teodoro Evangelista, president of the Far Eastern University, while Major Natividad delivered the welcome address.

The President left his residence on Bohol Avenue at 4 p.m. accompanied by Dr. Evangelista and Major Natividad, arriving at the FEU at 5:10, where he was received by the Reception Committee composed of the Board of Trustees and Deans of the FEU.

After the ceremonies, the President and guests were honored at cocktails, after which the President motored to Malacañang.

January 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia today expressed alarm over reports that the peace and order situation in Ilocos Sur might deteriorate again.

Rep. Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur said at a conference with the President at Malacañang that recent “irresponsible statements” made by Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal about starting a revolution have emboldened certain Liberal partymen in his province.

The Ilocano solon expressed fears over recent activities of Liberal “goons” who go about the province terrorizing Nacionalistas. Decrying these activities, Rep. Tobia said that the Liberals in his province expect to return to power through terrorism.

Cesar Legayada, president of the Philippine Air Lines Supervisors Association, presented to President Garcia a resolution adopted by the group expressing its opposition to the recommendation of Administrator Juan O. Chioco of the Office of Economic Coordination for government supervision of the PAL, defending revision of the management contract which expires on February 1, 1961, between the government as majority stockholder and Col. Andres Soriano.

PALSA resolution presented to the President states that the implementation of the plan of Administrator Chioco that he be delegated all powers and prerogatives of the President on state corporations in the OEC group, including the PAL, "will be a synonym for retrogression and an interruption of the company's forward march."

The President informed the group who were accompanied by Rep. Ricardo Ladrado of Iloilo that the Cabinet withheld consideration of the Chioco plan in view of the inquiries made by the Senate Transportation Committee headed by Sen. Lorenzo Tañada.

Other PALSA officials who saw the President were Eduardo Carceller, George Canceran, Isabelo Fontanilla, Catalino Bañez, Macario Laurel, Floro Reyes, Cesar Songalia, Miguel de la Rosa, Maximo Tabeta, Feliciano Icasas, Manuel Visaya, David Fuentes, Edilberto Acevedo, Prudencio Mercado, Juan Jocson, Eulogio Tolentino, and Jose Magno.

Other presidential callers were Reps. Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Laurentino Badilles of Lanao del Norte, Lucas Paredes of Abra, Jose Leido of Negros Oriental, Justiniano Montano of Cavite, Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, Dominador Tan of Leyte, and Jose Moreno of Romblon.

The President also received Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong and former Gov. Salvador Lluch of Lanao.

This afternoon the President congratulated Ramon Santos, a farmer-laborer from Basilan City, as "the symbol of the combined efforts of the half a million members of the Social Security System to promote the economic security of the people."

The President personally handed to Santos a special certificate attesting to his membership in the System at a ceremony held at the Malacañang study room this afternoon.

In his brief remarks the President lauded the SSS for having gained the confidence not only of 500,000 members but also of the entire people who are beneficiaries of the laborers' savings which the System has wisely invested in the economic development of the country.

The President added that the System has gained maturity and lends a stabilizing influence among the people throughout the country.

Santos, the father of eight children and a laborer in the Menzi Agricultural Corporation in Basilan, traveled to Manila with his wife to receive a special certificate from the President. He was the recipient of the following prizes: ₱4,500 worth of furniture and appliances donated by different business firms, free accommodation during his stay at the Shellborne Hotel, ₱23,000 worth of one year accident insurance, and one year scholarship for one of his sons who is now a second-year high school student.

Present at the ceremonies were Mrs. Ramon Santos; Mrs. Elsa Darbo, a daughter by the first marriage of Ramon Santos; Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, chairman of the Senate committee on social justice, community development, and welfare; G. Gaviola, Jr., SSS Administrator Gonzalo W. Gonzalez, SSS chairman; Ildelfonso J. Remolona, commissioner; Higinio R. Francisco, Benjamin LI. Sevilla, Teodoro R. Ganzon, deputy administrators; and other officials of the SSS.

After the ceremonies, the President received a delegation of municipal officials from Estancia, Iloilo, headed by Speaker Protempore Jose Aldeguer.

The municipal officials who took up matters pertaining to their municipality with the President were Mayor Eusebio Reyes, Vice-Mayor Serafin Demaisip, Councilors Romeo de los Santos, Julio Sitchon, Cristeto Sinense, Angel Alpasan, Pastor Cordero, Eriberto Acebuque, and Democrito Bacos.

This evening the President emphasized the need for quick action on the part of local tobacco and sugar producers in order to place a strong bid for the American sugar market.

The President told members of the Tobacco Board during a lengthy conference at Malacañang that besides quality, time was of the essence because other tobacco-producing countries would be only too glad to compete for the American market which had been a Cuban monopoly until the severance of relations between the United States and Cuba.

The President and the Tobacco Board members who were accompanied to Malacañang by Sen. Eulogio Balao, discussed plans for increasing and standardizing cigar production in order to meet expected demands in the American market.

The conference was spurred by the President's repeated appeals to tobacco and cigar producers for better and more cigars so that the Philippines can fill her yearly quota of 180,000,00 duty-free cigars. This would mean an additional income of \$60 million to the tobacco farmers.

Among the matters discussed during the conference were: the planting of more acreage to both native and Virginia tobacco, highly mechanized production of cigars, and publicly campaign in the United States to sell *Manila* cigars.

The President emphasized that cigar factories should be established right at the source of materials in the tobacco regions in order to assure a continuous supply of properly aged tobacco which will sustain the factory throughout the season.

The conference also agreed that a vigorous campaign for *Manila* cigars should be carried on in the United States.

The use of machines in the production, it was pointed out, is necessary not only to increase production but also to standardize the product for purposes.

The President also approved the establishment of a tobacco project in La Granja, Negros Occidental, by the Bureau of Plant Industry and the release of funds for tobacco trade promotion work by the Bureau of Commerce.

Those who conferred with the President were Director Rizalino Pablo of the Bureau of Commerce, Roque Yap, Domingo Paguirigan, Tomas Hernandez, Elias Castañeda, and W. Doener.

February 1.—THIS morning President Garcia met congressional reporters in a traditional breakfast conference in Malacañang.

The Chief Executive usually invites newsmen covering the congressional beat every time Congress opens its regular session. However, there were uncouth remarks by a "newsman," presumably trying to be smart. The result was disastrous for what would have been a jolly affair. The President was in bad mood after the newsman's remarks. He looked sternly at the man. Newsmen asked the President questions and the Chief Executive replied as a matter of course.

After his meeting with congressional newsmen, the President conferred with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, who submitted the recommendation of the members of the Philippine aviation panel.

The President had a long conference with Serrano, who briefed the President in connection with the forthcoming state visit of the Chief Executive to Kuala Lumpur.

Serrano has set his departure date tentatively tomorrow.

In the afternoon the President motored to the International Fair, which he inaugurated despite the fact that the area was still bustling with feverish efforts to complete the booths. The President arrived at the Sunken Gardens at 3:30 p.m. Upon arrival at the International Fair grounds, the President noted that most of the booths were still incomplete.

During the ceremony where representatives of countries raised their respective flags, the President noted that the Philippine representative did not show up.

Speaking before a mammoth crowd at the opening of the Philippine International Fair at Manila's Sunken Garden this afternoon, the Chief Executive emphasized that Philippine industrialization has reached the stage where its products can more than adequately meet the demand of the domestic market.

We must, therefore, look for new and broader markets both for our industrial products and our sugar, copra, hemp, lumber, tobacco, and other export products with the view to exchanging them with the products of other countries, the President pointed out.

In welcoming the representatives of participating countries, the President expressed the hope that the fair will not only foster better trade relations but also bring closer understanding and friendly relations between them and the Philippines.

After the cutting of the ceremonial ribbon by Mrs. Manuel Lim and some Cabinet ladies, the President visited the Spanish, the Vietnamese, and the Chinese pavilions, and later toured the Fair before motoring back to Malacañang.

Participating in the Fair, besides the Philippines, are Republic of China, France, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Spain, Thailand, the United States, Vietnam; and 13 chartered cities, 24 provinces, 24 private companies and trade organizations, and 14 government agencies.

The President arrived at Malacañang at 5:05 p.m. in time for the regular weekly Cabinet meeting.

February 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia today reiterated his stand not to fill the three vacancies in the Municipal Board of Pasay City, as provided for by law, in order to give the Pasay electors the chance to elect the best qualified men for the positions. The President also reiterated his appeal for unity to ranking officers of the Pasay NP directorate to unite in order to insure the victory of the majority party in the November elections.

The Pasay NP delegation called at Malacañang this morning and endorsed the reelection bid of President Garcia "to realize more fully his vision of a better Philippines" and pledged its unconditional loyalty.

The President said that although he is authorized by law to appoint three additional councilors, still he feels that representation in the Pasay municipal board should be the responsibility of the Pasay electorate.

The Pasay group, led by Presbitero Velasco, NP chapter president, Vice-Mayor Ansberto Paredes, and former Vice-Mayor Ruperto S. Galvez, included Councilor Jovito Claudio, ex-Councilor Francisca Herrera, Pasay NP chapter Vice-President Catalino Gerenillo, ex-Councilor Antonio Diaz, and Eligio Herrera.

Earlier this morning, the President had breakfast with Senate Protempore Fernando Lopez and Rep. Jose Aldeguer, majority floor leader.

The President also received U.S. Ambassador John Hickerson, who introduced Rear Admiral Charles Duncan, new commander of the American naval base in Subic Bay.

Admiral Duncan replaced the late Rear Admiral Arthur Spring, who together with his wife, met a tragic death in a plane crash.

Mayor Teodorico Esclamado of P. Burgos, Southern Leyte, accompanied by Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez, conferred with the President on urgent public works project in his municipality.

Other presidential callers were Rep. Miguel Cuenco of Cebu; Ramon Aboitiz; Gov. Jesus Almero of Masbate; Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales; Mayor Jaime Avendoza of Sipocot, Camarines Sur; Mayor Lauro Dizon of San Pablo City, and Mayor Lucio Gutierrez of Malabon, Rizal.

This afternoon the President authorized the release from bond issues of ₱8 million to activate three major land resettlement projects of the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration.

In another directive the President ordered General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal of the Government Service Insurance System to expedite approval of the ₱6 million loan to the city of Manila for the construction of more school buildings.

In approving the release of ₱8 million from bond issues, the President told Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco that the three NARRA

projects situated in Lanao del Norte, Agusan, and Palawan, totaling some 52,522 hectares, form an important part of the overall development program.

The President emphasized this was to implement his pledge to give land to the landless and ease congestion in Central Luzon provinces.

Approval of the release was recommended by Mrs. Remedios Fortich and Bruno Aparri, chairman and manager, respectively, of the NARRA who called on the Chief Executive at Malacañang.

In his directive to Manager Andal, the President expressed his desire to have the school construction program started as soon as possible to meet the increasing demand for school admission.

The President gave his directive to Manager Andal upon representations of Manila Councilor Francisco Gatmaitan, who requested early construction of the tenement housing units in the bay shore areas in Tondo.

The President told the Manila councilor who is chairman of the committee on education of the Municipal Board that salary increases for school teachers, totaling ₱17 million, were included in the budget submitted to Congress for the next fiscal year.

Early in the afternoon the President received Ilocos Sur Gov. Godofredo Reyes, who expressed the gratitude of the Ilocos farmers for the ₱10 million payment of ACCFA purchases which was authorized by the President over the objections of the auditor general.

Gov. Reyes informed the President that he is starting a coconut project by requiring school children to plant coconuts in the deforested areas, and reviving cotton production in order to replace Japanese cotton being used by the Ilocos Textile Mills in Narvacan, a branch of the National Development Company.

The President also received Albay Gov. Nicanor Maronilla-Seva, who requested release of public works funds.

Late in the afternoon the President tendered a merienda at Malacañang in honor of some 25 ex-officio Nacionalista delegates from Manila.

Present at the merienda were Manila Reps. Augusto Francisco and Joaquin R. Roces; Bienvenido Nicandro, who represented Labor Secretary Angel Castaño; Manila Councilors Alfredo Gomez and Francisco Gatmaitan; former Reps. Luciano de la Rosa, Prudencio Remigio, Engracio Clemeña, and Fernando Viola; and Ex-Councilors Joaquin

Yuseco, Fausto Albert, Pablo Dio Cruz, Marciano Santos, Justo Ibay, Angel Linao, Victoriano Banaag, Isidoro Fojas, Leonardo Garcia, Antonio Barredo, and others.

President Garcia's voting power in the forthcoming NP national convention was further strengthened today when Abra province committed its entire delegation to the convention in support of the President's reelection.

President Garcia likewise widened the beachhead he established in northern Luzon provinces as major political groups rallied behind the President's reelection bid.

In separate communications to the President, the barrio lieutenants League of Vigan, Ilocos Sur, led by President Alfredo Figuerres; town officials of Santiago, Ilocos Sur, led by Mayor Jose A. Echales; and the Ilocos Textiles Worker's Union led by President Filomeno F. Cordero, indorsed unconditionally the reelection of President Garcia.

In another resolution, Pasay City residents rallied behind the move to reelect President Garcia. The indorsement was signed by Vice-Mayor Ansberto Paredes, ex-Vice Mayor Ruperto Galvez, and Presbitero R. Velasco, president of the NP Pasay City chapter.

February 3.—THIS morning the President received Peter Frankel, president of the Junior Chamber International, who recently arrived to induct the newly elected officials of the Manila Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Manila Jayceerettes.

The distinguished visitor was accompanied to Malacañang by Ramon Osmeña, president of the Philippine Jaycees; Wilfredo Tecson, president of the Manila Jaycees; and Gregorio Araneta II, Antonio Meer, Ben Crame, and Douglas MacKenzie. W. E. Murray, general manager of the Far East Division, Caltex (N.Y.) and president of Caltex (Philippines), also paid a courtesy call on President Garcia.

The Caltex executive was accompanied to Malacañang by R. J. Monical, managing director of the Caltex (Philippines), and top Caltex executives, J. P. Roxas, W. E. Menefee, and C. Wood.

Former Philippine Ambassador Joaquin M. Elizalde, accompanied by Generals Dionisio Ojeda and Alfonso Arellano, called on the President and briefed him on the status of several pending legislative measures affecting the Philippines in the U.S. Congress.

Other callers were Mrs. Aurora de Recto, widow of the late Senator Recto, her son Rafael, and the following national officers of the Recto Filipinism Movement: Francisco San Gabriel, Jr., Perpetuo Virtusio, Tomas Aquino, Marcelo Banog, Epifanio Arias, Amado Inciong, Jose J. Pijuan, Anita Punzalan, Felix Sanchez, Ricardo Cancio, and Cayetano Dimayuga; and Felipe Ysmael and Sen. Pedro Sabido.

President Garcia issued a proclamation extending the prohibition to slaughter carabaos up to December 31, 1961, Malacañang announced today.

The presidential proclamation sought to carry out effectively, the provisions of Republic Act No. 11 and to conserve our work animals purely for agricultural purposes.

However, the President emphasized in the proclamation that permits to slaughter carabaos may be issued by the provincial commander subject to the following conditions:

- (1) That the carabao is 15 years old or over;
- (2) That the carabao is unfit for work;
- (3) That the carabao must be inspected by the provincial veterinarian and the provincial commander or their authorized representatives: and

(4) That the provincial veterinarian and the provincial commander shall make a joint certification that the carabao is 15 years old or over and unfit for work.

The President also issued a proclamation requiring all branches and agencies of the government to keep clean their premises and all property under their control or supervision in keeping with the objectives of the “Visit the Philippines—See the Orient” Jose Rizal Year slogan.

This evening the President reiterated that the Administration will carry on with renewed vigor the fight for economic emancipation as embodied in the Filipino First policy.

In reiterating his determination, the President also expressed solid support to the Recto Filipinism Movement which, he said, runs parallel to the struggle for economic independence to give Filipinos dominance in the Filipino household.

The President was applauded several times as he announced his support for the RFM during the opening of the national headquarters this evening at the Recto residence on Leveriza, Pasay.

The President pointed out that the Filipino First policy has received spectacular support from all sectors of the population, as a result of which, Filipino businessmen and industrialists who used to get only 43 per cent of dollar allocations now enjoy over 53 per cent of dollar allocations in the Central Bank.

The President received thunderous ovations when he made his pledge of support to the movement saying:

“As long as this movement supports the Filipino First policy, which is nothing more than economic nationalism, I subscribe to it 100 per cent; insofar as this movement is dedicated to maintaining the cherished ideals for which this nation had suffered for four centuries—the ideals of freedom, liberty, and democracy—I subscribe to it 100 per cent; insofar as the movement is dedicated to the promotion of the wellbeing of the Filipinos, I subscribe to it 100 per cent and, I therefore, wish this movement a full measure of success.”

February 4.—THE PRESIDENT today received Sen. Cipriano Primicias and Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, two NP mediators who had arranged for the crucial Garcia-Rodriguez meeting this evening. The President was briefed on the agenda of the meeting.

Primicias saw the Chief Executive first at the latter’s residence in Quezon City. The two expressed optimism that the meeting this evening was going to be fruitful in that it would patch up the political differences between the President and Rodriguez, who is the president of the party.

After Primicias had left the President, Romualdez saw the Chief Executive. Romualdez is one of the President’s witnesses and is known to be a strong Garcia supporter.

After his meeting with the two NP mediators, the President motored to the Veterans Memorial Hospital golf course, where he played a nine-hole golf.

President Garcia relaxed at the VMH golf course in preparation for his meeting with Amang.

This evening President Garcia motored to the Sunburst Room of the Manila Hotel for a historic meeting with his chief rival for the Nacionalista presidential nomination, Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

The meeting was billed as an “amity conference” to bring about a political rapprochement between the two feuding top NP leaders who are disputing the presidential nomination of the administration party.

The President and Senate President Rodriguez exchanged pleasantries when they met and the meeting started with a dinner.

President Garcia and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez agreed to submit to the national directorate of the Nacionalista Party for decision the question of their mutual withdrawal from the presidential nomination by the NP convention.

Under this agreement, the 172-man directorate will be asked to vote “yes” or “no” on the question.

If the directorate votes “yes,” both of them would give up their candidacy for the nomination in favor of a third candidate whom the convention will be free to nominate.

If the directorate votes “no,” this would signify that their rivalry is not yet over. It will then be resolved by NP delegates who will meet in a pre-convention caucus.

The delegates who will be equally divided between the President and Amang will vote by secret ballot as to whom they would prefer to be the presidential candidate of the party.

The two agreed to this procedure after each had rejected the other’s proposal in a three-hour make-or-break confrontation at the Sunburst Room of the Manila Hotel to resolve their political feud and preserve the party’s unity.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: February 5-11, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

February 5— AFTER a hectic night haggling with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez over the Nacionalista presidential nomination at the swanky Sunburst Room of the Manila Hotel, the President woke up early this morning to hear mass at the Lourdes church. The First Lady accompanied the President to the Lourdes church.

The President met Senate President Rodriguez the night before in what was called an “amity meeting,” but the conference broke up without resolving the Garcia-Rodriguez rivalry for the NP presidential nomination.

After the hectic night, the President relaxed in his Quezon City residence after coming home from the early Sunday mass at the Lourdes church.

There were no scheduled callers, but authoritative sources said that there were NP leaders and supporters who tried to see him to give their view's on the outcome of the Garcia-Rodriguez “amity conference.”

In the evening the President and the First Lady motored to Baesa, Rizal, to felicitate former Education Secretary Cecilio Putong, who celebrated his birthday.

President Garcia ordered today the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency to look into the alleged ₱2 million swindle of the National Treasury reported in one of the Sunday morning papers.

This order was given after a conference with the members of the Presidential Backpay Committee who recommended such investigation. Present at the conference with the President were Max Maceren, vice-chairman of the PCAPE, and the members of the Presidential Backpay Committee composed of Pedro V. Aguilar, Ruben de Castro, and Rodolfo Ocampo.

The President directed Maceren to submit a report on his findings as soon as possible.

February 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia will submit to Congress tomorrow the budget for fiscal year 1961-62, carrying a total outlay of ₱1,387.9 million as financed from all funds, or ₱40.2 million over the last year's budget.

Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco stressed that the basic fiscal policy of the government as directed by the President is to allocate the bulk of expenditures to those programs which promote economic and social development “calculated to give the most lasting benefits to our people.”

Fiscal year 1960 was concluded with a General Fund gross surplus of ₱0.9 million, as expenditures of ₱959.8 million fell below income receipts of ₱960.7 million.

In the current fiscal year, it is estimated that the gross income of the fund will be 1,024.7 million, while its gross expenditures will be ₱1,024.4 million, leaving a surplus of ₱0.3 million.

For the fiscal year 1962 the gross expenditures of the General Fund are estimated at ₱1,090,053,060, while its estimated gross income is ₱1,090,118,230, chalking up a surplus of a little more than ₱65 thousand.

The budgetary increase of ₱42.0 million for the Department of Education includes the amount of ₱16.2 million which will be spent to open 5,000 new classes for the fiscal year 1962, and reflects President Garcia's concern for the education of the masses.

To enable government employees to reach the minimum of their salary range in accordance with the WAPCO plan, ₱32.5 million is provided in the budget for the next fiscal year, of which ₱21 million was earmarked for public school teachers.

Owing to the coming national elections, the outlay for the Commission on Elections has been augmented by ₱13.8 million.

Other departments or agencies which will receive major increases in their allotments are Department of Finance, ₱15.6 million; Department of Commerce and Industry, ₱8.3 million; Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, ₱6.2 million; Department of National Defense, ₱4.3 million; and Department of Health, ₱3.3 million.

February 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to revise the pay schedule of public school teachers to enable them to collect their salaries twice, instead of only once, a month.

In giving this directive after the signing of his budget message to Congress at his residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon, City, the President underscored the difficulties which the lowly school teacher, often the victim of loan sharks, has to meet in the management of the house.

The President also announced full implementation of the WAPCO plan to enable all government employees at present receiving salaries below the minimum prescribed by WAPCO, to receive the WAPCO minimum salary.

For this purpose, the budget proposal carried an appropriation of ₱32.5 million, of which ₱21 million has been earmarked for public school teachers affected.

Under the ₱1.388 billion budget proposed for fiscal year 1961-1962, general fund expenditures are calculated to reach ₱1,090,053,600 as against total general fund receipts of ₱1,090,118,230, or a small surplus of only ₱65,000.

In his message to Congress, the President also sought an increase of ₱42 million for the Department of Education, of which ₱16.2 million will be spent for 5,000 new classes to take care of children who will be of school age this year.

In his message the President appealed to Congress to accept the budget *in toto* in order not to hamper the Administration's policy of promoting the general welfare of the people.

Present at the signing were ranking personnel, division chiefs, and supervisors of the Budget Commission, among them, Silvestre Sarmiento, Lucio Topacio, Alfredo Marchadesch, Benjamin Vilorio, Enrique B. Tacad, Fernando Dizon, Jose C. Lansang, Juan Agcaoile, Diosdado Castro, Arturo Y. Consing, and Florencio Dalusung.

Earlier this morning, the President had a closed door conference with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, during which they took up pending state papers.

After receiving Secretary Castillo, the Chief Executive received Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich and Undersecretary Salvador Cunanan, during which the President designated Cunanan as Acting Agriculture Secretary in the absence of Secretary Fortich, who is accompanying the President to Malaya.

The President later conferred with Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the PCAPE, over the alleged backpay swindle which the President had ordered investigated.

Also present at this conference were PCAPE Vice-Chairman Max Maceren, PCAPE chief investigation; and Maj. Teodulo Natividad, legal officer; and Rodolfo V. Ocampo and Timoteo Aldaba.

Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona reported to President Garcia today the successful outcome of his mission to the United States. The President had sent Aytona to the United States two weeks ago to negotiate with the World

Export-Import Bank in Washington for a loan to finance the government's multi-million peso integrated steel mill project in Iligan City in Mindanao.

Aytona informed the President that the Bank has approved the principal terms and conditions of the loan and that the Philippine Government can proceed immediately with the implementation of its steel mill program.

The loan, which aggregates about \$70 million, was worked out by Aytona in Washington with the help of technical men of the National Shipyards Steel Corporation and private Filipino industrialists.

The President motored back to Malacañang this afternoon to fulfill engagements at the Palace.

President Garcia gave a cocktail party this afternoon in honor of the surviving members of the Constitutional Convention. The traditional fete, formerly held on Constitution Day, was advanced owing to the departure of the president tomorrow for a state visit to Malaya.

At the outset, the President requested those present to observe a minute of silence and prayer in honor of the late Sen. Claro M. Recto, president of the Constitutional Convention, and other constitutional delegates who passed away.

Prominent constitutional delegates who attended the cocktail party tendered by the President were Sen. Mariano J. Cuenco, ex-Secretary Salvador Araneta, ex-Senator Camilo Osias, Dr. Fermin Caram, Dean Conrado Benitez, Sofronio Flores, ex-Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno.

Also present were officials of the Philippine Lawyers Association led by their president, Dr. Arturo Alafriz; Sen. Arturo Tolentino, executive vice-president; Alberto R. de Joya, vice-president; Dr. Tomas Barnes, treasurer Dra. Angelica Belarmino; and Dr. Maurice Nublia.

After the cocktails the President received Sheika Mahmoud Shaltout, the spiritual leader of the Moslem world, who arrived this afternoon from Indonesia.

The Moslem spiritual head was accompanied to Malacañang by Sen. Domocao Alonto and Rep. Salipada Pendatun.

February 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia took off this morning for Kuala Lumpur on a four-day state visit to the Federation of Malaya.

Before taking off at 8:10 a.m. aboard the chartered Philippine Airlines Viscount plane PI-C771, the President held a last-minute huddle with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, whom he had designated his official representative in all special and official functions.

Before leaving Malacañang the President issued Executive Order No. 416 providing instructions for the conduct of public affairs during his stay abroad and designating the Executive Secretary as his liaison in order to enable the President to exercise all official functions while abroad as if he were within the national territory.

The President, together with Mrs. Garcia and their children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, heard mass at the Malacañang chapel, before leaving for the airport.

Also present at the mass were Secretary Castillo; Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez; Sens. Quintin Paredes, Pacita M. Gonzalez, and Alejandro Almendras; Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona; and others.

After breakfast the President and the First Lady, accompanied by friends and close relatives, motored to the PAL domestic terminal at the Manila International Airport, arriving there at 8:25.

As soon as the President entered the airport, a battery of armed forces artillery guns boomed a 21-gun salute while the President stood at attention as the band struck up the National Anthem.

After the military honors, the President proceeded to the waiting plane but spent a full 20 minutes shaking hands and acknowledging the wishes of his close associates and the general public for a successful and bon voyage.

The President told his well-wishers that he was going to Malaya to strengthen the bonds of kinship and friendship between the Malaya and the Filipinos in order to preserve liberty, justice, and universal peace in this part of the world.

At exactly 8 a.m. the President and his official entourage boarded the plane but the President took advantage of a 10-minutes' delay giving last-minute instructions to Secretary Castillo.

Accompanying the President aboard the plane were: The First Lady, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, SWA Administrator Amparo P. Villamor, Agriculture Secretary Cesar Foftich, Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, Dr. Salvador Araneta, Fernando Campos; and Col. Jorge B. Delarmente, senior aide to the President; Maj. Ciriaco Hocson, aide to the First Lady; Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Valentin Fidelino; Capts. Marcia Garces and Leon Dacayo; Miss Estela Lozada; Jose Vazquez, and Loreto Reyes.

President Garcia landed at Kuala Lumpur airport at 4:37 o'clock (Manila time) this afternoon after a seven-and-half hour flight from Manila with an hour's stopover in Jesselton for refuelling.

The Chief Executive, accompanied by Mrs Leonila D. Garcia and 12 other members of his party, received a red carpet welcome where even umbrella bearers were reported to have driven into the airport in chauffeured limousines.

Reports reaching Manila said the President and his party landed 20 minutes ahead of schedule and at a time when the Malayan king had just arrived at the reviewing stand and was being escorted to his position under a golden umbrella.

Among those who met the President at the airport were the Malayan Paramount Ruler, the Yang Di Pertuan Agong and his consort, Malayan Premier Tunku Abdul Rahman, the Sultan of Selangor, and the members of the Cabinet of the host country.

February 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia plunged today into his busiest day as his state visit to Malaya entered its second day.

He drove to the hilltop residence of Malayan Prime Minister Tengku Abdul Rahman shortly before noon to discuss the possible formation of a Southeast Asian Association of States.

The Prime Minister's residence, the former home of the British advisor to the sultan of state, is situated over the green parks in Kuala Lumpur.

The President wore a Filipino barong and was hatless as the climate was warm. He drove to the police headquarters for briefing on the northern border. The President was informed that communists were still harassing the border jungles and the Malayan police are flushing them out in cooperation with the Thai troops.

The President said during his conference with Lt Gen. Sir Rodney Moore, chief of the Malayan Armed Forces, and Police Commissioner Dato C. H. Fermer at the Royal Malayan police headquarters that the situation obtaining in Manila is similar to that in Malaya.

Earlier in the morning the President and the Paramount Ruler, the Yang Di Pertuan Agong, played golf together.

February 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today flew to Malacca on the penultimate day of his four-day state visit to Malaya.

At the historic site in southern Malaya, the President paid homage to the city's patron saint, St. Francis Xavier.

The President was accompanied by Mrs. Garcia. They were shown around by Malacca Gov. Dato Hadji Abdul Malik, who informed the visiting Philippine Chief Executive that St. Francis was buried in a ruined church adjoining the government house.

The President also visited the Kemendore Land Settlement, which reportedly is modeled after the Philippine settlement projects.

After a half-day visit to Malacca, the President returned to Kuala Lumpur, where he met the members of the Malayan press.

At the press conference the President pointed out that he was interested in the establishment of an Association of Southeast Asian States (ASAS). The President reiterated his stand against the recognition of Communist China until the "supreme question of world conflict or peace will have been resolved one way or the other."

In the evening the President and Mrs. Garcia gave a state dinner in honor of Malaya's Paramount Ruler, the Yang Di Pertuan Agong. It was the third dinner the President gave in three days in Kuala Lumpur.

In brief remarks during the occasion, the President rallied Southeast Asian countries to pool themselves together to bring "prosperity and a richer life" to their people.

President Garcia will conclude his four-day state visit to Malaya tomorrow. He is scheduled to take off from Kuala Lumpur at 8 o'clock and will be in Manila at 5:30 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

President Garcia today directed National Treasurer Vicente G. Gella and National Cashier Domingo Maloga, to answer in writing within 72 hours administrative charges preferred against them by the Presidential Backpay Committee.

The directive was transmitted by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo this afternoon.

In the report to the President which was (furnished the two officials by Secretary Castillo, the PBC charged the two officials with estafa through falsification of official and public documents in connection with the filing and payment of recomputed (inflated) backpay claims of over 300 pre-war casual laborers of the Lanao district engineer.

The PBC officials, Pedro V. Aguilar, chairman, and Ruben, de Castro and Rodolfo V. Ocampo, members, also recommended civil and criminal action against the two officials and backpay claimants who had already received payments for the alleged spurious claims.

The PBC reported that some 300 backpay claims bearing the forged signatures of Enrique A. Guerrero, highway district engineer, and Ireneo Barbasa, provincial auditor of Lanao, were processed by the Backpay Unit and new acknowledgment certificates issued allegedly upon instructions of National Treasurer Gella.

The PBC pointed out that although the forgeries were confirmed by Capt. G. Fernandez, who performed laboratory tests at the Philippine Constabulary Central Laboratory, they were processed in direct violation of rules and regulations on partial and final redemption set by the PBC.

The Committee said that some 177 claims are still pending as a result of Secretary Aytona's freeze order of June 1, 1960, while 92 more amounting to ₱89,720.20 are with the Backpay auditor's office awaiting action.

February 11. —THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this morning called on the Malayan Paramount Ruler, who joined them in motoring to the Kuala Lumpur airport.

After brief but impressive ceremonies, the President and the First Lady boarded the Viscount plane at 9: 04 a.m. for Manila. The presidential plane stopped over at Jesselton for refuelling.

This afternoon President Garcia arrived from a four-day state visit to Malaya and reported to the nation that he was happy to be back “with one more mission accomplished.”

The President reported that “we are marching forward under the light of democracy to unite the peoples of Asia behind the great cause for world peace and of international understanding and good will.

“We can look forward to a better future, to a world that is better to live in and fight for,” he said.

The President said that he was touched by the sincerity and warmth of the welcome he received in Malaya and added that “I can feel that the heart of the Malaysians beats like that of the Filipinos.”

Even as he traced the common origin of race, language, and tradition of both peoples, which have been isolated for centuries when both were under foreign rule, the President said that now that they have regained freedom and have reconnected broken ties “we can look to a future of better and closer relations.”

The Philippine Air Lines Viscount plane bearing the President and his party was escorted by Philippine Air Force jet planes. It touched Philippine soil again at exactly 5:44 p.m. and taxied to the apron of the domestic terminal where the welcomers had gathered.

The President was the first to alight from the plane, followed by Mrs. Garcia, Rep. and Mrs. Salipada Pendatun, Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor, Secretary Cesar Fortich of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Secretary Manuel Lim of Commerce and Industry, Senator Ambrosio Padilla (LP), Dr. Salvador Araneta, Fernando Campos, Col. Jorge Delarmente, Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Valentin Fidelino, and the rest of the party.

The President proceeded to an improvised stand to receive full military honors, including the 21-gun salute from composite units of the Armed Forces of the Philippines under the command of Lt. Col. Sanchez.

After the military honors, the President was greeted by the diplomatic corps led by the Apostolic Nuncio Msgr. Salvatore Siino and members of Congress heads by Speaker Daniel Romualdez and Sen. Cipriano Primicias, members of the Cabinet and the Judiciary, AFP brass, other high government officials and well-wishers.

The President then proceeded to another improvised stand to speak extemporaneously for seven minutes after being presented to the crowd by Executive Secretary Natalio Castillo.

The President and Mrs. Garcia led a motorcade to Malacañang passing F.B. Harrison, Quezon Avenue, Dewey Boulevard, Isaac Peral, Taft Avenue, Ayala Boulevard, Gen. Solano, and Dr. Jose Laurel Street.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: February 12-18, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

February 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today acceded to the desire of Col. Andres Soriano for the non-renewal of the management contract between the latter and the Philippine Air Lines when it expires on March 31 this year.

The President conferred with Col. Soriano, who called at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City this morning to reiterate his wish to resign as president and director of PAL because “it was becoming increasingly clear that the villification and attacks against the PAL and myself are leading to the undermining of public confidence in the airline.”

Accompanied by Eduardo Romualdez, president of the Philippine National Bank and chairman of the PAL board of directors, Col. Soriano informed the President that these attacks had had disturbing influences on the morale of the employees and might affect the continued high efficiency so vital in the operation of an airline.

Col. Soriano expressed the hope that his resignation would afford an opportunity “for a reexamination of national aviation policies and would permit a calmer deliberation of the future status of the company.”

The President said he appreciated the full circumstances of Col. Soriano's position and that it was with “great reluctance and regret” that he was acceding to his desire to terminate the management contract on or before its expiration date.

The termination of the contract was first proposed by Col. Soriano last February 8 on the President's departure for Kuala Lumpur. The President then told the PAL executive that the matter would be more extensively discussed on his return from Malaya.

The President received assurance from Col. Soriano that the airline operations would continue without interruption and that management functions would be maintained at its highest efficiency.

The Chief Executive expressed hope that Col. Soriano's experience and knowledge of aviation would be available to the government in the future.

Soriano unhesitatingly pledged his fullhearted cooperation because “the success of the airline, as always, remains closes to my heart.”

February 13.—THE COUNCIL OF STATE today approved a cash disbursement ceiling of ₱125,424,351 for various projects from bond issues during the remaining period of the current fiscal year.

The Council also congratulated President Garcia for his “signal success in opening a new era of closer relations and greater understanding among the free peoples of the Pacific area” as a result of his recent state visit to the Federation of Malaya.

In recommending approval of the list of projects eligible under bond issue disbursements which was submitted by the State Council Screening Committee, the President laid emphasis on the “impressive records chalked up” by the Land Tenure Administration and the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration which, he said, would suffer unless they were sufficiently financed.

The President pointed out that the NARRA settlements, the latest of which was Wao in Lanao del Sur, were rapidly growing in wealth and population and fast becoming regular municipalities.

Unable to attend the Council meeting were Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Rep. Cornelio T. Villareal, Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., Gov. Isidro Rodriguez, and General Emilio Aguinaldo.

Before adjourning the meeting, the President announced the appointment of Sen. Lorenzo M. Tañada, who attended the meeting for the first time this noon in place of the late Sen. Claro M. Recto. Rep. Jose J. Roy was also present at the meeting.

This afternoon the President directed port authorities to maintain and administer all government piers in order to give incoming tourists and foreigners a pleasant impression of the country.

The President gave this directive in the course of his speech following the formal turnover of Pier 5 by the Department of Public Works to the Customs Commission.

At the same time, the President thanked the American people and government for their invaluable financial and technical assistance which has made possible the rehabilitation and improvement of Pier 5, formerly the United States military port in Manila.

The modern pier which was rebuilt at a cost of ₱13.5 million as a joint project of the National Economic Council and the International Cooperative Administration, is part of the overall program of the Administration to modernize and increase pier and harbor constructions to cope with the ever-increasing needs of commerce for more berthing space for international vessels calling at Manila.

Ambassador John D. Hickerson, speaking on behalf of the United States Government, informed the President that his people are proud of the opportunity to demonstrate once again their friendship and affection for the Filipinos in a joint effort to develop the country's facilities.

Present at the brief turnover ceremonies which were held at Pier 5 were ICA Director Paul D. Summers, Public Works Director Julian Buendia, who turned over the pier to Customs Commissioner Eleuterio Capapas, Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin, and other officials of the ICA, the NEC, and the Department of Public Works and Communications.

The President, accompanied by Secretary Aytona, Secretary Moreno, and Chairman Locsin, arrived at Pier 5 at exactly 5 p.m.

After the ceremonies, the President motored back to Malacañang arriving there at about 7 p.m.

February 14.—THIS morning the President conferred with finance and public works officials on the draft of a bill authorizing the National Shipyards and Steel Corporation to invest in a stock corporation that will operate the projected integrated steel mill.

Present at the conference were Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, and Fernando and Jose Jacinto, who represented private investors willing to join in the venture.

The draft will be finalized by a special committee created by President Garcia for submission to Congress, together with other legislative measures he proposed in his state-of-the-nation message.

The Proposed measure seeks authority for NASSCO to own stocks to the extent of 51 per cent of the authorized capital stock of the corporation to be organized to operate the integrated steel mill, provided that such investment shall not exceed ₱61.2 million.

The bill also authorizes the President to contract obligations in behalf of the government with foreign credit institutions not exceeding \$70 million in order to finance the foreign exchange and other financial requirements of the steel mill.

President Garcia today received the grateful appreciation of United States President John F. Kennedy for the Philippines' steadfastness to the common effort to preserve the integrity, and strengthen the sinews of the free world.

In his message to President Garcia, which was conveyed by Ambassador John D. Hickerson, the U.S. Chief Executive said: "I deeply appreciate the warm message of congratulation and encouragement which you and Mrs. Garcia were kind enough to send me on the occasion of my inauguration. At this time of international peril, it is of great satisfaction to the American people and to my administration that the Philippines is pursuing its steadfast course as a partner in the common effort to preserve the integrity and to strengthen the political, economic, military, and moral sinews of the free world. We value most highly the close ties which had historically joined our two countries, and we look forward to continuing cooperation in the interest of a secure and fruitful peace."

President Garcia today sounded a nationwide appeal for support to the Philippine National Red Cross fund campaign for 1961 in order to enable the organization to carry on its humanitarian work.

The President sounded this appeal during the kick-off ceremonies held at the Malacañang social hall this afternoon, during which he personally handed his donation of ₱1,000 to Antonio de las Alas, PNRC chairman.

During the ceremonies the Aurora Aragon-Quezon Medal was awarded to the First Lady and three former First Ladies of the land for highly distinguished service in the fund-raising efforts of the Philippine National Red Cross.

Awarded medals besides Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia were Mrs. Trinidad de Leon-Roxas, Mrs. Victoria Quirino-Gonzalez, and Mrs. Luz Banzon-Magsaysay.

The PNRC fund campaign for 1981 has set a goal of ₱1.7 million, of which ₱570,000 has been allotted to the city of Manila.

The campaign got an auspicious start when it was announced by Manuel J. Marquez, chairman of the advance gifts division that a total of ₱260,000 had already been turned in by city and provincial Red Cross chapters, with Manila chipping in ₱87,000, a little short of its quota of ₱100,000.

President Garcia continued receiving pledges of support to his reelection bid from congressmen, local officials, and even from some members of the Liberal Party.

Antonio Capilitan, who in 1957 ran as the official LP congressional candidate in the third district of Leyte, was inducted by President Garcia this morning as Nacionalista in the presence of Rep. Nicanor Ymguez, Leyte Board Member Emiliano Melgazo, and Mayors Roman de Jesus of Anahawan, who is the president of the Mayors League of Southern Leyte; Rito Montederamos of Libagon, Aludio Taguipes of Hinomangan, Teodorico Esclamado of P. Burgos, Gil Japson of Hinondayan, and Demetrio Salem.

The defeated LP congressional bet was followed by members of the municipal council of Ilagan, Isabela, who are Liberals led by Mayor Venancio Gangan. The Ilagan municipal officials announced their support to the reelection bid of President Garcia.

The Ilagan group included Vice-Mayor Pedro Manuri and Councilors Crispulo Nunez and Teodulo Mirasol.

Municipal officials of Bay, Laguna, led by Rep. Jacobo Gonzales and Mayor Leoncio A. Leon, presented to the President a resolution unanimously adopted by the municipal council urging him to pursue his bid for reelection "in the strong belief that his invaluable services are still needed by our people who truly love and respect him."

Other presidential callers included Reps. Valeriano Yancha and Felipe Abrigo of Samar, Marcelino Veloso of Leyte, Manuel Agudo of Batanes, Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, Jose Legaspi of Aklan, Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur, Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Manuel Enverga of Quezon, Luciano Millan of Pangasinan, Gaudencio Abordo of Palawan, and Pedro Trono of Iloilo.

Mayor Macario Asistio of Caloocan and Mayor Pedro Caballero of Uyugan, Batanes, also saw the President.

President Garcia today ordered Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and Malacanang Legal Adviser Judge Salvador Esguerra to study the legal aspects of the Manila City Council's insistence to rename Azcarraga Street "Claro M. Recto" in the face of Mayor Lacson's two vetoes of the measure.

The President gave the order during the call this evening of large group of Recto followers and sympathizers.

The case has been appealed to the President by Manila Vice-Mayor and Presiding Officer of the City Council Antonio V. Villegas and some 13 Manila Councilors.

The measure which would rename Azcarraga from Del Pan to Legarda "Claro M. Recto Street" was vetoed by the city mayor twice on the ground that its present name had already acquired historical significance.

The Manila councilors contended that since it crosses streets named after Filipino greats, such as Juan Luna, Rizal Avenue, Quezon Boulevard, and others, it was but fitting and proper that it also be named after a Great Filipino, Recto.

Among those who called on the President were Dra. Aurora Recto; sons of the late Senator; Manila Councilors Francisco Varona, Francisco Gatmaitan, Ernesto Maceda, Alfredo Gomez, Felicisimo Cabigao, Pablo Ocampo, Apolonio Gener, Joaquin Yuseco, Eriberto Remigio, Vicente Cruz, Gonzalc S. Rivera, Leonardo Fugoso, and Sergio Loyola; Dr. Encarnacion Alzona of the Philippine Historical Society; members of the Philippine Historical committee; the Spirit of 1896 represented by Juan Nabong; the Knights of Rizal represented by Dr. Gumersindo Garcia; and leaders of the Recto Filipinism Movement.

February 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia today reiterated his opinion that the government should withdraw from business whenever private enterprise is ready to take over.

The President made the statement to reporters during an impromptu press conference held at the Guest House, where the Chief Executive and his party arrived shortly after 3 p.m.

During the conference the President said he is still studying the PAL management problem in view of the expiration on March 31 of the government contract with Col. Andres Soriano on the PAL management.

Earlier the Chief Executive inducted into office Benigno Aquino, Jr., as acting governor of Tarlac vice Gov. Arsenio Lugay, who went on an indefinite leave of absence. The unique induction ceremony was held at the rear platform of the presidential coach during a whistlestop at Tarlac, Tarlac, where a mammoth crowd from all parts of the province gathered to welcome the President and to witness the induction.

In his brief remarks the President told the people of Tarlac of his abiding faith in young men's ability to implement the program of the government successfully. He said that Aquino has an impressive record aside from a greater show of promise as an executive.

The President left Malacañang at 8:30 a.m. and arrived at the MRR Tutuban station where he boarded a train for Damortis, La Union. The First Lady saw him off at the station. With the President were Gov. Aquino who stayed behind in Tarlac, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Rep. Ramon Mitra, Sr., newsmen, and others.

The presidential party was surprised by the huge crowd which milled around the MRR Tarlac station to welcome the Chief Executive, who arrived there at 11:30 a.m.

After the induction of Gov. Aquino, the President and his party proceeded to Damortis arriving there at 1:45 p.m. From Damortis, the President motored to Baguio where a delegation headed by Mayor Luis Lardizabal welcomed him.

President Garcia indicated tonight the readiness of the government to give the management of Philippine Air Lines to private enterprise. He said he was opposed to government management of P.A.L.

The President met with representatives of the Pilots Investments and Financing Corporation who went to see him at Mansion House this evening to present an offer to purchase government shares in the P.A.L.

The President told them to make a formal offer. The President said that the government was ready to sell its P.A.L. shares to private investors provided there is an assurance that P.A.L. will continue to give efficient and safe service.

The President told some 24 pilots who flew to Baguio to present a resolution to him signifying their intention to buy the government's share in P.A.L. that decision on the future management of P.A.L. was due in two weeks.

He told the pilots' delegation, representing all P.A.L. pilots, ground crews and almost all P.A.L. employees, to submit their offer as early as possible.

February 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today appealed to private universities and colleges to enlighten the people on the vital importance of the Filipino First policy in order to provide a solid foundation for economic independence.

The President in his address at the opening of the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities (PACU) conference at the Pines Hotel this morning also called for more scientific studies and investigations to create, deepen, and expand the knowledge and promote the general welfare.

The Chief Executive was fetched from the Guest House at 9 a.m. by PACU officials headed by President Meer; Domingo Jocson, vice-president; Gregorio Zara, secretary-treasurer; and Guillermo Torres, Francisco Kilayco, Leoncio Monzon, Helen Benitez, Filemon Tanchoco, Alfredo Evangelista, Jose Adeva, Agustin Alonzo, Asunciacion Yulo, Amado Dizon, and Felipe Estrella, directors.

Upon arrival at the conference hall, the President was given standing ovation by some 500 delegates and repeatedly applauded in the course of his speech.

The President also publicly announced the inclusion in the proposed budget of a ₱1 million aid to make Baguio more attractive as a tourist spot.

The President woke up at 6:30 a.m. and played four-some, pairing with Cdr. Melchor Fronda and winning over Mayor Lardizabal and Greg Gonzales, president of the Mansion House Golf Club.

After having breakfast with PACU officials, the President motored to the Pines Hotel to deliver his speech as guest speaker.

From there the President drove back to the Guest House to confer with Vicente Oxiniana, president of the Benguet Balatoc Workers Union, on labor problems.

The President today directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release ₱2 million to implement Republic Act No. 1920 increasing the pension of veterans of the Spanish revolution and the first World War from ₱50 to ₱100.

The President also directed Reparations Commissioner Rodolfo Maslog to release ₱2.5 million for the construction of more prefab schoolbuildings to cope with the rapid increase of population in the rural areas.

The President gave this directive in the course of a lengthy conference with Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, who called at the Guest House this afternoon to brief the President on the "bomb-throwing" incident at his Bohol Avenue residence.

According to Secretary Santos the confessed prankster, Victor Bueno, had told the investigators that he was promised ₱500 to throw the giant firecrackers to scare away a certain Toledo whose father was reportedly working in Malacañang and who is a candidate for Pasay City chief of police.

Bueno pointed to one Junior Pelagio as the one who promised to pay him after throwing the firecracker at a certain place near Mayor Cuneta's residence in Pasay.

The prankster told operatives that Pelagio did not appear and he had to cruise in the taxi (Kingsway No. 2701) because he could not pay the fare, until he was apprehended in Cubao.

The prankster maintained that he did not know that the house belongs to the President, according to Secretary Santos.

Later in the evening the President received Paul Reeves, who had recently returned from abroad. Mr. Reeves assured the President that the \$73 million Philippine war damage bill has very bright prospects of passing the United States Congress.

He said this is due to the fact that Congressman Walter Judd, who had stood against the bill in 1958, 1959, and 1960, has agreed to push it through and is the co-author of the pending Zablocki-Judd Bill.

The President also received Rep. Ramon Mitra and Gov. Bado Dangwa of Mt. Province, who took up with the Chief Executive the problems affecting their province and also requested PCSO funds for barrios which are not accessible by car.

The President today continued receiving nation-wide endorsements, pledges, and strong support in his reelection bid.

The NP directorate of Pasay City, in a resolution, wholeheartedly endorsed the re-election bid of the Chief Executive.

The Ilocos Textile Workers' Union also told the President in a resolution that all the members of the union are backing him up in his bid for re-election.

In another resolution forwarded to Malacañang, the provincial board of Abra and 18 out of the 19 mayors of the province pledged the 14 votes of the Abra delegation to the NP national convention to the President. They urged the Chief Executive to "accept another mandate to lead our country anew."

Another resolution fully endorsing and supporting the President's reelection came from the municipal council of Santiago, Ilocos Sur. The members of the barrio lieutenants' league of Vigan, Ilocos Sur, also passed a unanimous resolution pledging their unqualified support of the Chief Executive's re-election.

February 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia said this morning he will award a citation to retiring Chief Justice Ricardo Paras. He told newsmen at a breakfast, conference that he will not name the successor of Chief Justice Paras until next week.

In reply to the newsmen's question, the President said that the move to transfer court administrations from, the Department of Justice to the Supreme Court "has some merits" but added that the constitution has to be amended.

The President later received Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, who reported on the "bombing incident" at the Chief Executive's residence in Quezon City and recommended the doubling of security for the President. Gen. Cabal also briefed the President on the "Long Pass" exercises to test the mobility of United States troops from forward bases to any spot in the Pacific area. The exercises are now being staged in Clark Air Base.

Other morning callers were Admiral and Mrs. Frank Watkins, who paid their respects to the Chief Executive. Adm. Watkins, who retired as commanding officer of the 13th U.S. Naval District in Seattle, told the President he had heard so much about the Philippines.

Mayors Nicanor Ibuna of San Juan, Rizal, and Pablo Cuneta of Pasay City also called on the President. Mayor Cuneta gave the President specially made golf club balls, while Mayor Ibuna sought public works fund releases for his town.

The President played excellent golf early this morning, scoring 40 on nine holes at the Mansion House golf course.

During his rest periods the President is composing a poem entitled *Mga Gisay sa Handumanan sa kong Pagkapatanon*.

The President lauded the educational system in the Philippines as responsible for keeping the Philippines far ahead of other newly independent countries in most fields of learning.

The President, speaking before some 400 public school teachers of Baguio City who paid their respects and pledged their support to him this evening at the Guest House, revealed that negotiations are going on for the sending of Filipino English teachers to Malaya and Indonesia.

The President said the Foreign Affairs Office is trying to get satisfactory working arrangements for Filipino teachers who may be sent to these two countries as requested by them.

The President also pointed out that Filipino electronic technicians are playing a role in the defense of Vietnam while Filipino engineers are working-for Pakistan.

The President said the reputation of Filipino professionals abroad has brought great honor and prestige to the country and reflects highly not only on the Philippine educational system but also on the vital role of private universities and colleges.

The President expressed surprise when informed by School Superintendent Victor M. de Leon that the city school teachers of Baguio do not as yet enjoy the 65 percent of minimum payment of WAPCO rates now enjoyed by all national employees.

The President assured them that with the cooperation of Congress, a suitable permanent school financing act will be passed to insure the equal benefits as well as standardization of levels among national, provincial, and city employees.

The President also pointed out that the Department of Education will receive the biggest increase in appropriation for fiscal year 1962, firstly, to effect a 100 per cent implementation of the WAPCO plan and, secondly, to create 5,000 new classes to accommodate as many if not all the children of school age.

During the conference the President also announced the decision to make Baguio City the hub of tourism in the country in conjunction with "Visit the Philippines-See the Orient Year" and the centennary celebration of Dr. Jose Rizal's birthday. The President also assured the Baguio teachers that he will do his best to look for funds for the early construction of a convention hall because Baguio has become a favorite site not only for national but for internal conferences. The President said the convention hall will cost ₱500,000.

The youth delegation was led by Rep. Ramon Mitra of Mountain Province, Baguio Mayor Luis Lardizabal, and School Superintendent de Leon.

Later this evening the President also received Rep. Apolinario Apacible of Batangas, who took up problems affecting his jurisdiction.

February 18.—THE PRESIDENT woke up early this morning, and paired with Commander Melchor Fronda, defeated Mayor Luis Lardizabal of Baguio, and Greg Gonzalaz in a four-some of golf at the Mansion House golf course.

After the game the President conferred during breakfast with Cesar H. Concio, who consulted the Chief Executive on the holding of the regional conference on scientific management of Indo-Pacific countries in the Philippines next year.

The decision to hold the conference in the Philippines early in 1962 was in acceptance of the President's invitation which was conveyed by the Philippine delegation during the last conference in Australia.

The conference is headed by Filemon C. Rodriguez, president; Cesar H. Concio, first vice-president; and the second vice-president, a Japanese representative.

Two huge delegations met President Garcia on separate occasions this afternoon to urge him to run for reelection.

Fresh from his four-day trip to Baguio, where he spoke before the nation's leading figures in the teaching profession, President Garcia faced a huge crowd at the railroad station and thanked them for their expression of confidence in his administration.

The President assured some 1,000 placard-bearing Filipino retailers that he would continue to give his best in the service of our country and people.

The Filipino retailers met the President at the railroad station to thank him for restoring the \$2,500 living quota, thereby giving the retailers the opportunity to stay in business.

The delegation was headed by Mrs. Thelma D. Magsaysay, overall chairman; Isaias M. Cayetano, who is being boosted for the third congressional district of Manila; Ciriaco C. Sayson, legal counsel; and other officials of the organization.

Chapters represented in the delegation were Manila, Quezon City, Cagayan Valley, Ilocos provinces, Batangas, San Pablo City, Laguna, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Pampanga, Cebu, Negros, Iloilo, Antique, and Bulacan.

The President upon arriving at 3:10 p.m., was met by Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos. Also on hand to greet him was Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who gave the President an account of the result of his mission abroad.

President Garcia was mobbed by another delegation composed of some 1,000 women dressed in native costumes and members of the Philippine League of Women's Voters at Malacañang's social hall.

In a 20-minute extemporaneous speech, the President thanked the delegation for their resolution urging him to run for reelection.

He restated the platform on which the Nacionalista Party would run in the next elections. He pledged to continue seeking the objective for economic independence of our country. He emphasized that for 400 years, the economic policies of our country have been dictated by foreigners and that Filipinos are now in the position of shaping our own destiny.

The President also thanked the women for waiting for some three hours. "If you have waited this long, I am certain that what you have written in this resolution you have written with your hearts," the President said on closing.

He was lustily cheered, and some of the older women rushed to embrace the President.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: February 19-25, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

February 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia today appealed to labor for active and complete support of his Filipino First policy aimed at raising the living standards of the people.

Speaking before some 5,000 delegates and laborer members of the Federacion Obrero de la Industria Tabaguera y Otros Trabajadores de Filipinas, this morning, at the Manila Jockey Club, the President said the Filipino First policy is aimed principally for the farmers and laborers in the rural areas.

The President pointed out that only by wresting dominance over the country's economy from aliens can the government promote the general welfare and interests of the masses.

The President received a long applause when he told the delegates attending the 13th annual convention of the FOITAF-KMP that he has never been, and will never be, controlled nor influenced nor pressured by vested interests in his dedication to the happiness and welfare of the laborer.

Severino Tabalno, FOITAF secretary who introduced the President, conveyed the gratitude of labor to the Chief Executive for having been able to help them in a big way by keeping unemployment low and giving them more job opportunities as a result of his industrialization program.

The President arrived at the Manila Jockey Club at 9:15 a.m. accompanied by the First Lady, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Mesdames Daniel Romualdez and Sofronio Quimson, and many others.

He was given repeated shouts of approval when he delivered an extemporaneous Tagalog speech.

This afternoon the President told athletes from all over the Philippines to compete in a spirit of fair play, not only for victory, but for the promotion of unity and solidarity through their games.

Speaking before some 20,000 people who came from all over the Philippines to participate or attend the Bureau of Public Schools Interscholastic Athletic Association meet in Cavite City, the President also pledged that as long as he was Chief Executive of the land, athletics will be given tremendous impetus. He, said athletics helps to make a sound mind in a sound body because it develops the athlete mentally and physically.

Before declaring the meet formally open, the President said the competing teams which are the champions of their respective regions should strive to uphold the dignity and reputation of their localities.

Eight competing teams from North Luzon, Central Luzon, Manila-Pasay-Quezon City, Bicol, East Visayas, West Visayas, Southern Tagalog, and Mindanao will vie for honors during the Week at Cavite City.

Earlier this noon the popular banquet given in honor of the President and the First Lady at the Montano Hall, the President was presented a resolution making him the "adopted son of the province of Cavite."

Replying in a light vein, the President told the people that he could blame himself for letting Nanding Campos, his Caviteño son-in-law, to convert him into a Caviteño, instead of the President converting Nanding into a Boholano.

Touching on the vice-presidential aspirants who were present at the banquet, the President told the people that they—Sens. Gil Puyat, Lorenzo Sumulong, Arturo M. Tolentino, and Secretary Alejo Santos—were all good capable men.

“But,” the President said, “you who constitute the *creme de la creme* of the electorate, are the best judges of whom to choose, as everyone knows that if we win, whoever is vice-president will share nine months of my term.”

The President left the Manila Jockey Club at past 10 a.m. and motored direct to Cavite City, accompanied by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, arriving there at 11 a.m.

At the Rizal-Cavite boundary, the President was met by a large delegations led by Cavite national, provincial, city, and municipal officials, including Auditor General Pedro Gimenez, Rep. Justiniano Montano, Gov. Delfin Montano, and others.

Proceeding to Cavite City, the presidential party was greeted all along the route by flag-waving men, women, and children who lined both sides of the road, dressed in their Sunday best.

At the city gate, another welcome delegation headed by City Mayor Fidel D. Dones and other officials, and Rear Admiral Joseph M- Carson, chief of U.S. Naval Forces in the Philippines, awaited the President.

Immediately after the luncheon, the President and Mrs. Garcia proceeded to the quarters of Admiral Carson at the U.S. Navy compound for a brief rest before proceeding to the Montano Stadium for the opening of the BPSIAA meet.

In the evening the President and the First Lady gave a dinner in honor of the governors and city mayors and officials and coaches of the BPSIAA meet at the Montano Hall.

After dinner the President inducted the newly-elected officers of the League of Provincial Governors and City Mayors, and delivered a parting speech before boarding the *Alert* for the return trip to Manila.

February 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia today lauded the efforts of delegates from eight participating countries to the Third Far East Seed Improvement Workshop to help increase production through better seeds.

The President told some 100 delegates and observers from the Republic of China, Japan, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, United States, Ryukyus, and the Philippines; who paid a courtesy call this morning, that workshops and seminars such as the one just about to close are the best means of “sowing the seeds of understanding and unity among friendly and neighbor nations.

The President said such regional conferences tend to bring peoples and countries together for their own mutual security and benefit. He expressed hope that the conferees will continue to seek production on the rise in order to sustain the increasing world population. He said this could be done through research, breeding, and utilization of better seeds and introduction of new ones in order not only to supply local demand but to enable them to export or exchange products with other nations.

The delegates, headed by Plant Industry Director and Executive Committee Chairman Eugenio E. Cruz, who called on the Chief Executive before concluding their 22-day workshop, were:

Dr. Hsien-Tsiu Chang and seven others with ICA adviser Howard W. Ream from the Republic of China; M. H. Siregar and four others accompanied by Francis Jameson Bell of ICA representing Indonesia; Dr. Minoru Kajiura and six others from Japan; Dr. Sukhum Assavesna and three delegates with Charles Greitenbach of ICA, from Thailand; Pham, Huy Lan and ICA Advisors Bodie E. Wilson and Howard H. Harper from Vietnam; Tatsuo Saito and two others representing Ryukyus; and Plant Industry Director Pedro A. Rodrigo and 12 delegates; and ICA Advisor Joseph Stroup representing the Philippines.

Meanwhile, the President is considering Philippine participation in the second Feria Internacional del Pacifico in Lima, Peru, from October 12 to 29 this year.

The President received the formal invitation to participate in the fair from Gosta A. Lettersten, president of Feria Internacional del Pacifico, who was accompanied to Malacañang by Peruvian Consul Miss Sylvia Melian y Zobel and Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim.

The President assured Lettersten that he will consult his top advisers on the invitation, but offhand expressed the opinion that the Philippines can locate new markets for her products, especially among the Latin American countries.

Participating in the fair are Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, France, Belgium, Sweden, United States, Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Japan, China, and the United Arab Republic. Also invited were Colombia, Central American republics, Australia, Hongkong, India, and other Asian countries.

Secretary Lim also presented the President with a fine wood carving from the Indonesian Government depicting the national bird of Indonesia, the *Garuda*, which was to have been given to the Chief Executive during the opening of the Indonesian Floating Exposition last Wednesday, February 15.

Others who called on the Chief Executive were:

James Trainer, executive vice-president of Firestone Rubber Tire, Akron, Ohio, who paid a courtesy call and presented the Chief Executive with a report of the Firestone rubber plantation in Mindanao, accompanied by C. M. Fisher, Firestone's local managing director.

Miss Helen Z. Benitez, who received final instructions, prior to her departure in early March for the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women's conference to be held in Geneva.

A seven-man delegation of the Jose P. Laurel High School in Manila, headed by Honesto Valdez, principal, who sought the transfer from the national to the city government of the former 18,106.6 square meter Furukawa estate in Manila as site for the high school.

The entire municipal council of Balanga, Bataan, accompanied by former Gov. Adelmo Camaeho, who reiterated their full support to President Garcia's reelection bid and took up local politics with the Chief Executive.

This morning the President appointed former Chief Justice Ricardo Paras of the Supreme Court as presidential consultant on constitutional, administrative, and judiciary matters.

The President made the announcement before high government officials following the conferment of the Philippine Legion of Honor (Commander) on the retired chief justice at 10: 30 a.m. at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

In his brief remarks at the ceremony the President said that he gave the award only after a deliberate and conscientious study and that, if there was one man Worthy of the award, that man was retired Chief Justice Paras, whose distinguished service entitles him to it rightfully.

The former chief justice was cited for "his meritorious and distinguished achievements and the integrity, dignity, and eminence with which he fulfilled his tasks in the service of our Republic."

Among those present at the ceremonies were Education Secretary Jose Romero, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin, SWA Administrator Amparo P. Villa-mor, General Service Secretary Serafin Salvador, AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Manuel C. Cabal, associate justices of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals, close relatives, and friends of the awardee.

This afternoon the President called on Asian teacher-leaders to exert their utmost in eliminating ignorance among the peoples of this part of the world and at the same strengthen the position of the nations in the Free World.

Speaking during the closing rites of the First Asian Educational Leadership Training Seminar held at the Malacañang social hall, the President pledged continued support of the educational system in the Philippines which takes up about one-third of the country's total budgetary expenses.

The President also announced his whole-hearted support to the bid of the Philippine Public School Teachers' Association (PPSTA) to have the proposed Educational Policy Research Center in Asia established in Manila.

The proposed research center is a project of the World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession (WCOTP), which also sponsored the Asian Educational Leadership Training seminar.

Citing his administration's cardinal policy to forge firmer bonds of friendship and fellowship with other countries, particularly with nations in Asia President called upon the delegates to take counsel with each other in grappling with the manifold problems and the tremendous challenges that face Asian nations in the task of nation-building.

The President emphasized that his administration has taken steps to attract young men and women of ability and integrity to adopt teaching as their chosen and life-long profession.

After the ceremony the President motored to the residence of Jose Nuguid of Bataan, who was celebrating his birthday with a party.

From the Nuguid residence, the President proceeded to the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel to attend the Fiesta Bicolandia.

February 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia certified today to Congress H. B. No. 4506, appropriating ₱100,000 for the holding of the anti-communist convention in Manila on May 2, this year.

The bill which was sponsored jointly by three Nationalista and three Liberal solons, appropriates ₱100,000 to defray transportation and hotel expenses of delegates from 20 member countries and 33 affiliated countries which will attend the convention.

The President's endorsement of the measure is in line with the Administration's policy of doing its share in combating communism in this part of the world.

Sponsors of the bill are Reps. Inocencio Ferrer of Negros Occidental, Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, Ramon P. Mitra of Mt. Province, Cornelio T. Villareal of Capiz, Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, and Felipe Abeleda of Mindoro Occidental.

Expected to attend the convention are delegates from the United States, Europe, Africa, Middle and Far East, Australia, and New Zealand.

President Garcia this morning broke 39 on Malacañang Park's nine-hole golf course, in a game with his personal physicians, Drs. Antonio Guytingco, Alejandro Gaerlan, and Valentin Fidelino.

After taking a belated breakfast and a brief rest, the President motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, where he went over pending state papers brought over by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo.

February 22.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this morning gave breakfast at Malacañang in honor of the provincial governors and city mayors who have just concluded their annual national convention in Cavite City.

The President, who spent the night at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, was represented at the Malacañang breakfast by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo.

The President, meanwhile, remained at his Bohol Avenue residence with a bunch of state papers brought over to him by Malacañang assistants.

About noon time, as the Nationalista Party national directorate deliberated on whether or not President Garcia and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez should withdraw their presidential bids, the President kept himself busy preparing a policy speech scheduled to be delivered at the traditional President's night sponsored annually by the Manila Overseas Press Club on Dewey Boulevard.

In the afternoon the President received Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, who informed him of the results of the balloting of the NP national directorate at the Manila Hotel. The Speaker informed the President that the NP directorate had voted 124 "no" and nine "yes", with two abstentions and four ballots invalidated.

Owing to the absence of pressing matters in the Cabinet agenda, the President cancelled his regular weekly meeting with the Cabinet in order to work on urgent state matters.

February 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia received former American Ambassador and Mrs. Myron M. Cowen at Malacañang.

The former U.S. ambassador to the Philippines, who was accompanied to Malacañang by Ambassador John D. Hickerson, presented to the President a formal invitation to the Philippines to participate in the \$1 billion New York World Fair to be held from 1964 to 1965, to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the founding of that city.

Former Ambassador Cowen informed the President that owing to the close relations binding this country and the United States, and considering the rapid strides chalked up by the Philippines in industry and science, the Fair has allotted to the Philippines the widest space among all Asian countries.

The President thanked Ambassador Cowen and Robert Moses, president of the Fair, and New York City Mayor Robert Wagner for the invitation, assuring them that Philippine participation will be given careful consideration because it will be one way of publicizing the Philippines and establishing new markets for Philippine goods.

Later, in his conference with officials of the Philippine Council of Management and Lido-Pacific Council of International Commission for Scientific Management, the President said the Fair presents a golden opportunity for the Philippines in the light of her rapid progress in industrialization.

The officials called on the President to seek financial help in connection With the holding in February 1962, in Manila, of the Regional Conference on Scientific Management.

Those who called on the President were Filemon C. Rodriguez, IPCICSM president; Dean Cesar H. Concio, executive secretary; and Antonio C. Del-gado, Hilarion G. Henares, Jr., Leonides de la Ilana, Cesar M. Lorenzo, Artemio Tulio, Faustino R. Lozada, Pablo M. Gabriel, Artemio L. Raymundo, Teodoro E. Lopez, Angel Limjoco Jr., Fernando Ricafort, Ruperto Eliseo, and Mrs. Cecilia Henares, members.

The President woke up early and, after a hurried breakfast, motored to the Veterans Memorial Hospital in Quezon City for a round of golf with Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa and hospital officials. From there the President proceeded to Malacañang to receive his scheduled callers.

The President and Mrs. Garcia received Ambassador and Mrs. Cowen and spent more than an hour exchanging impressions and reminiscing on the Cowens' stay in the country while Mr. Cowen was U.S. ambassador here.

Then the President received various governors and city and municipal mayors who consulted him on pressing problem of their respective localities. They also attended the luncheon given by the Chief Executive in honor of the NP national directorate at the Malacañang social hall which lasted until 3 p.m.

This noon today the President declared that the victory of the Nacionalista Party “is more visible and more clear in 1961 than it was in 1957.”

The President expressed optimism about the outcome of the national elections in November in his extemporaneous remarks during the luncheon given in honor of the NP national directorate at the Malacañang social hall this noon.

The President paid tribute to former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., the Grand Old Man of Cebu, for his “heroic decision to stand by the Nacionalista Party” even to the extent of breaking family ties, and despite his advanced age.

The President thanked the national directorate and congratulated them at the same time “for the wonderful performance which you have made of your duty, first as Nacionalistas and second as Filipinos,” in voting for a mandate to preserve the party unity.

The President was roundly applauded as he counselled his partymen to stick together and remain united.

Measures to encourage foreign investments in the Philippines were discussed this evening when President Garcia conferred with top executives of the First National City Bank of New York.

Those who called on the President were A. D. Calhoun, senior vice-president; Richard Perkins, executive chairman; and Richard Henry, resident vice-president and Philippine manager.

The discussions covered the proposed foreign investment bill in the light of the Filipino First policy of the Administration.

The problems of foreign banks were also taken up in connection with pending bank nationalization bills in Congress.

The bankers asked the President for a fair hearing before the Administration announces a policy of foreign banks.

The President also received Jose Tiong, president of the Philippine Petroleum Association who submitted a memorandum regarding the problems facing basic industries like oil, gold, and basic metals.

The President was assured that the mining industry is solidly behind the government in its consistent endeavor to achieve the progress and welfare of the nation.

The President also inducted the officers and directors of the National Association of Government Public Relations Officers of the Philippines.

Those inducted were Esmeraldo de Leon, president; Ramon Romero, Jr., vice-president; Federico V. Azcarte, executive secretary; Leandra Pelagio, treasurer; Regino Giagonia, business manager; Fernando Edralin, PRO; and Col. Luciano Gunabe, Domingo Garcia, Jose P. Giron, Jose Pascual, Efrain Carlos, Rosita Pehera, Salvador Elizalde, Benjamin P. Alcantara and Jose Tumbokon, directors.

Other callers include Zosimo Falcon, president of the Manila Gas Company, and Jose Zafra, co-chairman of the Cebu Portland Cement Company.

After receiving them President and Mrs. Garcia proceeded to the Manila Overseas Press Club to attend the traditional Presidents night. The first couple were accompanied by Manuel Villareal, MOPC president, and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

Addressing the members of the Manila Overseas Press Club at its traditional President’s Night, President Garcia warned that “weakness or disunity among free nations can serve only to invite aggression or piecemeal capture.”

He said small nations of the world have become targets of communist aggressions and unless they are united under American leadership, they are liable to piecemeal capture.”

He recalled that two years ago, in a similar affair at the MOPC, he launched the Association of Southeast Asian States which failed to materialize during his visit to Malaya early this month.

Apparently referring to some Asian countries who were lukewarm to join the proposed ASAS, the President said; “those of our Free World neighbors and friends who choose otherwise, we are prepared to respect their freedom of choice, developing our relations with them in any or all of the other constructive categories of democratic activity mutually acceptable.”

The Chief Executive pointed out that although the Philippines is a small nation, it has chosen to take an active part in this area because “the Free World is fighting for a world community ruled by law; the communists, for rule imposed by force. As one of the small nations, a world of law is our sole hope of stature and dignity. Under a world rule of force we can expect nothing better than national extinction and racial absorption,” he added.

February 24.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia gave a breakfast in honor of Korean Foreign Minister and Mrs. Yil Hyung Chyung at Malacañang this morning.

The Korean foreign minister later signed the trade agreement between the Philippines and Korea. He left for his home post in the afternoon.

During their brief exchange of toasts, the President and the Korean minister pledged the continued close and friendly relations between their two countries, and drank to the health, prosperity, and happiness of their peoples.

Among those present at the breakfast were Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Felixberto Serrano; Commerce Secretary and Mrs. Manuel Lim; Executive Secretary and Mrs. Natalio P. Castillo; Korean Ambassador and Mrs. Dong Ki Syn; Ministers Manuel G. Zamora and Pedro Angara-Aragon; Choon Hei Kang, director of the Korean Bureau of Economic Affairs; Miong Jean Limb, chief of Protocol Section; Walter Jhung, special assistant to the foreign minister; Koe Chul Lee, private secretary to the foreign Minister; and Capt. Eutiquio Meim, presidential aide.

The President presented the Korean Ambassador with a box of choice Philippine cigars, while the First Lady presented Mrs. Chyung with a piña set. Ambassador Chyung gave the President a box of red Ginseng, a famous Korean herb, while his wife gave the First Lady a Korean silk.

After the breakfast the President motored to the Manila Doctors’ Hospital to visit former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., who was resting following a minor knee operation.

The two old friends exchanged impressions on varied matters and expressed optimism over the Nacionalista Party’s victory in the November election. Then the President drove back to Malacañang to receive his scheduled callers.

Among the many callers on the President at Malacañang were Davao delegation which reiterated its pledge of support to the President’s re-election in 1961. The delegation was composed of Gov. Vicente Duterte and Vice-Gov. Noli Sotto; Mayors N. Ilanos of Digos, D. Bendigo of Sta. Cruz, S. Interino of Mabini, S. Obenza of Samal, A. Go Pace of Suup, and S. Lacson of Monkayo; Board Member Gonzalo Palanos; Compostela Vice-Mayor G. Altamisa; and Davao City Councilors E. Lopez, Artemio Loyola, and Napoleon B. Nidea.

Another delegation which took up with the President problems of their localities, was composed of Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao of Negros Occidental. Board Member Ben Gaston, and Mayors C. Carmona of Silay and Jorge Jalandoni of Sarabia, and others.

The President today inducted into the Nacionalista Party some 52 Liberals from various towns of Laguna's second district and from Bacacay, Albay.

The new card-bearing Nacionalistas were accompanied to Malacañang by Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay; Ex-Rep. Juan Baes; and Mayors Severino Villarin of Paete, Tomas Lorico of Luisiana, Fidelino Agawin of Pagsanjan, Marcelo Henojasu of Lumban, Felixberto Quilrey of Magdalena, Cesar Mar-fal of Mabitac, and Elpidio Asedillo of Kalayaan, Vice-Mayors Rosalio Cor-rales of Nagcarlan, and Quiterio de la Rosa of Siniloan.

This afternoon the President outlined his program of promoting industrialization in this country in a broad policy speech which he delivered at the Manila Hotel on the closing day of the 8th national convention of manufacturers and producers.

Incidentally, the President took issue with the Opposition claim that "there has been no economic leadership and that everything that happened, happened only by chance."

Before his speech, the President together with the various delegates, spent more than an hour inspecting the exhibits at the pavilion and had expressed satisfaction over the rapid strides of the local industrialists.

"Everything that we have seen there," the President later pointed out, "did not happen by chance. Certainly, those fine specimens have been the product of careful planning on the part of both the manufacturers and the government."

Mariano del Rosario, overall chairman who delivered the opening remarks, told the 500 delegates that the achievements of the Administration can very well be the cause for the growth of the country.

The President received a prolonged ovation when he announced that "I shall permit total lifting of controls only if there are adequate safeguards to protect Filipino industries and Filipino enterprise."

The President gave his pledge because, he said, he and the entire administration are convinced that Filipino industry and initiative are carrying the brunt of the fight for economic dominance as enunciated in the Filipino First policy.

The President said the Filipino First policy in itself is a challenge to the Filipino industrialist because of the tremendous task of equalling, and even surpassing, foreign products.

Among those present were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, General Services Secretary Serafin Salvador; Sens. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Cipriano Primicias, and Pedro Sabido; PCAPE Chairman Justice Buenaventura Ocampo and Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, former Finance Secretary Aurelio Montinola, past PCI President Fernando E. V. Sison, and Jose P. Marcelo, NEPA president.

The President was fetched from Malacañang by Chairman Del Rosario and several other PCI officials. They arrived at the Manila Hotel at 12:30 p. m.

February 25.—THIS morning the President pledge the bulk of Philippine Charity Sweepstakes funds to the promotion of the puericulture center movement throughout the country.

The President gave this pledge at the opening of the First National Convention of Puericulture Centers, which coincided with the 48th anniversary of the puericulture center movement, at the San Sebastian College Auditorium this morning. The President was guest of honor and principal speaker at the opening ceremonies.

The President told the huge assembly which jam-packed the auditorium, that with the aid of programs, demonstrations, lectures, as well as literature, they can help make the populace well informed, healthy, and duty-conscious.

The President was given a standing ovation when he announced that henceforth “a major percentage of Sweepstakes funds will be funneled into the PC movement.”

The President said that last year the movement spent ₱850,000 while the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes contributed an additional ₱474,000 to operate the 571 centers throughout the country.

The President was introduced by Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, who said that the movement attained its biggest stride during the administration of the President Garcia “whose leadership has helped overcome poverty in the country.”

The President was fetched from Malacañang by Secretary Valencia and Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez at 9: 50 a.m.

After the ceremony the President motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, where he received large delegation from Misamis Occidental which sought fund releases from the President’s contingent fund and various public works appropriations.

Heading the delegation were Liberal Congressman William Chiongbian, NAWASA Director Guillermo Sambo, and former Gov. Diego Ty-Deling of the province.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: February 26 – March 4, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

February 26.—THIS morning President Garcia motored to the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club to lead the *aficionados* in witnessing the closing day of the 1961 Open Golf Tournament,

The President, a new golf convert, was cheered at the golf links as he entered the scene of the 1961 open tournament. He talked to golfers at the Wack Wack club.

President Garcia presented the trophy to Ben Arda, who won the professional meet.

Earlier this morning, the President played golf at the Manila Golf Club. But before going to the golf links, the President heard mass at his Quezon City residence.

President Garcia today pledged his administration to give “every Filipino, however lowly, his share of the national patrimony and that no Filipino, however highly placed, shall get more of it than he deserves.”

He made the pledge in his speech at the closing session of the YMCA Golden Jubilee held at the YMCA Youth Center this noon.

In vowing to implement his social justice program, the President pointed out that he shall see to it, “within the powers vested in me by the Constitution, that it shall be easy for the vast majority of our masses to earn a decent and comfortable living, even if I have to make it difficult for a few of our people to become overly rich.”

At the same time, the President hit at his political detractors, saying that “no one, not anyone can say, I won because I cheated.”

The President stressed that he had never been defeated in his political career.

“Nor can anyone say of me” he charged, “that when the fight was tough and victory seemed to belong to my opponent, I made advance excuses for my impending defeat by claiming my opponent will commit fraud and then threatening reprisal in that unlikely event.”

Although the President did not identify his political detractors, it was evident he referred to Vice-President Macapagal, Liberal Party presidential standard bearer, who warned recently of the threat of a revolution in the event he is cheated in the coming polls.

The President attributed his attitude towards his political fights to lessons of sportmanship he learned in the YMCA.

He congratulated the organization for its achievement during the first 50 years.

The President recalled that he had been a constant visitor to the YMCA where he used to play chess.

The President reiterated his determination to pursue “with vigor the Filipino First policy” to wrest the stranglehold on the country’s economy from aliens and their dummies.

“My campaign against graft in the government is likewise being carried out relentlessly in order that this cancer that is gnawing into our body politic may be cut off and checked completely,” he added.

The President was fetched from his Quezon City residence by Dean Conrado Benitez, president of the YMCA of the Philippines, and Rafael Gonzales, director and chairman of the National Laymen’s convention.

February 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today approved the project of the Government Service Insurance System to construct a hospital on East Avenue, Quezon City, for the benefit of its more than 350,000 members.

President Garcia stamped his approval of the project in the presence of GSIS General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal, Assistant General Manager Abdon Angeles, GSIS labor leaders Antonio Ancheta and Juan Reyes, and GSIS officials and employees.

Meanwhile, President Garcia lauded the work of provincial newspapers in disseminating news to the masses and in the moulding of public opinion at the induction of the officials of the Federation of Provincial Press Clubs of the Philippines.

The provincial papers, he said, have now assumed an importance they never had before and added that In the future they will influence more and more the thinking of the nation.

He underscored the fact that at present the center of gravity in government as well as in politics has shifted from the cities to rural areas. In this connection, he pointed out the important role the provincial papers play in disseminating news to the masses.

Inducted by President Garcia at Malacañang were the following FPPCP officials: Ermin Garcia of Pangasinan, president; Emiliano Reynante, vice-president for Luzon; Alberto Drilon, vice-president for Visayas; Gregorio V. Cañedo, vice-president for Mindanao; Eddie Gonzales, Jesus P. Ramos, and Jesus E. Puka, directors for Visayas; Juanito O. Capinpin, Jose Villapando, and Ven Zoleta, directors for Luzon; Pablo Barreto and Ruben A. de Leon, directors for Manila; and Alunan G. Glang, Angelito Cabacungan, and Cipriano O. Apolinario, directors for Mindanao.

The President also accepted the invitation of Manila Jaycees to be the keynote speaker of the Jaycees, national convention scheduled for September.

Manila Jaycees who saw the President were Alfredo Tecson, president; Arsenio Narciso, executive vice-president; Miguel Magsaysay, vice-president for internal affairs; Eduardo Rodriguez, vice-president for external affairs; Ronald Reidenbach, secretary; Thomas Rogers, treasurer; and Ramon Ordoveza, Eduardo Escobar, Salvador del Rosario, Manny Fong, Aurelio Periquet, Jr., and Luis Garcia, directors.

The President also received former Ambassador Joaquin Elizalde, who was designated as vice-chairman of the Philippine delegation to the United Nations-and representative of the Philippines to the Commission for Industrial Development established by Resolution No. 1431 of the General Assembly.

Another caller was Ambassador Narciso Ramos, who is on vacation from his station in Taipei.

In the afternoon the President motored to Marikina, Rizal, where he witnessed the turnover of property of the Manila Railroad Company to the GSIS.

President Garcia pledged the subdivision and sale to the landless of all idle estates of the Manila Railroad Company in line With his policy “to provide land for the landless and homes for the homeless,” at the signing of the deed of transfer of about 87 hectares of M.R.R. property in Rizal to the Government Service Insurance System for ₱1.2 million for ultimate sale to present occupants.

The Chief Executive said he would carry on the policy to provide land for the landless until every citizen shall have bought his own piece of land.

He said the strongest and bravest citizen was one who had something of his own to fight for besides the ideals of democracy and freedom.

The transfer of the property will provide land for some 5,000 tenants in Marikina, San Mateo, Mangahan, Rosario, Pasig, Montalban, and Cainta, Rizal.

The signing of the deed was held at the Santo Nino Elementary School, with M.R.R. General Manager Teofilo Zosa signing for the M.R.R. and General Manager Rodolfo P. Andal signing for the G.S.I.S.

The President was accompanied to Marikina by Zosa, M.R.R. Chairman, J. J. Carlos, and Rep. Francisco Sumulong. The party left Malacañang at 4:30 p.m. At the Barranca entrance, the party was met by a huge crowd headed by Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong and Mayor Osmundo de Guzman. From Barranca, the President headed a parade participated in by about 30,000 persons.

The President left Marikina at 9 p.m. and motored direct to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

February 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia today signed the first bill approved by Congress during its regular session. In a ceremony held in Malacañang, the President signed into law House Bill No.720 authorizing the printing and issue of semi-postal stamps to raise funds for the Rizal Centennial Celebration.

Present were Education Secretary Jose E. Romero and officials of the Rizal National Centennial Commission, Director Luis Montilla, Director of Private Schools Jesus Perpiñan, former Public Works Secretary Vicente Orosa, and Rolando Lansang.

President Garcia also received a group of municipal judges of chartered cities who had just concluded their conference in Baguio. The judges were accompanied to Malacañang by Justice Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez and Rep. Augusto Francisco of Manila, chairman of the House committee on justice.

Led by their president, Judge Andres Santa Maria of Manila, the group included Judges Minerva Inocencio-Piguig, Felix Ferrer, Jesus Ruiz, Agustin Antillon, Celerino Alcazar, Angeles Arabiran, Demeterio Benitez, Vicente Calanog, Enrique Inting, Angel Campoy, Placido Reyes Roa, Deogracias Lutero, Eleuterio Gustilo, Crisanto Aragon, Estrella Abad Santos, Pascual Berciles, Santiago Catane, Lucio Tianco, Damian Jimenez, Mariano Virtucio, Concepcion Buencamino, Mabini Katalbas, Solon Cordero, and Eugenio Brillo.

A mayor belonging to the Liberal Party, Antonio L. Tottoc of Solano, Nueva Vizcaya, presented a resolution of his municipal board endorsing the reelection of President Garcia and Rep. Leonardo Perez.

Naga Vice-Mayor Mariano Villafuerte, Jr., and Councilor Francisco Veras presented to the President a resolution of the city council requesting the President to recommend as an administration measure the proposal of Rodolfo P. Andal, general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, for the appropriation of funds to cover the payment of insurance premiums of barrio lieutenants. The Naga City officials were accompanied by Rep. Agaton Ursua of Camarines Sur.

Rep. Agustin Gatuslao of Negros Occidental, accompanied by Mayors Sofronio Cordova of Kabankalan, Pedro Yulo of Binalbagan, and Lope Pag-lomutan of Hog, urged the release of PI million, for the early construction of the Hog multi-purpose project.

Other morning callers were Rep. Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte and Board Member Edmundo A. Naria, Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo and the municipal mayors of Venida's district—Rafael Lacuesta of Lambunao, Ricardo Provideo of Calinog, Santiago Puig of Pototan, and Ramon Duremedes of Dumangas, to request the early construction of the Jalar multi-purpose project; Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela; and Rep. Eladio Balite of Samar.

In the afternoon the President conferred the Legion of Honor (commander) on George Hugh Winston Churchill, president of the Shell Company (Philippines) for "exceptionally meritorious and outstanding service to the Philippines in the past three decades."

Present at the ceremonies were Mr. and Mrs. Ra. A. Meyvjes, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Araneta, G. M. Feliciano, M. B. Domingo, Isidro Lee, and E. T. Francisco.

After the ceremony the President received Sen. Pedro Sabido, who reported an early morning fire which razed the commercial and residential districts in Polangui, Albay.

In the evening the President met the members of the Monetary Board. Present were Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, acting Central Bank Governor Andres V. Castillo, Chairman Gregorio Licaros of the Development Bank of the Philippines, Eduardo Z. Romauldez, president of the Philippine National Bank, Mariano Penanorida, and Marcelo Balatbat. No announcement was made on the subjects taken up at the deliberations.

President Garcia today showed his determination to curb the reported spiraling of prices of rice and corn as he ordered Constabulary provincial commanders to locate all hoarded stocks of this staple commodity for confiscation.

In a directive addressed to Defense Secretary Alejo Santos this morning, the President said: "It is desired that all provincial commanders of the Constabulary be circularized to locate all hoarded rice and corn in the provinces for confiscation as authorized by law."

In another directive the President likewise ordered Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag to circularize all provincial fiscals and other prosecutors to prosecute "to the limit" all violators of the price control law.

These twin directives were issued following consistent reports of rampant profiteering in the provinces. The President said he was forced to enforce strictly the price control law; in order to keep these staple commodities within the reach of the masses, particularly those of the lower income groups.

The President called to a conference Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Justice Secretary Mabanag, Rep. Jose Nuguid of Bataan, chairman of the House committee on government enterprises, and NARIC Board Chairman and General Manager Jose V. Rodriguez, at Malacañang this morning.

The conferees discuss ways and means of coordinating all pertinent government agencies for the rigid enforcement of the price control law. Also present at the conference which lasted for about two hours was Board Chairman Juan C. Pajo of the Philippine National Bank.

March 1.—THIS morning the President crossed the Pasig River to play golf in a foursome with Ben Arda, recent winner of the 1961 Philippine Open Golf Championship; Celestino Tugot, who placed third in the same tournament; and Len Thomas, an Australian professional golf player.

The scores of the presidential foursome were: President Garcia, 43; Arda, 28; Tugot, 31; and Thomas, 34.

Afterwards the President honored his "fellow golfers" with breakfast at the Malacañang clubhouse.

Earlier this morning, the President directed the posting of presidential guards at the tomb of the late President Elpidio Quirino in the South Cemetery on the occasion of the latter's death anniversary. President Quirino died February 29, 1956, and his death anniversary is being observed today. The President and Mrs. Garcia sent a wreath to the tomb of President Quirino.

President Garcia today gained another supporter and leader in his reelection bid when he inducted former Rep. Emilio Espinosa, Sr., of Masbate as member of the Nacionalista Party.

The President today declared March 2, 1961, a special public holiday in Cabatuan, Iloilo, to give the people of this town the opportunity to commemorate with appropriate ceremonies the 70th birthday of their favorite son, the late Tomas Confesor.

The President in his proclamation, took cognizance of the valuable and meritorious services rendered by Confesor to the country, as delegate to the Constitutional Convention, governor, representative, cabinetman, senator, and as “one of our most outstanding resistance leaders during the last war.”

This afternoon the President gave three top officials of the Civil Service Commission 72 hours within which to answer charges levelled against them with the Office of the President.

Named respondents in the administrative complaint were Amado del Rosario, commissioner; Mrs. Gloria M. Villano, member of the Board of Examiners for Nurses; and Guillermo de Jesus, former secretary of the Boards of Examiners and now chief legal officer of the Commission.

Commissioner del Rosario, had been charged with alleged grave misconduct and neglect of duty; Mrs. Villano for alleged disreputable conduct and violation of the rules and regulations of the board of which she is a member; and de Jesus for alleged neglect of duty.

The Chief Executive issued the directive through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who briefed him on the charges preferred against the three officials by one Felix Zambrano, a suspended legal officer of the Civil Service Commission.

President Garcia this afternoon expressed gratification over the active participation of the Swiss community in the Philippines in the economic life of the country.

The President also paid tribute to “the cooperativeness and humanitarianism of the Swiss nationals which has given them distinct prestige among the population.

The President gave these remarks in response to Swiss Ambassador-designate Hanz Lacher, who submitted his letters of credence and the recall of his predecessor, Walter Hefer, in ceremonies held at the Malacañang this afternoon.

This evening President Garcia ordered the release of ₱4,386,223 for the immediate purchase and development of the Sapang Palay estate in Sta. Maria, Bulacan, which had been earmarked for the relocation of squatters in Manila and suburbs.

The order was given to Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco at the Cabinet meeting. The money would come from the common bond fund.

The amount would be able to purchase 7,524,940 square meters of the estate. Squatters and victims of the devastating flood middle of last year would be allowed to transfer to the estate.

The President was annoyed over the delayed purchase.

During the meeting this evening, the Cabinet also ruled that the Government Service Insurance System may not engage in housing projects.

However, the Cabinet authorized the G.S.I.S. to develop the properties it had already acquired from the People’s Homesite and Housing Corporation in payment of the latter’s obligations.

March 2.—THE PRESIDENT cancelled all his appointments this day with a long list of callers composed of governors and mayors.

It was indicated that the President prepared himself for what Speaker Romualdez called a vital conference.

Malacañang clamped a news blackout on the President's whereabouts. He was not in Malacañang. Neither was he at his private residence in Quezon City. Nor was he in a golf course.

The President was believed to have gone into a secret huddle with a political figure, either Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez or former Speaker Jose Yulo.

Among those who had been scheduled to see him today were Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao and Mayor Teofisto Cordova, Gov. Vicente de Lara, Gov. Miguel Manguerra, Gov. Madki Alonto, Gov. Felipe Garduque, Gov. Inday Melencio, and some town mayors.

March 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered NARIC General Manager Jose V. Rodriguez to break the corn monopoly in the corn consuming and producing areas.

The President instructed Rodriguez to procure 100,000 cavans of corn for March and April this year at government control price and sell the commodity to the public at the retail price of ₱. 50 a ganta.

At a breakfast conference with congressmen from the corn consuming and producing areas, the President expressed deep concern over the unusual rise in the price of corn grits from ₱40 to ₱.85 a ganta.

Present at the conference were Executive Secretary Castillo; Reps. Nicanor Yhiguez of Southern Leyte, Lorenzo Teves and Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental, Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, Canuto Enerio of Zamboanga del Sur, Alberto Ubay of Zamboanga del Norte, Felipe Abrigo, Eladio Balite and Valeriano Yancha of Samar, Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, Gabino Sepulveda of Davao, Ramon Durano, Miguel Cuenco and Antonio Y. de Pio of Cebu, and Doindnador Tan and Marcelino Veloso of Leyte; and Jose V. Rodriguez.

The President today requested Auditor General Pedro Gimenez to speed up the processing of papers on the Virginia tobacco purchases made by the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration in 1959.

Gimenez was told by the President to increase field auditors on the case and use additional men in the processing of the papers.

The presidential move was prompted by the complaints lodged in his office by Virginia tobacco growers to the effect that, at the present rate the GAO representatives are processing the papers, it will take at least two years to pay all the farmers.

The President inducted the following officials of the Filipino Nurses Association: Mrs. Luis Alvarez, president; Mrs. Juliana Mercado, vice-president; Miss Paula Formantes, second vice-president; Sor La Croix de Jesus, treasurer; Mrs. Marcela Ordonez, assistant treasurer; Dr. Jesus Bacala, executive secretary; and Capt. Lucia Loste, Mrs. Rosario Perpiñan, Mrs. Cristina Mamore, Mrs. Felicula Castaneda, and Sor Taciana Trinanes, directors.

Other callers included Kenneth Rush, vice-president of the Union Carbide Corporation; S. Rush, president of the National Carbon Co., Philippines; Manuel J. Gonzalez; Reps. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, Vicente Gustilo of Negros Occidental, Jose Legaspi of Aklan, Francisco Sumulong of Rizal, Manuel Enverga of Quezon, and Pedro A. Venida accompanied by municipal officials of Labo, Camarines Norte.

The Labo officials were Mayor Feliz Tenorio, Vice-Mayor Isidro Herico, and Councilors Romeo Orezca, Jose Ruedera, Fqrtnato Parma, Jose Rasco, and Eutiquib Verzo.

This afternoon the President conferred upon Justice George Arthur. Malcolm the Philippine Legion of Honor, rank of commander, for his valuable and meritorious contributions in the government and in education, especially in the field of law, at a ceremony held at Malacañang.

The President cited Justice Malcolm's "deep and abiding faith in the potentialities of the Filipino people, his selflessness and dedication for their realization, the founding of the University of the Philippines' college of law that produces great leaders of the government, his fruitful and meritorious service as Supreme Court justice, and his creative thinking and vision during the early formative years of our democratic government."

Among those present at the ceremony were Mrs. Malcolm, former Speaker Jose Yulo, former Chief Justice Ricardo Paras, Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon, Presiding Justice Dionisio de Leon, Executive Secretary Nataho P. Castillo, Vicente Villamin, Enrique Fernando, Emilio Javier, General Manuel Cabal, AFP chief of staff, and associate justices of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals.

President Garcia gave the "go" signal this afternoon to private enterprise for the systematic industrialization of Mindanao with government assistance under the Administration's policy of industrial dispersal.

The President assured private investors of government assistance, especially financial, in setting up plants and factories in strategic locations in Mindanao in implementation of the recommendations of the National Economic Council.

President Garcia gave this assurance after receiving the report and recommendation of the NEC-IDC industrial dispersal committee which was created by the President to conduct an intensive survey of Mindanao's potentials and resources and to coordinate them into a well-planned industrialization program.

To support the NEC recommendations, the Industrial Development Center has earmarked ₱13,350,000 for the initial phases of the program) and has made arrangements with the Central Bank for the reduction of interests for small and medium industries under the program from 8 per cent to 7 per cent.

In presenting the report, NEC Chairman Jose C. Locsin said the NEC-IDC will assign a special team in Mindanao to encourage prospective investors and assist in the preparation of application papers. Locsin also announced that the report will soon be made public and that seminars will be held in the third week of March in Cagayan de Oro and Davao on the organization and management of small and medium-sized enterprises.

Among those present at the presentation of the report to President Garcia this afternoon were Chairman Locsin, Rafael M. Salas, Director Cinco of IDC, ICA Director Paul D. Summers, IDC Chief Adviser Brode, and IDC Advisor Sheldon.

After receiving the report, the President also received Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, who conferred with him briefly on official matters.

March 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia played a few rounds of golf with Dr. Antonio Guytingco at the Malacañang Park early this morning.

Later in the day, he proceeded to the Tutuban railroad station, where he boarded the presidential train for Pangasinan and Tarlac.

He left Tutuban station at 10:15 a.m. The presidential train made a stopover in Tarlac to pick up Gov. Benigno Aquino, Jr., and Board Member Bienvenido Buan. Aquino conferred with Garcia on the political situation in central Luzon.

The presidential party arrived in Calasiao, Pangasinan, at 2:30 p.m. and was met by a huge crowd headed by Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella.

Education Secretary Jose Romero joined the presidential party at Calasiao. Others in the President's entourage Was Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, Labor Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, the First Lady, Mesdames Daniel Z.

Romualdez, Rep. Joaquin Roces, Rep. Jose Aldeguer, Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Gampo, PC chief, and Sen. Cipriano Primicias.

President Garcia made the trip in a pre-convention campaign to sew up the presidential nomination in the Nacionalista Party.

Impressed by the huge crowd in Calasiao, the President addressed the audience thanking them for the enthusiastic reception and assured them that he would support and campaign for Sen. Primicias if the latter is chosen vice-presidential candidate of the party.

From Calasiao, the party motored to Santa Barbara nursery, where he addressed another rally at which Primicias was launched as vice-presidential candidate by Gov. Estrella.

President Garcia left Pangasinan shortly after 6 p.m., arriving in Manila late at night.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: March 5-11, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

March 5.—AFTER returning late Saturday from Pangasinan where he witnessed the launching of the vice-presidential candidacy of Senator Cipriano Primicias, President Garcia woke up early to attend Sunday mass at the Malacañang chapel.

The President took a hurried breakfast and then proceeded to the Manila Golf Club with his aide and personal physicians for a round of golf.

From there, the President motored to his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. He was fetched by Defense Secretary Alejo Santos to the Luneta, where he addressed the cadets of the Reserve Officers Training Corps.

President Garcia today appealed to the youth for a responsible leadership with patriotic mission that is free from desirable influences.

The President, as the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, sounded this appeal in his address on the Luneta this afternoon, during the field day celebration of the Manila ROTC and PMT units, participated in by 26 colleges and universities in Manila.

In his brief message to the future leaders, the President paid tribute to the role of the youth in the defeat of Communism, and urged them "to carry on in combating and negating with truth what has been evolved by professional conspirators as an art of lies and deceit, and ultimately of violence, to overthrow existing and duly constituted governments."

The President added that "the youth should continue being model citizens of their communities, in word and in deed, and thus create an atmosphere where our free way of life becomes in itself a deterrent to whatever force seeks to destroy it."

Before delivering his address, the President awarded the presidential trophy for the most outstanding ROTC unit of the year (University of the East) to Cdt. Lt. Col. Meliton Bulan.

The President arrived at the grandstand at exactly 4:10 p.m., and was given a 21-gun salute as the Letran College ROTC band struck up the National Anthem.

The President, accompanied by Col. Silvino de Goma, superintendent of Manila ROTC units, reviewed his honor guard, composed of a contingent of the University of Santo Tomas ROTC's.

After reviewing his honor guard, the President ascended the grandstand to receive the participating unit colors, after which he boarded an AFP command car to troop the line, accompanied by Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Col. De Goma, and Cdt. Col. V. Javate of the Philippine College of Commerce ROTC's.

March 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received fresh encouraging reports on the improving economic conditions in the Philippines in his talks with American and German businessmen and industrialists.

In his conference with Col. Bernard Anderson, who arrived in the Philippines recently on a brief business tour, the Chief Executive was informed that Philippine products, such as embroidered *barongs*, have a large ready market in the United States.

Colonel Anderson was accompanied by Sen. Eulogio Balao and Bohol Gov. Esteban Bernido to Malacañang.

In another conversation with German industrialists, the President was informed that it was high time the Philippines set up integrated steel mills to provide raw materials for heavy industries.

The German industrialists, Otto Raeder of Krupp Industries and Kurt G. Rosenbaum, chief engineer and managing director of Inter-Consulting Ltd., of Zurich, Switzerland, informed the President of the completion of the plants of the Sta. Ines Steel Corporation on Laguna de Bay, to process iron ores into steel products.

Accompanying the two industrialists during the courtesy call on the President were H. G. Schroter, representative of Mannesmann-Export for Southeast Asia, and Helmuth Koeing of Machinery and Engineering Supplies, and the following officials of Sta. Ines Mines: General Alfonso Arellano, president; Justice Alex Reyes, chairman of the board of directors; and Arsenio Jison, chief financing expert.

The President also received Land Tenure Administration Chairman Manuel Castañeda and LTA Commissioners J. de Vera and A. Lomuntad, who discussed with the Chief Executive, problems in the implementation of the LTA's program of providing homes for the homeless.

Other morning callers were:

Nestor Belocura and Commissioner Ramon Nazareno, who sought the settlement of the rentals by the Philippine Army and Civil Aeronautics Administration of a four-hectare piece of land as part of Lahug airfield in Cebu, from 1936 to the present.

Enrique Garcia, president of the Filipino Retailers and Small Traders, who informed the President that the living quota of \$2,500 which had been ordered restored sometime ago, had not, up to date, been restored to small Filipino traders and retailers.

A Navotas, Rizal, delegation which reiterated its full support to the President's re-election, composed of Mayor Robert Monroy of Navotas, chairman of the Rizal Mayors League, Ex-Mayors B. Alonzo, Dr. F. Monroy and J. Javier, MRR Auditor Eladio Villanueva, and Dr. Amadeo Cruz.

After receiving his scheduled callers, the President inducted into office the newly-elected officers of the Bus Operators Association of the Philippines, among them: Geminiano Yabut of La Mallorca-Pambusco, president; J. Kaplin of Bachrach Transportation; vice-president; Rafael Gonzalez of Pantranco, treasurer; P. E. Meneses of Benguet Auto Lines, secretary; Bienvenido Buan of Rabbit Bus Lines, chairman of the board; Antonio W. Herras, Jose M. Silva, and Eugenio Trinidad, directors; and Ramon H. Manzano of Alarco Transportation, vice-president for Luzon; M. S. Alano, Jr., Cebu Autobus Company, vice-president for Visayas; Dr. Jose M. Villarama of Cotabato Bus Company, vice-president for Mindanao.

The President tendered a luncheon at Malacañang in honor of the outgoing and incoming officers of the National Press Club of the Philippines.

Present at the luncheon were Liberato Marinas, president; Nereo Andalong, first vice-president; Macario Vicencio, second vice-president; Jose Arcangel, 3rd vice-president; Rosario M. Querol, secretary; Dita Alonzo, treasurer; Antonio Zumel, Generoso Marcial, Primitivo Mijares, Luz Gonzalez, Manuel Almario, Honesto Vitug, Jose Chong, Hilario Coronel, and Juan Saez, directors; Johnny Perez, former president; Zenaida Flores, ex-secretary; former directors Abraham Vera and Rodolfo T. Reyes; Mabini R. Centeno, president of the Malacañang Newspapermen's Association; and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

The President today directed Auditor General Pedro Gimenez to expedite payment of ACCFA purchases of Virginia tobacco in 1959, covered by the ₱10 million released six weeks ago.

The President told Gimenez who was summoned to Malacañang, that the tobacco producers were badly in need of the money due them and that he had received reports that auditing procedures, were holding up payment.

Auditor General Gimenez assured the President that payments will be speeded up by the GAO, with the assignment of additional personnel to the project, and the waiver of pre-audit requirements, on claims not exceeding ₱2,000.

Gimenez, however, enjoined the ACCFA management to exercise due care in screening and processing claims because they will no longer be pre-audited but will be reviewed by the GAO only after payments had been made.

President Garcia today set aside state matters to act on the case of an 18-year old house maid who was reportedly deprived of her illegitimate child by her alien employer who is also the alleged father of the child. The President directed PCAPE's Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo to investigate formally the matter.

The President issued the directive upon being informed by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, that reports received by the committee reveal that the house maid was forced to affix her thumbmark on the document transferring by adoption the custody of her child barely seven days after her delivery. The act of intimidation was allegedly performed by a justice of the peace of Cuyo, Palawan, in the presence of two policemen and a Philippine Constabulary trooper.

The Chief Executive was visibly irked upon being informed that the apparent reason behind the "adoption move" was to evade criminal and/or civil liability that could possibly arise out of the case. It was also pointed out that the move was taken not only upon the advice of a lawyer but also the aid of a justice of the peace.

President Garcia today, on recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence imposed on an Iloilo convict, who was due to be executed on March 8.

The convict, Diego Colman, had been originally scheduled for execution on February 6, 1961, but the President granted him a 30-day reprieve on January 27, 1961. The reprieve is scheduled to expire tomorrow.

The three death penalties had been imposed on the convict by the Court of First Instance of Iloilo for three murders committed on January 7, 1952, in Pototan, Iloilo. The decision had been affirmed by the Supreme Court.

March 7.—THIS morning the President gave a breakfast in honor of Vice-President Knapp of the World Bank and his assistant, Omar Dejeny. Knapp was scheduled to leave for the United States Tuesday afternoon.

Also present at the breakfast conference during which Philippine relations with the World Bank were discussed, were Secretary Aytona, Central Bank Acting Governor Andres V. Castillo, and President Gregorio S. Licaros of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

At 10:45 the President was fetched from Malacañang by Finance Undersecretary Jose M. Trinidad, Jorge Labayo, president of the PCTAAP, Baguio City Assessor Francisco Panahon, Quezon City Treasurer Conrado Hernandez, and Ozamis City Assessor Wilfredo Chiong, arriving at the convention hall of the GSIS building at a little before 11 a.m., to address the convention of provincial, city, and municipal treasurers and assessors.

The President appealed to all city, provincial, and municipal treasurers to help keep the elections in November as clean, free, honest, and orderly as possible.

The President received successive ovations as he delivered a long impassioned extemporaneous address before the 14th national convention of provincial and city treasurers and assessors of the Philippines, at the GSIS building this morning.

During his hour-long address, the President also revealed before a jam-packed auditorium that the World Bank which had turned down Philippine loan applications three years ago has now made its credit facilities available to the Philippines, because of the country's dramatic recovery from economic difficulties.

In reminding the treasurers, as deputies of the Commission on Elections, of their sacred task of guarding the people's will during elections, the President said, "Give me a clean, free, and honest election and I will be happy to have been able to conduct the freest, cleanest, and most orderly election as President of the country."

The President emphasized that, in a democracy, the election of public servants is by the popular mandate and that the safeguarding of the popular will is a sacred trust reposed on them as deputies of the Commission on Elections.

The President also paid tribute to the treasurers and assessors for their resolution and pledge of full support and loyalty to the Chief Executive in his Government policies, especially the resolution on the unrelenting fight against graft and corruption and the vigorous efforts to foster the Filipino First policy.

The resolution was read to the President by Jorge Labayo, president of the association.

In their resolution the treasurers and assessors rallied behind the President the solid and unconditional support of over 3,000 members from all over the country.

The President received a long applause when he revealed that Burke Knapp, vice-president of the World Bank, had told him during their breakfast conference at Malacañang earlier today that "the Philippine Republic has won an enviable position in the credit world, and that the World Bank has opened wide its credit facilities for any loans or credit which the Philippines may want to get."

In the afternoon the President received the Nacionalista congressional candidates for the different districts of Cebu, who were nominated in the convention held last Sunday in Cebu City.

They were Reps. Ramon Durano, 1st district; Maximino Noel, second; Isidro Kintanar, fourth; Miguel Cuenco, fifth; Manuel Zosa, sixth; and Tereso Dumon, seventh.

Celestino Paulin, one of those nominated in the second district, who will be pitted possibly against suspended Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., also joined the delegation. Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta, one of the nominees, saw the President.

Senator Domocao Alonto and Gov. Esteban Bernido of Bohol, saw the President.

Rep. Leonardo B. Perez, chairman of the House committee on anti-Filipino activities, conferred with the President. He accompanied officials of the FACOMAIN Solano, Nueva Vizcaya; namely, Arsenio Ramel, Gregorio Galan, Macario Macadangang, and Elias Mahinandynes.

Duke Ludwig, export manager of the American Tobacco Co. of New York, likewise called on the President. He was accompanied by Yao Shiong Shio, president of the Columbia Tobacco Co., Inc., Jose C. Capistrano, and David Gan, also of the local tobacco firm.

March 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia today urged Filipino tobacco farmers to make a strong bid for the rich United States market which had been a monopoly of Cuba until the recent break of relations between those two countries.

At the same time, the President told some 2,000 Virginia tobacco producers that the Virginia tobacco industry has reached maturity and that the government may be expected to remove the props and allow it to develop as a free enterprise.

The President was guest speaker at the first general assembly meeting of the Virginia Tobacco Association of the Philippines, composed of various Virginia tobacco FACOMAs, this noon at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel.

The President was given a thunderous ovation and shouts of *Mabuhay* upon entering the Manila Hotel. In his well-applauded extemporaneous address the President said that heretofore the Philippines had neglected to take advantage of the duty-free cigar quota of 200 million provided under the Laurel-Langley Agreement.

The President said the opportunity presented by the rejection of Cuban products in the American market “is a golden opportunity which occurs only once every half century.”

The President reiterated the government policy of giving way to private enterprise wherever possible and said that since the Virginia tobacco can now stand on its own feet, the government is expected to throw away the props.

The President said he was glad the aims of Republic Act 1194, providing a price support for Virginia tobacco have been achieved and have not only provided substantial revenues to the government but wider benefits to the six million people dependent on the “golden leaf.”

The President also pledged the release of the ₱11 million balance of unpaid ACCFA purchases of Virginia tobacco in 1959 as soon as the release of payments of the ₱10 million previously made available by him was completed.

After his address, the President was given a plaque of appreciation by the Philippine Chamber of Virginia Producers for his efforts to help the tobacco producers. The plaque was read and delivered to him by Gregorio C. Gonzalez, chamber president.

The President was fetched from Malacañang by a committee composed of Rep. Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato, Higinio Fariñas, chairman of the VTAP executive committee; PVT Director Perfect Fayon (Ilocos Sur) and Rafael Maclang (Tarlac), and Juan Echivarri and Constantino Somera, VTAP officers, at 11 a.m.

Earlier this morning the President received U.S. Ambassador John

D. Hickerson and French Ambassador Francois Briere, who made separate social calls on the Chief Executive at Malacañang.

The President today exhorted the members of the Boards of Examiners to live up to the best standards of public service in order to avoid suspicion and keep up the best traditions of the Civil Service Commission.

The President made this remark at the induction of officers of the Philippine Association of Boards of Examiners held at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

He also stressed the fact that in the unrelenting campaign of the Nacionalista administration against graft and corruption in the government service, he did not hesitate to fire some members of Boards of Examiners’ found guilty of misdemeanor.

The PABE officers who were inducted by the President are the following: Dr. Federico S. Cruz—president; Dr. Antonio Guytingco—first vice-president; Loreto C. Señoran—second vice-president; Miguel G. Ampil—secretary; Angelina I. Ponce—assistant secretary; Echauz—treasurer; Bienvenido M. Juat—auditor; Dr. Fausto G. Tapiador—PRO; Dr. Cesar Filoteo—immediate past president; and Dr. Pedro A. Bañez—executive chairman, Boards of Examiners.

Meanwhile, President Garcia signed a proclamation calling for a labor-management congress on May 11-13, 1961. He also accepted an invitation to be the keynote speaker on the opening session of the labor-management congress.

Members of the labor management advisory council who witnessed the signing of the proclamation were Gaudencio Antonino, Francisco Dalupan, Jo aqui (Chino) Roces, Antonio Chua, Richard Pockmire, Roberto Oca, Cipriano Cid, Eulogio Lerum, Pedro Fernandez, Mrs. Nieves del Rosario, Carlos Santiago, and Juan Tan.

Before attending the Cabinet meeting, the President received former President Sergio Osmeña, Sr.

President Garcia declared Thursday, March 9, a special public holiday in the province of Batangas and in the City of Lipa.

The presidential proclamation was issued today as a fitting tribute to the eminent patriot, jurist, and statesman, Dr. Jose P. Laurel, whose 70th birthday anniversary falls on March 9, 1961.

March 9.—THIS morning President Garcia received House Majority Floorleader Justiniano Montano of Cavite and discussed with him various administration measures pending in Congress.

The President also received Iloilo City Mayor Rodolfo Ganzon to make arrangements for the President's forthcoming visit to Iloilo City, where he will be the commencement speaker at the San Agustin College on March 25.

Mayor Ganzon also took up with the President the rice and corn situation and various other problems of Iloilo City.

It being Congressmen's Day at Malacañang, the President received a big number of callers, among them:

Rep. Dominador Tan of Samar, accompanied by Engineer Felix Cudilla and Ormoc City Engineer Godofredo Trenchera, who sought release of ₱100,000 from public works funds for the completion of Ormoc airport;

Rep. Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon accompanied by the municipal mayors of Magallanes, Castilla, and Pilar and various other municipal officials, who took up their respective problems with the Chief Executive;

Rep. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan also called on the Chief Executive to take up financing arrangements for the Angat multi-purpose dam with the World Bank, and measures to settle differences between present occupants of Sapang Palay and the city squatters being relocated there.

Meanwhile, President Garcia continued to receive support from all over the Philippines in his bid for re-election in November.

From the North, a large delegation from Cagayan, headed by Senator Eulogio Balao, Rep. Benjamin Ligot, and Ex-Rep. Conrado Singson, and several municipal executives from Tuay, Aparri, Rizal, and others, reiterated their pledge of a "solid North" for the Chief Executive.

From Zamboanga del Sur, another 20-man delegation headed by Rep. Canuto Enerio; Board Member Samuel Areano; Mayors Mangacop Ampatu of Labangan (GA), who took his oath of affiliation with the NP; Maulod Puasa of Siay; Custodio Lacuaren of Dinas and Egmidio Ebarle of Tambulig; several hadjis and municipal councilors, pledged to work for the election of the President.

From the Tagalog region, another delegation, headed by Dona Aurora Recto, widow of the late Senator Claro M. Recto, also assured the President of their unconditional support in the coming elections.

Dona Recto accompanied Mayor Tomas Cabiles (Ind.) of Tabaco, Albay, who also took his oath of affiliation with the NP before the President.

The President today signed a proclamation reserving for school site purposes three parcels of government private domain totaling 12,107.7 square meters in Gagalangin, Tondo, Manila.

The three parcels of land, formerly belonging to the Furukawa estate has been set aside as additional site for the Jose P. Laurel High School, upon representations of Manila Councilor Gatmaitan and JPLHS school and PTA officials.

The signing-of the proclamation at Malacañang this morning, in the presence of the JPLHS school and PTA officials, coincided with the 70th anniversary of the birth of the late Sen. Jose P. Laurel, after whom the high school is named.

Among those who witnessed the signing of the proclamation by the President were Councilor Gatmaitan, Honesto Valdez, and S. G. Gonzales, principal and assistant principal, respectively, of the JPLHS; Mrs. Ana A. Palaypay, instructors; and. Jose Cruz, Jaime Abad, and Vicente Gabriel, officers of the JPLHS community association.

This evening the President met officials of the Reparations Commission for last-minute instructions before they leave for Japan tomorrow.

The group, headed by Commissioner Gregorio Abad, was instructed by the President to implement the \$250 million economic development loan from the reparations.

Other members of the reparations body who saw the Chief Executive last night were Amado Briñas, Cesar Recto, and Sixto Orosa, Jr.

Earlier, the President received members of the Home Financing Commission. The HFC officials presented to the President proposals to amend the Home Financing Act and for the establishment of a National Housing Authority.

The HFC officials were Commissioners Jose V. Andrada, Oscar Calvento, Simeon Ramos, and Sixto Orosa, Jr.

President Garcia also received the delegates to the 8th Film Festival in Asia and feted them at tea at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

The President posed for pictures with the delegates, mostly movie stars from different Asian countries.

March 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today reaffirmed his determination to implement his “Filipino First” policy through the various instrumentalities of the government.

The President gave this pledged to a group of Northern and Central Luzon governors and mayors who presented a resolution requesting preference for the Virginia Tobacco Facomas in the award of contracts for tobacco processing and redrying by the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

The President assured the provincial and local executives that the PVTB board, the members of which all come from the tobacco region, will award such contracts on the basis of their merits based on the financial and physical abilities of the contracting parties, and would always be inclined to give preference to Filipino producers.

The President also renewed his assurance to release ₱11 million to pay the balance of ACCFA purchases of Virginia tobacco in 1959 as soon as the ₱10 million now being paid out is exhausted.

The President, however, warned that this will be slow because the purchases covered by the ₱11 million, (July to the end of 1959) will be carefully checked with the list of anomalous transactions furnished by the Department of Justice to the General Auditing Office.

Some ACCFA purchases during the said period were reportedly either Upgraded, mixed with native and poor grade tobacco, or generally anomalous.

The Northern Luzon executives also endorsed the permanent appointment of Andres V. Castillo as Governor of the Central Bank, inclusion of GSIS Manager Rodolfo Andal in the NP senate slate, and the appointment of Francisco Arañas as Andal’s successor.

Meanwhile, in reply to the appeal of the 10 Zambales town officials who accompanied Gov. Manuel Barretto, the President directed MRR Manager Teofilo Zosa to place some 20 BAL buses on the Zambales-Manila run, to relieve congestion caused by the withdrawal from the route of some units of the Victory Liner.

Iba Mayor A. Ortega informed the President that the Victory liner had withdrawn some of its units because it had acquired new lines in Nueva Ecija, and that its buses are inadequate and commuters were complaining of inefficiency and poor service.

The Zambales officials also petitioned the extension of the Ambuklao power line to Zambales; and the construction of the ₱1.5 million Capas (Tarlac)-Botolan (Zambales) road which will not only open up 15,000 hectares of virgin land for settlement but also provide a sea outlet for Central Luzon provinces.

The President told the Zambales executives to canvass the electricity requirements of their municipalities and submit their finding to him so that he can recommend proper action to the National Power Corporation.

On the proposed Capas-Botolan road, the President said the project requires legislative action to appropriate the necessary funds.

The Northern and Central Luzon officials who conferred with the President were Govs. Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Eugenio Agudo of Batanes, Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac, Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan with. Calasiao Mayor Felipe de Vera; Nueva Ecija Vice-Gov. Inday Melencio and Cabanatuan City Mayor Mario Garcia; and Gov. Manuel Barretto, Vice-Gov. Gregorio Daloyan, and Board Member Juan de Mesa of Zambales, who were accompanied by 10 of the 14 mayors of Zambales headed by Mayor A. Ortega of Iba, chairman of the mayors league of the province.

The President also received Gov. Valeriano M. Gatuslao of Negros Occidental and Gov. Johnny Frivaldo of Sorsogon, who sought typhoon aid from the President's contingent fund, and took up problems of their respective provinces with the Chief Executive.

In the evening the President motored to the Wack Wack Golf and Country, where he inducted the new officers of the Philippine Contractors Association.

In his speech the Chief Executive urged the contractors to observe more fidelity to contractual obligations with government agencies so as not to delay or upset the timetable of government programs and cause the government additional expense or embarrassment for failure to meet on time its commitment for certain services.

March 11.—THE President this day directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to furnish him with a complete report on the illegal traffic in narcotics in which some Manila policemen were allegedly linked.

Presidential action on this matter was a follow-up of his twin directives issued simultaneously to the National Bureau of Investigation and the Philippine Constabulary ordering the two agencies to look into the dope traffic. The Chief Executive's action was also spurred by a report from the House Good Government Committee that the dope traffic had already spread over a wide area.

President Garcia this morning opened the Inter-Government Golf Tournament at the Veterans Memorial Hospital's nine-hole, par 37 golf course. Sponsor of the tourney is the Government Corporations Athletic Association, headed by PHHC Manager Bernardo Torres.

Among government corporations participating in the two-day competition which ends Saturday, March 18, are Manila Gas Corporation, Social Security System, Government Service Insurance System, Manila Port Terminal, National Waterworks and Sewage Authority, Reparations Commission, Manila Railroad Company, Cebu Portland Cement, Office of Economic Coordination; and National Steel and Shipyards Corporation.

In the opening match which started at 6:35 a.m., the President played against DBP President Gregorio. S. Licaroz, OEC Administrator Juan O. Chioco, and former Manila Mayor Valeriano Fugoso.

In the evening the President personally presented to Rodolfo T. Reyes, the presidential award medal for his courage in focusing public attention on the narcotics menace with a series of exposes in the *Manila times*.

The President also pinned the Philippine Legion of Honor, rank of Legionnaire, to news photographer Honesto T. Vitug of the *Manila Chronicle* for his long and meritorious service to the Armed Forces.

The award ceremonies were held during the traditional annual Gridiron Night sponsored by the National Press Club of the Philippines at the deck of the NPC building.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: March 12-18, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

March 12.—DESPITE a late night at the annual Gridiron dinner of the National Press Club yesterday, the President woke up early this morning to hear Sunday mass at his private residence in Quezon City. With the President was the First Lady.

After his breakfast with the First Lady, the President received Minister Hussain Osman of Malaya who called on the "Chief Executive at his Quezon City residence.

Accompanied by Alfredo Lozano, chairman of the Board of Review for Moving Pictures, Osman represented to the President a documentary film of the Chief Executive taken during his four-day state visit to Malaya last month.

The President said he was happy to get a documentary record of his pleasant stay in Malaya.

The President also received Guillermo P. Jurado, a presidential assistant, who reported on the latter's conference with Auditor General Pedro Gimenez.

Jurado reported that Gimenez had agreed to waive pre-audit of claims of not more than ₱3,00 for the payment of tobacco purchased on credit by the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration.

Gimenez was also reported to have agreed to pay all claims involving tobacco purchases made in 1959 by the ACCFA, provided he is given evidence by the Department of Justice that the sale was not anomalous.

March 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today commended youth leaders of five student associations for helping the government in combating communism in the Philippines.

Representatives of the College Editors Guild, Student Councils Association of the Philippines, Student Catholic Action of the Philippines, and Conference Delegates Association of the Philippines saw the President at Malacañang to inform him of their project to hold seminars on the evils of communism throughout the country.

In this connection, the President was informed that the five student groups had already held successful, and well attended seminars in Naga and Davao cities.

The President pointed out to the student leaders the positive steps taken by the Administration to prevent communism from spreading in the Philippines, like the establishment of the National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Administration to give public lands to the landless and the Land Tenure Administration to buy landed estates or resale to poor occupants.

Youth leaders who saw the President were Raul Roco, president of the National Union of Students; John Osmeña, president of the Student Councils Association of the Philippines; Augusto Kimpo, president of the Student Catholic Action of the Philippines; Juanito Garay, president of the College, Editors Guild, and Teodorico Imperial, president of the Conference Delegates Association of the Philippines. They were accompanied by Lino Illera, chief of the Malacañang Youth Affairs Office.

The President also received officials of the federation of Free Farmers led by their president, Jeremias U. Montemayor, who requested the President to use his powers in convincing sugar planters to grant better wages to their laborers.

Montemayor claimed that a system of proportional wages would be most welcome by the laborers. He explained that under the system, wages would be computed on the basis of production per hectare and the current price of sugar.

Montemayor lauded the program of President Garcia for the socio-economic upliftment of the living conditions of agricultural laborers.

The FFF officials expressed their opposition to the plan advocated by some government officials and private persons for the importation of corn to bring down the prices.

Officers of the Philippine Institute of Accountants also paid a courtesy call on the President after their recent election. They were Francisco F. Gonzalez, president; Alfredo Velayo, past president; Enrique Gabriel, executive secretary; Alfredo Javier, Rodolfo Jacob, and Teodoro Agbayani, vice-presidents; Gregorio Eleoseda, Jesus Cariño, and Vicente Lesquety, directors.

The President had breakfast at his Quezon City residence with the former head of the Manila office of the U.S. Veterans Administration, Gen. Ralph Lovett, and Mrs. Lovett. Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong and Bohol Gov. Esteban Bernido also attended the breakfast.

Other callers were Gov. Jose C. Zulueta of Iloilo, who discussed with the President the program for the President's visit to his province; Gov. Eulogio de Guzman of La Union, Dr. Rafaelita H. Soriano, former Secretary Mariano Garchitorena, and Miss Inocencio Revilla, president of the Women's Party of the Philippines.

March 14.—THE PRESIDENT said today international banking institutions are now prepared to invest in the Philippines as a result of the country's economic and financial stability, in a luncheon speech at the Manila Hotel in connection with the observance of Philippine Foreign Trade Week sponsored by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce.

Showing his complete command of the subject, President Garcia spoke extemporaneously and his speech was repeatedly interrupted by applause.

Armed with Central Bank data, the President lengthily traced the growth of foreign trade with Europe and Japan in postwar years. He said Japanese trade increased from \$178 million in 1958 to \$291 million in 1960, while the European trade jumped from \$169 million in 1958 to \$189 million in 1960.

President Garcia also reiterated the policy of the Administration to diversify foreign trade.

We believe in spreading our foreign trade to give us stability and protect us against any possible sudden decline in the American market, the President said.

The President stated that it is to the credit of the United States government that that country is not putting up obstacles on the way of the Philippine government in seeking to diversify Philippine foreign trade, in spite of the decline in the Philippine-American trade.

Since the grant of independence to the Philippines in 1946, the policy of the Republic according to the President, was to try to establish as many markets as possible, adding that "we do not believe in putting all our eggs in one basket."

President Garcia also went on record as stating that he would first determine the public pulse before submitting the Japanese peace treaty to the Philippine Senate for ratification.

He invited the members of the Chamber of Commerce as well as the Chambers of Industries and Agriculture and Natural Resources to study closely the proposed treaty, and thereafter submit their views, to the President and to Congress for proper evaluation and determination.

President Garcia pointed out that the matter of foreign trade is a two-way affair, and that no one country could expect to get all the credit at the expense of the other country. He said Filipino businessmen have shown their foresight and capability when treating on this very same subject matter.

The President was well applauded when he announced that upon representations made by CCP Acting President H. B. Reyes, he had endorsed Finance Department Order No. 22, dated May 19, 1960, to the Secretary of Justice for an opinion.

In taking this step, the President pointed out the far-reaching effects of the order, adding that while exporters and importers directly pay the taxes, the consumers ultimately pay for everything.

The President was introduced by former Foreign Affairs Secretary Felino Neri.

Early in the morning the President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass said at the Malacañang chapel, marking the start of a four-day retreat. The first couple of the land invited those who attended the first day of the retreat, which included wives of members of the Cabinet and Congress to breakfast.

Morning callers included Rep. Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte with Daet councilors Pedro Edora, Max Jardin, Cirilo Eboña, Aniceto Bacerdo, Ruperto Flores, and Simeon Sureta; Rep. Eladio T. Balite with mayors Max Manooc of Allen and Romulo Giray of Laoang; Rep. Jose Nuguid of Bataan accompanied by Mayor Federico Muli of Dinalupihan, who requested that PC control in his town be lifted; and Reps. Maximino Noel of Cebu, Apolinario Apacible, and Numeriano Babao of Batangas, Faustino Tobia of Ilocos Sur, and Maximino Garcia of Bohol.

The President spent an hour of meditation reading the Holy Bible this afternoon.

March 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia today declared March 17, 1961, a special public holiday in the province of Zambales and Cebu City to give the people of the province and city full opportunity to observe with appropriate ceremonies the fourth anniversary of the death of the late President Magsaysay.

President Magsaysay and others died on Mt. Manungal, Cebu, on March 17, 1957.

President Garcia this afternoon received the letters of credence of Raul Rodriguez Araya as the First Argentine ambassador to the Philippines.

Araya relieves Minister Alfredo Allende, who had administered the affairs of the Argentine embassy as charge d'affaires.

The new Argentine envoy was met at the Malacañang reception hall by Col. Jorge Delarmente, senior aide to the President.

Araya was accompanied by Minister Allende, who is scheduled to leave shortly for reassignment.

Members of the Cabinet headed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano witnessed the presentation of the letters of credence.

After the ceremony the President received Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Cabal saw the President for instructions before leaving for Bangkok on Monday to head the Philippine delegation to the military advisers' conference of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization.

The President later presided over the weekly meeting of the Cabinet.

This evening the Cabinet decided against the importation of rice and corn after Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich reported that there would be surpluses of both cereals this year.

During the Cabinet meeting President Garcia created a committee, headed by Secretary Fortich, to find ways and means of bringing down the price of rice.

In his report on the corn situation, Secretary Fortich belied claims that there was need for importation of the cereal as there would be a shortage this year.

Fortich said the expected corn production this year was 20,680,000 cavans. The expected total requirement of the country was only 19,948,570 cavans. There was also a surplus last year, Fortich said.

The importation of corn was urged because of the rise in the price of the staple. However, investigation developed that rise in price was caused by faulty distribution.

The President had ordered the National Rice and Corn Corporation to buy corn in Davao and Cotabato and ship it by Philippine navy boats to Cebu City, center of distribution in Visayas.

Defense Secretary Alejo Santos reported that of the 20,000 cavans of corn bought by the NARIC in Davao, 10,000 cavans had already been transported by navy vessels to Cebu City.

During the discussion on the corn situation, the President asked Fortich to see if Luzon farmers could be encouraged to hike their production of corn.

He pointed out that almost all the industrial corn, like those used as feed in poultry farms, were used in Central Luzon. It would be better, he said, if the feed used in these poultry farms were raised near the places where they were used.

This afternoon the President received a resolution passed by the Municipal Council of Plaridel, Bulacan, pledging the councils abiding faith and loyalty to him and his administration.

The resolution passed unanimously by the council singled out the “determined fight of President Garcia against graft and corruption and his firm policy to ferret out misfits and incompetents in the government” as one of the reasons that lead to the passage of the council resolution.

Citing the case of former Sugar Quota Administrator Ramon L. Paguia, who is also from Plaridel, the municipal council said, “Paguia’s separation from the service upon orders of the Chief Executive is a wise step in the right direction. His decision on this case strengthened more the faith and confidence of the people of Plaridel in his administration.”

March 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia signed a proclamation creating the municipality of Lugait in the province of Misamis Oriental at a conference with Rep. Fausto Dugenio and Mayor Alejandro D. Uy of Manticao this morning.

The new municipality formerly formed part of the town of Manticao and has enough income for expenses, according to the Department of Finance.

The President also ordered the release of ₱10,000 for the improvement of a prewar building of the Puericulture Center of Dumangas, Iloilo.

Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrado of Iloilo, chairman of the committee on health, and Mayor Ramon Duremdez of Dumangas informed the President that present plans call for the conversion of the center into a children’s and maternity hospital.

Other callers were Don Andres Soriano; Sens. Quintin Paredes and Arturo Tolentino; and Reps. Ramon Mitra, Sr., of Mountain Province, Wenceslao Lagumbay of Laguna, and Manuel Enverga of Quezon.

President Garcia directed the placing of a wreath at the tomb of the late President Ramon Magsaysay on the occasion of the latter's fourth death anniversary tomorrow.

The President also ordered the Presidential Guard Battalion commander to detail a contingent of guards of honor to stand vigil at the Magsaysay mausoleum at the North Cemetery from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The President this day directed the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency to look into the alleged "land-grabbing" case in Sitio Tibulao Panabu, Davao, where 120 "Ata" families were reportedly victimized.

The Chief Executive issued the directive after receiving a PCAPE report that the Ata, one of the many tribes inhabiting the hinterlands of Davao province, are about "ready to take the law into their hands" to recover from a corporation the land on which they have been toiling since time immemorial.

The President in issuing the directive ordered the PCAPE to study the matter carefully so that a permanent solution to benefit not only the Ata tribe but also other non-Christian tribes, who are similarly situated, could be adopted.

The Chief Executive also instructed the PCAPE to find out if there are irregularities in the disposition of public lands in the area, and to file, if necessary, criminal or administrative charges or both against parties that might be held answerable.

The President observed that this "land-grabbing" business had been going on for sometime but the proper government agencies concerned seemed not to have lifted a finger to help this people in their predicament.

This afternoon the President reaffirmed the Filipino people's determination to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy in the face of the threat of communism.

The President also took occasion to congratulate the President and people of the Republic of Korea for their relentless struggle to preserve their sovereignty against the red menace.

The President reaffirmed the Filipino people's stand to Lt. Gen. Heng Kuu Lee of South Korea, who paid a courtesy call at Malacañang, accompanied by Col. Bong Duces Chun and retired Brig. Gen. Dionisio Ojeda, commanding officer of the 10th BCT which saw action in Korea.

Gen. Lee, who is also president of the Korean Veterans Legion, is on a brief stopover in Manila in the course of an observation tour of Veterans affairs in the different countries of the Free World.

The President told Gen. Lee that here in the Philippines the veterans are actively taking part in the economic development of the country. He emphasized, however, that their duty of preserving peace and liberty was not over because "eternal vigilance is the price of the people's liberty."

Gen. Lee informed the President that his compatriots were likewise engaged in building up a stable republic and are also ready to answer the call of duty whenever they are called to the battle front.

The President asked Gen. Lee to convey his best wishes and those of the Filipino people for the continued success of the sister republic of Korea and to thank their Chief Executive for his thoughtfulness in greeting President Garcia and the Filipino people through Gen. Lee.

This evening the President expressed gratification to American capitalists who are going into partnership with Filipino industrialists in a joint effort to boost the country's economic stability.

Robert J. Dixon, president of Johnson & Johnson International, informed the Chief Executive in the course of his courtesy call at Malacañang this evening that his company is expanding its operations in the Philippines under the 60-40 arrangement.

Dixon, who is also a director of the Far Eastern Council and the National Foreign Trade Council, two powerful American business groups, said his company is bringing into the Philippines \$3 million worth of machineries to manufacture hygienic products locally.

Dixon presented the President with the 25 millionth can of Johnson Baby Powder manufactured by his company in the Philippines, and a package of assorted Johnson products for the President's granddaughter.

The President told the visiting American businessman that his decision to set up a local plant was another indication of the growing confidence of industrialists here and abroad in the soundness of the country's economic policy and its bright future.

Dixon was accompanied to Malacañang by Thomas Rogers, Jr., VP and managing director; Raymond Sadlier VP and general manager, Export Division; Paul J. Quinn, VP; Jose Ma. Galatas, Metro Drug; Herminio Ozaeta; Edward Stewart, production director; and Antonio Zorrilla, P. R. & advertising counselor.

March 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia today was irked on being informed by Mayor D. Songco of Floridablanca, Pampanga, that the laborers of the Canlaman River Irrigation project had not been paid their wages since 1959.

In a memorandum to Auditor General Pedro M. Gimenez this morning, the President directed that the matter be looked into and that payment of the laborers be made at the earliest possible time.

The President also directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release ₱160,000 for the completion of the Valdez bridge, which will link Floridablanca with the national highway.

At a conference with Rep. Benjamin T. Ligot, the President directed Secretary Florencio Moreno to include in the public works bill for the next fiscal year the amount of ₱500,000 for the Abulog multipurpose project in Cagayan.

Earlier this morning President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass at the Malacañang chapel in connection with the four-day pre-Lenten retreat which ends today.

After breakfast they motored to the Manila North Cemetery to visit the tomb of President Magsaysay on the occasion of the fourth death anniversary of the late President. The President placed a big wreath at the mausoleum and offered a few minutes, silent prayer in memory of his late predecessor. At the tomb were Mrs. Luz Magsaysay, her children, and relatives and close friends of the departed leader.

From the cemetery, the President and the First Lady motored back to Malacañang to receive scheduled callers. Municipal officials of Calauan, Laguna, and Abulog, Cagayan, presented to the President resolutions urging his reelection.

The Calauan officials were Mayor Juan V. Brion, Vice-Mayor Dominador Samiano, and Councilors Basilio Capili, Librado Ortigona, Adriano Leus, Flemington Dorado, Juan Opinio, Jose Bondoc, Francisco Larena, and Demetrio Marfori.

The Abulog delegation was composed of Mayor Eliodoro Lorenzo, Vice-Mayor Antonio Dumayas, and Councilors Braulio Manguba, Catalino Ma-quera, Elpidio Arnedo, Dr. Bernardo Pacis, Jose Maquera, and Avelino Tapiru.

Gov. Jesus Almero also led a delegation of provincial and municipal officials of Masbate to discuss local problems with the President. Among those in the group were Board Members Adolfo Celera, Leonardo Barron, and Joyenir Francisco, and Mayors Pio Dao of Uson, Tomas Aban of Mobo, and Pedro Almodial of San Jacinto.

Other callers were Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, Mayor F. Abarientos of Talisayan, Misamis Oriental, and Quezon City acting Mayor Vic Novales. Twelve Nacionalista mayors of the second district of Quezon province pledged their full and unconditional support to the reelection bid of President Garcia in a resolution received at Malacañang today. At the same time, the NP mayors came out openly in support of the reelection of incumbent Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr.

In pledging their support to the President, the NP mayors simply said that the nation still needs his services.

The mayors also petitioned President Garcia to help facilitate the approval of a bill now pending in Congress converting the second district of Quezon into a separate province in order to accelerate its development.

The endorsement was signed by Mayors Doroteo Ricafort of Atimonan, Amando Aguirre of Malanay, Mariano Roldan of Guinayangan, Marcelino Parcerio of Calauag, Gregorio Edano of Aurora, Cesar Angulo of Gumaca, Amadeo Almadrones of Perez, Eustaquio Cawa of Buenavista, Vicente R. Martinez of Pitogo, Ramon Oliveros of Quezon, and Godofredo Tan of San Narciso.

President Garcia today continued receiving pledges of loyalty and support to his bid for re-election in November.

In a resolution presented to the Chief Executive by the Batangas Mayors League, the Batangas town executives said they were endorsing the President's candidacy so that he can continue "the great task of bringing peace and contentment to the Filipino people."

The Batangas mayors cited the President for his deep interest in the welfare of the Filipino people, as evidenced by his Filipino First policy and his determined campaign to rid the government of misfits, graft, and corruption.

The Batangas officials said that under his stewardship the country had achieved considerable progress in economic, cultural, moral, and social fields. The delegation, which was headed by Rep. Apolinario R. Apacible, Gov. Feliciano Leviste and Board Member Isidro Aklan, included: Balayan Mayor Luis T. Ramos, president of the Batangas Mayors League; Batangas Mayor Pedro S. Tolentino, chairman Mayors League of the Philippines; Mayors Miguel Ambal of San Jose, Ciriaco Ingco of Bauan, Amando B. Panganiban of Lobo, Pedro Reyes of Ibaan, Telesforo Reyes of Alitagtag, Jack Garcia of San Juan, Rafael Amurao of Mabini, Felicisimo Luna of Rosario, Isidro Sulit of Taysan, Pedro Pasia of Cuenca, Jacinto C. Castillo of Sto. Tomas, Isabelo C. Navarro of Malvar, Jose Atienza of Tingloy, Pedro Gahol of Taal, Teodoro Mayuga of San Nicolas, Pacifico Lejano of Lian, Olimpio Sayo of Calatagan, Pablo Hernandez of Calaca, Amando Laurel of Talisay, Jose Pesigan of Padre Garcia, Daniel de Gracia of San Luis, Batangas, Vicente Maligalig of Agoncillo, Pedro Rinosa of Nasugbu, Mariano Venturanza of Lemery, Pedro Macalalad of Tuy, and Miguel Luna of Lipa City, and Rafael Recto, son of the late Senator Claro M. Recto.

Mayor Abundio Ademita and Vice-Mayor Paulino Lopez of Carcar, Cebu, accompanied by Rep. Maximino Noel, also reiterated their pledge of loyalty and support to the President.

The President also received Gov. Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan, who took up problems affecting his province with the Chief Executive.

In the evening the President was guest of honor at the inauguration of the new University of the Philippines theater in Diliman, Quezon City.

President Garcia today proclaimed Saturday, April 1, as special public holiday throughout the nation.

The President, in a separate proclamation, also declared Saturday, March 18, as special public holiday in 11 provinces and seven cities in the South on the occasion of the Muslim National Feast of Eid-ul-Fitr.

The provinces are Agusan, Bukidnon, Cotabato, Davao, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Palawan, Sulu, Surigao, Zamboanga del Norte, and Zamboanga del Sur. Cities affected by the proclamation are Basilan, Butuan, Cotabato, Davao, Rigan, Marawi, and Zamboanga.

The special public holiday is for the Muslim population only of these provinces and cities. Muslim officials and employees of the government, both national and local, performing their duties and functions outside of these provinces and cities shall, likewise, be exempted from duty during this feast day. It shall be considered a special public holiday for these officials and employees, the proclamation stated.

March 18.—THE PRESIDENT stayed the whole day today at his Quezon City residence, where he received some unscheduled callers.

Malacañang did not identify those who saw the President, but it was speculated that they were political leaders.

In the afternoon the President asked his only daughter, Mrs. Linda Garcia-Campos, to inaugurate the Golden State butter factory at Makate, Rizal.

This evening the President boarded the yacht *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for a leisure trip to Cubi Point in Zambales to be the guest of Rear Admiral Joseph Carson, commander of the U.S. Navy in the Philippines.

The Chief Executive has been invited to visit the U.S. naval reservation in Zambales where he will play golf with the navy commander.

The President boarded the presidential yacht at 10 o'clock this evening. However, the yacht did not sail for Cubi Point until past midnight.

Several visitors, including political leaders, saw the President aboard the yacht before sailing time.

The President is expected to arrive at Cubi Point this morning and is scheduled to tour the reservation.

President Garcia is expected to return this afternoon.

The President issued an executive order today fixing office hours in all government offices during the hot season, except those in Baguio city, whether national, provincial, or city.

In his executive order, the Chief Executive set office hours from April 3 to June 15 this year at 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in all departments, bureaus, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the national, provincial, and city governments and all corporations owned or controlled by the government.

The order, however, does not oblige the head of department, bureau, or office to reduce office hours within this period but leaves it to his discretion, depending on the requirements of the service and provided that the usual volume of work is not diminished by reducing office hours.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: March 19-25, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

March 19—THE PRESIDENT landed at the Subic Naval Base at 6 o'clock this morning. He boarded the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* at 10 o'clock last night for a leisure trip to Cubi Point.

He was met at the U.S. Naval Base by Admirals Carson and Duncan and Gen. Moorman and other U.S. officers.

The President was invited for breakfast at the Subic Naval Base golf clubhouse.

President Garcia was shown around the naval base by the U.S. admirals.

The President was invited by Admiral Carson for a golf game at Subic Naval Base.

Reports received at Malacañang said the President paired with Major General Eugene Moorman, commanding officer of the 13th U.S. Air Force, won the match with one stroke ahead.

The Garcia-Moorman team played against Rear Admiral Joseph Carson, commanding officer of the U.S. naval forces of the Philippines, and a certain Capt. Maher, who substituted for Rear Admiral Charles Duncan, commanding officer of the Subic Naval Base, who said he had not yet started playing the game.

After the golf session, the President was again feted at lunch at the same place.

President Garcia was accompanied by Chairman Paulino J. Garcia of the National Science Development Board.

After lunch the President boarded the yacht and sailed for Manila, arriving at Pier 5 at 7 o'clock this evening. He motored directly to his private residence in Quezon City.

March 20.—THIS morning the President received favorable endorsement of the Philippine foreign investments policy from foreign industrialists and businessmen.

In separate discussions with three business groups this morning at Malacañang, the President once more reiterated that foreign industrialists who wish to participate jointly with Filipinos in the economic development of the country are welcome to do so.

In his talks with officers of the American Chamber of Commerce who paid a courtesy call on him, the Chief Executive lauded the Contribution of American firms to the Philippine economy and progress of the country and felt that they should continue to enjoy the just rewards of their efforts as guaranteed by law.

The President also underscored the vital role of the American Chamber and said that he considered the ACC second in importance only to the Philippine Chamber of Commerce.

The President expressed regret that R. W. Pockmire, ACC president, was leaving the Philippines permanently after 13 years of service with the Good year Tire and Rubber Company of the Philippines of which he is vice-president and general manager.

Accompanying Pockmire were H. D. Carl, vice-president; N. Baldwin, treasurer; S. N. Fisher, executive vice-president; I. T. Salmo secretary; and A. J. Gibbs, R. M. Henry, R. J. Monical, and W. Sycip, ACC directors; and Dennett Howe, president of the Philippine Manufacturing Company and chairman of the ACC committee on foreign investments. I The President also received three officials of Reynolds International, Inc., who arrived in Manila Sunday for a week's business survey in the Philippines.

The officials recommended to the President the increase of the power output of the Maria Cristina by an additional 50,000 kilowatts to provide for the extensive industrialization of Mindanao.

J. Luis Reynolds, chairman of the RII board, informed the President that his firm was satisfied with the foreign investments policy of the Philippines and is ready to put up a ₱40 million aluminum factory in Mindanao on a joint venture with Filipino capitalists.

Reynolds said the stocks of the corporation will be available to supervisory and office clerk as well as laborers who are willing to set aside for the purpose five to ten per cent of their monthly earnings on a strictly voluntary payroll deduction plan.

The RII officials said the plant will produce 50 million tons of aluminum annually, enough to fill the local needs and of those of neighboring countries provided that the plant can get the necessary power from Maria Cristina.

Accompanying Reynolds were Bruce Gralow, assistant to the chairman and John Murphy; W. W. Dunkum, vice-president and general manager of, Reynolds Philippines; Felix Mabanta, treasurer; James Miller, plant manager; Celso Tuason and George Litton, directors; former Central Bank Manager Governor Mike Cuaderno; and Ernesto A. Franco of J. Walter Thompson Company.

The President also received M. Echigo, president of the C. Itoh Company of Japan, who was accompanied by his wife and M. Yamamoto, local representative of the Itoh. Company in Manila. Mr. Echigo arrived in Manila Saturday and is leaving on Wednesday for Tokyo.

President Garcia today urged the various health agencies of the country to concentrate their efforts in the preservation of the health of the rural populace which, he said, constitutes the backbone of the nation.

During his conference with some 20 officers of the Council of Health Agencies of the Philippines, at Malacañang this morning, the Chief Executive received assurances from the officers of the Council to coordinate and pool their efforts to extend medical services to the people in the barrios.

The CHAP also pledged to the President that it will attract professionals and fieldmen to the barrios in accordance with the government policy, and see to it that all laws governing the health of the people are duly implemented.

The President pointed out during the conference that the wealth of the nation depended on the health of its citizenry and that health services should be made available to the rural people because they are not in a position to pay for costly medical services.

Those who conferred with the President were Dr. Guillermo L. Castillo, president of the Philippine Hospitals Association, chairman; Dr. Pedro Mayuga, director of hospitals; Col. Dominador G. Santos, former president of the Philippine Dental Association, vice-chairman; Carmen F. del Rosario, secretary of the Health Education Association of the Philippines, secretary; Mrs. Luisa A. Alvarez of the Filipino Nurses Association, treasurer; Mamerto Banaten, PRO; and the board of directors of the Council.

Earlier, the President inducted the newly elected officers of the Government Radio and Telegraph Operators Union (GRATOU) at Malacañang.

Among those inducted in the presence of Director Jose S. Alfonso of Telecommunications and other officials were Juanito Arce, president; Isaias F. Beltran, Gabriel Mejia, and Ahacletto Labayan, vice-presidents; Jose C. Igrobay, secretary; Juanito Foronda, assistant secretary; Santiago Aranas, treasurer; Gabriel Tuazon, assistant treasurer; Roberto Sarangay, auditor; Teodoro Natividad, assistant auditor; Diego Dipasupil, PRO; George Atip, assistant; the following Bayani Aguilan, Felix Arandia, Victor Ambrocib, Sperry Leondes, Marcelino Martinez, Pablo Novicio, Gregorio Obispo, and Francisco Santiago, members, of the board.

March 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia signed today a proclamation creating the new municipality of Alcantara in the province of Romblon.

The new town will be comprised of the barrios of Alcantara, San Isidro, Comod-om, Tugdan, Calagonsao, Bomlao, Madalag, Cariuli, and their respective sitios, all of Looc town, with the seat of government in barrio Alcantara.

The proclamation will take effect upon the appointment and qualification of the mayor, vice-mayor, and majority of the councilors, and the certification by the secretary of finance of its financial capabilities and other requisites for the creation of a new town.

Present at the signing was a 15-man delegation of Alcantara residents, headed by Rep. and Mrs. Jose Moreno, former Gov. and Mrs. Manuel Solidum, Col. Hospicio Solidum, and others.

The President directed Judge Salvador Esguerra, Malacañang legal adviser, to study the feasibility of revoking Proclamation No. 482, setting aside some 147 hectares out of the 1004-hectares Davao experimental station to accommodate some 48 squatter families.

Reconsideration of the proclamation was sought by representatives of the Davao Jaycees, Lions, Rotarians, and other civic organizations and the Mt. Apo Chamber of Commerce who informed the President that the proclamation had started a mass return of 300 previous squatters who had left the place voluntarily.

The delegation which was accompanied by Sen. Alejandro Almendras and Minister Cesar Sotto, was composed of Mario Marfori, president; Honesto A. Cabarroguis and Miguel Iñigo, vice-presidents; Ricardo Nora, director of the Davao Jaycees; and Isaac Cabillo, president of the Mt. Apo Chamber of Commerce of Davao.

The President later administered the oath of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party to some 27 electors from Coron, Puerto Princesa, Cuyo, Agutaya, and Aborlan, in Palawan.

The new Nacionalistas were accompanied by former Gov. Patricio Fernandez and Venustiano Chavez, and included Mrs. Visitacion B. Chavez, Mrs. Maria F. Rodriguez, Mrs. Salome R. Crame, Jose Sandoval, Councilor Perfecto Cabistran of Puerto Princesa, Perfecto Sandoval, Efren Quial, Benito Dominguez, Marianito Castro, Francisco Fernandez, Joel Nuñez, Ricardo Pe, Dr. Jose Toribio, Jose Atienza, Rodolfo Nocon, Nemesio de los Santos, Guillermo-Alon, Petronilo Quifioner, Dr. McLeonardo Bagalewis, Jose Pezon, Andres Agoo, Antonio Borres, Lourdes Balbin, Virginia Borres, Efren Rafols, and Jose Barrios.

Early in the morning, the President received outgoing Netherlands Ambassador Reinhard Maria Nuerburg, who called to say goodbye before leaving the Philippines for an extended vacation prior to assumption of his new post.

Ambassador Nuerburg has completed a tour of duty in the Philippines of three years and four months and is returning home via Japan and the United States.

The President spent the rest of the morning preparing his speech for the Commencement Exercises of the National University.

This evening President Garcia received the degree of doctor of humanities *honoris causa* from the National University at its annual commencement exercises held at the Jose Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Domingo L. Jhocson, president of the NU, read the citation. The degree was conferred upon the President by the NU board of trustees upon the recommendation of President Jhocson and the university cabinet and with the approval of Education Secretary Jose Romero.

After receiving the degree, the President delivered his commencement address.

Prof. Vic Escasa, chairman of the NU committee on invitation and program, accompanied the President and Mrs. Garcia from Malacañang to the coliseum.

Upon his arrival, the President received full military honors, including a 21-gun salute from the NU corps of cadets.

In his speech President Garcia appealed to educational institutions in the country to help in the “moral and spiritual regeneration of the people” who had adversely suffered from the vicissitudes of the last war.

In his appeal for a moral regeneration, the President pointed out that “we cannot fail to see the unmistakable signs of a growing trend toward materialism. Stealthily, like a thief in the dead of night, its influence seems to be creeping into the minds of our people, blurring their sense of social values and otherwise affecting their outlook on life.”

He deplored the effect of this trend upon the impressionable minds of the youth, “Whetting their desire for the material things of life—money, possessions, and the power that goes with wealth and social position.”

President Garcia urged a return to the old concepts of honesty, family solidarity, clean and righteous living, respect for authority, and the other traits which have the objects of encomium by the chroniclers of the early days of history.

The President issued a proclamation today declaring March 23 of every year as World Meteorological Day.

The executive committee of the World Meteorological Organization has previously approved the establishment of an annual world meteorological day to be celebrated on March 23, the anniversary of the day in 1950 when the World Meteorological Convention formally came into force.

The President proclamation designates the Weather Bureau to take charge of the celebration.

The Philippines is a member-state of the World Meteorological Organization.

March 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia appealed today to Philippine Air Lines personnel to carry on with the smooth operation of the government-controlled airline after the termination of the management contract with Don Andres Soriano on March 31.

In his conference with some 30 PAL managers, chiefs of departments, and other ranking officials this morning at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City, the President pointed out that the reputation of Filipinos as corporate administrators was at stake in the continued efficient and satisfactory service of the PAL to the public.

The President also pointed out that the success of PAL operations was a tangible evidence of the capability and technical know-how of Filipino pilots and technicians who had built up the good name of the PAL over the years.

Eduardo Z. Romualdez, chairman of the board, informed the President that the board will convene tomorrow to elect an acting President in order not to disrupt the service during the transition period from the termination of the present contract until a new management takes over.

Among those present at the conference, besides Chairman Romualdez, were Daniel Me. Gomez; Capt. Renato L. Barretto and Capt. Roberto Lim, vice-presidents; Leonardo M. Guinto, Capt. Silvino P. Quinud, Buenaventura M. Veloso, Mrs. Mercedes D. Rovira, Viceiite Roxas, George McCann, Luis Gallegos, and Luis Fuentes, managers; Alejandro Ojeda, Vicente Sison, Carlos Gonzales, Jose Buenaventura, Albino Jimenez, and Jvlario Rodriguez, superintendents; Napoleon Garcia, corporate secretary; Capt. Jaime Manzano, chief pilot; Capts. Romulo Villanueva, John T. Mesina and Jose Alfonso, assistant chief pilots; Leandro V. Tobias, Salvador Lim, Enrique Ravasco, Capt. Leonides Yap, Alivio Paredes, and the following union presidents: Capt. Paterno Sta. Maria (ALPAP), Cesar Legayada, (PALSA), Jose Quintana (ACAP), and Antonio Mendez (FASAP).

Earlier this morning, the President received Chosho Itoman and Yonezo Uyehara, two Okinawa businessmen who had completed a month's business survey, and paid their respects before returning to Okinawa on March 25.

The Chief Executive also received Tristan Beplaf, vice-president of a manufacturers bank in the United States.

This afternoon the President presided over the regular meeting of the Cabinet, where he stamped his approval on the sale of the three "Doña" vessels of the National Development Company to the Liberation Steamship Company, Inc.

This evening the President motored to the Manila Hotel, where he attended the annual dinner of the Business Writers Association of the Philippines, which gave awards to outstanding men in the different fields of business.

In his after-dinner speech the President said that the decontrol will shift back the country's economy to the system of free enterprise.

"For fifteen years" he said, "we have held the leadership among the new independent countries in the field of economic development in Asia and Africa. Let us keep that leadership not for vainglory or national pride," he added.

The Cabinet approved today a government contract with the Liberation Steamship company for the sale of three National Development company-owned Doña vessels.

The contract calls for the Liberation Steamship company to pay for the three ships—the *Doña Nati*, the *Doña Alicia*, and the *Doña Aurora*—for ₱13,970,864.

Other terms of the contract were not available from Malacañang this evening but a spokesman said the contract was approved only after all the required procedure for the transaction had been complied with.

These included public bidding prior to which all shipping firms were furnished with the terms and conditions for the sale, the spokesman said.

The Liberation Steamship company was the only bidder which made the deadline for the bid, the spokesman said.

The Cabinet also adopted two measures to stop the rising cost of wheat flour. These were:

1. Pegging the price to around ₱11 per bag of 50 pounds, which is ₱5 lower than the current price; and
2. Allowing importers to bring in one-half million bags of flour with the condition that each importer give his word he would sell the flour at the price fixed by the government.

The dollars for the importation would be on the ratio of 50 per cent on the preferred rate and 50 per cent on the free market rate.

In approving, the importation, the Cabinet stressed that this was good only for April and May because after the latter month two local flour mills were expected to start full production.

These were the General Milling, Inc., and the Liberty Flour Mills, which were expected to produce 3,520,000 bags a year.

The President expressed dissatisfaction over the stop-gap measure taken, and directed Secretary Dominador Aytona to study ways and means of solving the problem permanently.

March 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received Seijiro Yoshizawa, former ambassador of Japan to India, who is on a brief stop-over in Manila in the course of a goodwill tour of the Far East.

The visiting Japanese envoy who is leaving Sunday, March 26, was accompanied to Malacañang by Shigezo Yoshikawa, first secretary and charge d'affaires of the Japanese embassy in Manila.

Yoshizawa was the chairman of the reception committee during President Garcia's state visit to Japan in 1958 when he was accorded a royal welcome by the people of Japan.

The President also received British Ambassador John Arthur Pilcher, who came to say goodbye to the President before leaving soon for a long vacation.

The British ambassador was accompanied by Charge d'affaires John Henry Lambert, who will be in charge of the British embassy during the ambassador's absence.

As the President was busy preparing the speeches which he will deliver in Iloilo and Cebu, he cancelled all his other morning appointments.

The President and the First Lady are leaving for Iloilo and Cebu tomorrow morning at 8 a.m. aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

Besides holding conferences with provincial, city, and local officials during his trip, the President is commencement speaker at the University of San Agustin in Iloilo on Saturday, and the Southwestern University in Cebu on Sunday.

The President will also induct into office the new officers of the Cebu News Correspondents Club before leaving Cebu for the return trip to Manila.

March 24.—THIS morning President Garcia issued a directive clarifying the government's policy on the enforcement of forestry laws and regulation and the disposition of illegally cut logs seized during last year's campaign against illegal logging.

The Chief Executive issued the directive upon being informed that there is no definite policy adopted regarding the disposition of the thousands of illegally felled logs as a result of which some are now rotting in the forests in at least seven provinces in Luzon.

President Garcia left this morning aboard the RPS Lapu-Lapu on a four-day trip to Iloilo and Cebu to fulfill several speaking engagements.

Before the Lapu-Lapu pulled out of Pier 3 at 9:10 a.m., the President held brief conferences with Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez on legislative matters, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug on pending state matters.

Rep. Nicanor Iñiguez of Leyte del Sur, Leyte Gov. Ildefonso Cinco, and MRR Board Chairman Juan J. Carlos also boarded the *Lapu-Lapu* to see the President off.

Accompanying the President on his trip were the First Lady, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, Education Secretary and Mrs. Romero, Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano Logarta, Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez; and Reps. Domitilo Abordo and Ricardo Y. Ladrido of Iloilo, Miguel Cuenco of Cebu, and Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol.

Also with the presidential party were Gov. Johnny Frivaldo of Sorsogon; Manila Councilors Alfredo Gomez, Francisco Varona, Ernesto Maceda, and Eriberto Remigio; Mesdames Daniel Romualdez, Jose Aldeguez, Elpidio Valencia, and Macario B. Asistio; and others.

The President today paved the way for the early construction of the proposed Manila City Hospital when he approved the exchange of lots belonging to the national and city governments during a conference with Manila councilors who are accompanying him to Iloilo and Cebu.

The national lot transferred to the city government for the hospital site is located at the corner of Dewey and Harrison Boulevards.

The President also expressed his willingness to help the city government in implementing projects during his conference with the Manila councilors on board the Lapu-Lapu.

The Manila councilors assured the President that the project will be considered in next week's meeting of the municipal board. Councilor Maceda said the ₱2.5 million have been earmarked for the project and added that the project counts with the support of the NP and PPP city officials.

The President had lunch with members of the presidential party. After lunch he gave a press conference and then retired to his study room to polish his commencement address at the San Agustin University.

March 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia today administered oath of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party to Gov. Jose C. Zulueta, Vice-Gov. Guadalino Mosquera, and 12 municipal mayors of Iloilo, thereby wiping out the last vestiges of the Liberal Party in the province of Iloilo.

The affiliation ceremony took place at the luncheon tendered by Gov. Zulueta at his residence in Iloilo City, in the presence of 42 municipal mayors, more than 1000 barrio lieutenants, Cabinet members, senators and congressmen, and governors of neighboring provinces.

A delegation of unity signed by all the municipal mayors and barrio lieutenants of Iloilo was read endorsing the reelection of President Garcia.

Gov. Zulueta and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, the latter representing the Lopez faction, also spoke pledging to give the President an overwhelming majority in the coming elections. Gov. Zulueta and Rep. Aldeguer predicted the President would get 95 per cent of all the votes in Iloilo.

President Garcia in turn stated that one of his life's achievements is the unity of the Iloilo warring factions brought about by his visit.

By unanimous vote of the mayors and barrio lieutenants, the President was awarded the Marikudo award presented by Mrs. Armi Kuusela-Hilario, wife of the president of the Barrio Lieutenants Association of the Philippines.

The President and his party arrived in Iloilo about 8 a.m. today aboard the RPS Lapu-Lapu, which was escorted from Guimaras Island by a colorful fluvial parade. Throngs lined up Muelle Loney and cheered the President as the ship approached for docking.

After the welcome ceremonies at the wharf, the President and the First Lady headed a long motorcade to San Jose church for the *Te Deum*. Then the President proceeded to Oton to lay the cornerstone of the provincial capitol, assisted by the First Lady, Gov. and Mrs. Zulueta, and Mayor and Mrs. Ganzon. The President also inaugurated the local telephone system by talking long distance from Oton to Secretary Castillo in Malacañang.

The municipal mayors who took their oath of affiliation as NP members before the President are Simplicio Carreon of Oton, Eugenio Torrento of Tagbauan, Marcelino Serra of San Joaquin, Susano Tayo of Buenavista, Juan Seniipe of Sta. Barbara, Francisco Tobias of Cabatuan, Augusto Araneta of Barotac Nuevo, Potenciano Imperial of Lucena, David Alfeche of Alimodian, Ludovico Cobardo of Leon, Leonardo Aportadera of Dingle, and Luis Balmores of Passi.

The President had merienda at the palace of Archbishop Cuenco, brother of Sen. Jesus Ma. Cuenco.

Later in the afternoon, the President had a conference with municipal and barrio officials. Then he proceeded to the University of San Agustin where he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Law(*Honoris Causa*).

In the evening the President attended a popular banquet and addressed a big rally at the Sunburst Park in front of the customs building.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: March 26 - April 1, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

March 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia started his Lenten fast this morning by taking nothing but milk at breakfast after attending an early Palm Sunday mass aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

The yacht was then sailing smoothly towards Cebu City from Iloilo City, where the Chief Executive witnessed the fusion of two big political factions behind his reelection bid.

The President said he was shortening his annual Lenten fast from the usual two weeks to seven days this year upon the advice of his physicians, Newsmen surmised that this advice must have something to do with the President's long hospitalization at the Veterans Memorial Hospital late last year.

The President drank another glass of milk at lunchtime, then another at suppertime. He will start taking nothing but orange juice on Wednesday. The fasting will end on Easter Sunday.

Apparently inspired by his political gains in Iloilo, the President appeared buoyant and witty during his interview with newsmen. Asked to comment on reports about Amang Rodriguez's more conciliatory attitude, the President chuckled: "Politics is very complicated. That's why even if you read the Bible from cover to cover you will not find the word 'politics' in it."

Then when asked by a naughty newsmen if he would endorse Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, his bitter critic, as his running mate, President Garcia quipped: "There's nothing wrong in hoping against hope."

The *RPS Lapu-Lapu* docked at Cebu City at 3:30 p.m. today. The President and his party will sail back to Manila at midnight tonight.

March 27.—ABOARD the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, President Garcia and his party are expected to arrive in Manila at 11 p.m. today from a two-day inspection tour of Iloilo and Cebu provinces.

The President, on the second day of his fast, woke up early this morning and spent the whole day inside his cabin reading the Holy Bible. He subsisted only on milk and water sprinkled with little sugar.

The *Lapu-Lapu* with the presidential party lifted anchor from the Cebu wharf last night and kept steaming at 17.5 knots in an effort to head off an approaching typhoon.

The seas had been smooth since the *Lapu-Lapu* left Cebu midnight last night, but the ship developed slight roll as she began to encounter slight swells and white caps at the Sibuyan Sea and Romblon pass this noon.

The passengers were relieved when informed by Comdr. Manuel Mandapat that typhoon *Tess*, reported to be packing winds with velocity of 100 miles per hour, veered at 2 p.m. and would not come to within 500 miles of the Philippines.

March 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered Secretary of Justice Alejo Mabanag and the presidential committee on administration performance efficiency to probe thoroughly the forgery of decisions in Manila municipal courts and the other tribunals so that the proper penalties could be meted out on the responsible parties.

The President conferred this morning with Executive Secretary Natalio Castillo on the forgery racket.

In ordering Mabanag and the PCAFE to investigate the anomaly thoroughly, the President said no effort must be spared to stop the perversion of justice the moment it is discovered. He directed the PCAFE to determine if the irregularity was also rampant in provincial courts.

In his conference with Castillo, the Chief Executive also took up the Senate move to expose alleged kick-backs in the importation of flour.

Following the conference, Secretary Castillo issued a statement denying the alleged racket by some administration leaders as a means of raising funds for the election campaign.

The President arrived in Baguio about 8 o'clock this evening from Manila to spend the Holy Week in the Pines City.

President Garcia today highly praised the Cebu boy who gave up ...his life in order to save a friend from drowning.

In a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Aniano Cobarde, parents of young Nestor Cobarde, who perished after saving his friend from drowning, the President wrote: "The tragedy is too much to bear on your part, I am sure, but yours is the deserved pride that you brought forth into this world a boy who, though still very young, already practiced the virtues that should properly abound in the adult world. I wish I had such a son."

March 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia categorically said today that he favors leaving the management of the Philippine Air Lines to private sector and gave the PAL Board of Directors a period of three months to decide on the best and most acceptable management bid.

The President told newsmen during impromptu press conference that it is the standing policy for the government to step out whenever private enterprise is ready to take over.

The appointment of Eduardo Z. Romualdez as PAL president is *ad interim*, the President pointed out, while the Board of Directors determines the cash value of the government shares in the firm prior to the choice of a permanent management from several offers.

Replying to a query from a newsman on whether he would allow Cabinet members reportedly aspiring for the vice-presidential position to testify before the Senate, the President said he left to those concerned to decide whether or not to testify.

The President, who had already lost ten pounds since he started fasting four days ago, started taking today orange juice at mealtime.

The lone caller was Administrator Ramon Gaviola of the Social Security System, who took up joint financing ventures with private enterprise in which the System is interested.

After receiving Gaviola, the President retired to his bedroom to read the Holy Bible and *Life of Christ* by Vincent Sheen.

President Garcia ordered today the immediate release of ₱50,000 from his contingent fund for the relief of the fire victims in the recent fire that razed Laoang, Samar.

The initial amount of ₱50,000 was ordered immediately released through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo.

The President also directed Social Welfare Administrator Mrs. Amparo P. Villain or to extend immediate SWA aid to the fire victims and make a survey of the damage.

The President today congratulated the Philippine delegation headed by Ambassador Eduardo Quintero for getting a substantial reduction of Philippine obligation under the Romulo-Snyder Agreement and for other concessions obtained by the group.

The President dispatched his congratulatory message upon receiving the report sent through cable by Ambassador Quintero from Washington.

In his telegram to the President, Ambassador Quintero reported approval by the United States of:

(1) Claim for expenses of recovered personnel division which was rejected in 1950 and 1951. The claim which amounted to ₱10,860,000 was reduced to ₱9,086,000. This amount would be used to reduce the Philippine obligation under the Romulo-Snyder Agreement, instead of peso-payment to the Philippine government which would necessitate U.S. congressional action.

(2) Reduction of the Romulo-Snyder obligation by ₱4,996,860.66 which was due to the United States auditors' errors in computation, lifting of suspended account, and transfer of the trust fund to the Philippine government.

March 30.—THE PRESIDENT reiterated today the Philippines' stand against the recognition and' admission of Red China to the United Nations.

Replying to questions from newspapermen regarding the Philippine position on the two China proposal, the President said that Red China's membership in the UN would considerably weaken the prestige of Free China, which is also a member of the UN Security Council.

The President said that the proposal, if carried out, would result in serious repercussions in the world body and in Asia and threaten world peace, especially in countries whose large Chinese populations might turn communists.

Citing cases, the President said the Philippines would face graver menace than the suppression of the Huk movement which costs millions of pesos every year.

During his talks with Malacañang newsmen in his stroll around the Mansion House grounds this morning, President Garcia scotched reports that the three-man Nacionalista Party screening committee was snagged. He said according to J. Antonio Araneta, the third neutral member, the committee is working smoothly and had passed upon 350 ex officio delegates out of a total of 1,140 delegates.

While he was not optimistic over the committee's success, the President felt that it should be given a chance to work out a solution for the sake of party unity.

The President spent most of the day in meditation except for short strolls with the First Lady to admire flowers in full bloom in the Mansion House.

President Garcia is now taking milk and fruit juice in the course of his fasting. His fast will end on Easter Sunday, when he will take his first solid meal since he started fasting.

President and Mrs. Garcia this afternoon motored to Holy Ghost hill where they heard the traditional Maundy Thursday mass at the Blue Sisters convent. They also received Holy Communion.

After the mass the President returned to the Guest House, where he continued his Holy Bible reading, while the First Lady went on *visita iglesia* with Mesdames Jose Aldeguer, Joaquin R. Roces, and Macario Asistion.

March 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia Friday directed the Philippine Constabulary to conduct a full dress investigation of alleged gun-running activities wherein military personnel are linked.

The President issued the directive upon being informed by PC chief Gen. Isagani Campo that politicians are allegedly purchasing guns and ammunitions to build their own private armies. Campo expressed fears that the private armies might be used during the elections.

The President also directed Campo to look into the reported ties between some AFP men and civilians in the gunrunning racket and to render a complete report on the extent of gunrunning activities in the country so that all persons linked may be prosecuted, and remedial measures adopted to curb the racket.

Earlier this morning the President and Mrs. Garcia strolled around the Mansion House ground. In the afternoon the President and the First Lady heard the traditional Seven Last Words at St. Joseph Church.

April 1.—THE PRESIDENT today proposed a new deal for sugar workers in order to give them greater participation in the sugar bonanza from the additional sugar quota in the United States.

In another directive the Chief Executive told Secretary Castaño to confer with the striking laborers of the Cebu Portland Cement factory in Naga, Cebu, to effect a peaceful settlement of the strike.

The President took this step after his conference with Jose Zafra, acting general manager and board chairman, and Z. R. Falcon, production manager of the CEPOC, who reported that the strike has been going on for a week because of the refusal of non-unionist laborers to pay the one-peso agency fee being collected by the labor union.

The President told Secretary Castaño that the collection of the agency fee from the non-unionist was illegal and that this was decided in a recent case of the Manila Railroad Company at the Court of Industrial Relation. The President added if the unionist would like to have their case decided, they could do so but that there should be a peaceful settlement first.

The President told Labor Secretary Angel Castaño to make a survey of the sugar industry with the view to increasing the level of wages of workers in the sugar industry.

The President rejected today a proposal to hold a new civil service examination in view of the high mortality rate in the recent general clerical examination as demoralizing to the successful candidates.

The proposal was advanced by SSS Administrator Ramon Gaviola, who informed the President that there will be a big number of vacancies in the government service as a result of the implementation of the new Civil Service Law, known as Republic Act No. 2260,

Gaviola told the President that consideration should also be given to qualify skilled but ineligible government employees because they could not be replaced by civil service eligibles, as most of those who passed in the recent examination were already in the service.

The President said that to give another examination now would be inadvisable, as it might be interpreted to favor certain group of employees. Moreover, the President said that government employees who had been in the service for five consecutive years cannot, under the new Civil Service Law, be separated from the service.

The President began receiving callers today at the Guest House as the Holy Week drew to a close.

In the morning the President who had started on semi-solid diet, completed a nine-hole game at the Mansion House Golf Course with Judge Guillermo Guevarra, Egmidio Marquez, and Drs. Manuel Gaerlan and Valentin Fidelino. The First Lady also started taking golf lessons seriously.

Not a bit tired by the game, the President had breakfast and received Governors Andres Castillo of the Central Bank, Conrado Estrella of Pangasinan and Jose Zulueta of Iloilo, who went to pay their respects to the Chief Executive.

Among other callers were SSS Administrator Ramon Gaviola, Philippine Consul to New York Samson Sabalones, Acting Cebu Portland Cement Corporation Manager Jose Zafra, and Zosimo Falcon, also of the CEPOC.

Later in the day the President went over some state papers brought from Manila by Edilberto Gallares, Malacañang technical assistant.

Very early in the morning and late in the afternoon, the President went into the liturgy of Easter vigil, and inspired by the thought that Easter is the beginning of Life and Grace for Christianity," the Chief Executive sent an Easter Message to all Christian Filipinos.

President Garcia today extended executive clemency to 477 insular prisoners. The Chief Executive approved the list of prisoners upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

Of the pardoned prisoners, 22 will be granted absolute pardon, 72 conditional and 283 commutation of sentences.

The names of the pardoned prisoners will be released early next week.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: April 2-8, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

April 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia exuded enthusiasm as he saw “new faces” “at the traditional Easter Sunday luncheon he and Mrs. Garcia tendered at the Mansion House.

The guest, composed of Cabinet members, Justices, members of Congress, provincial and Baguio City officials, and close friends and relatives of the First Couple of the land, were received at the picnic grove of the Mansion House.

Among those who attended the luncheon were Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., Sen. A. Padilla, and Aurelio Montinola.

This afternoon President Garcia proclaimed Rep. Ramon Mitra as official NP candidate for reelection in the second district of Mountain Province.

Mitra was chosen earlier official candidate of the Nacionalista Party at a convention held at the Trinidad Agricultural School.

After Mitra's proclamation, President Garcia turned over to Baguio City Mayor Luis Lardizabal a check for ₱200,000 for the Convention Hall of Baguio.

In the presence of some three hundred delegates, the President lauded the choice of Mitra as proof of the people's confidence in his brilliant record as a lawmaker for six terms and as chairman of the House foreign affairs committee.

The President was roundly applauded when he said that Mitra's choice will reflect the people's confidence in the Nacionalista Party, which will be in a better position to serve the nation with tried and true men like Mitra.

In turning over the check for Convention Hall, the President underscored its importance because of an increasing holding of international conferences in Baguio owing to the Philippines' active participation in the United Nations.

Early in the morning the President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass at the Guest House. Also present were Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, Sens. Gil J. Puyat and Eulogio Balao, and Rep. and Mrs. Jose Aldeguer.

After breakfast the President began receiving guests to the traditional Eastern Sunday luncheon. After luncheon the President retired to his room before receiving scheduled callers and proclaiming Mitra.

April 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia congratulated Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona and Commissioner Melecio R. Domingo of the Bureau of Internal Revenue for their “repeat performance” of last year's increased collections.

The President publicly commended the two officials during a conference at the Guest House in which Commissioner Domingo reported that BIR contributed ₱736 million to the aggregate ₱1 billion income in 1960, or roughly 73.6 per cent.

Domingo said that the actual receipts from the period from July to December, 1960, amounted to ₱291 million, exceeding the budget estimate of ₱274 million by roughly ₱17 million.

The BIR head said that with the adoption of several measures, his office expects another increase of ₱33 million during the last semester of the current fiscal year, or a total increase of ₱50 million for the whole year.

Comparing the July to December, 1960, collection by both the BIR and the Customs of ₱637 million with ₱538 million collection of July to December, 1959, Domingo said that a general increase of ₱99 million was achieved.

The President emphasized that the achievement was more remarkable considering that there were no new sources of collections, no new tax laws were enacted, and the tax rates remain stationary.

Domingo informed the President that the increased collections were due to: (1) assignment of 2000 collection agents to replace local treasurers who did not devote full time; (2) adoption of the "pay as you file" system in which half of the tax due is collectible at riling of income tax returns to discourage delinquency and make available for use such collection; (3) use of new techniques acquired abroad by pensionados under ICA grants; (4) weeding out of undesirables resulting in the filing of 500 administrative cases mostly against field personnel; and (5) diminishing percentage of tax exemptions to new and necessary industries until next year.

Earlier this morning the President received Carlos Palanca and Ramon Del Rosario, who paid their respects and discussed business with the Chief Executive; Elections Commissioner Genaro Vizarra and Sixto Brillantes, who assured the President of a clean, honest, and orderly elections in November and who sought a Baguio site for the use of the elections commission.

The President also received justices of the Supreme Court who called on him at the Guest House. The justices were Cesar Bengson, Sabino Padilla, Felix Bautista Angelo, Alejo Labrador, Roberto Concepcion, J. B. L. Reyes, Jesus Barrera, and Arsenio Dizon.

He also received Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who briefed him on the full implication of the Laotian crisis.

April 4.—EARLY this morning the President played golf at the Mansion House golf course and told newsmen later he was improving in his new game.

After his golf game the President had breakfast with newsmen at the Guest House. He told newsmen at the Guest House he was inclined to sign the new bill passed by Congress declaring April 9 as a regular public holiday.

The President also took up the political developments as reported to him by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and Secretary of Labor Angel Castaño by telephone and by wire.

He said he was optimistic the primary proposed in the amity meeting held last February 4 will go through.

In golf parlance, the President said, if the presidential race were golf, he would give the Senate President a handicap of 120.

At 9:15 o'clock this morning the President was fetched by Secretary of Education Jose E. Romero to address the members of the Philippine Association of School Superintendents at the Teachers Camp.

President Garcia today assured some 200 school superintendents that his administration will continue its educational program of giving emphasis on the development of the physical, mental, and moral values of the youth.

The Chief Executive made the assurance to members of the Philippine Association of Schools Superintendents who are holding their 52nd annual convention at Quezon-Roosevelt Hall in Baguio City from April 4 to 13.

The President said that much of the future socio-economic progress of the country depends on how effective the educational program could be carried out.

After delivering his speech the Chief Executive, together with the First Lady, were treated to a light snack at the Aldaba Hall in the Teachers' Camp.

During the snack the presidents of three major teacher organizations, on behalf of their respective members, expressed their gratitude to the Chief Executive, saying that “his is the only administration that has done a lot for the welfare of the teachers.”

The three presidents, namely, F. Yanson of the PASS, Dominador X. Lopez of the Philippine Public School Teachers Association, and Apolinar Tolentino of the Philippine Association of Vocational Educators, also expressed their faith and confidence in the President and his administration.

The President was presented to the PASS members by Secretary Romero, while the welcome address was delivered by Mayor Lardizabal.

After his engagement with the PASS, the Chief Executive motored back to the Guest House where he had lunch.

At 2 p.m. the President, together with the First Lady and members of the presidential party, motored to Damortis where they boarded a special train for Manila, arriving in Manila at 8:10 p.m.

From the Tutuban MRR station the party proceeded to Malacañang where the President spent the night.

April 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today spent the whole morning in his private residence in Quezon City, where he went over pending state papers which piled up during his seven-day stay in Baguio during the Holy Week.

Occasionally, political leaders visited the President and discussed developments in the political front brought about by the stalemate in the executive committee meeting of the Nacionalista Party last Monday.

The President had previously announced his readiness to meet Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez in a second amity conference in an effort to stave off a possible split in the majority party. Rodriguez has rejected the executive committee proposal for this amity meeting.

In the afternoon the President motored to Malacañang, where he received visiting German business executives who paid a courtesy call on him.

Berthold Beitz, chairman of the executive board of the Fried Krupp Essen, headed the German business executives. With Beitz were Count Ahlefeld-Laurig and Edward B. Unger. The German visitors were accompanied to Malacañang by Ramon S. Roco, president of the Machinery Engineering Supplies, Inc., and Helmuth Koenig, also of the same company.

After receiving the German business executives, the President presided over the regular meeting of the Cabinet. During the meeting the President took up the reported corn shortage in five Cebu towns.

After the Cabinet meeting the President motored to the Manila Hotel to attend the fifth anniversary dinner of the Norluzonian, an organization of civic leaders in Northern Luzon.

The Cabinet approved this evening terms and conditions for the sale of two National Development company-owned mills, the Ilocos Textile Mill and the Manila Textile Mill. The terms and conditions had been drawn up by a Cabinet committee.

Among the terms and conditions were:

1. Only bids offering a floor price of ₱4.5 million in the case of the Manila Textile Mill and ₱2.3 million in the case of the Ilocos Textile Mill, exclusive of inventories, shall be accepted.
2. The down payment for the Manila Textile Mill must be ₱1,350,000, and for the Ilocos Textile Mill, ₱690,000.

Another feature of the terms and conditions approved by the Cabinet was that successful bidders must set aside and reserve for at least two years a block of common and voting shares equivalent to at least 12.5 per cent of the authorized capital stock of the corporation to be allocated for purchase by N.D.C. workers.

The Cabinet also approved a proposal of Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim to invite representatives of four American cigar manufacturing firms who have indicated a desire to come to the Philippines to look into the possibility of getting their raw material supply here.

Lim informed the Cabinet that other tobacco-producing countries like Indonesia, Jamaica, and Brazil had extended similar invitations.

During the Cabinet meeting President Garcia brought up a Bulletin report about a famine in five towns in Cebu. He directed the NARIC, through Economic Coordinator Juan O. Chioco to:

1. Determine the veracity of the report; and
2. Rush corn grit supplies to the affected areas if the report is found to be true.

April 6.—THIS morning the President signed two bills into law, one proclaiming April 9 as Bataan Day and a legal holiday and the other appropriating the sum of ₱100,000 for the Seventh Anti-Communist Conference of Asians in Manila.

In proclaiming the ninth of April as Bataan Day, the President enjoined all Filipinos to observe a one-minute silence at 4:30 in the afternoon and to hold appropriate rites in honor of the heroic defenders of Bataan, their parents, wives, or widows.

By virtue of the President's action, April 10 this year become a legal holiday as provided for under the Revised Administrative Code, because April 9 falls on a Sunday.

Present at the signing of the bill (S. 483 and H. 941) at Malacañang this morning were Rep. Ramon Bagatsing of Manila, author of the bill; Brig. Gen. Dionisio Ojeda, president of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines; and officers of the Defenders of Bataan, including Maj. Gen. Alfredo M. Santos, overall chairman; Teodoro M. Kalaw, Jr., national commander; Antonio Varias, past national commander; Ernesto D. Rufino, Vice-national commander; Col. Oscar S. Santos, national adjutant; and Cols. Jose A. Arambulo and Salvador T. Paccio.

House Bill 4506, which was also signed by the President today, appropriates ₱100,000 out of the unused funds of the National Treasury for the transportation and accommodation of foreign delegates to the Seventh Asian People's Anti-Communist Conference which will be held in Manila from May 2 to 5 this year.

It being Congressmen's day at the palace, the President had a very heavy schedule.

Early this morning the President received Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda and his father-in-law, Toribio Teodoro, proprietor of Ang Tibay Shoes, who paid a social call on the Chief Executive.

Between callers, the President administered the oaths of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party to Mayor Bienvenido Marquez and five other former Liberals of Padre Burgos, Quezon, who were accompanied by Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., and Mayor Santiago Quiloña of San Julian, Samar, who was accompanied by Rep. Felipe Abrigo and the mayors of Oras, Quinapandan, Arteché, and Hemani.

Other callers who took up problems of their respective localities and reiterated their pledges of support to the President were Senator Domocao Alonto and Lanao del Sur Vice-Gov. Mamintal Tamano and five others; Rep. Luis Hora of Mountain Province, who took up the question of the cultural minorities; Rep. Nicanor Ihiguez of

Southern Leyte with a six-man delegation; Rep. Francisco Sumulong of Rizal; Vice-Mayor Maximo Gatlanbayan of Antipolo, Rizal; Rep. Jose Legaspi of Aklan; and Mayor Napoleon Dala of Libacao, Aklan.

President Garcia today extended a helping hand to change the bleak future of four children into a bright hope for a better life. He directed the V. Luna General Hospital to extend immediate hospitalization to Donato Bay Ion, a 63-year old beggar who supports a wife and four children.

The President also ordered the Social Welfare Administration to give the necessary financial aid to old man Baylon, who is suffering from an intestinal disease and is growing blind.

Deeply moved upon reading the sad plight of Baylon in an afternoon Manila newspaper, the President lost no time in having the old man located. He issued the twin directive expressing his conviction that Baylon's children should be afforded a better future.

Baylon manages to feed his family by begging all day long along Padre Faura near the Department of Foreign Affairs. His wife is a laundry-woman who earns one peso a day. He almost committed suicide three years ago from utter desperation springing from the fact that he lost his house, first wife, and three children during the war.

April 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning reiterated the need for a permanent school financing act to avert the perennial school shortage which is becoming serious every year.

The President told the Council of Leaders at their breakfast meeting in Malacañang today that although one-third of the total budget is earmarked for education, it is barely enough to provide the rudimentary education provided in the Constitution.

The President also urged passage of a satisfactory foreign investment bill to create an attractive climate for foreign capital that may be invested for the development of the country.

Other matters taken up by the President with the Council of Leaders in their three-hour conference were:

- (1) Appointments in the judiciary, which had been made by the President to clear the courts of a heavy backlog of cases;
- (2) Abolition of the margin fee as a complementary measure to full decontrol; and
- (3) Other administration bills pending in Congress.

The breakfast meeting started at 8:10 a.m. and lasted up to 12 noon.

Owing to the Senate session, Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, who had arrived first, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, and Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano Primicias left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Present at the meeting were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, and Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo.

This afternoon the President formally launched the restoration project of Fort Santiago and Intramuros by presenting a check for ₱1,000, as his personal contribution, to Manolo Elizalde, chairman of the finance committee.

The President was the guest of honor and speaker at the launching ceremony held at Fort Santiago.

Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, in his capacity as chairman of the FSIRA Executive Board, and Benjardi M. Crame, co-chairman of the same board, accompanied the President from Malacañang to the fort.

After the ceremony President Garcia and other guests, including members of the diplomatic corps, inspected the shrine, with Carlos da Silva serving as guide.

The executive board is composed of Lim, chairman; Crame, co-chairman; and Andrew Gruber, Carlos Santiago, Yu Khe Thai, Gen. Dionisio Ojeda, C. S. Gonzales, Luis Ma. Araneta, Andres Soriano, Jr., Modesto Farolan, Carlos da Silva, Dannet Howe, Enrique Belo, Manuel Elizalde, and Gaudencio Antonio, members.

April 8.—THIS morning President Garcia emphasized the urgency of accelerating all phases of economic progress, and invited foreign friendly capital to come in and help develop the country.

The President extended his invitation during the inauguration of the Bataan refinery of STANVAC in Limay, Bataan, this morning, in which he was principal speaker.

In his speech before some 2,000 employees and guests, including government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, and prominent citizens, the President paid tribute to STANVAC as one of the greatest contributors to Philippine progress, and pointed to the expansion of its activities as a tangible evidence of American initiative and Filipino cooperation in action.

Earlier, the President decorated Christian A. Larsen, general manager, for his meritorious and praiseworthy efforts to contribute to the vigorous growth of Philippine economy as an executive of STANVAC.

The President conferred the Philippine Legion of Honor (Commander) on Larsen in recognition of his abiding faith in Philippine democratic institution, his efforts to promote harmonious labor management relations, and the enrichment of Philippine journalism by providing deserving Filipinos with opportunities for advancement.

Larsen in his dedicatory address, and H. F. Prioleau, president and board member who came all the way from New York, affirmed America's confidence in the stability and bright future of Philippine economy, and thanked their Filipino workers without whom, they said, the establishment of the refinery could not have been possible.

Prioleau also expressed the hope that allied industries will find fresh encouragement in the example set by STANVAC and help the Philippines develop her economy to their mutual benefit.

Prioleau said that among the benefits to be derived in the establishment of the \$45 million refinery in Bataan are:

- (1) More employment and general prosperity;
- (2) Vital knowledge to be acquired by Filipino technicians;
- (3) Growth of allied industries, creating an industrial complex and giving the government a large share in the form of taxes; and
- (4) Dollar savings of some \$5 million annually.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, who was assisted by Mesdames Pedro Dizon, Floro Roxas, Larsen, and Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, unveiled the plaque marking the inauguration of the plant, while President Garcia pushed the button which symbolically started operations.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, Cabinet members, and Prioleau, left Pier 3 in Manila at 9:40 in the morning, arriving at Limay aboard the RPS *Lapu-Lapu* at 11:30 a.m.

From the wharf where the President was welcomed by Stanvae officials and prominent guests headed by Bataan Gov. Pedro Djzon and Limay Mayor Floro Roxas, the President toured the housing compound before proceeding to the ceremonial site.

After the inspection of the housing project, cocktails were served at the administration building, after which the guests were honored at a luncheon, during which the ceremonies were held.

Among those present at the ceremonies were Secretaries Alejo Mabanag of Justice, Manuel Lira of Commerce, Felixberto Serrano of Foreign Affairs, Alejo Santos of Defense, Cesar Fortich of Agriculture, OEC Administrator Juan O. Chioco, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, and a large group of chiefs of missions headed by United States Ambassador John D. Hickerson.

After the ceremonies the President motored back to the wharf and boarded at the *Lapu-Lapu* which shoved off for Manila at 2:40 p.m., arriving at Pier 3 shortly before 4 p.m.

In the course of his Bataan visit, the President was presented with a petition by former Gov. Emilio Ma. Naval, president of the Landowners and Farmers of the province, protesting the enforcement of Assessment Orders 14 and 16, which increased land values by over 100 per cent.

Gov. Naval informed the President that the last typhoons and floods had caused a big drop and severe losses in the harvests and that it was untimely to enforce the new assessment in order to raise more taxes.

Naval added that a stream of resolution from barrio and municipal councilors had forced Vice-Gov. Faustino V. Vigo to introduce a resolution requesting the secretary of finance to suspend the effectivity of Assessment Orders 14 and 16, for at least one year.

The President said that he will take up the matter with the secretary of finance.

President Garcia, in a message issued on Bataan Day, extolled the unconquerable spirit of the defenders of Bataan, whose victory in defeat 18 years ago, provided a rich legacy in the unique Filipino-American partnership of today.

Recalling the fall of Bataan which had caused unfold national sorrow for both the Philippines and the United States, the President said that “the indomitable spirit of Bataan never fell; thus was Filipino-American comradeship maintained during the dark war years in the crucible of guerrilla fury.”

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: April 9-15, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

April 9.—AFTER his breakfast this morning the President motored to the Manila Golf Club in Makati, Rizal, where he played nine holes with Manuel Nieto, Jr., chairman of the Games and Amusement Board, and Jose Galatas.

This evening the President attended a dinner of the "Solid North," an organization of civic and political leader from the Northern and Central Luzon provinces. The affair was held at the Philippine Navy Clubhouse.

The "Solid North" association presented three candidates for the NP vice-presidential nomination; namely. Senators Cipriano Primicias, Quintin Paredes, and Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda.

This was the second time the President attended an affair given by civic and political leaders from the North. He had attended a dinner given last week by the Norluzonians.

Upon receiving the resolution on the vice-presidential candidates the President said he would endorse it to the convention which, he said, would choose the presidential vice-presidential candidates of the party.

Before attending the "Solid North" dinner, the President inducted Tomas de Guzman and Eulogio de Guzman, Jr., sons of Gov. Eulogio de Guzman of La Union, into the NP. The induction of the brothers was held significant, as Gov. De Guzman was elected under Liberal Party. The De Guzmans were inducted into the NP at the President's private residence in Quezon City.

The President also motored to St. Mary College auditorium, where he attended the closing day of the four-day convention of the Philippine Veterans Legion.

In his brief remarks the President assured the vets he would take steps to insure an honest and orderly election.

The President received plaque from the PVL for having shown interest in the welfare of the veterans, war widows, and orphans.

April 10.—A FIVE-HOUR meeting of the NP executive committee today failed to resolve the Garcia-Rodriguez rift and to settle other pressing party problems, like the holding of a primary.

Except for an agreement that President Garcia and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez themselves decide the issue of about 400 contested delegates, the intra-party situation was believed to have dipped further when Amang confronted President Garcia with a new White Paper. The document, first read by the Senate leader himself and continued by Mayor Lacson, contained nine pages with seven specifications of complaints.

President Garcia was immediately put on the defensive, and his defense and the expression of views by the other members of the NP ruling body used up much of the time of the marathon meeting held at the Manila Hotel.

The highlights of the conference:

1. The President and Amang will meet at a time and place to be decided by them within one week to resolve the question of 400 primary delegates in 18 provinces and three chartered cities.
2. The two leaders will then report to the NP ruling body which will decide on the need of convoking the committee to another meeting.
3. The question of the party convention was not taken up.

The President motored to the Manila Hotel at 12:35 p.m. accompanied by Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta. Upon arrival at the Manila Hotel, the President was escorted to the presidential suite, where he was fetched by Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta when most of the NP executive committee members had arrived.

The Chief Executive found out that the NP executive committee members had already been furnished with copies of a new "White Paper," which Amang claimed, was the fourth in a series he had written denouncing alleged graft committed by persons close to the President.

It was a tumultuous session marked by unleashed tempers over the widening rift between the President and Senate President Rodriguez.

A Malacañang spokesman said the President took the initiative of discussing the controversial "White Paper" and explained every point in the catalogue of charges leveled at him by the Senate President.

The same Palace source said that the majority, if not all, of the members of the NP executive committee were satisfied with the President's explanation.

The President sat down with the NP committee for almost five hours.

It was held possible that the President and Rodriguez may meet anew on Saturday after President Garcia's arrival from a four-day trip to Bacolod City and Estancia, Iloilo.

Before motoring to the Manila Hotel, the President had breakfast with Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez and Speaker Protomopore Constancio E. Castañeda, and plotted moves in his meeting with the NP executive committee.

The breakfast conference was held at the President's private residence in Quezon City.

From the Manila Hotel, the President returned to his private residence in Quezon City where he spent the night.

April 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia appointed today Justice Cesar Bengzon as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, succeeding retired Chief Justice Ricardo Paras.

The President, likewise, appointed Justices Dionisio de Leon and Felipe Natividad, both of the Court of Appeals, as Associate Justices of the highest tribunal of the land.

Justices De Leon and Natividad will fill in the vacancies brought about by the retirement of Supreme Court Justices Marcelino R. Montemayor and Jose Gutierrez David. Justice Montemayor retired last year while Justice David retired last January.

The appointment of the three justices were in accordance with Article VIII, section 5, of the Constitution and other existing laws governing the appointments of the justices to the Supreme Court. The President signed the appointments before he sailed for Bacolod City early this morning.

The elevation of Justice Bengzon as Chief Justice and the promotion of Justices De Leon and Natividad to the highest tribunal were agreed upon by President Garcia and his council of leaders during a breakfast conference held in Malacañang last Friday.

Bengzon's appointment to the highest judiciary position capped his impressive and brilliant record in the court of justice. He is the senior member of the Supreme Court. He hails from Camiling, Tarlac.

President Garcia left Malacañang for the RPS Lapu-Lapu at 8 o'clock this morning. Before the *Lapu-Lapu* sailed for Bacolod City at 9 a.m., the President received on board the ship Govs. Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Felipe

Garduque of Cagayan, Manuel Barretto of Zambales, and Eulogio de Guzman of La Union. They discussed local problems.

Later, Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, Armed Forces chief of staff, reported to the President on the recently concluded SEATO conference in Bangkok which Cabal attended.

After Cabal, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona and Acting Gov. Andres Castillo of the Central Bank conferred with President Garcia.

The President directed Administrator Vicente Araneta of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Administration and Auditor General Pedro M. Gimenez to release all check's drawn in favor of FACOMA for Virginia tobacco they have sold to the ACCFA.

President Garcia had supper in his study room on the *Lapu-Lapu* with Sen. Arturo Tolentino; Reps. Vicente Gustilo, Inocencio Ferrer, and Agustin Gatuslao; former Sen. Enrique Magalona; and former Gov. Juan Triviño of Camarines Sur.

April 12.—THE PRESIDENT and his party were accorded a rousing reception by a mammoth crowd upon arrival in Bacolod City aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* from Manila.

President Garcia was pleasantly surprised to see the participation in the welcome of truckloads of laborers and employees of three sugar centrals owned by J. Amado Araneta, treasurer of the Liberal Party.

NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, and Mayor Teofisto Cordova of Bacolod City led government officials and people, from all walks of life in the reception which was considered unprecedented in the province.

A fluvial parade met the *Lapu-Lapu* and escorted the yacht to Banago wharf, where upon landing and receiving full military honors, President Garcia and the First Lady led a long motorcade to the Sacred Heart Church at Lupit for the *Te Deum* and the blessing and inauguration of the Gov. Gatuslao driveway of the church.

At the Sacred Heart Seminary, the President and his party were received by Msgr. Manuel Yap, Bacolod bishop; Fr. J. Jumaoas, seminary rector; and officials of Barangay Sang Virgin led by Antonio Gaston, national president, and Virgilio Dulton, president of the Bacolod chapter.

The First Lady donated bed sheets to the Bacolod Orphanage through Mrs. Julia Infanta, president of the Catholic Women's League, before leaving together with the President and party for a rally of provincial, city, and municipal officials and employees, barrio council members, and the public at the Negros Occidental High School stadium which was jam-packed by people.

From the stadium, President Garcia motored to the La Sale gymnasium for a luncheon engagement sponsored by the Federation of Sugarcane Planters, where he delivered a short address.

Later, the President proceeded to the *Lapu-Lapu* for a rest. At 3 p.m. he had a 30-minutes exclusive conference with provincial, city, and municipal officials on their problems.

At 5:30 p.m. the President reviewed a civic and military parade at a stand built at the public plaza. The parade ended at the University of Negros Occidental, where the First Lady formally opened the *Feria de Caridad* of the Sacred Heart Church.

At 7 p.m. President Garcia was guest of honor and speaker at the induction of officials of the Negros Press Club held at the Sea Breeze Hotel. Press Secretary Jose C. Nable inducted the officers.

Later, the President and the First Lady with party attended the *Kayumanggi* dance where Mrs. Garcia proclaimed Miss Hanneli Montilla as muse of the Press Club.

The President and his party boarded the *Lapu-Lapu* before midnight for the trip to Estancia, Iloilo, where they are expected at 2 p.m., tomorrow.

April 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia was royally welcomed today upon his arrival at Estancia, Iloilo, where people from all the towns of the fifth district of the province congregated early this morning to see and hear him.

Estancia, which is considered the Alaska of the Philippines, outdid itself in receiving the President, considering the fact that Vice-President Macapagal also visited the town at the same time.

Owing to insistent demands, the President had to speak at an impromptu rally held in front of the market of Estancia and received a pledge from Mayor Eusebio Reyes that the town will give him a bigger majority than in the 1957 election when he won over Jose Yulo.

About 100 motorized fishing boats participated in a fluvial parade welcoming the Chief Executive and his party.

From Estancia, the President led a motorcade through the next town of Batad, where Mayor Jose Bañez urged him to speak at another impromptu rally, and read a resolution approved by all municipal officials and members of barrio councils endorsing the President's reelection bid.

In Sara the President inaugurated, the emergency hospital in the presence of delegation from all over the fifth district of Iloilo.

Speaking at rallies, Rep. Jose Aldeguer urged the people of his district not to vote for him if they will not vote for President Garcia.

From Sara, the President returned to Estancia, where he attended the coronation at the fair.

President Garcia told newsmen this morning he is prepared for a break with Senate President Rodriguez and let the Nacionalista Party decide the presidential candidate of the party. The President met newsmen aboard the *Lapu-Lapu* on the way to Estancia, where he crossed the path of Vice-President Macapagal, who is stumping in Iloilo.

Apparently at the end of his patience. President Garcia said, "I am willing to go any length to preserve party unity, but if the realities are different, I am ready to confront them."

"If the party is divided, let it not be said that President Garcia was the cause of it," he added.

The President also: (1) defended the sale of the Dona vessels by the National Development Company; (2) branded Amang's white paper as an "old song" played on the same old phonographs; and (3) claimed as a "wild story" Rodriguez's charge that Boholanos have settled on 149 hectares of land in Bago Oshiro, Davao.

The President is scheduled to return to Manila tomorrow night after a two-day stump of Negros and Iloilo.

April 14.—THE PRESIDENT sailed for Manila from Estancia, Iloilo, at 3 o'clock this morning. The boat sailed at full speed and entered Manila Bay shortly after six o'clock in the evening. However, the yacht slowed down in its approach of the breakwater and docked at Pier 3 at 8:30 p.m.

Earlier in the morning, at his suite at the *Lapu-Lapu*, the President conferred with Govs. Zulueta and Plaza and took up the political developments in their respective areas.

Gov. Zulueta reported to the President the lukewarm reception accorded Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal in Iloilo. He also recalled his tiff with the Liberal Party presidential candidate and vowed to fight Macapagal in the coming elections.

In the evening the President conferred with the six Manila councilors who joined him in his four-day stump to Negros Occidental and Iloilo. They were Councilors Alfredo Gomez, Vicente G. Cruz, Felicisimo Cabigao, Francisco Varona, Jr., Pablo Gener, and Francisco Gatmaitan.

The Manila aldermen took up with the President their pet projects and sought his support to help finance them.

President Garcia returned at 3:30 this evening from a four-day stump of Bacolod City and Estancia, Iloilo, where he sewed up the heavy sugar votes of West Visayas.

The President came in aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* together with the First Lady and Govs. Jose C. Zulueta of Iloilo and D. O. Plaza of Agusan.

Heartened by the massive welcome accorded him in Bacolod City and in Estancia and Sara, Iloilo, hometown of House Majority Floor Leader Jose M. Aldeguer, the President expressed confidence he would sweep Iloilo and Negros Occidental in the coming presidential polls.

The President was deeply impressed by the big crowds which gathered to meet him in Sara and by the biggest fluvial parade mounted to meet the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* as it steamed to shore in Estancia.

April 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia today waited the whole day for his guest who did not come.

He had left his calendar open for his amity talks with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez in accordance with the decision of the Nacionalista Party's executive committee last Monday. But Amang never came.

While Press Secretary Jose C. Nable insisted that Rodriguez did not snub the President, it was evident that the host, President Garcia, waited the whole day for his expected guest who never came.

President Garcia and Rodriguez were supposed to iron out conflicts in the list of disputed delegates to the primary or convention which will choose the NP presidential candidate.

The Chief Executive was in his bedroom and alerted all his aides to relay to him any report of the visit of Rodriguez.

Up to press time this evening Amang had not shown up at the Palace.

Earlier in the morning the President played golf at the Manila Golf Club to get into the swing of balls after a four-day stump in the Visayas.

Although he was at the Manila Golf Club, he had ordered his aides to relay immediately to him any report of Amang's decision to see him anywhere.

Before going to the golf course, the President also ordered his aides to lay a wreath at the tomb of President Roxas at the North Cemetery on the occasion of 13th anniversary of the latter's death.

The President also ordered an honor guard to keep vigil at the Roxas mausoleum.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: April 16-22, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

April 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet day this day after a hectic week stumping through Bacolod City and two Iloilo towns Wednesday and Thursday.

He spent the day at his private residence on Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, where he was reported to have received some unidentified political leaders who took up the question of possibly saving the Nacionalista Party from a split.

Earlier in the morning the President and the First Lady heard mass at their private residence in Quezon city.

After the mass the President motored to the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club, where he played golf with Dr. Wigberto Clavecilla, chief of the Malacanang Clinic, retired Chief Justice Ricardo Paras; and Jose Gonzalez, manager of the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club.

From the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club, the President returned to his private residence, where he spent the whole afternoon.

After his siesta the President went over pending state papers which had piled up during his four-day stump of Western Visayas.

April 17.—THE PRESIDENT cancelled all his scheduled appointments today and called unidentified Nacionalista leaders to a conference in his private residence in Quezon City.

Those who saw the President take up his political feud with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez were convinced that the Chief Executive was determined to force a showdown with Amang.

The President was reported ready to meet the NP executive committee meeting this noon, but was told that the session of the 35-ruling body of the administration party had to be deferred to either Wednesday or Thursday.

The Chief Executive was told that the Senate President received his list of delegates last Wednesday and had only a week's time before the executive committee meets to take up the legality of the choice of these delegates.

President Garcia was reported ready to close all the doors towards a rapprochement with the Senate President.

With the President at his Bohol Avenue residence were Sens. Cipriano Primicias and Gil J. Puyat and Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda.

The President indicated his determination to push through his plan for an early convention, as further delay in the choice of the NP standard bearers was hurting the party.

The Chief Executive found out during his four-day stump of Negros Occidental and Iloilo that the Liberal Party candidates had already started their hand-shaking drive to woo the voters in sugarlandia.

The President finally agreed to the calling of the NP executive committee to a meeting Thursday to give the Senate President time to confer with him by midnight Wednesday.

In the afternoon the President went over pending state papers.

President Garcia appointed today Jesus Iriarte as deputy auditor general, vice Bartolome Fernandez who retired last March 23.

Iriarte, who was manager of the local governments auditing department until his promotion, is a career man who rose from the ranks with a record of thirty years of service in the government. He entered the government service first as a high school teacher in 1929, later transferring to the then Bureau of Audits as clerk in 1933.

From 1934 Iriarte rose rapidly from tax examiner to senior clerk, chief clerk, assistant city auditor, city auditor, provincial auditor, division auditor for the Visayas and Mindanao, until he became chief of the local governments auditing department.

April 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez met in a secret conference at the Manila Hotel's presidential suite this noon.

The witnesses were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Senators Cipriano Primicias and Decoroso Rosales, and Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda.

After a three-hour conclave, the President and Senate President Rodriguez agreed on a 6-point pact believed to have laid the basis for a possible rapprochement between them.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable reported that the meeting between the two NP leaders was “mostly cordial.”

Rodriguez was the first to arrive at the Manila Hotel. The Senate President was reported to have gone to the Manila Hotel at 12:40 this afternoon.

Speaker Romualdez and Speaker Protempore Castaneda arrived together with Senators Primicias and Rosales.

President Garcia showed up at 12:50 o'clock. The President and Amang agreed among others to set the NP convention for June 3. They also agreed on a moratorium on political attacks.

Earlier, the President stayed at his private residence in Quezon City, and motored to Malacañang shortly before 12 o'clock to await reports that Rodriguez had arrived at the presidential suite of the Manila Hotel.

After his three-hour conference with the Senate President, President Garcia returned to Malacañang.

The President cancelled all his scheduled appointments this morning to make way for his tryst with his political rival.

April 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia cancelled the scheduled meeting of his Cabinet this day.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said that the President believed that there were no pressing matters to be taken up by his advisory body.

The President, however, received Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim and Labor Secretary Angel Castaño. Castaño reported on the labor dispute in Negros Occidental involving the *sacadas*.

Earlier in the afternoon, the President received the letters of credence of Jun Tsuchiya as the new ambassador of Japan to the Philippines. Tsuchiya replaces Ambassador Morio Yukawa, who was recalled to Tokyo for reassignment after completing his tour of duty of more than three years in the country.

The President expressed optimism that the new Japanese envoy would continue efforts to strengthen the friendly relations between the Philippines and Japan.

Tsuchiya pledged his utmost toward improving the ties between the two countries.

Tsuchiya was honored by a company of the Presidential Guards Battalion before he was ushered into the Malacañang ceremonial hall by Col. Jorge Delarmente, senior aid to the President.

This evening President Garcia received Ambassador Sergio Perez y Perez of Cuba, who bade farewell before leaving for Havaña tomorrow.

Ambassador Perez was recalled following the invasion of his country by an organized force set on overthrowing the regime of Premier Fidel Castro.

Ambassador Perez was accredited to the Philippines last March 28, 1960. In bidding the President farewell, the Cuban envoy expressed optimism he would come back.

The President also received a task force leaving on Friday for Isabela to supervise the release of 5,000 hectares of public land.

President Garcia called the task force for briefing. The group was organized recently by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency.

Present at the briefing were Justice Ocampo, PCAPE Vice-Chairman Max Maceren, Susano R. Negado of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority, Vicente Marapabol and Alejo Manalang of the Bureau of Forestry, David Eusebio of the Bureau of Lands, Alonso Alindogan of the Board of Liquidators, and Carlos Lacson of the Department of Public Works.

April 20.—FOR the third consecutive days President Garcia this day cancelled his appointments, mostly with members of Congress.

Some sources said the President had been conferring with his political advisers and strengthening his position before the June 3 national convention of his party.

He had agreed with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez to enter his name in the NP convention with Amang for the Presidential nomination.

However, a report that Senate President Rodriguez was preparing his own slate for the coming elections was said to have disturbed the Chief Executive. Up to press time this evening Malacañang was silent on the President's reaction to the report.

Amang was quoted as having given Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson complete freedom to criticize the Administration. Lacson has been identified as among the Senate President's political henchmen.

Malacañang said the President decided to cancel his appointments with callers in order to give him sufficient time to clear the backlog of pending state papers which had piled up. The President was reported to have conferred with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo on the pending state papers. Informed sources said, the President had to sign pending appointments to fill existing vacancies in the government, including those in the judiciary.

President Garcia received Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, who reported on the day's news, especially those quoting the Senate President giving Lacson complete freedom to attack the President.

Among those who were scheduled to see the President today were Sen. Domocao Alonto and Reps. Emilio Cortez, Felix Fuentebella, Jose Leido, Canuto Enerio, Lamberto Macias, Pedro Venida, Manuel Enverga, Vicente Peralta, Fausto Dugenio, Pedro Trono, Tobias Fornier, and Marcelino Veloso.

The President spent the whole day in Malacañang.

President and Mrs. Garcia today sent a message of condolence to the family of Justice Emilio Peña of the Court of Appeals, who succumbed to heart attack in the hospital in Baguio this morning.

April 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today informed members of the Mexican Special Trade and Cultural Mission that his administration is “receptive” to any proposal aimed at increasing trade and better cultural relations between the Philippines and the Republic of Mexico.

The Chief Executive made the statement before the four-man delegation who called at Malacañang this morning to pay their respects to the President.

The Mexican mission composed of Senate President Manuel Moreno Sanchez, head of the mission; Luis Laris, member of the Council of Exterior Services; Guillermo Ramos Uriarte, sub-director of the Department of Commerce and Industry; and Lieutenant Juan Barragan, military aide of the mission, will be here for three days to conduct a commercial and cultural survey of the country.

The mission members were accompanied to Malacañang by Mexican Minister to the Philippines Carlos Gutierrez Macias.

Senate President Sanchez, who is also the head of the Mexican Permanent Commission, handed to the Chief Executive personal letter of His Excellency Adolfo Lopez Mateos, President of the Republic of Mexico, containing the personal greetings of the Mexican Chief Executive.

Earlier the President received Ambassador Cao Thai Bao of Vietnam, Shri Sanka Nath Maitra of India, and Manuel Nieto, Sr., former Philippine Ambassador to Spain.

Ambassador Cao came to bid the President good-bye prior to his departure on Sunday for Vietnam, thence to Bangkok, Thailand, to assume his new post.

The President took the opportunity to congratulate Ambassador Cao for his new assignment and to express the gratitude of the Filipino people as well his own, for Cao’s role in promoting better Philippine-Vietnam relations.

Ambassador Maitra also called to pay his respects before leaving for Bohol, where he is expected to make a two-day tour of the province.

During the call of Ambassador Maitra, the President took occasion to point to the Indian diplomat the more interesting places he could see in Bohol, and related to him some historical facts about the province.

The President also offered his residence in Tagbilaran for the use of the ambassador during his stay in the province.

This afternoon President Garcia received the members of the Ysmael basketball team who are leaving tomorrow for Ysrael to represent the Philippines in the Hapoel Festival or Little Olympics.

The President expressed the hope that the Filipino players will acquit themselves with honor and gain added fame for themselves and their country.

The Ysmael players, accompanied by Enrique Crame, were Nicolas Carranceja, Cesar Jota, Manuel Jocson, Clemente Bargas, Serafin Hernaez, Alberto Reynoso, and Cristobal Ramas.

Miguel M. Mendez, president of the Virac Labor Union, accompanied by Reparations Commissioner Juan M. Alberto, also called on the President to pledge the solid support of his group.

April 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia was reported with a bad cold today. Upon the advice of his physicians, the President cancelled his appointments for the day.

The President was scheduled to participate in a so-called “dream game” between members of the Cabinet and the members of the diplomatic corps.

It was a match arranged while the President was cruising home from Bacolod and Iloilo last week.

The President was scheduled to lead the Malacañang team, which incidentally won the match at the Malacañang golf course.

In the evening the President Was also scheduled to address the Federation of the PTA of the fourth district of Manila at the Aurora Quezon Elementary School in Malate. Still indisposed until late this afternoon, the President failed to show up at the get-together and induction ceremonies of the federation.

The President stayed at the Palace, where he was confined in his bedroom. Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the presidential physician, attended to the Chief Executive.

Dr. Guytingco said that the President would be able to shake off the cold after the week-end. President Garcia was reported to be slightly feverish on account of his cold.

President Garcia today directed Labor Secretary Angel Castaño to investigate immediately the complaint of Pelagio B. Villegas, Jr., president of the Federation of Democratic Workers of Cebu City, against an alien who owns the Visayan Glass Factory for allegedly not paying the minimum wage to his laborers.

The President gave Secretary Castaño full powers to take the corresponding action against the alien in case the results of the investigation so warrants.

At the same time, Noli Reyes, private secretary of the President, sent a wire to Villegas in the name of the President, informing the labor leader of the action taken.

The President was incensed when he read the complaint of Villegas, published in a metropolitan paper in which the labor leader alleged that the alien was using the name of the President in turning down the petition of the workers for the minimum wage.

Villegas alleged that the alien also used the name of the President to flaunt the authorities in Cebu. It was also alleged that the alien has been using threats to cow his laborers, dismissing some and subjecting others to bodily harm.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: April 23-29, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

April 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia, fully recuperated from a bad cold yesterday, went boating this day aboard the presidential launch, *The Chief*, with the members of his family.

Malacañang said the President went sailing up and down the Pasig River from the presidential landing. He went sailing to catch the breeze and shake off the cold which plagued him yesterday.

This morning the President and the First Lady heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. After the mass the President had breakfast with his family.

Then he played billiards with his aides, as he could not go to the golf course for his weekend sport.

After lunch the President stayed in his bedroom where he went over pending state papers. The President wanted to finish action on pending state papers before he goes to Baguio City sometime this week.

Some 1,500 land patents have been released by the Bureau of Lands in Isabela by order of President Garcia.

The President, in another directive, also ordered release for agricultural development of several settlement sites in Isabela, totaling 5,000 hectares of former forest lands, in order to meet the increasing demand for homesteads and hasten the development of the province.

Implementation of the twin directives which emphasized the President's concern for the welfare of the barrio people, was effected by the presidential committee headed by PCAFE Vice-Chairman Max Maceren and Malacañang Technical Assistant Sergio Tocaio and Composed of representatives of various government agencies charged with the task of helping the barrio people.

April 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia today went over pending state papers with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo.

The President, who was to open the 54th convention of the Philippine Medical Association and the second general assembly of the Confederation of Medical Associations in Asia and Oceania at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, sent Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia to represent him at the U. P.

The President was unable to fulfill his speaking engagement owing to hoarseness caused by cold caught during the weekend. Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician, said the President's cold today was not as bad as yesterday. He said the President has no more fever.

In the afternoon the President received Rose Coyle and Mrs. Helen Dineen, former director of nurses and director of social services, respectively, of the Margaret Hague Maternity Hospital in Jersey City, New Jersey.

The visiting American nurses paid their respects to the President in the course of their brief stopover in Manila enroute home after attending the International Congress of Nurses in Sydney, Australia.

They were accompanied to Malacañang by some 30 Filipino nurses who trained at the Hague Maternity Hospital; among them, Paula Calayan, Virginia Atienza, Lourdes Nepomuceno, and Fortunata Coronel.

April 25.— THIS morning the President conferred upon Gonzalo Puyat and Toribio Teodoro the Philippine Legion of Honor with the rank of Commander for "meritorious and praise worthy achievements which have in large measure enriched the economic heritage of the nation and enhanced those native virtues essential for the continued advancement of the Filipino race."

The President also awarded posthumously the Philippine Legion of Honor, with the rank of Commander, to Col. Ole C. Waloe for his substantial contributions to the furtherance of Philippine security in exterminating outlaws in Samar and Leyte, and in pacifying warring tribes in Surigao, thereby enhancing the prestige of the Philippine Constabulary from 1902 to 1924.

The awards were given at the Malacañang ceremonial hall in the presence of high-ranking government officials, PC officers, close friends, and relatives of the recipients. The President was assisted by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and Minister Manuel Zamora, Malacañang protocol officer.

The first to receive the award was Mr. Puyat, who was cited for his success in lifting himself from poverty “through hard work, frugality, and perseverance and ultimately earning for himself a position in the front rank of the nation’s business executives and industrialists.

Mr. Teodoro was cited for his outstanding contribution to Philippine economic development; his admirable record in rising from humble beginnings as an artisan engaged in making slippers by hand, thenceforth to become the foremost leader in the manufacture of slippers and shoes; his rare business acumen enhanced by personal virtues of thrift, honesty, and love of work; his sincere concern for the welfare of his employees; his progressive outlook as businessman and industrialist; and finally his exemplary activities as civic leader, philanthropist, and model citizen.

The award for Col. Waloe was received by his widow, Mrs. Anna Waloe, a resident of Los Angeles, California, who arrived last March for the purpose.

Officers who served under Col. Waloe and friends, among them Col. Eugenio Acab, PC deputy chief; Col. Flaviano Olivares, J-1; Col. Santiago Concepcion, C-1; Gen. Ramon Enriquez (Ret.); Cols. Elias Dioquino and Roman T. Salacup (both retired); and former Secretary and Mrs. Pablo Lorenzo, were present at the Malacañang ceremony.

As one of the pioneer American Constabulary officers sent to suppress banditry and lawlessness in the provinces of Samar, Leyte, and the Sulu Archipelago, Colonel Waloe, then a lieutenant in the Philippine Constabulary, demonstrated outstanding courage, enthusiasm, and great devotion to duty. After his initial campaign in Samar in 1902, he organized a vigilant citizen force to cope with the unconventional tactics of the lawless elements. Under his able leadership and with the support of a few soldiers, his citizen force successfully exterminated the outlaws in Samar and Leyte.

After conferring the awards, President Garcia received Emilio Aguinaldo, Jr., who presented the donation papers for 50 hectares of land in barrio Lumil, Silang, Cavite, for use as site of the II Military Area Headquarters.

The President commended Aguinaldo for his donation and then directed Defense Secretary Alejo Santos to build a road passing through the land to shorten the distance from Manila to Tagaytay from 60 to 47 kilometers. The road will pass through barrio Balibago in Sto. Domingo and Sta. Rosa, connecting with the super-highway.

The President also received pledges of support from Mayors Sofronio Carmona of San Carlos City, Romulo Golez of Silay City, and Quintin Katalbas of Sagay, All the three mayors are from Negros Occidental.

This evening the President received Washington State Senator Reuben Knoblock, who is leaving Wednesday after a nine-day visit with his Filipino wartime friends.

Washington lawmaker, who saw action in the Leyte landing and later on in Luzon as a staff sergeant, expressed admiration for the country’s quick recovery from the effects of the last war and for its determined stand in the preservation of democracy.

Senator Knoblock was accompanied to Malacañang by his hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Pastor de Guzman, Jr.

The President also received Hussain Mahamed Osman, charge d'affaires, and Nordin Ariffin of the legation of the Federation of Malaya, who presented him with a commemorative pictorial album of his last state visit to Kuala Lumpur.

Other evening callers were Consul Leon T. Garcia, who requested aid for the transfer of some 100 families from barrio San Miguel, Calumpit, to the other and safer side of the Arnedo dike; and Sen. Alejandro Almendras, who paid a social; call on the Chief Executive.

April 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia today called Secretary Dominador Aytona to Malacañang to discuss the peso financing of the extension of the railroad lines to the Cagayan Valley and Sorsogon.

The President expressed his desire that the project, be started as soon as possible in view of the clamor of the people of northern Luzon and Sorsogon.

The extension of the railroad lines will accelerate the economic development of both regions, which is one of the main concerns of the Administration, President Garcia stated.

The President also received Sen; Pedro Sabido and Rep. Jose Leido of Mindoro Oriental with whom he took up local problems.

In the afternoon the President received delegates to the Government Prosecutors League convention, at cocktails in Malacañang.

President Garcia created today a legislative-executive committee to devise ways and means to arrest the spiraling prices of prime commodities.

The committee was created during the regular weekly Cabinet meeting in which the current trend of prices of commodities which keep soaring, was discussed intensively.

Named to the committee were Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, and National Economic Council Chairman Jose C. Locsin.

Invited to join the committee were Sens. Gil Puyat, Pedro Sabido, and Cipriano Primicias, and Reps, Jose Roy, Vicente Peralta, and Ramon Durano.

The committee will meet today to elect its chairman and to start work. The President asked the committee to report to him on Monday.

The President also asked Secretary Lim to study means of flooding the market with prime commodities through the National Marketing Corporation.

During the Cabinet meeting, the President reiterated his directives for the Departments of Commerce and of National Defense to enforce strictly the price control law now that the re-requirements for the publication of the price lists have already been met.

President Garcia also directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to take all the necessary steps to implement a previous verbal directive to pay the salaries of school teachers twice a month not later than July this year.

The President pointed out that teachers, especially those in rural areas, are two or three months behind in receiving their pay. He said the situation should be remedied immediately.

The Cabinet also discussed ways of remedying the imbalance of monetary circulation between the urban areas and the outlying districts. It has been observed that money supply is plentiful in centers of populations and scarce in the provinces.

The President took up with the Cabinet members ways and means to remedy this imbalance which accounted for the high prices of commodities.

The President presided over the regular weekly meeting of his Cabinet after the cocktail party.

In the evening the President was guest speaker at the inauguration and induction of the San Juan Chamber of Commerce.

President Garcia urged all government prosecutors to press the drive relentlessly against venalities in the public service in connection with his all-out drive against graft and corruption in the government.

In his brief talks with Chief Prosecuting Attorney Baldomero M. Villamor, president of the Government Prosecutors' League, at the Malacañang Social Hall, the President expressed gratification over the success of the drive which, he said, should serve as a warning against dishonest public servants.

The President and the First Lady this afternoon received the GPL members at cocktails on the opening day of their four-day conference being held at the Philippine General Hospital Science Hall on Taft Avenue.

The government prosecutors were accompanied by Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez, Solicitor General Edilberto Barot, Villamor, and the other officers of the league.

This afternoon President Garcia directed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, to conduct a formal investigation of alleged abuses committed against inmates of the Correctional Institution for Women in Mandaluyong, Rizal, reportedly by male employees of the institution.

The Chief Executive issued the directive through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who briefed the President on the existence of the irregularity late this afternoon.

Preliminary PCAPE findings reveal that some 14 inmates of the CIW were found to be in the family way according to the 1960-1961 record of the institution's infirmary. Out of the 14, three reportedly became pregnant while serving their sentence.

The President, irked by the report said that he wants an immediate and thorough investigation of the alleged "highly immoral" acts of the employees. He ordered that if evidence warrants it, the proper government agency must file not only administrative charges against these persons but criminal charges as well, to serve as an example to officials and employees who are taking advantage of their position to molest other persons under them.

The complaint reaching the PCAPE and signed by the father of one of the alleged victims requested that the matter be looked into to protect the inmates, who because of their situation, are allegedly being taken advantage of by these persons.

The complainant said that one of the abusers is a "very close" relative of a top official of the institution, and for this reason, the victims themselves could not file the complaint openly for fear of reprisal from the CIW official concerned.

Justice Ocampo, upon receiving the complaint this morning, dispatched immediately Attorneys Rodolfo Ocampo and German Fernando, special PCAPE investigators, to conduct a spot check, to verify the reliability of the complaint.

The complaint also informed the PCAPE that female prisoners are assigned to private quarters of prison officials to work as helpers or laundry women where they are at times abused or left to the mercy of these officials or the immediate members of their family.

This evening President Garcia pledged anew the continuing fight for economic emancipation as the goal of the Nacionalista Party.

Discarding a prepared policy speech owing to a sore throat, the President reiterated this policy at the inauguration and induction of the officers of the San Juan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in San Juan Rizal late this evening.

The President received a long ovation from some 500 members of the new trade organization when he said in his brief remarks that the Nacionalista Party, which had fought for over 40 years for political independence which was attained in 1946, considered it a sacred duty to wrest control of the patrimony of the land for the sustenance and strengthening of the Filipino people.

The President pointed out that for four centuries, the economic policies of the country were charted by foreigners for their own benefit, never for the benefit of the Filipino people, and that it is the duty of the Filipinos to chart their own policies and assume their god-given rights.

This, the President told the organization, was the reason for his launching the Filipino First policy, which has found wide and popular support from all sectors of the country and which was adopted as the cornerstone in the founding of the San Juan Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The program was delayed owing to the regular weekly Cabinet meeting. The President arrived at the inaugural ceremonies at 9 p.m., and left at 11: 30, after the program, for his Bohol Avenue residence.

April 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took steps to counteract what Malacañang called Liberal Party propaganda charges that the Administration was out to cheat in the November 14 polls.

Before boarding the presidential train at the Tutuban Station in Manila en route to the Summer Capital, President Garcia issued a directive to Defense Secretary Alejo S. Santos to take necessary steps to insure “clean and orderly elections.”

Later in his chat with newsmen, the President recalled how he has won all his political battles through honest ballotings.

President and Mrs. Garcia arrived at the Guest House at five in the afternoon and were met by a large delegation of city officials and employees headed by Mayor Luis Lardizabal and Gov. Bado Dangwa of Mountain Province.

The President will be the guest speaker at the 6th annual convention of the Philippine Electric Plant Owners Association at the Pines Hotel tomorrow noon and at the convention of the Regional Federation of Virginia Tobacco FACOMAs at Burnham Park Saturday morning.

The President and Mrs. Garcia left Tutuban by train at 9:15 in the morning and arrived at Damortis at 3:45 p.m. They proceeded to Baguio by car.

Accompanying the President are Rep. and Mrs. Ramon Mitra, Rep. and Mrs. Manuel Zosa, Mrs. Daniel Romualdez, Mrs. Joaquin Rocas, Mrs. Amparo Villamor, Gen. Manuel Cabal, NAWASA General Manager Susano Negado, and others.

President Garcia today ordered the immediate release of ₱50,000 from his contingent fund for the relief of victims of the fire which hit Baguio City last Tuesday. The order for the release of the initial amount of ₱50,000 was given through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo.

The President, likewise, directed Administrator Amparo Villamor of the Social Welfare Administration to extend all possible aid to the fire victims.

The two-hour fire which gutted the commercial district along Session Road caused losses to properties estimated at ₱1.5 million and injury to one. The conflagration was considered to be the biggest and the most destructive ever to hit Baguio City.

April 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received assurances of support from 30 former Liberal leaders of Mt. Province, 15 of whom took their formal oath of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party at the Guest House.

The former Liberals, some of them candidates for local posts, pledged support to President Garcia in a resolution presented to him during the oath taking. They said that they decided to support the President because of his boldness and determination to prosecute erring officials and fight against graft and corruption.

They pointed out that the Liberals who are so vocal in accusing the present administration of graft and corruption were the ones who were indicted by the people and booted out of office for such offense.

They expressed their faith in the good work of the President who has been exposed to all kinds of accusations, and said that they are supporting him so that his good work will continue for the salvation of the country.

Among those who took their oath of affiliation were Juan Zarate, Antonio Ramos, Pedro Claravall, Marcelo. Pajel, Aurelio Peralta, Juanito Astudillo, Pedro Alcantara, Adelina Pajel, Leon Dacanay, Emmanuel Zaragoza, and Antonio Alabanza.

Earlier the President received Indonesian Defense Minister Abdul Harris Nasution and Mrs. Nasution, who reiterated President Sukarno's standing invitation to the Chief Executive to visit Indonesia.

In their meeting the President and Minister Nasution compared their countries' struggle for independence and also discussed the world situation. Minister Nasution informed the President that communists in Indonesia constituted an isolated small minority and their strength had been exaggerated.

The President told Minister Nasution, who was also accompanied by Indonesian Ambassadors Suska to Burma and Spade to Australia, that he had already accepted President Sukarno's invitation but that He could not make it this year.

Early in the morning, the President strolled alone around the Mansion House because the First Lady had gone up to Bontoc on a two-day trip. The President later received Manila Councilors Alfredo Gomez, Vicente Cruz, and Eriberto Remigio, who sought ₱50,000 for Fabie Estate Development and ₱150,000 for schools; Govs. Felipe Garduque, Godofredo S. Reyes, Manuel Barretto, and Eulogio F. de Guzman, who petitioned the President to study the feasibility of importing rice to counteract the activities of unscrupulous spectators who are victimizing the consumers as a result of the destruction caused by floods and typhoons, particularly in Central Luzon, which is considered the rice granary of the Philippines.

The President said that he will give the matter serious consideration.

At noon the President proceeded to the Pines Hotel to address the Philippine Electric Plant Owners Association.

In the afternoon the President administered the oaths of office to Chief Justice Cesar Bengzon and Associate Justices Dionisio de Leon and Felipe Natividad of the Supreme Court at the Guest House.

The oath-taking ceremonies which took place one after the other were attended by a large group composed of all the associated justices of the Supreme Court with the exception of Justice Felix Angelo Bautista, members of the appellate and lower courts, high government officials, close relatives, and friends of the inductees.

Also present were former Secretaries Salvador Araneta and Emilio Abello; Jesus Vargas, former AFP chief of staff; Bibiano Meer, former internal revenue collector; Judge Guillermo Guevara; and Manila Councilor Francisco Gatmaitan.

President Garcia appealed to electric owners to explore all possible means of producing cheap electric power in order to insure the success of the country's industrialization program.

The President made this appeal at a luncheon this noon before some 500 delegates in the opening session of the two-day convention of the Philippine Electric Plant Owners Association at the Pines Hotel this noon.

In his brief extemporaneous speech, the President quoted former President Eisenhower's message in 1960 which said "the race between the increase of wages and the increase of the cost of production has placed American commodities out of the world market."

The President emphasized that this is a warning to Filipinos, and added that electric plant operators should explore all means of averting the eventuality by producing cheaper power so that industrialists are assured a fair profit and better chances for competition.

The President said that the rural electrification act of 1960 fell far short of his expectations because it did not provide for the necessary funds, unlike the Tennessee Valley Authority and other similar acts in the United States which had millions of dollar appropriated.

PEPOA President Abaya, speaking for the association, pledged full support for the industrialization program and the dispersal of industries. Abaya also submitted the association's petition, to wit: endorsement of House Bill No. 613 increasing NPC capital to ₱250 million; House Bill No. 340 amending the charter of the Development Bank of the Philippines to allow loans to industries including electric generation to implement RA Act No. 770 providing rural electrification; and lastly the inclusion of electric power as one of the basic industries under Senate Bill No. 669.

Present at the luncheon conference were NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, PEPOA Vice-President Julio Diaz, ICA Deputy Chief of Operations Leland Randall, and Msgr. William Brasseur, who delivered the invocation.

After the speech the President awarded certificates of appreciation to Caltex represented by Mclellan and J. P. Roxas for their support and assistance to the association.

April 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia advocated anew the importation of a limited quantity of blending tobacco for aromatic cigarettes in exchange for locally produced low-grade Virginia tobacco.

The President reiterated his stand in a speech which was read by Zambales Gov. Manuel Barretto before the First National Convention of Virginia Tobacco Facomas at the St. Louis Auditorium in Baguio.

President Garcia was the guest speaker but upon his doctor's orders, he cancelled all engagements and stayed in bed the whole day today.

In a prepared speech the President assured farmers of continued government price support until they can stand competition in a free market.

The President, however, pointed to the problem posed by mounting stocks of low grade Virginia tobacco that are not saleable locally. He said that only 30 per cent of Virginia tobacco produced locally is of good quality and this is not enough to supply local requirements; hence, the need for blending tobacco.

The President said that ACCFA alone has 49 million kilograms of low-grade tobacco amounting to ₱141 million, while the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration (PVTa) has 18 million kilograms worth ₱49 million, making a total of ₱190 million in government capital tied up in surplus low-grade Virginia tobacco.

President Garcia revealed offers of local manufacturers to buy three and one-half kilos of Philippine low grade tobacco in exchange for one kilo of imported blending tobacco which, if accepted, will reduce accumulated surplus and result in greater income for government from importation of aromatic cigarettes.

The President also said that while the Philippines is looking for other markets, it must not lose the golden opportunity in the ruptured United States-Cuba relations to gain a firm hold on the American cigar market.

The President had also requested Sen. Domocao Alonto to represent him at the convention of Filipino Land Tillers Association at Burham Park auditorium this afternoon.

In his speech President Garcia pledged that the government will redouble its efforts in giving land to the landless until every Filipino farmer has his own piece of land.

Among others, the President requested Sen. Alonto to convey to the farmers that:

- (1) He is in favor in principle of extending easy credit to farmers;
- (2) He will study the feasibility of procuring through reparations modern farm implements to improve production: and
- (3) He will seriously consider rice importation to relieve shortage which resulted from crop destruction by floods and typhoons.

The Chief Executive said that self-sufficiency in rice which was achieved for the first time will continue as the principal aim of the Administration.

The President said that there will be rice production surplus of four million cavans by June this year with Cotabato contributing 12,400,000 cavans.

Citing figures, he said that agricultural production since 1955 increased 17.2 per cent while food crops jumped 20.8 per cent.

The President said, however, in answer to Govs. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, and Eulogio de Guzman of La Union, who suspected manipulation of prices as a cause for shortage in their respective provinces, that he will consider seriously their petition to import rice.

President Garcia also said that in the distribution of land to the landless, the Administration in 1960 issued 25,840 land titles covering 91,000 hectares as compared to 1953, the last year of the Liberal administration, when 8,489 land titles covering 6,000 hectares were issued.

The President also informed the conventionists that the extension of liberal credit to the farmers had already been taken up by the Cabinet.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: April 30 - May 6, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

April 30.—EARLY this morning the President heard mass at the Guest House. After the mass the President stayed in his bedroom and cancelled all callers. The Guest House was full of callers, mostly government officials and members of Congress who were in Baguio for the three-day holidays.

Upon the advice of his physicians, particularly Dr. Antonio Guytingco, President Garcia stayed in bed.

Dr. Guytingco advised the President to have a complete rest, and, if his ailment does not improve, he may not address the Labor Day rally tomorrow.

Dr. Guytingco said the President may be forced to cancel his engagements if he does not recover from his colds.

President and Mrs. Garcia left for Manila at 2 this afternoon and arrived at the railroad station of Damortis, La Union an hour later.

At the Damortis railroad station, the President and Mrs. Garcia boarded a special train for Manila. After a brief stop-over at Dagupan, the President and members of his party returned to Manila and arrived, in Malacañang at 8:33 this evening.

May 1.—THIS morning President Garcia received James McFarland, chief of the Philippine desk at the U.S. State Department and member of the U.S. panel which concluded the Romulo-Snyder Agreement with the Philippines recently.

McFarland has been in the Philippines two weeks on inspection and was leaving for home in the afternoon. He was accompanied on his courtesy call by Col. V. O. Tiongson, Malacañang financial assistant.

The President also received Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, who briefed him on the Labor Day celebration which he said was the biggest to be held in the Philippines so far.

Secretary Castaño said that over 100,000 people wanted to attend the program in the afternoon at the Araneta Coliseum in Quezon City but only 37,000 will be accommodated inside, and 50,000 will be able to see the program through the television outside the coliseum.

The President expressed regret that owing to his cold he could not accompany the First Lady to the program. He requested Secretary Castaño to represent him and read his Labor Day message to the nation.

The President today mobilized government agencies in an effort to rush all possible assistance and relief to the victims of the Sunday fire which swept through twelve blocks in the business and residential districts of Guiribatan, Albay, causing property losses of more than ₱1 million.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said that the President, despite a nagging cold which dogged him during the last days, personally directed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor to rush relief goods for immediate distribution to the fire victims. At the same time the President directed the Philippine Air Force to coordinate with social welfare Workers in transporting relief food and goods. Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia was also directed by President Garcia to look into the health conditions in Guinobatan, especially as to the availability of potable water, in order to avoid the outbreak of an epidemic.

May 2.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia joined thousands of devotees who trekked to Antipolo, Rizal, this morning and heard mass which ushered in the traditional month-long Antipolo season during which the faithful from all over the country will make pilgrimages to the Virgin of Good Voyage.

The President and the First Lady and their children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, were fetched from Malacañang by Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong at 7:30 a.m. and arrived by motor at the Antipolo Church at 8:10 a.m.

On hand to greet the First Family at the entrance of the town were Mayor and Mrs. Isaias Tapales, who headed a large group of local town officials.

At the Antipolo church another large crowd composed of local residents and Catholics from Manila and neighboring towns, as well as officials headed by Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez and Mrs. Lorenzo Sumulong, gathered to welcome the President and his party.

The *misa de la Reyna* marks the opening of the Maytime Antipolo celebration.

After taking communion and paying homage to the miraculous Virgin, the President and the First Lady inaugurated the newly constructed Antipolo auditorium, where breakfast consisting of *putong pute*, *cuchinta*, *suman*, and *mangoes* was served.

Before leaving Antipolo the President thanked Sen. Sumulong and the town officials for the wonderful reception. The presidential party arrived in Malacañang at 10:30 a.m. With the party were Mesdames Daniel Romualdez, Jose Aldeguer, and Macario Asistio.

The President then immediately summoned foreign affairs and national defense officials to a hurried conference in Malacañang.

Called to the huddle were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, National Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Sen. Eulogio Balao, and Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang.

The meeting was called presumably to take up the worsening Laotian crisis following a breakdown in negotiations to settle the dispute through peaceful means.

Speculations were raised that the Malacañang conference took up possible Philippine participation in a contemplated action by the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization to quell violence in the tiny Laotian kingdom.

Secretary Serrano, who returned recently from the Council of Ministers meeting of the SEATO, briefed the President and defense officials on the seriousness of the communist subversion in Laos.

Serrano had pointed out that the trouble in Laos may blow up into war, as the United States has started military build-up to implement its commitments with the SEATO in the event peaceful negotiations fail.

President Garcia today directed the Angat River Irrigation System authorities in Bulacan to settle immediately the unpaid wages of some 200 casual laborers hired by the agency in 1950 and 1958.

The Chief Executive issued the directive upon receiving a PC APE report that the persons affected were small farmers contracted by the agency on a daily basis to dig the ditches through which tapped irrigation water could pass toward the rice fields.

The President was irked by the seemingly unreasonable delay in the settlement of the wages which appear to involve a small sum considering that the total wages due each individual ranges from, ₱30 to ₱40 only.

The President observed that although the sum due each person is comparatively small, yet to the small farmers the amount means a lot. He directed Major Teodulo C. Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, to look into the possibility that persons other than the farmer-payees received the wages by forging signatures.

The President in directing the PCAPE to investigate the possibility of illegal payment was prompted by numerous complaints reaching the Office of the President that the practice is rampant, especially when the persons involved are illiterates.

The plight of the 200 Bulacan farmers was brought to the attention of the President through the PCAPE by Pulilan Councilors Marcial Cruz, Amando Galang, and Apolonio Arceo, a Pulilan barrio lieutenant.

This evening the President presided over the meeting of the National Security Council to assess the latest developments in the Laotian crisis.

The Chief Executive called the NSC the other day to a meeting at Camp Murphy after he had been briefed by foreign affairs and defense officials on the seriousness of the Laos situation.

The President, during his conference with foreign affairs and defense officials in Malacañang, expressed his readiness to fulfill the country's commitments with the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization.

Invited to the security parley were top officials of the government, including the leaders of Congress and some members of the Cabinet.

Liberal Party leaders headed by Vice-President Macapagal were also invited to join the discussion involving the threat to the security of the country.

Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, the President's chief rival for the Nacionalista Party presidential nomination, was also expected to be present.

The President started from Malacañang shortly before 9 p.m. for Camp Murphy.

Upon his arrival the President immediately called the National Security Council meeting to order.

May 3.—THIS morning the President was reported still indisposed. For almost two weeks now, he has been complaining of colds.

Upon the advice of his physician, the President cancelled his scheduled appointments for the day except his meeting with the Security Council.

He directed Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano to represent him before the 7th Asian Peoples Anti-Communist League Conference held at the University of Santo Tomas.

President Garcia today reaffirmed his stand in the fight against communism in order to preserve the survival of freedom, civilization, and human rights in the Free World.

The President made the reaffirmation as he assured the Asian People's Anti-Communist League during its 7th conference at the UST's college of medicine, that the prestige and power of his office will support any scheme of defense against communism that may be evolved during its deliberations.

The Chief Executive, who was introduced by Rep. Cornelio T. Villareal of Capiz as a loyal friend of Asian peoples and a courageous fighter in the continued struggle for freedom and democracy in Asia, was represented by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who read the President's speech.

President Garcia was later awarded a testimonial plaque for his "unstinted, unequivocal defense of freedom with justice against the forces of communism, not only in the Philippines but in Southeast Asia and the Pacific."

Others who received similar plaques were Cardinal Santos, Senator Dodd, and Chief Delegate Ku of the Republic of China.

United States Senator Thomas J. Dodd, who gave the keynote address, paid tribute to the late President Ramon Magsaysay under whose leadership, he said, “freedom had made its most significant victory over communism in the Philippines.”

Other speakers at the opening ceremonies were Rep. Ramon D. Bagatsing of Manila, APACL league council chairman and PACOM president, who gave the opening speech; Ku Cheng Kang, APACL immediate past chairman and chief delegate of the Republic of China; Rep. Inocencio V. Ferrer of Negros Occidental, who introduced Senator Dodd; and Rufino J. Cardinal Santos, who delivered the invocation.

Over 1,000 composed of members of the diplomatic corps, Armed Forces of the Philippines, and the general public, witnessed the opening ceremonies, besides the 44 delegates from 18 countries and 23 observers from six organizations.

Countries represented were Australia, Burma, Nationalist China, Hongkong, Iran, Japan, Jordan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Thailand, Turkey, and the Republic of Vietnam.

May 4 —PRESIDENT Garcia ignored the advice of his physician and stayed late last night up to early this morning presiding over the meeting of the National Security Council.

Dr Antonio Guytingco, the President’s personal physician, was seen fidgeting outside the War Room of Camp Murphy, as the security council conference which started at 9 last night extended up to almost 2 this morning.

The President’s physician told newsmen: “How can the President recover from his cold?”

But the Chief Executive waded through the discussion on the political and military aspects of the explosive Laotian crisis which blew hot and cold within 24 hours this day.

After a late night, the President stayed in bed until this morning. He cancelled all his scheduled appointments upon the advice of his physician.

However, he conferred with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and took up pending state papers.

Secretary Castillo brought up pending appointments, including those in the judiciary. However, up to press time this evening, no appointments were announced by Malacañang.

This evening the President received Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, who took up with the Chief Executive pending issues.

The President stayed the whole day today at the Palace.

President Garcia today ordered a full-dress investigation of a complaint that NARIC rice and corn grit, supposedly for sale at lower prices, are allegedly being channelled to hoarders and blackmarketeers in Cebu province, threatening to create a more acute shortage of the cereal in that area.

The Chief Executive, who showed signs of impatience over the alleged failure of the NARIC, police, and other government agencies assigned to curb the reportedly rampant hoarding and blackmarketing of the staple food said in a strongly worded directive to the PCAPE that he wants a thorough investigation of the charges so that the guilty parties, whether public officials or private businessmen, be prosecuted to the fullest “extent” of the law.

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, informed the Chief Executive that several provinces in the South sent similar complaints to the PCAPE. Among the provinces affected by the "shortage" are Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, Iloilo, Capiz, Cebu, Samar, Leyte, Romblon, Zamboanga del Norte, Cotabato, Agusan, and Palawan.

A wire charging the NARIC agency in Cebu with channelling the cereal to hoarders and linking private businessmen to the irregularity was sent to the President by Ramon D. Abellanosa, former vice-mayor of the Cebu City.

In his wire to the President, Abellanosa said that the NARIC is conducting the distribution of the staple on a very limited scale allegedly to cover-up irregular transactions to the prejudice of thousands of consumers banking on cheap NARIC rice and corn grit for subsistence.

Abellanosa declared that he is ready to substantiate his charges and that he is willing to appear before any investigating body to discuss point by point the defects of the NARIC method of distribution in Cebu.

Abellanosa branded the system as "faulty" and "apparently designed to benefit a few businessmen rather than the population in general as envisioned by President Garcia."

May 5.—THIS morning the President received United States Ambassador John D. Hickerson, and later the executives of Lufthansa Aircraft Corporation who came to pay their respects before returning to Germany.

Ambassador Hickerson informed the President during his courtesy call that he was very much impressed by his recent trip to the South, which was both enlightening and eye-opening. The American ambassador said he was impressed by the economic potentialities as well as the rapid development of the southern islands, especially Mindanao.

The Lufthansa executives who are scheduled to leave tomorrow morning after attending the inauguration of their local office, expressed the hope that they could contribute to the economic progress of the Philippine and at the same time promote closer relations between their country and the Philippines.

The President expressed his gratitude for their decision to participate jointly with the Filipinos in the economic development of the country, and assured them that their venture would be mutually profitable.

The Lufthansa executives who called on the Chief Executive at Malacañang were Sakes Director and Mrs. J. Von Frankenberg, Far East Regional Director H. Bank, Far East Sales Development Manager C. Dehio, Advertising and Publicity Manager Mrs. Linde Lo; and President A. V. Rocha, Manager R. Altonaga and Treasurer John Rocha of Rocha and Company, local representatives of Lufthansa.

President Garcia appointed today Justice Querube C. Makalintal as Presiding Justice of the Court of Appeals.

The President also appointed Judges Juan P. Enriquez, Gustavo F. Victoriano, Jose S. Rodriguez, Manuel M. Mejia, Julio Villamor, and Natividad Almada Lopez as Associate Justices of the Court of Appeals.

Justice Makalintal is the most senior of the present justices in the court of appeals. He succeeds Presiding Justice Dionisio de Leon, who was promoted recently to the Supreme Court.

With the exception of Lopez, the other five newly appointed associate justices are at present judges of the court of first instance. Lopez is judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

Enriquez is judge of the court of first instance, branch 8, of Manila; Victoriano is judge of the court of first instance of Negros Occidental; Mejia is judge of the court of first instance of Bulacan; Rodriguez is district judge, fourth branch, of the court of first instance of Cebu; and Villamor is judge of the court of first instance of Manila.

The appointments of the presiding justice and six associate justices were immediately submitted to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation.

The President today ordered the release of ₱1 million from the public works fund for the construction of the Buntun bridge crossing the Cagayan River.

The construction of the bridge which will connect Cagayan with Mountain Province was promised by President Garcia during his visit to Cagayan last December and is in accordance with the road building program of the Administration.

Completion of the Buntun bridge will provide the people of the two provinces with easier and speedier means of transportation and is expected to develop more fully the social and commercial contacts between the two provinces.

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The Chief Executive went through the batch, together with Logarta. Later he received Malacañang Protocol Officer Minister Manuel Zamora to discuss the courtesy call of General Anastacio Somoza Debayle, chief of the Armed Forces of Nicaragua.

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The Chief Executive, in giving praise to McCann, said that “though afflicted with incurable cancer, he beat the seemingly endless years, ten of them, and literally turned back the pendulum of human lifetime.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Official Week in Review: April 30 – May 6, 1961

April 30.—EARLY this morning the President heard mass at the Guest House. After the mass the President stayed in his bedroom and cancelled all callers. The Guest House was full of callers, mostly government officials and members of Congress who were in Baguio for the three-day holidays.

Upon the advice of his physicians, particularly Dr. Antonio Guytingco, President Garcia stayed in bed.

Dr. Guytingco advised the President to have a complete rest, and, if his ailment does not improve, he may not address the Labor Day rally tomorrow.

Dr. Guytingco said the President may be forced to cancel his engagements if he does not recover from his colds.

President and Mrs. Garcia left for Manila at 2 this afternoon and arrived at the railroad station of Damortis, La Union an hour later.

At the Damortis railroad station, the President and Mrs. Garcia boarded a special train for Manila. After a brief stop-over at Dagupan, the President and members of his party returned to Manila and arrived, in Malacañang at 8:33 this evening.

May 1.—THIS morning President Garcia received James McFarland, chief of the Philippine desk at the U.S. State Department and member of the U.S. panel which concluded the Romulo-Snyder Agreement with the Philippines recently.

McFarland has been in the Philippines two weeks on inspection and was leaving for home in the afternoon. He was accompanied on his courtesy call by Col. V. O. Tiongson, Malacañang financial assistant.

The President also received Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, who briefed him on the Labor Day celebration which he said was the biggest to be held in the Philippines so far.

Secretary Castaño said that over 100,000 people wanted to attend the program in the afternoon at the Araneta Coliseum in Quezon City but only 37,000 will be accommodated inside, and 50,000 will be able to see the program through the television outside the coliseum.

The President expressed regret that owing to his cold he could not accompany the First Lady to the program. He requested Secretary Castaño to represent him and read his Labor Day message to the nation.

The President today mobilized government agencies in an effort to rush all possible assistance and relief to the victims of the Sunday fire which swept through twelve blocks in the business and residential districts of Guiribatan, Albay, causing property losses of more than ₱1 million.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said that the President, despite a nagging cold which dogged him during the last days, personally directed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor to rush relief goods for immediate distribution to the fire victims. At the same time the President directed the Philippine Air Force to coordinate with social welfare Workers in transporting relief food and goods. Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia was also directed by President Garcia to look into the health conditions in Guinobatan, especially as to the availability of potable water, in order to avoid the outbreak of an epidemic.

May 2.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia joined thousands of devotees who trekked to Antipolo, Rizal, this morning and heard mass which ushered in the traditional month-long Antipolo season during which the faithful from all over the country will make pilgrimages to the Virgin of Good Voyage.

The President and the First Lady and their children, Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, were fetched from Malacañang by Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong at 7:30 a.m. and arrived by motor at the Antipolo Church at 8:10 a.m.

On hand to greet the First Family at the entrance of the town were Mayor and Mrs. Isaias Tapales, who headed a large group of local town officials.

At the Antipolo church another large crowd composed of local residents and Catholics from Manila and neighboring towns, as well as officials headed by Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez and Mrs. Lorenzo Sumulong, gathered to welcome the President and his party.

The *misa de la Reyna* marks the opening of the Maytime Antipolo celebration.

After taking communion and paying homage to the miraculous Virgin, the President and the First Lady inaugurated the newly constructed Antipolo auditorium, where breakfast consisting of *putong pute*, *cuchinta*, *suman*, and *mangoes* was served.

Before leaving Antipolo the President thanked Sen. Sumulong and the town officials for the wonderful reception. The presidential party arrived in Malacañang at 10:30 a.m. With the party were Mesdames Daniel Romualdez, Jose Aldeguer, and Macario Asistio.

The President then immediately summoned foreign affairs and national defense officials to a hurried conference in Malacañang.

Called to the huddle were Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, National Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Sen. Eulogio Balao, and Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang.

The meeting was called presumably to take up the worsening Laotian crisis following a breakdown in negotiations to settle the dispute through peaceful means.

Speculations were raised that the Malacañang conference took up possible Philippine participation in a contemplated action by the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization to quell violence in the tiny Laotian kingdom.

Secretary Serrano, who returned recently from the Council of Ministers meeting of the SEATO, briefed the President and defense officials on the seriousness of the communist subversion in Laos.

Serrano had pointed out that the trouble in Laos may blow up into war, as the United States has started military build-up to implement its commitments with the SEATO in the event peaceful negotiations fail.

President Garcia today directed the Angat River Irrigation System authorities in Bulacan to settle immediately the unpaid wages of some 200 casual laborers hired by the agency in 1950 and 1958.

The Chief Executive issued the directive upon receiving a PC APE report that the persons affected were small farmers contracted by the agency on a daily basis to dig the ditches through which tapped irrigation water could pass toward the rice fields.

The President was irked by the seemingly unreasonable delay in the settlement of the wages which appear to involve a small sum considering that the total wages due each individual ranges from, ₱30 to ₱40 only.

The President observed that although the sum due each person is comparatively small, yet to the small farmers the amount means a lot. He directed Major Teodulo C. Natividad, PCAPE chief investigator, to look into the possibility that persons other than the farmer-payees received the wages by forging signatures.

The President in directing the PCAPE to investigate the possibility of illegal payment was prompted by numerous complaints reaching the Office of the President that the practice is rampant, especially when the persons involved are illiterates.

The plight of the 200 Bulacan farmers was brought to the attention of the President through the PCAPE by Pulilan Councilors Marcial Cruz, Amando Galang, and Apolonio Arceo, a Pulilan barrio lieutenant.

This evening the President presided over the meeting of the National Security Council to assess the latest developments in the Laotian crisis.

The Chief Executive called the NSC the other day to a meeting at Camp Murphy after he had been briefed by foreign affairs and defense officials on the seriousness of the Laos situation.

The President, during his conference with foreign affairs and defense officials in Malacañang, expressed his readiness to fulfill the country's commitments with the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization.

Invited to the security parley were top officials of the government, including the leaders of Congress and some members of the Cabinet.

Liberal Party leaders headed by Vice-President Macapagal were also invited to join the discussion involving the threat to the security of the country.

Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, the President's chief rival for the Nacionalista Party presidential nomination, was also expected to be present.

The President started from Malacañang shortly before 9 p.m. for Camp Murphy.

Upon his arrival the President immediately called the National Security Council meeting to order.

May 3.—THIS morning the President was reported still indisposed. For almost two weeks now, he has been complaining of colds.

Upon the advice of his physician, the President cancelled his scheduled appointments for the day except his meeting with the Security Council.

He directed Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano to represent him before the 7th Asian Peoples Anti-Communist League Conference held at the University of Santo Tomas.

President Garcia today reaffirmed his stand in the fight against communism in order to preserve the survival of freedom, civilization, and human rights in the Free World.

The President made the reaffirmation as he assured the Asian People's Anti-Communist League during its 7th conference at the UST's college of medicine, that the prestige and power of his office will support any scheme of defense against communism that may be evolved during its deliberations.

The Chief Executive, who was introduced by Rep. Cornelio T. Villareal of Capiz as a loyal friend of Asian peoples and a courageous fighter in the continued struggle for freedom and democracy in Asia, was represented by Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano, who read the President's speech.

President Garcia was later awarded a testimonial plaque for his "unstinted, unequivocal defense of freedom with justice against the forces of communism, not only in the Philippines but in Southeast Asia and the Pacific."

Others who received similar plaques were Cardinal Santos, Senator Dodd, and Chief Delegate Ku of the Republic of China.

United States Senator Thomas J. Dodd, who gave the keynote address, paid tribute to the late President Ramon Magsaysay under whose leadership, he said, "freedom had made its most significant victory over communism in the Philippines."

Other speakers at the opening ceremonies were Rep. Ramon D. Bagatsing of Manila, APACL league council chairman and PACOM president, who gave the opening speech; Ku Cheng Kang, APACL immediate past chairman and chief delegate of the Republic of China; Rep. Inocencio V. Ferrer of Negros Occidental, who introduced Senator Dodd; and Rufino J. Cardinal Santos, who delivered the invocation.

Over 1,000 composed of members of the diplomatic corps, Armed Forces of the Philippines, and the general public, witnessed the opening ceremonies, besides the 44 delegates from 18 countries and 23 observers from six organizations.

Countries represented were Australia, Burma, Nationalist China, Hongkong, Iran, Japan, Jordan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Thailand, Turkey, and the Republic of Vietnam.

May 4 —PRESIDENT Garcia ignored the advice of his physician and stayed late last night up to early this morning presiding over the meeting of the National Security Council.

Dr Antonio Guytingco, the President's personal physician, was seen fidgeting outside the War Room of Camp Murphy, as the security council conference which started at 9 last night extended up to almost 2 this morning.

The President's physician told newsmen: "How can the President recover from his cold?"

But the Chief Executive waded through the discussion on the political and military aspects of the explosive Laotian crisis which blew hot and cold within 24 hours this day.

After a late night, the President stayed in bed until this morning. He cancelled all his scheduled appointments upon the advice of his physician.

However, he conferred with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo and took up pending state papers.

Secretary Castillo brought up pending appointments, including those in the judiciary. However, up to press time this evening, no appointments were announced by Malacañang.

This evening the President received Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, who took up with the Chief Executive pending issues.

The President stayed the whole day today at the Palace.

President Garcia today ordered a full-dress investigation of a complaint that NARIC rice and corn grit, supposedly for sale at lower prices, are allegedly being channelled to hoarders and blackmarketeers in Cebu province, threatening to create a more acute shortage of the cereal in that area.

The Chief Executive, who showed signs of impatience over the alleged failure of the NARIC, police, and other government agencies assigned to curb the reportedly rampant hoarding and blackmarketing of the staple food said in a strongly worded directive to the PCAPE that he wants a thorough investigation of the charges so that the guilty parties, whether public officials or private businessmen, be prosecuted to the fullest "extent" of the law.

Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, informed the Chief Executive that several provinces in the South sent similar complaints to the PCAPE. Among the provinces affected by the "shortage" are Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, Iloilo, Capiz, Cebu, Samar, Leyte, Romblon, Zamboanga del Norte, Cotabato, Agusan, and Palawan.

A wire charging the NARIC agency in Cebu with channelling the cereal to hoarders and linking private businessmen to the irregularity was sent to the President by Ramon D. Abellanosa, former vice-mayor of the Cebu City.

In his wire to the President, Abellanosa said that the NARIC is conducting the distribution of the staple on a very limited scale allegedly to cover-up irregular transactions to the prejudice of thousands of consumers banking on cheap NARIC rice and corn grit for subsistence.

Abellanosa declared that he is ready to substantiate his charges and that he is willing to appear before any investigating body to discuss point by point the defects of the NARIC method of distribution in Cebu.

Abellanosa branded the system as "faulty" and "apparently designed to benefit a few businessmen rather than the population in general as envisioned by President Garcia."

May 5.—THIS morning the President received United States Ambassador John D. Hickerson, and later the executives of Lufthansa Aircraft Corporation who came to pay their respects before returning to Germany.

Ambassador Hickerson informed the President during his courtesy call that he was very much impressed by his recent trip to the South, which was both enlightening and eye-opening. The American ambassador said he was impressed by the economic potentialities as well as the rapid development of the southern islands, especially Mindanao.

The Lufthansa executives who are scheduled to leave tomorrow morning after attending the inauguration of their local office, expressed the hope that they could contribute to the economic progress of the Philippine and at the same time promote closer relations between their country and the Philippines.

The President expressed his gratitude for their decision to participate jointly with the Filipinos in the economic development of the country, and assured them that their venture would be mutually profitable.

The Lufthansa executives who called on the Chief Executive at Malacañang were Sakes Director and Mrs. J. Von Frankenberg, Far East Regional Director H. Bank, Far East Sales Development Manager C. Dehio, Advertising and Publicity Manager Mrs. Linde Lo; and President A. V. Rocha, Manager R. Altonaga and Treasurer John Rocha of Rocha and Company, local representatives of Lufthansa.

President Garcia appointed today Justice Querube C. Makalintal as Presiding Justice of the Court of Appeals.

The President also appointed Judges Juan P. Enriquez, Gustavo F. Victoriano, Jose S. Rodriguez, Manuel M. Mejia, Julio Villamor, and Natividad Almada Lopez as Associate Justices of the Court of Appeals.

Justice Makalintal is the most senior of the present justices in the court of appeals. He succeeds Presiding Justice Dionisio de Leon, who was promoted recently to the Supreme Court.

With the exception of Lopez, the other five newly appointed associate justices are at present judges of the court of first instance. Lopez is judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

Enriquez is judge of the court of first instance, branch 8, of Manila; Victoriano is judge of the court of first instance of Negros Occidental; Mejia is judge of the court of first instance of Bulacan; Rodriguez is district judge, fourth branch, of the court of first instance of Cebu; and Villamor is judge of the court of first instance of Manila.

The appointments of the presiding justice and six associate justices were immediately submitted to the Commission on Appointments for confirmation.

The President today ordered the release of ₱1 million from the public works fund for the construction of the Buntun bridge crossing the Cagayan River.

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Office of the President of the Philippines. (1961). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 57(19), clxxi-clxxvi.

President's Week in Review: May 14-20, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

May 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up early this morning for a third meeting with his house guest, Vice-President Lyndon Baines Johnson.

The Chief Executive had stayed late last night, having given a state dinner in honor of Vice-President and Mrs. Johnson, who arrived the other day for a 24-hour stay in Manila.

The President and Vice-President Johnson discussed the Southeast Asian situation and took note of increased Communist activities in this area. They also took up pending Philippine-American problems.

The President and the First Lady had breakfast with their guest, but President Garcia and Vice-President Johnson retired to the Malacañang study room to take up other Philippine-American problems, including the country's request for a permanent sugar quota in the U.S. market.

After their conference, their third talk since Johnson's arrival here Saturday, the President and the American Vice-President dictated a communique which they released shortly after the visiting U.S. official had left for Taipei.

The President stayed in his study room, while Johnson presided over a press-radio-TV conference.

President and Mrs. Garcia saw the Vice-President and Mrs. Johnson off from the Malacañang stairway.

President Garcia met newsmen after the departure of the Johnsons. He said that the Vice-President's speech before the joint session of Congress was "encouraging."

The President told newsmen he was not attending the Nacionalista Party executive committee meeting, as the list of delegates had already been approved by Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

He wanted to give the NP executive committee members a free hand in dealing with his reply to Rodriguez' latest version of his "White Paper."

The President and the First Lady later heard a late mass in Malacañang. The Chief Executive later motored to his private residence in Quezon City, where he rested and waited for the outcome of the NP executive committee meeting.

May 15.—THIS morning President Garcia certified to the urgency of enacting the Gold Subsidy Bill (H. No. 5744) to help the gold mining industry.

The President certified to the urgency of the bill in the presence of officials of the Mining Federation of the Philippines who had breakfast with him aboard the EPS *Lapu-Lapu*.

The President also certified, to the urgency of approving H. B. 1692, amending the Corporation Law to make it conform to the Foreign Investments Bill, and H. B. 1966, amending the Petroleum Law of the Philippines in order to:

- (1) Allow production and marketing of petroleum during the exploration period, which otherwise is wasted;
- (2) Reduce the exploration areas from 20,000 hectares which is believed too large, to 10,000 hectares, exceptions to which will be subject to the discretion of the agriculture secretary;

(3) Reduce exploitation areas from 10,000 hectares to 1,000 hectares, exceptions to which will be subject to the discretion of the agriculture secretary; and

(4) Give the concession holders the option to adopt the proposed amendments or not.

The MFP officials who called on the President were Jesus Cabarrus, president; Jose Tiong of the Philippine Petroleum Association, first vice-president; Henry Brimo, president of Gold Producers Association, second vice-president; Eric Sanders of the Benguet Consolidated; Sebastian Ugarte of Philippine Base Metals Association, secretary; Jose Marino Olandriz, president of Consolidated Mines; Vice-President Fermin Caram of Consolidated Mines; President Jose D. Calderon of Maremco Mineral Corporation; and Zoilo Alberto of the Gold Producers Association.

The President this day made another bid to keep down prices of prime commodities by requesting Congress to increase the operating capital of the National Marketing Corporation from ₱2 million to ₱3 million.

Earlier last week, the President, cognizant of the serious threat posed by rising prices, sought revival of R. A. 2610, which expired last December, authorizing him to fix ceiling prices of prime commodities, to; impose penalties on profiteers, and to import rice, corn, and other commodities in short supplies.

In certifying to the urgency of H. B. 6162 (S. 752), increasing the operating capital of the NAMARCO from ₱2 million to ₱3 million, the President said that the state corporation has been very successful in stabilizing prices and discouraging price manipulators and profiteers.

Approval of the bill would enable the NAMARCO to set up principal warehousing centers in Northern, Central, and Southern Luzon, as well as the Visayas and Mindanao. In this way, the President said, the NAMARCO can keep prime commodities readily available to the wage-earners and the barrio people who are the most adversely affected by the upward trend in prices.

The President today stayed aboard the yacht *RPS Lapu-Lapu* where he went over pending bills needing his certification before they could be taken up by Congress during its last week of session.

He had already certified to the urgency of a total of 140 bills, among which were 40 administration measures which had failed to hurdle both chambers of Congress.

The President boarded the yacht last night after a hectic day with his house guests—U.S. Vice-President and Mrs. Lyndon Baines Johnson.

Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, Judge Salvador Esguerra, and former Executive Secretary Juan C. Pajo assisted him in going over the pending bills.

In the afternoon the President continued going over pending measures needing his certification.

At press time this evening Malacañang said the President had certified to the urgency of some 200 bills.

Aboard the yacht the President received, officials of labor unions in mines headed by Culventino Perfecco. "With the group were Abraham Briilantes, Edilberto Calica, and other union officers.

President Garcia today called on all government auditors for vigorous support and cooperation in his fight against graft and corruption in order to promote a clean and honest government.

In his brief message which was read by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo at the opening of the five-day convention of government auditors in Baguio this morning, the Chief Executive emphasized that the faith and confidence of the people in their government is indispensable to national survival and a prerequisite to the well

being and happiness of all As such, the President said, it is worthy of the labors, the efforts, and the sacrifices of everyone, from the President down to the lowly laborer.

The President enjoined the auditors to join, the crusade to rid the government of the pernicious practices of a few who are destroying in the public mind the beneficial results of the honest labors of the conscientious public servants.

“In a democracy like ours, no man, however powerful or well-intentioned can carry the fight alone and hope to succeed,” the President said, but working together, joining our efforts, and pooling our strength and resources, I know we cannot fail”

“You are expected to owe no allegiance to any political party and, with the exception of the Auditor General, to owe no loyalty to any man or group of men, but in conscience to do your best the best way you can and as you see it,” the President continued.

Present at the opening ceremonies were some three hundred government auditors from all over the Philippines.

May 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed for the second consecutive day aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, where he went over pending measures requiring his certification before they could be taken up by Congress on the last three days of its regular session.

The President boarded the yacht Sunday evening and has since received very few callers aboard the boat.

The President received R. Sargent Shriver, director of the Peace Corps, who arrived the other day on a tour of Asian countries. Shriver is the brother-in-law of U.S. President John F. Kennedy.

President Garcia today welcomed the assistance being tendered by President Kennedy's Peace Corps to strengthen further the efforts of the Administration in community development.

Referring to the Peace Corps plan, the President said, “It is good.” He added that this project would be a contribution in strengthening the fabric of democracy by helping in the fields of education and rural community development.

The President made this statement after his hour-long conference with Shriver, who called on the President this morning aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* in Manila Bay.

During the conference Director Shriver expressed optimism over the success of the educational phase of the program, owing to the favorable reaction of Filipino officials and barrio folks whom he had contacted during his recent trip to Albay where the first Peace Corps teams will operate Shriver also informed the President that he was highly impressed by the progress of rural development in the Philippines.

The President told Shriver that the success of rural development in the Philippines is due to a large extent to the people's spirit of self-help and the efforts of the Presidential Assistant on Community Development. Under the self-help program, the President said, the barrio people willingly furnish the labor in the construction of communal irrigation projects and feeder roads, while the government provides the materials.

The President also expressed approval of the plan to utilize movie, television, and radio in the Peace Corps educational program. He said he has been advocating the use of such media in adult education, and believed firmly that it will succeed.

Under the educational phase of the program, the Peace Corps will accept volunteers from among college graduates to serve in the Philippines beginning next year as aides in rural elementary schools, for the purpose of improving instruction, particularly English.

Some 300 Peace Corps aides will be sent to the Philippines after undergoing a three-month training abroad in the culture customs, religion and traditions of the Filipino people among, whom they will live and work.

Director Shriver, who left for home this afternoon, informed the President that his aides will stay in the Philippines to; prepare the groundwork for the program.

Shriver was accompanied to the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* by U.S. Ambassador John D. Hickerson; Harris Wofford, Jr., special assistant to President Kennedy; and Gerald Arthur Rosen, third secretary at the U.S. Embassy.

The President, who was busy working on administration bills, recommended to Congress approval of H. B. No. 6191, creating the Philippine Veterans Bank with a capitalization of ₱40 million.

The bank will be managed by a board of eleven directors, including the Philippine Veterans administrator and the president of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines who are *ex officio members*. Proceeds of the bank will be used to help World War II veterans, their widows, and orphans.

Early this afternoon the President and Mrs. Garcia sent a message of condolence to Rep. Jacobo Gonzales of Laguna on the death of his father, Don Mariano. The message which was sent shortly after they were notified of Don Mariano's demise, was relayed to Biñan, Laguna, where the body lies in state.

The President and Mrs. Garcia also sent their condolences to Mrs. Patria Seoultveda-Williams on the death of Dart Williams, a Malacañang technical adviser on education, who succumbed to a heart attack yesterday morning.

Williams, who was 71 on his death, has long been identified with education in the Philippines, having come to this country as a school teacher in 1925.

May 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release immediately ₱5 million to finance the coconut industry in the Philippines.

The amount will be placed immediately at the disposal of the Development Bank of the Philippines, which in turn will liberalize and make available easy credit to coconut farmers, producers, and processors.

The sum of ₱2.5 million will be earmarked by the government- bank exclusively to individual coconut farmers for farm improvement purposes, but not to exceed ₱2,000 each loan.

The remaining ₱2.5 million is set aside by the bank which will make it available to corporations and associations of coconut farmers, producers, and processors.

Republic Act 2282 earmarks a total of ₱30 million for the coconut industry in the Philippines. The appropriation is raised from the bond issue, fund.

President Garcia's directive to r Commissioner Sy-Changco was hand carried to the latter by Rep. Leon Guinto of Quezon, who saw the President earlier about the problems facing the coconut industry.

The President today directed the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency to investigate reported abuses being committed by police forces in Negros Occidental against the *Sacadas*.

The Chief Executive issued the directive to the PC APE following a conference with Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who briefed him on six cases of violence in Negros Occidental involving sugar-cane plantation laborers on one hand, and the police forces on the other who are allegedly harassing and mauling plantation workers.

The President was irked by a report that 30 *Sacadas* on an Hacienda in Cadiz town were allegedly beaten-up and arbitrarily jailed on “trumped up” charges.

The President directed the PCAPE and the Philippine Constabulary to investigate immediately the charges and file the necessary criminal and/or administrative complaint against the police officers, as well as all person linked in the alleged anomaly.

At the Cabinet meeting this afternoon, the President discussed the recommendations of a legislative-executive committee which he had created to study how prices of prime commodities could be stabilized.

The President said the committee recommended the following:

1. The restoration of the emergency powers of the President;
2. The importation of rice to deter hoarding and speculation of staple; and;
3. The importation by the National Marketing Corporation of enough prime commodities to bring down prices.

The President reiterated his desire that he be given back the standby powers to control prices which was given him by Congress but expired last December.

Under that law, the President was authorized to fix the ceiling prices of prime commodities, to authorize the importation of such commodities tax free, and to confiscate hoarded commodities.

The law also provided stiff penalties for violators.

The President said he needed those powers now that prices had gone up. He expressed the fear that unless the trend was stopped, basic necessities would go beyond the reach of the masses.

The President also created a Cabinet committee to make a study of the needs for the development of Mindanao in which the United States could help.

The recommendations of this committee, he said, would be incorporated in the memorandum he would sent to U.S. President Kennedy, who had asked how the U.S. could help in the development of Mindanao.

The American leader had made the inquiry through Vice-President Lyndon Johnson, who paid a one-day state visit here last Saturday.

The committee created by the President is composed of Dr. Jose C. Locsin, chairman of the National Economic Council, chairman; and Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich and Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, members.

The President asked all the other Cabinet members to submit their own recommendations for possible incorporation in the memorandum for Kennedy.

The President said emphasis should be placed on the construction of roads, industrial power, river control, and agriculture. He said he wanted all recommendations in within two weeks so that he could send his memorandum as early as possible.

May 18.—THIS morning President Garcia urged the government of free Asia to pool their resources for the purpose of stamping out poverty, diseases, and illiteracy effectively.

In his keynote address at the first conference of ministers of labor of Asian countries at the World Health Organization building on Isaac Feral this morning, the President underlined the grave issues facing the conference, mainly the preservation of the peace of mankind.

Citing the Philadelphia declaration that “poverty anywhere constitutes a menace to prosperity everywhere,” the President emphasized that the battle for peace is the fight against poverty, disease, and illiteracy everywhere.

“Faith, hope, and love are still the redemptive forces for air mankind,” the President added.

The President enumerated the various progressive labor and land reform, measures undertaken by the Philippines as proof of its earnest effort to achieve this objectives.

The President was fetched from Malacañang by Secretary Angel M. Castaño and upon arriving at the WHO building at exactly 9:30 a.m. he was greeted by the various delegates to the conference.

The President was introduced by Secretary Castaño, while Dr. Cicero D. Calderon, secretary-general, acted as master of ceremonies.

From, the conference, the President motored back to Malacañang, arriving at past 10:30 a.m.

The President proclaimed the third week of this month as “Philippine Highway Week”, Malacañang announced today.

In issuing the proclamation, the President emphasized the necessity of bringing to the attention of the people “the importance of roads arid highways to the national economy.”

The Chief Executive designated the Public Works Secretary, the Commissioner of Public Highways, and the Philippine Better Roads Association to take charge of all arrangements and activities for the fitting celebration of the week throughout the country.

President Garcia stayed awake until past midnight waiting for a legislative committee which officially notified him that Congress had already adjourned its regular session.

Up to press time this evening, both chambers were still deliberating on many administration measures, prompting speculations that the President may call a special session of Congress.

The President stayed in Malacañang, where he waited for the bipartisan notification committee.

During the last hours of the session, the President kept close contact with Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, who reported on the progress of congressional action from inside the Senate and the House session halls.

May 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed up to early this morning waiting for an official notification of the adjournment of the 100-day regular session of Congress.

Malacañang said the President waited until 5 o'clock this morning for the joint Senate-House committee. The committee saw him early this morning to inform him that Congress had adjourned, its regular session.

Those who saw the President were Sens. Eulogio Balao, Pacita M. Gonzalez, and Estanislao Fernandez and Reps. Jacobo Gonzales, Emilio Espinosa, and Angel Fernandez.

The Chief Executive was believed to have been disappointed with the report that of the 20 bills he referred to the legislature only four passed.

President Garcia later motored with Mrs. Garcia to the Jai-Alai to attend the traditional breakfast given by members of the House of Representatives in honor of the President and the First Lady,

After his breakfast with members of Congress, the President retired to his bedroom.

In the afternoon he received Sir Alexander Grantham, former governor-general of Hongkong and now chief adviser of Shell International. Sir Alexander was accompanied by R. A. Meyjes, president of Shell (Philippines) Inc., and Gregorio Feliciano.

After receiving the Shell executive the President launched the 1961 Elks Cerebral Palsy educational and fund campaign at the Malacañang social hall. He appealed to civic organizations to contribute to the fund drive. He led the kick-off campaign by giving a check amounting to ₱500 as his contribution to the campaign.

In the evening the President and the First Lady motored to the Rizal Treater to attend the gala performance of the Royal Ballet.

Then, the President and the First Lady attended the reception given at the residence of Charge d'Affaires J. H. Lambert.

May 20.—THIS morning President Garcia ordered Social Welfare Administrator Amparo P. Villamor to undertake a survey in the fire area in Binondo and to submit as soon as possible an assessment of the extent of the damage caused by the fire.

The President expressed concern over reports that some lives may have been lost in the conflagration, considered the worst in the last 50 years, and ask Mrs. Villamor to extend immediate relief to deserving families whose homes may have been lost in the fire.

The President also alerted Philippine Constabulary to extend assistance to the city police in maintaining order in the fire area and in; determining the real cause of the fire, should such assistance be needed by the city authorities.

The President was disturbed by reports of rampant looting in grocery stores and bodegas in the Binondo fire area.

However, in the afternoon the President received a preliminary report from the Social Welfare Administration stating that the fire had gutted blocks of houses in the commercial district and that hardly any laborer or Wage earner lived in the area. The fire victims, Mrs. Villamor said, were mainly rich businessmen who were not in need of government assistance.

Mrs. Villamor, however, assured the President that her office was ready with relief goods for needy fire victims.

The President left Malacañang at 6:25 a.m. to brush up on his golf at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club after 23 consecutive gameless days since his physicians had prescribed complete rest for him due to a sore throat.

Teaming up with his former executive secretary, Johnny Pajo, the President scored a poor 57 in the nine-hole course against Dr. Paulino J. Garcia and Tony Araneta, who scored 51 and 52, respectively.

After breakfast at Wack Wack the President motored to his residence at Bohol Avenue, Quezon City, where two provincial delegations called, on him to reiterate their pledges of support and discuss problems pertaining to their respective municipalities.

The first delegation to call on the President was composed of Lanao del Sur town mayors headed by Gov. Madki. Alonto. The delegation included Mayors Bagul Maralangan of Lumbabayabmo, Alim; Marohom of Ganassi, Mama Pangandarhan of Masin, Radian Macabato of Madamba, Usman Macarimbang of Madalum, and Zinal Bascara of Poonabayabno.

The President also received a delegation of municipal mayors and councilors of Cotabato and Iloilo who were accompanied by Iloilo Gov. Jose C. Zulueta and Vice-Governor Guardalino Mosqueda.

The delegation included Mayors Rodolfo Buenaflor of Mlang, Esteban Dornelo of Pegcawtayan, Cotabato, and Francisco Tobias of Cabatuan, Iloilo; Councilors Japal Guirane and Macario Camillo of Cotabato City and Ramon Sta. Romana of Ajuy, Iloilo, and Ceferino de los Santos, Jr., of Iloilo City.

During his call Gov. Zulueta reiterated his pledge of support to the President in view of rumors being circulated that the Iloilo governor was supporting the opposition candidate for President.

Gov. Zulueta said that he had opposed three presidents in the past, namely, Osmeña, Quirino and Magsaysay; and that this was the first time he was with the majority, not for his own interest but for the interest of the province. He expressed his gratitude for the benefits President Garcia had given his province during his incumbency.

In the afternoon the President had *merienda* with various leaders who were accompanied to his Bohol Avenue residence by Labor Secretary Angel M. Castaño.

The labor leaders, affiliated with the “Katipunang Manggagawang Filipino (KMP), endorsed the President’s “Filipino First” policy.

They urged the President to endorse Labor Secretary Castafio for inclusion in the Nacionalista Party Senate line-up.

The labor leaders also urged the President to consider the appointment } of Judge Jose Bautista of the Court of Industrial Relations to the Supreme Court and Judge Baltazar M. Villanueva of the same labor tribunal to the Court of Appeals.

Those who saw the President were Roberto Oca, Eulogio Lerum, Pedro Castro, Felixberto Olalia, Mrs. Felicidad Villanueva, Ignacio Lacsina, Manuel Espiritu, Vicente Olazo, Geronimo Cuadra, Alejandro Lazaro, Felipe Lugtu, Donato Alarcon, Tito Jimenez, and Antonio Ancheta.

In the evening the President and the First Lady motored to the Quezon City residence of Rep. Justiniano Montano of Cavite, who was celebrating his birthday.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: May 21-27, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

May 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor to extend immediate relief to some 1,000 families of laborers and vendors who had been rendered jobless as a result of the devastating fire which razed four blocks of business establishments in Binondo last Friday.

The President issued the directive on receipt of a written report from the SWA administrator who undertook a survey of the extent of destruction wrought by the recent conflagration.

On orders of the President, two emergency teams of social workers set up headquarters at the ground floor of a building spared by the fire on Folgueras corner M. de Santos Street to attend on a round the clock basis to fire sufferers. The SWA, however, found difficulties in contacting the fire victims as most of them have homes in the suburbs and come only to the area to work.

Mrs. Villamor informed the President that some 2,000 stores and other big business establishments had been levelled to the ground. She estimated that more than 1,000 families of Filipino workers had been directly affected with the loss of their means of livelihood.

Early this morning the President heard mass at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City. Also at the mass were Mrs. Garcia, Maj. Jose Estrella, junior military aide, and members of the household.

The Chief Executive spent the day quietly at his private residence working on some papers he had brought over from; Malacañang. He did not receive any caller.

May 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia today discussed with officials of the Committee for American Relief Everywhere (CARE) and members of the Presidential Committee on Rural Information and Education the distribution of more CARE radios to the rural areas in order to fight subversive propaganda and to enlighten and inform the barrio people.

The President was informed by Robert Linder, local CARE chairman, and Defense Undersecretary Mariano Yenke, chairman of the presidential committee, that CARE radios have been distributed already to 1,591 barrios. They emphasized that the goal is to have a radio each in the more than 19,000 barrios of the Philippines.

The conferees evolved plans for the third allocation of 1,000 CARE radios which will soon be delivered to the presidential committee.

The President took the opportunity to express his gratitude to the American people for the donation of the radios which were promised him during his state visit to the United States.

Also present at the conference were Kenneth Schneider, CARE overseas supervisor, PCRIE Vice-Chairman Bernardo G. Silverio, Executive Director Carlos F. Nivera, and Maj. Fajardo Dua.

Meanwhile, President Garcia discussed with Dr. Andres Castillo, acting governor of the Central Bank, the problem of the deferred payments on all imports. They scheduled another conference before the end of the month to decide finally on the ratio of payments.

Castillo explained that to give producers of capital goods who brought equipment and machineries under the deferred payment plan the ₱2 to \$1 ratio would practically wipe out the foreign exchange reserves of the Central Bank.

Other callers were Dra. Rafaelita Soriano, Minister Guillermo Sison of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Maracio Zafra, and Dr. Damaso Samonte,

This afternoon the President administered the oath of office to the newly-appointed presiding justice and three associate justices of the Court of Appeals before a large crowd at the Malacañang reception hall. Inducted by the President were Presiding Justice Querube C. Makalintal and Associate Justices Juan P. Enriquez, Manuel M. Mejia, and Julio Villamor.

In a brief conference following the induction ceremonies, the President told the inductees to mete out justice without fear or favor but with equity and fairness.

The oath-taking ceremonies were witnessed by one of the largest crowds ever assembled in Malacañang to witness such occasions, composed of high government officials, members of the judiciary, representatives of civic organizations, close relatives, and friends of the inductees.

Later in the afternoon the President received Vice-Mayor Mario Ortiz and three members of the City Council of Cebu, who requested approval of H. 5884 and H. 5653, both of which had already been passed by both Houses of Congress.

H. 5884 seeks to change the name “Aveliana Vocational High School” to “Aveliana National High School” in order to permit the admission of students taking general courses in preparation for higher education.

H. 5653 seeks to update the Cebu City charter by providing for separate superintendent of schools, city engineer, and additional judges and fiscals.

Those who called on the president included Cebu City Councilors Juan C. Zamora, Luis Diores, and Florencio Urot; and Carolino Gandiongco, president of La Suerte Club.

May 23.—THIS morning the President discussed ways and means to improve the peace and order situation in Ilocos Sur in an hour long conference with Rep. Faustino Tobia at Malacañang.

One of the remedies discussed at the conference was the disbandment of armed civilian bodyguards of the candidates for Congress regardless of party affiliations.

Rep. Tobia suggested that instead of civilian bodyguards, the Armed Forces of the Philippines assign AFP personnel to insure protection to all candidates in order to avert any untoward incidents up to election time.

“I would like to insure a clean, orderly, and peaceful election in that province,” President Garcia stated.

Rep. Tobia informed the President that since the 1957 elections, he had lost more than 200 leaders through violence, blaming politics for their deaths.

By presidential directive, the Department of National Defense was adding more troops to preserve peace and order in Ilocos Sur.

The President also received Rep. Nicanor Eñiguez of Leyte del Sur and a delegation from Sugod Bay and Panaon. He directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to implement immediately the Sugod Bay Emergency Hospital project at a cost of ₱60,000.

Other presidential callers this morning were Judge Demetrio Vinzon of Leyte, Severo Asuncion, and Rep. Gaudencio Abordo, who accompanied a delegation of Palawan municipal officials to urge implementation of several projects in their respective municipalities.

President Garcia was informed today of the mass defection from the Liberal Party into the Nacionalista fold of two large political groups in Zamboanga del Sur and Cotabato.

The Savillano-Nadila-Singano faction in Zamboanga del Sur with 8,000 electoral members, which supported the Liberal Party during the last elections, have formally affiliated with the Garcia Reelection Movement in that province.

This evening the President and Mrs. Garcia motored to the private residence of Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona to felicitate the latter on the occasion of his 43rd birthday.

Earlier the President clarified his press statement to the *Associated Press* that he was leaving the choice of the vice-presidential nominee to the Nacionalista Party convention.

This was to assuage the ruffled feelings of other vice-presidential aspirants after the President was quoted by the "AP" that he believes that Secretary Aytona and Senator Gil J. Puyat were the two strongest contenders for the NP vice-presidential nomination.

May 24.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia today were swamped with messages of congratulations coming from friends and relatives from all parts of the country on the occasion of their 28th wedding anniversary.

Well-wishers flocked to Malacañang to extend their congratulations personally to the First Couple of the land.

The simple celebration started with mass at the Malacañang chapel, with President and Mrs. Garcia receiving Holy Communion, following an old Filipino customs. Then followed breakfast at the family dining hall, where the President presented Mrs. Garcia with a gift consisting of a chain of amethyst and gold.

Among the well-wishers who called personally on the First Couple were Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, Foreign Affairs Secretary and Mrs. Felixberto Serrano, Defense Secretary and Mrs. Alejo Santos, Executive Secretary and Mrs. Natalio P. Castillo, Finance Secretary and Mrs. Dominador Aytona, SWA Administrator Amparo Villamor, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Sen. and Mrs. Gil J. Puyat, Rep. and Mrs. Bartolome Cabangbang, Rep. Manuel Zosa, Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Manuel Cabal, Assistant Executive Secretary and Mrs. Enrique C. Quema; Mrs. Esperanza Osmeña, Mrs. Rosie Osmeña-Valencia, Mrs. Quintin Paredes, Mrs. Lorenzo Sumulong, Justice Natividad Almeda Lopez, Mrs. Lita Roces, Mrs. Milagros Sumulong; Rodolfo Andal, Gov. Tomas Martin of Bulacan, J. J. Carlos, Marcelo Balatbat, Judge Milagros German, Antonio Assad; Mrs. Ester Aldeguez, Miss Helen Benitez, Mr. and Mrs. Nino Ramirez, Gregorio Licaros, Teofilo Zosa, and Jose Fernandez.

At noon President and Mrs. Garcia tendered a luncheon at Malacañang in honor of Gen. Richard King Mellon, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Mellon National Bank and Trust Company and director of the Gulf Oil Company, and William L. Whiteford, Gulf Oil board chairman, and their ladies.

Officials of the Filoil Refinery Corporation and their ladies, and Gulf Oil officials in the Far East and the Philippines were also invited.

The guest list included Filemon Rodriguez, Mr. and Mrs. Ramon V. del Rosario, Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Palanca, Jr., and Herb Goodman, James Lee.

This afternoon the Cabinet directed the National Economic Council to "review" its position on the rice supply in the country and see if it could certify to the lack of the commodity.

The order was decided upon after President Garcia informed the Cabinet that he had been receiving "many and insistent" suggestions to import rice to curb the rising price of the staple.

At the last Cabinet meeting, a special legislative-executive committee headed by Sen. Gil Puyat had urged the importation of rice to bring down the price of the commodity. But the N.E.C. put its foot down on the proposal.

Under the provisions of Republic Act 2207, rice may be imported only if the N.E.C. certified to the existence of an actual or an impending shortage.

The Cabinet asked the N.E.C. to meet today to review its data on the rice supply. It directed the Council to make its report today, if possible, before the President leaves for Talibon, Bohol.

If this was not possible, the Cabinet told the N.E.C., the report should be submitted to the President upon his return early next week.

The Cabinet asked the council to go anew over the supply, the surplus from last year's harvest, and the rice requirement.

May 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release immediately the sum of ₱40,000 from his contingent funds for the relief of the victims of calamities in Manila and four provinces.

The directive was given by the Chief Executive through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo in Malacañang shortly before he and the First Lady boarded the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for Bohol to attend the annual fiesta of Talibon, the President's hometown.

The bulk of the aid in the amount of ₱20,000 will be for the victims of the fire which gutted four blocks of commercial establishments and residential houses in Binondo, Manila, on May 19.

The release of the other sum of ₱20,000 was ordered by the President after representations made by Social Welfare Administrator Amparo Villamor for the relief of the fire and starvation victims in Antique, Aklan, Lanao del Norte, and Negros Occidental.

Earlier this morning, President Garcia was informed by Sen. Alejandro Almendras that Rep. Fausto Dugenio was proclaimed official candidate of the Nacionalista Party for the lone congressional seat of Misamis Oriental.

The Senator from Davao, who was the keynote speaker at the provincial NP convention held yesterday, also informed President Garcia that 19 out of the 23 municipal mayors had pledged to support the Chief Executive's reelection bid.

The President administered the oath of affiliation as card-bearing members of the Nacionalista Party to Lt. Col. Felicisimo D. Reyta of the Antipolo Veterans Legion and to Sofronio M. Sian, director of the Cereal Millers Association for President Garcia's Reelection, in the presence of Maj. Francisco Datol and Gregorio E. Cruz, Jr.

The President today designated the period from June 1 to July 15 for the 13th annual educational and fund campaign of the Community Chest.

In issuing the proclamation the President called on the people to support the campaign and to give generously to the Community Chest which unites into one annual appeal the fund campaigns of the following civic organizations: Abiertas House of Friendship, American-Philippine Guardian, Asilo de Sen Vicente de Paul, Asociacion de Damas Filipinas, Catholic Youth Organization, Council of Welfare Agencies, Free Legal Aid Clinic, Girl Scouts of the Philippines, Good Shephard Convent, La Proteccion de la Infancia, National Federation of Women's Clubs, Free Medical Clinics, Philippine Association of the Deaf, Philippine Band of Mercy, Philippine Mental Health Association, Young Men's Christian Association, and the Young Women's Christian Association.

The President authorized all government officials and employees, including school authorities and teachers, to accept contributions for the Community Chest and urged them to give the campaign full support and dedicated leadership in their respective communities.

President Garcia also created today a national committee that will take charge of the 15th anniversary celebration of Philippine Independence this coming July 4.

The committee which will formulate plans and devise ways and means, as well as prepare the program for this year's celebration, will have the Education Secretary as chairman and the Secretary of National Defense as vice-chairman.

For the purpose of discharging its functions, the committee was empowered to create such sub-committees as may be necessary.

Designated members of the committee are the following:

The Secretaries of Labor and Health, the Administrator of Economic Coordination, the Commissioner on Tourism, the Presidential Press Secretary, the Governor of the Central Bank, the Chairman of the Development Bank of the Philippines; the presidents of the Philippine National Bank, Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities, Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, Philippine Chamber of Industries, Chamber of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Bankers Association of the Philippines, Manila Rotary Club, Manila Junior Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club of Manila, National Press Club of the Philippines, Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines; the National Commander of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines, and the Cabinet Secretary, who will also act as secretary of the committee.

May 26.—PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia arrived in Talibon, Bohol, this afternoon to pay their annual traditional homage to Santa Purisima Trinidad, the town's patron saint, on the occasion of the fiesta of Talibon, President Garcia's hometown.

The Chief Executive pays homage to the saint every year during the town fiesta. So far he has missed fulfilling his vow only once, when he was attending the Geneva conference as vice-president and foreign affairs secretary.

The President and the First Lady, with children Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, together with Gen. Manuel F. Cabal and a party of Manila newspapermen, arrived at Talibon at 4:30 p.m. after a rough uneventful journey aboard *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

Two kilometers offshore, the party was met by colorful fluvial parade, while at the wharf townsfolk who had gathered *en masse*, led by Rep. and Mrs. Maximino Garcia and Mayor and Mrs. Lazaro Ibardo, gave the favorite son a rousing welcome.

From the pier President Garcia proceeded to church to hear mass after which he attended the procession around the town.

In the evening the President and the First Lady were dinner guests of Rep. and Mrs. Garcia.

This morning President Garcia had a chance to chat with newsmen aboard the *Lapu-Lapu*. He spent two hours talking about the coming convention with them.

May 27.—THIS morning the President, the First Lady, their daughter Linda, and her husband Fernando Campos, heard a pontifical mass said by Bishop Manuel Mascarinas of Tagbilaran assisted by parish priests of neighboring towns.

After the mass the family had breakfast at the Talibon convent from which the President proceeded to the Talibon town hall to address the seminar of Bohol police chiefs.

President Garcia renewed his appeal for free and clean elections before 35 chiefs of police of Bohol at the Talibon town hall.

The President also appealed to the police chiefs to wage an information drive against illegal fishing, and to set up units to guard fishing grounds.

The President had lunch at the house of Mayor Evardos of Talibon where he met old acquaintances.

The President with the First Lady later visited his 96-year-old uncle, Alipio Garcia, at the Talibon Emergency Hospital before boarding the *Lapu-Lapu* for Manila. The yacht left Talibon at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Since he was informed of the latest political developments in the morning, the President has appeared unperturbed by reports that Senate President Rodriguez, his NP political rival, would release another expose on graft and corruption preparatory to holding a rump convention to nominate him (Amang) as presidential candidate.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Official Week in Review: May 28 – June 2, 1961

May 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned at four o'clock this afternoon from a four-day trip to his hometown of Talibon, Bohol, where he attended the annual town fiesta.

The Chief Executive visits his hometown every year during its town fiesta where he dances the Visayan *guaracha* at the public auditorium, which is also the public market.

The President was accompanied by the First Lady and his daughter, Mrs. Linda Campos, his son-in-law, Fernando Campos, and his only granddaughter, Maricar Campos.

President Garcia was met by a large crowd at the Talibon wharf by his townspeople.

In the course of his four-day trip, the President went over pending state papers at his suite aboard the yacht *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

He also conferred with Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, and Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, chief of the Constabulary. The President and the Army brass took up the problems of peace and order. Campo reported on the Constabulary investigation in connection with the ambush of Mrs. Floro Crisologo in Ilocos Sur.

The President directed Campo to take all necessary measures to prevent the Crisologo ambush from starting a series of political violence in the province.

Before debarking from the presidential yacht, the President met newsmen who had accompanied him to Talibon, Bohol, and gave a brief informal press interview. He took up the new blast of Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, his chief rival for the Nacionalista presidential nomination.

The President showed exasperation over Rodriguez's attacks and indicated he was ready for a showdown with the Senate President.

From the yacht, the President and the First Lady motored to Malacañang.

May 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia today congratulated a group of Filipino investors for their boldness and foresight in taking over the ownership of the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) and emphasized that this transaction "is the signal triumph of Filipino First policy" of the Administration.

The President also took the occasion to assure foreign investors that the Meralco's changing ownership is a positive example of the Administration's policy that the government will continue "to dispense fair, just, and constitutional treatment to foreign interest and investment."

He emphasized that, unlike other countries, the Philippines will not resort to confiscatory measures in taking over ownership of foreign controlled business interests.

"This will not happen as long as I hold this position," President Garcia stressed.

In congratulating the new owners, headed by Eugenio Lopez, the President expressed hope that the Meralco under the new management will bring greater benefits and afford better service to the people.

The President also expressed elation over a statement issued by A. F. Tegen, president of the General Public Utilities Corporation of New York, in New York saying that economic conditions in the Philippines warrant the ownership and operation of the public utility by Filipinos themselves.

Tegen was also quoted by wire services as saying that the GPUC was withdrawing from the Philippines “reluctantly” to further the development of its subsidiaries in the United States because it recognized the importance to the Philippines of Filipino ownership of the Meralco, which was the biggest public utility owned by the Americans.

The Filipino businessmen who negotiated the \$46 million deal under which dollar payment will be made over a number of years, thanked the President for his encouragement and support which greatly facilitated the success of the negotiations.

They informed President Garcia that voluntary withdrawal of the GPUC from the Philippines belied the claim of certain quarters that the “Filipino First” policy was anti-American and anti-foreigner.

They assured the President that the Meralco will be under the new management after all formalities have been finished by June 30 this year.

The incorporators of the new management, the Meralco Securities Corporation, who called on the President, besides Lopez, are Salvador Araneta, Dr. Jose Soriano, Juan J. Carlos, Emilio Gonzales Lao, Jose Y. Orosa, Roberto Villanueva, Ricardo Ledesma, Ernesto Rufino, Mrs. Josephine Cojuangco, Generoso Tanseco, Mrs. D. C. Teodoro, Bobby Benedicto, and Antonio Delgado.

The President this morning received Harold Hartog, a director of Unilever, who paid his respects to the Chief Executive before leaving on May 31 after a successful two-week business survey in the country.

Hartog expressed confidence in the stability and soundness of the local economy and informed the President that the Philippine Refining Company, a Unilever subsidiary, will expand operations.

Unilever, a Dutch company, owns 450 corporations spread all over the world outside the Iron Curtain. It ranks sixth among the biggest international corporations, and the second biggest outside the United States.

Hartog was accompanied to Malacañang by officials of Philippine Refining, among them, W. R. Galbraith, president, and A. Ponce Enrile, Filipino director.

Earlier this morning the President received Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, who arrived in Manila at 6 o’clock this morning to be the keynote speaker at the June 3 convention of the Nacionalista Party.

Romulo said he rushed to Malacañang to pay a call on the Chief Executive immediately upon landing at the airport. Romulo reported to the President on the status of pending P.I.-U.S. problems.

President Garcia also huddled briefly with Virginia Yaptinchay, special assistant to the Central Bank governor in charge of the import department.

The President this evening conferred with members of the Monetary Board. Those who saw the President were Gov. Andres V. Castillo, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Chairman Gregorio Licaros of the Development Bank of the Philippines, President Eduardo Z. Romualdez of the Philippine National Bank, Marcelo Balatbat, and Mariano Peñaflores.

There will be no full decontrol or acceleration of the decontrol program this year.

This was the decision of President Garcia and monetary authorities after a three-hour meeting in Malacañang this evening.

There will be no change in the present exchange rates “until and after all the necessary measures (to the decontrol program) have been enacted by Congress,” it was further announced.

May 30.—THIS morning President Garcia ordered Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag to expedite the filing and trial of a murder case which had been allegedly committed in Tubod, Lanao del Sur, in 1955 but which up to now has not been filed in court.

Apparently irked by the delay in bringing the culprits to justice, the President upon petition of one of the victims, Diego Palomares, told the justice secretary “to set the machinery of justice in motion by filing the complaint immediately and expediting trial which had been delayed for almost six years.”

Palomares was with the 100-man delegation from Lanao del Sur which called at Malacañang to pledge unqualified support to the President and whoever may be chosen as his running mate in the June 3 convention. The delegation was headed by Rep. Laurentino Badelles and former Gov. Salvador Lluch.

Rep. Badelles informed the President that although the double-murder, in which four others were seriously wounded, had been allegedly committed in 1955, no complaint had been filed up to the present, and that the criminals were still at large.

They also informed the President that last year when an attempt was made to prosecute the case, the fiscal and his party were ambushed by unknown persons believed to be members of the special police of the incumbent governor.

Others in the delegation were Ex-Mayor Mariano Badelles and Vice-Mayor Emilio Alquezar of Iligan City, Mayors Miguel Canoy of Linamon, Nolan Antonio of Bacolod, Crispin Bancauil of Maigao, Fortunato Sumontan of Kolambugan, Gregorio Dayak of Baroy, Gumampong Ali of Bateo, Bernardo Nietes of Capatagan, Abadiano of Salvador, Maguirang Patauran of Pantawaragat, and other NP delegates and leaders from Lanao del Sur.

Earlier this morning the President received Rear Admiral David J. Welsh, newly appointed commander of U.S. naval forces in the Philippines, vice Rear Admiral Joseph M. Carson.

Admiral Welsh was accompanied to Malacañang by Admiral Carson, who is leaving for home assignment on Saturday; United States Ambassador John D. Hickerson; and Lt. G. S. Phillips, aide and flag lieutenant.

President Garcia’s bid for re-election gained further strength when the Rizal Federation of Barrio Councils of Rizal province pledged its support in a resolution passed during a meeting of the federation at the old Selecta on Recto Avenue (Azcarraga) this noon.

In endorsing the re-election bid of President Garcia, the federation observed that since the beginning of his administration, numerous benefits have been extended to the rural areas through his community development programs.

The federation further took cognizance of the fact that under the present administration, the rural autonomy has been given greater impetus, culminating with the passage of the Local Autonomy Act.

Gov. Esteban Bernido received the resolution on behalf of the Chief Executive.

During the affair, some 24 barrio representatives to the federation led by Salvador Morales of Caloocan, president of the federation, took their oath of allegiance to the President before Gov. Bernido.

Also present during the affair were Surigao Gov. Constantino C. Navarro and Salvador Buazon, former national vice-president of the Barrio Lieutenants Association of the Philippines (BLAP).

May 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia today underscored the importance of implementing the development program for Mindanao during the present decade ending in 1970, as approved by the Nacionalista administration in a keynote speech delivered at a testimonial dinner given in a Quezon City restaurant by the Philippine Better Roads Association in honor of the district and city engineers.

To start the Mindanao development program, the President stated that the Nacionalista dominated Congress had approved during its recent regular session an appropriation of P300 million. He said that the bill approved by Congress authorizes him to create a body to study further the development of Mindanao.

The President pointed out that he took up the Mindanao development program with U. S. Vice-President Johnson during latter's recent stay in Manila, and received the assurance of the visiting American official that the matter would be brought immediately to the attention of President Kennedy.

The President also stated that the present decade will witness the start of the road cementing program of the Administration for which purpose Congress authorized an appropriation of P60 million. He took the opportunity to laud Congress for increasing the appropriation for the road cementing program which will enable the government to construct 600 kilometers of cement roads throughout the country.

Congress responded favorably to the program of road cementing that it increased the original request of the President for an appropriation of P35 million to P60 million, realizing the importance of the program.

The Mindanao development program envisions the exploitation of its rich natural resources, especially the Surigao laterite deposits, the Zamboanga iron deposits, among others, which will tremendously boost the national economy, the President said.

He added that the Nacionalista administration has quadrupled the LP record in road construction since it took over the reins of government and pointed out that the NPs will take up this achievement as one of the issues it will cite to the electorate during the political campaign.

In this respect, he said that there Would be no better spokesman for the NPs than Secretary Florencio Moreno of Public Works if he is picked out at the coming national convention as one of the NP Senate bets.

The President lauded the work done by the engineers in the work of reconstruction of the country from ruins caused by the last war, which has impressed visitors.

Before delivering his speech, the President signed House Bill No. 4035, which authorizes the payment of additional compensation to highway division engineers, highway district engineers, and city engineers as division engineers, ex officio district engineers, and city engineers of the Bureau of Public Work respectively.

The President was asked to give a plaque to Secretary Moreno for outstanding performance, and citations to the following: Nicolas Aldana, district engineer of the year; Dominador Ermitaño, special citation; Benjamin Limbaga, city engineer of the year; and Salvador Villacorta, special citation.

Earlier this morning, the President received Sen. Lorenzo M. Tañada, head of the Nationalist-Citizens Party.

Tañada's call on the President gave rise to political speculation that the Senator may be drafted as a "dark horse" in the vice-presidential race of the Nacionalista Party.

This afternoon the President presided over the regular meeting of the Cabinet in his usual calm despite the raging political storm which threatens to divide the ruling Nacionalista Party.

Undaunted by partisan intrigues attributed to followers of Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, President Garcia took up with the members of his Cabinet the proposed importation of 100,000 metric tons of rice. The importation is expected to lower the cost of the vital cereal.

President Garcia has expressed concern over the spiraling prices of the staple grain and had asked the National Economic Council to review the rice situation to facilitate the importation of the cereal.

Under the law, no importation of rice could be made unless the NEC has certified to the shortage of the local stocks.

Before presiding over the Cabinet meeting, the President addressed the members of the Philippine Better Roads Association, underscoring the importance of implementing the development program for Mindanao.

The President motored to Quezon City where the testimonial dinner was held.

June 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia today exuded confidence and optimism as delegates to the Nacionalista Party convention on June 3 continued to flock to Malacañang to renew pledges of unqualified support.

In expressing his gratitude to the various delegates for their support, the Chief Executive urged them to vote for a winning team so that the party's program for the welfare of the masses can continue unimpeded.

Before receiving the delegates who came to pledge their votes and assure him victory at the convention and in the November elections, the President held closed door conferences with Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias and Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona.

The President also received Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, who paid his respects to the Chief Executive following his recent arrival from abroad. Sen. Lopez was accompanied by Rep. Domitilo Abordo and former Gov. Mariano Peñaflorida of Iloilo.

The President later administered the oaths of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party to Benjamin Ibañez and Deogracias M. Parcoris of Siniloan, Laguna. The two former Liberals took their oaths in the presence of Rep. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay and Laguna delegates to the NP convention.

Among those who pledged their votes to the President were ten Manila councilors and their 40 delegates to the NP convention, including Councilors Ernesto Maceda, Francis Yuseco, Alfredo Gomez, Pablo Ocampo, Francisco Gatmaitan, Gonzalo S. Rivera, Eriberto Remigio, Vicente Cruz, Felicísimo Cabigao, and Apolonio Gener.

A 30-man delegation from La Union, headed by Rep. Francisco Ortega, former Govs. Bernardo Gapuz and Joaquin Ortega, and NP congressional candidate Jose D. Aspiras also pledged solid support to the President.

Other delegations who saw the President were (1) a 20-man delegation from Agusan province headed by Rep. Guillermo Sanchez and Governor D. O. Plaza; (2) Samar delegates headed by Reps. Eladio T. Balite, Valeriano Yancha, and Felipe Abrigo, mostly compose of municipal mayors and councilors; and (3) a Leyte delegation headed by Rep. Marcelino Veloso, Lt. Gov. Uldarico Reyes of Biliran, and CEPOC Director Sofronio Veloso.

Owing to the large number of callers, the President stayed at his study up to 2 p.m.

President Garcia today took up possible last-ditch rapprochement with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, who is veering away from the Nacionalista Party.

Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano P. Primicias conferred this morning with the President behind closed doors giving rise to political speculations that the Pangasinan senator was working on a plan to bring the President and Amang together to avert a schism within the majority party.

Rodriguez had threatened to boycott the NP convention which may precipitate his expulsion from the party or his ouster as president of the NP and the Senate.

No details were immediately available from Malacañang sources on the outcome of the talks. However, the President was agreeable to meet the Senate President for a final amity meeting.

This afternoon the President inducted into office newly appointed Justice Gustavo Victoriano of the Court of Appeals. Victoriano was one of four judges of the court of first instance promoted to the Court of Appeals.

President Garcia also received Indian Ambassador Sankar Maitra, who paid a courtesy call on the Chief Executive.

Sen. Eulogio Balao brought a group of delegates from Cagayan to pledge their support to the President.

Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich also led delegates to the Chief Executive. In the delegation were Board Member Jesus Neri and Councilor Pio Roa of Cagayan de Oro.

Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo also conferred with the President, who presumably went over the envoy's keynote speech for the NP convention Saturday morning.

The President this day appealed to government agencies, provincial and municipal officials, business and commercial firms, employees and other citizens, and all residents of the Philippines to give their utmost support to this year's educational and fund campaign of the Community Chest of Greater Manila.

In a message read by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo during the kick-off ceremony of the 13th annual fund campaign of the CCGM held at the Malacañang social hall this afternoon the President stressed the need for concerted effort "towards meeting the cost of broken homes, delinquency, crimes, poverty, and sickness."

The Chief Executive paid tribute to the noble work of the 17 Red Feather agencies in helping over a million needy people during the past 12 years.

"It has been a most welcome and valuable partner of our government in our common effort to help make our country a healthier and happier place to live in," the President said.

On behalf of the President, Secretary Castillo opened this year's annual fund drive with a personal contribution of P1,000.

The total contributions during the kick-off ceremony amounted to P168,576 in cash and P68,618 in pledges.

President Garcia today directed the payment of salary increase of employees of the strike-bound Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

The order was issued following representations made by PCSO General Manager Eugenio Santos and Board Member Fernando Santico this morning.

On orders of the President, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo approved the new plantilla and its accompanying supplemental budget covering salary increases totalling P242,939 after Budget Commissioner Sy-Changco submitted his recommendation for its approval.

The action of the President is expected to meet the demands of the striking employees. It will also pave the way for a final classification by the WAPCO of the positions.

The PCSO employees went on strike this morning because of the alleged refusal of the management to implement this salary increases as agreed upon between the management and the PCSO labor union.

Santico, however, said that the increases could not be implemented because of the objections of the WAPCO. The increase in salaries of the employees has been approved by the board of directors of the PCSO, Santico said.

June 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia told the provincial press and radio as well as several large groups of convention delegates who pledged their votes to him that the party in power has better chance of clinching victory in November on account of its numerous achievements and the dissatisfaction obtaining in the opposition ranks.

In a conference with provincial newspapermen and radio commentators who are in Manila to cover the Nacionalista Party convention, the President stressed this morning the necessity of keeping the citizenry well informed in order to maintain a healthy democracy.

The President said that of all the Asian countries, the Philippines which has proven itself worthy of the appellation “show window of democracy” has been most successful in perpetuating the democratic way of life most aptly emphasized in the Constitution, “sovereignty resides in the people.”

He said that because of universal education and the mass of information media such as the press, the radio, and television, obtaining in the Philippines, officials who will administer national affairs are chosen by the people, unlike other Asian countries where governments and administrations change by force of arms.

The President pointed out that for the first time in 1960 and 1961 the government budget was balanced with even a small surplus of earnings over expenses. As a result, he said, the credit of the government has been recognized by such institutions as the International Monetary Fund, the National City Bank of New York, and other international financial institutions.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1961). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 57(23), ccvii-ccxii.

Official Week in Review: June 11 – June 17, 1961

June 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived in Dipolog, Zamboanga del Norte, at four o'clock this afternoon and was met by a large crowd, including the feuding political factions headed by Rep. Alberto Ubay and former Gov. Felipe Azcuña.

Gov. Guadalupe Adaza headed provincial officials in welcoming the visiting Chief Executive.

After 38 hours of sea journey through a relatively calm sea, the President was feted, along with the First Lady, with a *merienda* upon his arrival in Dipolog.

He is scheduled to confer with Sen. Gil J. Puyat, his vice-presidential running mate, whom he had asked to join him in his stump of the Mindanao area.

Although he told newsmen that Puyat has "as good a chance" as the Liberal Party vice-presidential candidate, Emmanuel Pelaez, and independent candidate Sergio Osmeña, Jr., the President stressed Puyat "must win heavily in Luzon to make it."

The President, after a quick *merienda*, motored to Dapitan where he addressed a huge political rally. Then he returned to Dipolog to address another rally shortly before midnight tonight.

Earlier, the President heard mass with the First Lady aboard the yacht, together with the passengers of the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

After breakfast the President chatted with newsmen, and took up subjects of possible reconciliation with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez.

President Garcia, however, was reported as cool to efforts to bring about a rapprochement with Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson.

June 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning was pleasantly surprised over the rapid progress and beautification that Marawi had undergone since his last visit about two years ago.

Addressing a mammoth rally at the city plaza after a conference with provincial, city, and municipal officials of Lanao del Sur, the President said that such progress attested to the determination of the Administration to accelerate the development of Mindanao.

The President warned, however, that if the Liberals return to power they would retard the progress of Mindanao at least ten years because they are behind the times by ten years.

The Chief Executive was roundly applauded by some 20,000 cheering Maranaos who braved the rain to hear him announce (1) that plans were about completed for a system of feeder roads around Lanao Lake; (2) that he had recommended to Congress the cementing of 600 kilometers of roads, 200 each for Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, including Marawi-Iligan; (3) that he had opened for agricultural purposes part of Camp Keithley reservation; and (4) that he was ready to announce the names of members of the Board of Regents of the University of Mindanao as soon as Secretary Jose Romero of Education arrived.

The President said the university will lay emphasis on Islamic culture.

The President arrived at Iligan City at 9 a.m. on the second leg of an inspection trip, accompanied by Mrs. Garcia and Sen. Domocao Alonto. He was received at the pier by a thick crowd headed by Rep. Laurentino Badelles, Gov. Ali Dimaporo, ex-Gov. Salvador Lluch, and Mayor Cabili.

The President and party proceeded to St. Michael church for a *Te Deum* amidst flag-waving welcomers who greeted the First Couple of the land with shouts of *Mabuhay*.

The reception was complete with fireworks, brass bands, cadets, and coeds in uniform, and was outdone only by the reception in Lanao del Sur where close to 50,000 turned out to receive them.

After the *Te Deum* sang by Fr. Robert Stock, the President motored to Marawi stopping briefly at Baloi to address a rally. At provincial boundary, Maranaos in gay and unique costumes lined the highway, and flags and bunting floating in the breeze gave the occasion a festive air.

After a conference with local officials and a speech at Marawi plaza, the President returned to the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for a brief rest before addressing a mammoth crowd in a rally at Iligan and conferring with local officials of Lanao del Norte.

The President and Sen. Gil J. Puyat started their campaign with a visit to the Rizal house of exile and with speeches at the Dapitan plaza and, later in the evening, at another rally in Dipolog.

After the Dipolog rally, the President boarded the *Lapu-Lapu* at 1 a.m. for the trip to Iligan.

June 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived in Oroquieta, Occidental Misamis, this morning to start a two-day siege of the two provinces of Misamis now considered to be Liberal strongholds owing to the candidacy of its native son, Emmanuel Pelaez, under the opposition banner.

The re-electionist Chief Executive, accompanied by the First Lady and national officials from Mindanao, arrived aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* at 9:30 this morning and immediately started an intensive campaign which would take him in cross-province barnstorming tour with whistle-stops in three principal towns and barrios.

In a speech at a morning rally in Oroquieta, the President said the NP administration should be retained in power to enable it to complete its gigantic economic development program for Mindanao.

He cited administration efforts “to convert this great region from land of promise to land of prosperity.”

In the same rally President Garcia also announced the formation of a presidential task force to supervise the distribution of virgin lands to landless residents in Mindanao. He said the task force which he personally heads, has tapped 150,000 hectares of idle land in the provinces of Lanao del Sur, Lanao del Norte, and Cotabato for distribution to the landless.

The President also flayed Vice-President Macapagal and other Liberal bets for their “hypocritical expousal” of the cause of good government and clean elections.

He reminded his audience that “the men who now come to you as crusaders for good government are the same who did not lift a finger of protest against shameless looting of public coffers and suppression of the popular will at the height of the Liberal regime.

The President called upon the electorate to judge both parties on the basis of solid accomplishments and not on empty promises.

From Oroquieta, the presidential party proceeded to Ozamiz City, whistle-stopping in principal towns and barrios on the way.

President Garcia today declared June 19 a special public holiday. The day marks the 100th birthday anniversary of Dr. Jose P. Rizal.

In declaring the official holiday, the President said that “it is fitting and proper that the people be given full opportunity to celebrate the day with appropriate ceremonies in keeping with Dr. Rizal’s ideals and teachings.”

President Garcia directed the Bureau of Forestry to nullify or reject all bids submitted by applicants for concessions covering some 7,500 hectares of forest land formerly covered by the U.S. Naval Reservation in Olongapo, Zambales.

The President’s directive, signed before he left for a nine-day stumping tour of Mindanao and the Visayas, was dispatched this morning by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, to the forestry bureau for implementation.

The Chief Executive in issuing the directive, sought to reserve the area which is the watershed of the principal rivers and creeks, the source of irrigation and potable water for some 100,000 residents of the municipality of Olongapo and other neighboring towns.

The PCAPE is recommending the cancellation of most, if not all, of Ordinary Timber licenses already issued because the findings of the combined PCAPE-Forestry team tend to show that the concession areas granted in the provinces of Bataan and Zambales five or six years ago do not any more have standing timber to permit the continuance of the effectivity of licenses granted, Maximo Maceren, PCAPE vice-chairman, said.

June 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived in Cagayan de Oro City this afternoon from Gingoog. He was accompanied by the First Lady and Sen. Gil J. Puyat, his vice-presidential teammate.

The President announced the immediate updating of the salary scales of government employees to meet the rising cost of living in the country.

He also urged the residents of Cagayan de Oro City to support the Nacionalista Party candidates, for the NP administration has started tapping the huge potentialities of Mindanao.

In Gingoog the President spoke in ten rallies. In these rallies, he bared the development plans for Misamis Oriental consisting of various projects involving over P1 million. He also bared the completion of the electrification project of Mindanao in three months.

In his rally on the public plaza, the President revealed also the establishment of a coffee processing plant for Mindanao.

He later conferred with provincial and city officials of the cities.

In Gingoog the President attended a *Te Deum* at the Catholic church.

The President this evening mobilized the facilities of three executive departments and sought all-out assistance from two medical associations in dealing with the raging influenza epidemic.

Arriving at 6 p.m. at Cagayan de Oro City, the President expressed alarm over news of the spread of the disease in Manila and various areas in Luzon and Cebu.

He issued three directives authorizing the release of necessary funds to cope with the epidemic and ordered the suspension of classes, if found necessary, in affected areas. He directed Education Secretary Jose E. Romero to suspend school classes in influenza-affected areas.

President Garcia appealed to the Philippine Medical Association and the Manila Medical Society to assist the Department of Health in containing the epidemic.

In a wire to Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, the Chief Executive directed the mobilization of the entire Department of Health in combating the flu epidemic. He also asked Valencia to study the possibility of establishing mobile health units in affected and threatened places.

The President gave Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo wide authority to release as much funds needed from the presidential contingent funds to finance health moves Valencia might undertake.

This afternoon the President ordered Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta to enplane to Mambajao, Camiguin sub-province, and bring with him all pending Congress bills not yet acted upon by the Chief Executive.

The deadline for the President to act on all the 462 bills passed by Congress is June 17, 1961. Congress adjourned last May 18.

Secretary Logarta is enplaning early tomorrow morning with all unsigned bills.

President Garcia today declared the period from July 1 to August 15, 1961, for the fund campaign of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines for the attainment of its avowed aims and purposes.

In his proclamation the President took cognizance of the good work being done by the Boy Scouts of the Philippines in training and moulding every boy in the land to be a patriotic, God-fearing, upright, clean, and responsible citizen.

The Chief Executive called upon all government officials and employees and all citizens and residents of the Philippines to assist in this campaign and to give it their entire support so that the Boy Scouts of the Philippines may be assured of funds that will enable it to carry out its operations effectively, to intensify its nation-wide training and recruiting program so that the great number of boys of Scouts age seeking admission into the organization may be served.

The President authorized all national authorities and teachers to accept, in behalf of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, fund-raising responsibilities and urge them to give active support and leadership in their respective communities.

June 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia indicated at Cagayan de Oro City today he would call a special session of Congress next month to consider urgent measures left unacted upon by both Houses. The President hinted his decision in the course of a speech before members of the barrio lieutenants association of the province.

In his speech the President told the barrio leaders of his unequivocal support of the PACD bill which went through the Senate, but failed to pass the lower House. He told his audience that he was convinced more than ever of the importance of the PACD after his Mindanao tour.

Later the President and the First Lady were guests at the inauguration and blessing of the new building of the Development Bank of the Philippines. In his speech President Garcia cited the establishment of the DBP branch in Cagayan de Oro City as another evidence of the Administration's deep concern for the rapid development of Mindanao.

The President said further that the bank would save local businessmen and farmers from loan shakes and usurers, aside from encouraging growth of industries.

Among those present during the rites were Sen. Gil Puyat, DBP Chairman Gregorio Licaros, Eduardo Romualdez of the PNB, Sen. Lim, and SSS Commissioners Gaviola and Remolina.

The President addressed a public rally at the city's plaza.

From Cagayan de Oro City, the President proceeded to Mambajao, Misamis Oriental, to continue his political tour of western Mindanao.

Arriving at Mambajao, the President met a minor accident when he slipped and fell from three flights of stairs while getting down from his cabin to address a rally in the island. The incident occurred as the President was preparing to debark from the *Lapu-Lapu* and board a launch to the island. He sustained a cut and bruises in his right knee.

Unfazed, President Garcia proceeded to the island with his running mate, Sen. Puyat.

After the rally the President told his political advisers on board the yacht that he will announce his position on the amity terms of Senate President Rodriguez when he returns to Manila.

President Garcia today directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo to release the necessary funds to check the flu epidemic now gripping Manila and some provinces.

The President, likewise, directed Education Secretary Jose E. Romero to suspend classes in places affected by the epidemic, if and when necessary.

The directives were issued in separate wires by the Chief Executive after receiving reports of the mounting cases of flu victims throughout the country.

He instructed Secretary Castillo to coordinate with Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia on the steps to be taken to stop further spread of the disease.

June 16.—TPRESIDENT Garcia was treated by Negros Oriental, in his first visit to a Visayan province since his nomination as the Nacionalista Party standard bearer, to a royal welcome today.

The President and his entourage which includes the First Lady and his running mate, Sen. Gil J. Puyat, arrived at Dumaguete City at 2:30 this afternoon aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* from a six-day stumping tour in northwestern Mindanao.

A big crowd, complete with military honors and brass bands, was on hand at the wharf to greet the Chief Executive. School children lined up along the city streets and on the highway to Tanjay town, some 25 kilometers away, which the Chief Executive visited.

From the wharf, the President proceeded to the local Catholic church to hear a *Te Deum* sung by Bishop Epifanio Surban. Then he conferred with provincial and national officials at the Foundation College auditorium.

President Garcia was profuse in his thanks for the warm and spontaneous reception accorded him at the wharf. Leading the pier welcomers were Gov. Mariano Perdices, Rep. Lorenzo G. Teves, City Mayor Jose Teves, and Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, who had flown to Dumaguete City with important bills to be signed by President Garcia.

Among the measures brought by Secretary Logarta for the President's signature were the voluminous General Appropriations Bill and the P500 million Public Works bill for the fiscal year 1962.

During the conference at Foundation College, the President granted the request of Rep. Teves that the transfer to Butuan City of public works dredging equipment being used in Dumaguete be delayed for another 10 days.

President Garcia returned to Dumaguete later this evening and addressed another big rally at Quezon Park.

After the rally and a round of conferences with NP campaign leaders in Dumaguete, the President boarded the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* and sailed for Manila. The presidential party is expected in Manila early Sunday morning.

June 17.—THE President had a nice rest following the hectic whirlwind stumping tour in Negros Oriental yesterday.

The *Lapu-Lapu* pulled anchor at Dumaguete City at past midnight, and the voyage was smooth the whole day.

President Garcia woke up late and heard mass said on deck. After the mass the President partook of a light breakfast which included fried eggs and broiled fish.

Then he closeted himself in his cabin with Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta, who joined the presidential party in Dumaguete City with a pile of some 460 bills requiring the President's action before midnight tonight.

Under the Constitution, the President has until midnight tonight to act on the bills passed by the Fourth Congress during its last regular session ending last May 18.

President Garcia quietly went over the controversial measures. There were no lobbyists who bothered the President in Manila last year although wired messages from certain interests batting for the approval of their pet bills clogged the radio lines of the *Lapu-Lapu*.

The only "lobbyists" on board are Manila Councilors Alfredo Gomez and Francisco Gatmaitan, who are urging presidential okay of three highly controversial bills granting squatters in Manila the right to buy patrimonial lots in Ermita and Tondo. The three measures have been recommended for veto by the presidential interdepartmental committee which studied the bills and by Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson.

Among the important bills signed by the President were the P1.2 billion General Appropriations Bill and the P564 million Public Works Bill for the fiscal year 1961-1962. There were, however, certain provisions in the two measures which were vetoed.

The President also affixed his signature to the Mindanao Development Authority Bill which was described as a fitting climax to his eight-day stumping tour of northwestern Mindanao.

The President today underscored the entrance of Liberty Flour Mills into the business of milling of wheat grain as another great step "in our brisk march forward to industrial progress."

The President said that with the establishment of the Liberty Flour Mills, he is more than optimistic about the realization of his plan to build up a truly industrialized Philippines.

The President's speech before the formal inauguration of the Liberty Flour Mills in Mandaluyong, Rizal, was read by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo before a huge crowd which included government and diplomatic officials, church dignitaries, and prominent businessmen.

The President's message was preceded by a ribbon cutting ceremony. Mrs. Linda Garcia-Campos, who represented the President and the First Lady in the inauguration, cut the stream of ribbon across an entrance to the mill, as the symbolic start of one of the country's newest flour mills.

The ceremonies officially brought to a close the construction phase of the Liberty Flour Mills which started in May, 1960, and marked its formal opening in the service of Philippine industry and commerce.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1961). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 57(25), ccxxvii-ccxxxii.

President's Week in Review: June 19, 1961

President Garcia led the nation today in honoring the memory of Dr. Jose Rizal on occasion of the nationwide observance of the centennial of the birth of the national hero.

Early in the morning the President and Mrs. Garcia heard mass said in honor of the Great Malayan. The mass was said at an improvised altar at Bohol Avenue residence of the Chief Executive in Quezon City.

After hearing mass and partaking of breakfast, the President laid a wreath at the floor of the Rizal monument at the Luneta, at ceremonies kicking off the day-long observance of the hero's 100th birthday. He also offered silent prayers before the monument.

Also present at the morning Luneta rites were Dr. Allan Nevins, personal representative of United States President Kennedy to the Rizal centennial celebration; Vice-President Macapagal; Msgr. Salvador Siino, papal nuncio, who led the member of diplomatic corps; Education Secretary Jose Romero; Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona; Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia; Vice-Mayor Antonio Villegas, who represented the City of Manila; and ranking officers of civic organization and educational centers.

At 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the President inaugurated the National Liberty building, the first of three units comprising the Rizal National Cultural Shrine, at the Old Luneta grounds.

Speaking at the inaugural rites, the President pledged his administration to "accelerate" the dissemination of Rizal's noble ideals and teaching in the heart and mind of the Filipinos.

After his speech the President received for and in behalf of the Philippine government Rizaliana document from John F. Lambert, charge d'Affaires of British Embassy, and Sankar Nath Mitra, ambassador of India.

Six rare books which Rizal had used in his study in London and which British Charge d'Affaires Lambert hoped would use by the Filipino scholar were turned over to the Chief Executive. They were *Arte de la Lengua Tagala* by Agustin de la Magdalena, *Arte y Regla de la Lengua Tagala* by Francisco de Sanchez, *Vocabulario de Lengua Tagala* by Padro Buenaventura, *Bocabulario de la Lengua*, Nos. I y II by Noceda y S. Lucar, and *Diccionario Pangasinan-Espanol* by Fernando Cosgava.

Another donation, a Rizal translation of Rizal's *Ultimo Adios* by Ramdhari Singh Dinkar, a well known Indian writer and poet, was present to the President by Indian Ambassador Maitra.

Another feature of the inauguration ceremonies was the awarding of the Rizal Pro-Patricia awards, by the President, the cash awards to the various contest winner and plaques of appreciation by the First Lady.

After the ceremonies, the President opened the Rizaliana exhibits and stayed for about 30 minutes admiring the different articles put up in the various pavilions as part of the Rizaliana exhibits.

President's Week in Review: June 20 - July 1, 1961

President's Week in Review: July 2-8, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia boarded the *Lapu-Lapu* at Maasin early this morning for his return trip to Manila, where he is expected to arrive early tomorrow morning.

The President was assured by Nacionalista leaders of both Leyte provinces that the only problem now facing the NP ticket was how to increase the 67,000-vote majority he garnered in the 1957 elections to 100,000 in the coming polls.

The assurance was given by Speaker Daniel Romualdez, political kingpin of Leyte del Norte, and Rep. Nicanor Yñiguez, political boss of Leyte del Sur, who both said the Garcia-Puyat team would have easy sailing in their province.

The President inducted 150 former Liberal leaders who defected from the opposition to join the NP. The defectors were accompanied to the President by Mrs. Salud Parreño.

Gov. Ildefonso Cinco also assured President Garcia that all Leyte NPs were exerting efforts to give the NP team the 100,000-vote majority fixed by Speaker Romualdez.

President Garcia last night attended the coronation of Natividad Miel as Miss Maasin, and, by popular request, declaimed during the coronation ceremony.

After the ceremony "Queen Nati" stayed in the background as people clamored for a presidential speech. President Garcia appealed for support of the entire NP ticket and, speaking about his own candidacy, he said this was his last time to ask for the Leyte electorate's support.

President Garcia pointed out that in 1941, when he ran for senator, Leyte had supported him. He then took the opportunity to express his gratitude for their past support.

He said he always won the election because he utilized profession and position to help the poor and helpless unlike a certain aspirant who is the lawyer of vested interests and other big companies.

During the rally President Garcia inaugurated the P2000,000 Maasin waterworks system. The rally broke up at 2:30 this morning when the *Lapu-Lapu* arrived off Maasin.

July 3.—THIS day President Garcia started playing host to the "Liberator of the Philippines," General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, and his wife Jean, who are here as special guests for Independence Day.

The Chief Executive broke tradition and protocol rules by personally welcoming the American General, who is an honorary Filipino citizen, upon the latter's arrival with his entourage at 4: 30 this afternoon. The President was accompanied to the airport by Mrs. Garcia.

After brief military honors and an over-extended personal greeting exchanged between Gen. MacArthur and his old acquaintances at the airport, the President and the general rode on a sleek convertible car for the long motorcade to Malacañang and confetti shower at the Escolta.

The President installed his guests at the Malacañang guest rooms where the visiting Philippine Liberator will be billeted for the duration of his stay here.

President Garcia arrived at 8 o'clock this morning at Pier 3 on board the *Lapu-Lapu* from a week-long stumping tour of Leyte del Norte and Leyte del Sur.

He was met at the pier by Speaker Romualdez, other political leaders, and by his daughter, Linda Garcia-Campos, and granddaughter, Maricar.

Towards noon the President addressed an Independence Day program of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines.

Speaking before the awards ceremonies of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines in its 15th annual conference commemorating the independence of the Republic, he said "women have stayed in the forefront in pushing the wheels of Philippines progress and as long as they keep striving in the "noble task of building a strong and healthy nation, the Filipinos have no cause to worry."

He added that, "women have already started elbowing out men in many professions and have made incursions in many fields, like the diplomatic service and the judiciary," citing as examples the appointments of Ambassador Trinidad M. Legarda and Court of Appeals Justice Natividad Almeda-Lopez.

In this respect, the President pointed out, the Nationalista administration has been quick to recognize the advancement of Filipino women and has given recognition to outstanding and capable women leaders by appointing them to responsible positions in the government.

After his speech President Garcia awarded presidential medals of merit to the following CAWP awardees:

1. Former Chief Justice Ricardo Paras, in recognition of his courageous and distinguished leadership in the Supreme Court and distinct public service;
2. Dr. Fe del Mundo, for her contribution to national progress through her dedicated service in the field of child health;
3. Bai Matabay Plang, in recognition of her outstanding contribution in the field of education and social work;
4. Mrs. Virginia Llamas-Romulo, in recognition of her exemplary "womanly virtues which Filipino nation has always extolled—those of a devoted wife and mother;"
5. Howard S. Cullman, for his singular contribution to the cultural life of the Filipino through his generous promotion of Philippine folk arts;
6. Mrs. Geronima T. Pecson, for her distinctive contributions to family life, profession, and; community services;
7. Severino Montano, in recognition of his valuable contribution to the preservation and appreciation of Philippine culture by means of the drama as an expression of our deepest spiritual and cultural aspiration as a people;
8. Felipe de Leon, for his distinctive contributions to the Filipino music and his invaluable service to the community and nation; and
9. The Family of Ambassador Jose Ma. Delgado, in recognition of the outstanding achievements of this Filipino family whose exemplary services to the country should serve as inspiration to other families."

After the awards ceremony the President motored to Sta. Ana to express his heartfelt condolence to Mrs. Marina Francisco and the other members of the family of the late Rep. Augusto Francisco, who died last night.

July 4.—EARLY in the morning President Garcia stayed at his bedroom in Malacañang, working on pending state papers.

At 2 p.m. the President joined Gen. MacArthur, who is billeted in the Malacañang bedroom which served as bedrooms of the late Presidents Quirino and Magsaysay, for the trip to the Luneta grandstand and the Independence Day celebrations.

The President and Gen. MacArthur rode in the presidential limousine and, on arrival at the Luneta grandstand, both were given thunderous ovations by the milling multitudes, at the parade grounds.

An unexpected development in the parade, Lina Pasion, Miss Philippines of Hawaii now on a visit to Manila, got off from her BTTA float and put a each on the President and General MacArthur.

Then Miss passion bussed the President on the forehead, and when MacArthur's turn came, the General surprised even the President by giving the Filipino beauty a one-handed embrace.

Returning to Malacañang at about 5:30 p.m. from the Luneta, the President rested a while in preparation for the state dinner.

President Garcia gave a state dinner this evening on the occasion of the observance of the 15th anniversary of Philippine Independence at Malacañang.

General and Mrs. Douglas MacArthur, who are special guests of the Republic on the occasion of Freedom Day, were special guests of honor at the state dinner.

The Chief Executive exchanged toasts with the illustrious Philippine Liberator.

July 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia took cognizance today of the still unsolved killing of a Cebu newspaperman in the light of reports indicating he was assassinated because of his crusade against Cebu City government anomalies.

He ordered the National Bureau Investigation this morning to step into the case and expedite the bringing to the courts of the killer or killers of Antonio Abad Tormis, editor of the Cebu *Republic News*.

Tormis was killed by an unidentified gunman in Cebu City Monday night inside his car which he Was starting for the trip to his house.

So concerned was the President with the Tormis killing that before turning in this evening, he directed Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castilio to submit to him, a progress report on the NBI investigations.

Aside from attending to the Tormis case, the President kept much to himself.

He woke up late this morning, having prolonged his rest during the night because of the daylong grueling grind he had in connection with the observance of Independence Day, capped by a late state dinner for Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

The Chief Executive worked on pending state papers towards noon. He rested briefly this afternoon, and then continued poring over important papers on the affairs of the state.

He turned in early for the night.

July 6.—THIS day President Garcia further bolstered the chances of victory of the Nacionalista Party in Leyte by an overwhelming majority when he received the pledge of support from former Speaker Protempore Domingo Veloso, LP stalwart, at a conference held in Malacañang.

After the conference Veloso said that “the claim of President Garcia that he will receive a majority of 100,000 votes in both Leyte provinces is a modest estimate because it did not include the support of my faction.”

Earlier the President received Rep. Frank T. Bow of Chio, who was accompanied on his courtesy call by Elmer R. Hipsley of the U. S. State Department, and Max V. Kreb, political consellor of the U. S. Embassy in Manila.

Former Speaker Jose Laurel accompanied Kenneth Barbier, executive vice-president of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation (Philippines, Inc.), and Ruben R. Ramirez, president of the Ramirez Telephone Corporation of Legaspi City, on their courtesy call on President

Gov Valeriano Gatuslao led a delegation of Occidental Negros politicians who called on President Garcia to renew a pledge of support and discuss local matters. Others in the group included Reps Agustin Gatuslao and Inocencio Ferrer. Placido Esteban, Ramoncito Padilla, and Mayor Luis Magalona of Saravia.

Other callers were Undersecretary Jose Tuazon of Education, who discussed department matters; House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer; and Angel Conccpcion, who is running for representative in the second congressional district of Nueva Ecija

This evening the President met his Cabinet to consider the proposed importation of 4.5 million kilos of Virginia tobacco, but promptly adjourned the session when he found out there was nothing to talk about yet.

Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich, chairman of a special Cabinet committee assigned the task of studying the importation, asked for more time to look into all angles of the controversial proposal.

Fortich told the President that a meeting of his special committee held earlier this day in the office of Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona did not arrive at a unanimous decision on the matter.

The President extended executive clemency to a total of 936 insular prisoners on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of Philippine Independence, Malacañang announced today.

The grant of clemency to the deserving prisoners had been recommended by the Board of Pardons and Paroles.

Of these prisoners, 760 were given commutation of sentence, 128 conditional pardons, and 48 absolute pardons.

The names of those granted executive clemency will be released some time next Week.

July 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia today asked Gov. Juan Frivaldo and Rep. Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon to cooperate with other government officials in expediting the acquisition of land to be traversed by the extension of the railroad line from Albay to Sorsogon.

The President issued the appeal at a conference held in Malacañang in an effort to meet the deadline for the commencement of work on the Sorsogon railroad extension project, scheduled for this September.

The Sorsogon officials were informed by the President that the acquisition on rights of way along the railroad line might hold up the start of the project.

For initial expenses of construction work in the southern line, President Garcia told the Sorsogon officials the amount of P2 million is already prepared. At the sametime he lauded landowners of Nueva Ecija, Nueva Vizcaya, Isabela, and Cagayan who donated parcels of land traversed by the Cagayan Valley railroad extension.

The President also received a big delegation of Quezon residents, led by Gov. Claro Robles and Remy Aguila, NP congressional aspirant, and discussed local problems.

In accordance with his policy of giving more attention to rural areas, the President at a conference with Rep. Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental authorized the release of P16,000 for the construction of barrio roads in Claveria, P10,000 for the construction of feeder roads in Sagay, and granted a budgetary aid of P8,000 to Claveria in view of a deficit caused by typhoons and rat infestation which adversely affected tax collections in the municipality, aside from P7,000 as typhoon relief.

Rep. Dugenio was accompanied by former Provincial Board Member Sixto Avaro, Inocencia Ladao of Sagay, and Mayor Gerardo Urcallo of Claveria.

Other callers included Rep. Guillermo Sanchez of Agusan, GSIS General Manager Rodolfo Andal, and Undersecretary of Education Jose Tuazon, who accompanied School Superintendent Roman F. Lorenzo of Rizal.

Earlier President Garcia granted an exclusive interview to Mrs. Ligaya Victorio-Fruto, staff writer of the *Star Bulletin* of Honolulu.

The President directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco today to give priority to the release of P32.5 million corresponding to the full implementation of the Wage and Position Classification Office (WAPCO) salary plan beginning July 1.

Commissioner Sy-Changco, in a budget circular concurred in by Auditor General Pedro M. Gimenez and Civil Service Commissioner Amado del Rosario, said that government agencies may now approve the payment of salaries to employees whose positions have been upgraded by the WAPCO without change in title or designation.

However, employees whose positions have been reclassified by WAPCO with change in title or designation may be paid salary adjustments only after the issuance and approval of individual appointments.

The President also directed today Civil Service Commissioner Amado del Rosario to formulate a well-defined procedure for the replacement of non-eligibles in government offices and agencies in such a manner that it would be carried on gradually so as not to impair or prejudice seriously public service.

The President was prompted to issue this directive following a report by Chairman Buenaventura Ocampo of the PCAPE that a sudden and immediate laying off of non-eligibles would seriously disrupt the services in many offices. The directive was made through Executive Secretary Castillo.

Chairman Ocampo said that he has received inquiries from, many government offices requesting advice as to how they can implement the Civil Service Law regarding employment of eligibles without seriously impairing their services since immediate replacement of non-eligibles in their offices is not feasible. It was claimed that there are not enough eligibles to replace the non-eligibles.

The question was posed as to whether continued employment of non-eligibles pending availability of eligibles may be allowed. These questions were posed to Civil Service Commissioner Amado del Rosario this afternoon by Vice-Chairman Maximo A. Maceren of the PCAPE in a conference held at the former's office.

Commissioner del Rosario said that he did not intend a sudden and abrupt laying-off of non-eligibles. It was pointed out that under the present Civil Service Law, as in the old one, there is a provision that permits the appointment of non-eligibles as provisional employees pending certification from the Civil Service Commission of eligibles.

Under this provision the employment of non-eligibles may be extended without incurring any liability under the law. Many heads of offices did not have a clear understanding of the proper interpretation of this provision. It was felt that a clarification on this matter should be made. In view of this the President also directed Commissioner del Rosario to clarify this point.

Another point which the President directed Commissioner del Rosario to consider seriously was the problem of many government employees who are non-eligibles but have been in the service in many instances for as long as ten years. The President directed Commissioner del Rosario to adopt means within the framework of the present Civil Service Law which will give these non-eligibles every opportunity to qualify in an appropriate examination so that they may be retained in the government service.

July 8.—THE President spent a restful day, keeping much to himself at his Bohol Avenue residence and receiving only a few caller previously screened as having urgent business with him.

Keeping most of the time in his study room at his private residence, the Chief Executive tackled a big pile of state papers that have accumulated since the Independence Day celebrations.

The President also conferred with some of his Palace assistants and plotted with them the course of his political campaign during the ensuing days until the middle of August. His tentative plans will take him to Isabela Cagayan, Mindoro, Romblon, Masbate, and Southern Mindanao between the last half of July and the first half of August.

Among those who called on the President were Rep. Vicente Peralta and Gov. Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte.

In the evening President Garcia motored to the residence of Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, on Nebraska, Malate, to felicitate the PCAPE Chief on his birth.

Source: National Library of the Philippines

President's Week in Review: July 9-15, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 9.—EARLY this morning the Chief Executive heard an early mass with Mrs. Garcia at their Bohol Avenue residence.

President Garcia pursued his new hobby today by playing golf at the Valley Golf Club in Antipolo, Rizal, the whole morning.

The President was paired with Celso S. Tuason, president of the golf club. They piled up a total of 105 points, edging out their rival pair, former Chief Justice Ricardo Paras and Antonio Gonzales, who scored 117.

The Chief Executive was accompanied to the new golf club by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable; Dr. Antonio Guytingco, personal physician of the President; and Cmdr. Melchor Fronda, aide.

After an all-morning round of golf at the Valley Golf Club, President Garcia had lunch and then rested briefly for an afternoon siesta.

In the evening, at 7:30 o'clock, the President left his residence and motored to the Manila Hotel to address a dinner of the Philippine Institute of Architects at the Winter Garden.

July 10.—THIS morning the President called for Land Registration Commissioner Antonio H. Noblejas and ordered him to intensify the distribution of land titles to the barrios and other rural areas.

Noblejas was accompanied to Malacañang by Assistant Commissioner Gregorio Bilog, Jr., and Cesar Vergara, LRC technical assistant.

In the afternoon the President received Rodrigo and Consuelo Lim, who briefed him on the political situation in Misamis Oriental, home province of the Liberal vice-presidential aspirant, Emmanuel Pelaez.

Former Gov. Bernardo Torres of Leyte then called to report to the Chief Executive that the Garcia-Puyat team will win by a comfortable margin in his province, with the President assured of more than 100,000-vote majority.

Rep. Salipada K. Pendatun of Cotabato and Gov. Madki Alonto of Lanao del Sur also reported that the Garcia-Puyat team will win in Lanao by a bigger majority this time than in 1957 when Yulo ran as LP candidate.

President Garcia emphasized the importance of science in national development as he received from Go Kim Pah, president of the Equitable Banking Corporation, a donation of P20,000 for research work at the National Science Development Board.

He accepted Go's donation during a brief ceremony held at Malacañang in the eve.

Present during the turn-over rites were Dr. Paulino Garcia, NSDB chairman; Dr. Frank Co Tui, ICA adviser; Dr. Casimiro del Rosario, NSDB vice-chairman; Atomic Energy Commissioner Florencio Medina; Commissioner Canuto Manuel of the National Institute of Science and Technology; Rev. William J. Schmidt; Brother Benedict; and Brother Richards.

July 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia said today he will soon fill up all the vacancies in the judiciary to prevent the clogging of court dockets. The President also said that he will name the president of the Mindanao University in the next few days so that the law creating the Muslim university to lay emphasis on the Muslim culture can be implemented.

In his conference with Sens. Arturo M. Tolentino and Roseller T. Lim at Malacañang this morning, the Chief Executive said he will pick up judges from among the names recommended by the secretary of justice. He said Manila and the suburbs will be given priority in the filling of vacancies but that the entire 50 judgeships will gradually be filled up.

Earlier, the President received the Brotherhood Exchange mission sent by the United Filipino Council of Hawaii to represent the 70,000 Filipinos in Hawaii at the 15th Independence Anniversary and Rizal Centennial celebrations.

The trip was facilitated by the state of Hawaii to promote closer relations between Americans and Filipinos under President Kennedy's people-to-people program.

The mission, which was accompanied to Malacañang by Commissioner Modesto Farolan of the Bureau of Tourist and Travel Industry, included Capt. Roland Sagum, Justo de la Cruz, Andres Baclig, and Richard Caldito, who presented the President with the symbolic key of Maui County.

The President also received a group of Protestant ministers and leaders who paid their respects to the Chief Executive before leaving for their respective countries. Among them were Philippine-born Rev. and Mrs. Taylor Dunlop of Seattle, Washington, Hairik Mayva of Iran, Rev. Ensign Leininger, and Robert Crawford.

The group was accompanied by Dr. Enrique Sobrepeña, general secretary of the United Church of Christ; Dr. Samuel Catli and Dr. Jose Yap, director of Christian Education and executive-secretary, respectively, of the Federation of Christian Churches in the Philippines; and Jose Navarro.

The President also received Rep. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga and his 30-man delegation, who sought relief from the destructive typhoon and flood which hit his province; Rep. Manuel Enverga of Quezon and Lucena Mayor Casto Propogo, who took up problems of their respective jurisdictions and invited the President to inaugurate the city of Lucena on August 19; Rep. Ricardo Y. Ladrido of Iloilo, who also invited the Chief Executive to inaugurate the P250,000 hospital in Lambunao and lay the cornerstones of the P21 million Calinog hydroelectric project and the P100,000 gymnasium in Pototan, Iloilo.

Other callers were Reps. Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Felix Fuentebella of Camarines Sur, Leonardo Perez of Nueva Vizcaya, and Nicanor Y. Yñiguez of Leyte del Sur.

The President today directed the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency to conduct a preliminary fact-finding inquiry into the charges levelled against Undersecretary of Health Rafael Tumbukon by Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia in connection with the recently unearthed drug-supply anomalies.

The Chief Executive issued the directive to Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, upon receipt of a letter of Secretary Valencia denouncing the alleged apparently irregular participation of Undersecretary Tumbukon in the reported anomalies.

Justice Ocampo said that the charges of the Health Secretary is for gross [unreadable] and usurpation of functions in that Undersecretary Tumbukon allegedly signed requisition and issue vouchers when he was not authorized to do so.

President Garcia today administered the oath of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party to nine former Liberals from Lanao del Sur, headed by Ex-Deputy Governor and Liberal Party Chairman Datu Darangina Diampuan of the province.

Sen. Dombcaio Alonto, who accompanied the new Nacionalistas to Malacañang, said the decision of Datu Diampuan to affiliate with the Nacionalistas will trigger off mass defections among Lanao Liberals who are dissatisfied with the LP.

Datu Diampuan presented his resignation from the LP yesterday morning to Rep. Cornelio T. Villareal, who tried to prevail upon him to reconsider his decision. Instead, Datu Diampuan marched to Malacañang with his followers and took his oath before President Garcia, together with Pendatun Dimaporo, Zenaden B. Guro, Togon Cahar, Pacabangan Mama-o, Mangigin Manabuang, Asal Sangopan, Magamora Pangcat, and Tungcap Mortaba.

July 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today renewed the pledge of the Filipino people to defend freedom and to stand by those who champion it.

The President gave this pledge shortly before General Douglas Mac-Arthur and his wife, Jean, boarded their plane at Balagbag airport for their return home at 10 o'clock this morning.

In response to the President, General MacArthur thanked the Filipino people for "the wonderful reception to an old soldier and his sweetheart wife," that they received everywhere they went.

Heavy with the sadness of parting, the two comrades-in-arms clasped hands tightly for a long moment before General and Mrs. MacArthur ascended the ramp of the sleek U.S. military jet transport that took them to the Philippines on their nine-day "sentimental journey."

The President and the First Lady woke up early and presented souvenir gifts to General MacArthur and members of his party at Malacañang. Among the gifts presented were an oil painting of General MacArthur wading ashore at Leyte on October 20, 1944, by Romeo Enriquez; a 16 mm. documentary film of the Independence Day ceremonies of July 4, 1946, at which General MacArthur was guest speaker; autographed framed pictures of the President and First Lady; a *piña* set; a souvenir plaque decorated with the insignias of all military units under MacArthur's command; a box of Philippine cigars; two volumes of newspaper clippings of the trip; a pictorial album of the trip; commemorative medals; a book of stamp collections; a kamagong cane from General Cabal; and a basket of ripe mangoes.

The President and the First Lady then sat at breakfast for the last time with their distinguished guests. Also present were Senate President and Mrs. Eulogio Rodriguez; General Courtney Whitney; Lt. Col. J. Sheedy, General MacArthur's physician; and Col. Jorge Delarmente, Malacañang senior aide.

At 9 a.m., after bidding a fond farewell to veterans who had flocked to Malacañang to see him off, General MacArthur boarded Car No. 1 for the trip to the Balagbag airport. With him in the car were the President, Senate President Rordiguez, General Whitney, and Col. Delarmente. Mrs. Garcia, Mrs. Jean MacArthur, and Mrs. Luisita Rodriguez rode in another car.

As the long motorcade moved slowly from Malacañang to the airport, long lines of people, young and old, crowded the streets to wave goodbye to the general whose name has become a legend to them. The spirit of joy and rejoicing with which they received the American couple on their arrival was, however, missing from their glum faces. They, too, seemed to feel that Mac-Arthur's visit was just a brief flash before the old soldier faded away.

As soon as the general and his party arrived at the airport, a 19-gun salute boomed and the crowd of people from all walks of life who had come to send him off, stood at rigid attention undaunted by a heavy downpour which lasted for about 10 minutes.

Among those at the airport were Nini Quezon-Avanceña, an old friend of the general and his wife, United States Minister John Gordon Mein, Education Secretary Jose Romero, Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug of Foreign Affairs, AFP chief of staff Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, other high government officials, and members of the diplomatic corps headed by Papal Nuncio Salvatore Siino.

After receiving military honors from an AFP unit, and formally bidding [undreadable] the Filipino people, General MacArthur and his party walked to the ramp and waved to the people before entering the plane. Waiting for him at the plane door was Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, who accompanied the general to the Philippines.

As soon as the jet transport had taken off, the President returned to Malacañang where a few unscheduled morning callers awaited him.

Among those who called were Sen. Eulogio Balao and Reps. Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan and Delfin Albano of Isabela, who came to make arrangements for the President's trip to Cagayan Valley to break the ground for the Manila Railroad extension line.

This evening the Cabinet approved the sale of P5.6 million worth of Manila Hotel shares owned by the Manila Railroad Co. to the GSIS on a cash basis.

The decision was reached after the MRR indicated that it might not be able to meet its compulsory retirement benefit obligations amounting to P3.2 million if the transfer of stock to the GSIS is not consummated.

The Cabinet also approved the sale of the Romblon marble project to the Republic Marble Products, Inc., for P750,000 to be paid over a six-year period.

The amount was the minimum set by the CEPOC board in its meeting last February. The private firm will make the five per cent down payment of over P37,000 upon the signing of the contract of sale.

The Cabinet, however, withheld the 12,663 sq.m. lot occupied by the Manila Hotel from the contract of sale to the GSIS.

July 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the Reparations Commission to make available as government counterpart fund to Philippine rural banks the sum of P2 million.

In directing the release of the amount, the President emphasized that the rural banks, of which there are 174 now operating all over the country, are playing a vital role in the economic growth of the country as well as in rescuing the rural populace from the clutches of the usurers.

The President said these banks are creating prosperous middlemen and businessmen in the rural areas where before the Filipino did not even have the proverbial "Chinaman's chance."

Earlier the President inducted the newly-elected officials of the Rural Banks Association of the Philippines at his study room in Malacañang, in the presence of Sens. Domocao Alonto and Ambrosio Padilla, Alfredo Montelibano, and Rep. Maximino Noel of Cebu.

Inducted were Jose E. Desiderio, president; Sergio F. Naguiat, Nestor Jalandoni, and Braulio Villasis, vice-presidents; Procopio C. Reyes, Mrs. Lily A. Padilla, Jose R. Segismundo, Macario C. Tiu, Sr., Juan M. Salang, Eleno de Guzman, Augusto F. Gonzalez, Deogracias T. Reyes, Hermenegildo R. Rosales, Virgilio M. Garcia, and Gaudencio Poblete, directors.

The President also received a ceremonial *kris* from former Rep. Luminog Mangelen of Cotabato, who pledged to the President 70,000 votes from his district and informed the President that he will be proclaimed *sultan otto* when he visits Cotabato.

Ex-Rep. Mangelen, who was still recovering from a recent illness, was accompanied to Malacañang by Sen. Alonto, Marawi City Mayor Macapada Batarra, Cotabato Board Member Datu Samad Mangelen, Bulan Mayor Bai Tonina Mangelen, Ampatuan Mayor Abdullan Sanke, and four others.

The President later conferred with Rep. Ramon P. Mitra of Mountain Province and Acting Central Bank Governor Andres V. Castillo, on the implementation of Republic Act 3089, otherwise known as the Gold Subsidy Act.

Under this law, all gold producers who seek government assistance are required to sell their procedure to the Central Bank at the official price plus a government subsidy of P50 to P60 per ounce.

The Act also provides for the formulation of rules and regulations for its implementation within 30 days from its approval on June 17, and the appointment of three members by the President to complete the Board which will include the Central Bank governor as chairman and the director of the Bureau of Mines as fourth member.

Others who called on the President to discuss problems of their respective jurisdiction and seek fund releases from public works appropriations and the President's contingent fund, were Reps. Reynaldo P. Honrado of Sungao, Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna, Apolinario R. Anacible of Batangas, and Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte; and Mayors Julio Ganaban of Guigoog City and Lucrecio Vasallo of Salay, Misamis Oriental.

President Garcia today asked consumers to be on the alert against hoarders of the imported rice which was brought into this country to force down the price of this cereal to a minimum of P0.85 and a maximum of P.95 per ganta.

The President said he will deal severely with hoarders of the imported rice.

Acting through Executive Secretary Castillo, the President issued separate directives to the PCAPE, the Constabulary, and the NAMARCO to coordinate their efforts in preventing the hoarding of the cereal. The President emphasized, the all-out cooperation of the public will be needed on this matter. President Garcia reminded consumers that they can avail themselves of the telegram at P0.10 to denounce any anomaly that may be unearthed by them. Such telegrams may be sent directly to him or to the PCAPE, he said.

The President stressed that hoarding of the imported rice would defeat the purpose of its importation which is to force down the price of this cereal and make it available to the poor people at not more than P0.95 per ganta.

President Garcia also congratulated NAMARCO Manager Jose Orosa for adopting a "foolproof" system of distribution.

In a report to the President this afternoon, Orosa explained that he had written all provincial governors and mayors alerting them of the system of distribution. The system as explained by Orosa follows: (1) A Constabulary soldier will accompany the rice shipment to its destination, (2) the NAMARCO wires the provincial officials the date that the rice had been shipped together with a statement of the amount of rice shipped and the selling price per ganta, (3) the provincial and town officials acknowledges the NAMARCO wire with a telegram of their own stating that they had checked on the NAMARCO distributor, and finally (4) the provincial and town officials are asked to watch the price of rice, nowhere in the country should it sell for more than P0.95 a ganta.

President Garcia this evening postponed his trip to Isabela and Cagayan provinces because of the typhoon and inclement weather in that area. His security officials informed the President that typhoon signals had been raised over the Cagayan Valley.

No definite date for the President's visit to Isabela and Cagayan provinces were announced.

July 14.—THE Chief Executive conferred early in the morning with Juan C. Pajo, chairman of the Philippine National Bank board of directors. They reportedly discussed Bohol politics.

After Pajo's call, Vice-Gov. Benigno S. Aquino of Tarlac came in for a conference with the President. A palace statement said "Ninoy" informed the President that the airstrip in Cauayan, Isabela, where President Garcia was to have landed on the first leg of a projected three-day stump of the Cagayan Valley, was under water. The President had cancelled the trip.

Teofilo Zosa, general manager of the Manila Railroad Company, also called to the President presumably to find out when the Chief Executive would be able to make the trip to Cagayan Valley.

The Cagayan Valley trip which the President cancelled was to have been highlighted by his laying of the cornerstone of the terminal of the proposed MRR extension line to Tuguegarao.

Towards noon Emiliano Melgazo, Leyte provincial board member, and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable called one after the other on the President.

Nable reportedly took up with the President the latest blast of Vice-President Macapagal against Malacañang.

President Garcia set an early Cabinet discussion of a new proposal of the National Economic Council to import an additional 180,230 metric tons of rice to remedy an expected shortage of the cereal for the month of August.

The President received from Jose C. Locsin, NEC chairman, a report justifying the need for more rice imports, in addition to the 100,000 metric tons already authorized by the Cabinet, part of which is now being re-sold in Manila.

July 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia took an early week-end respite from the usual grueling sessions with official callers. He kept much to himself in his study room in Malacañang.

The Chief Executive did not see any visitor after leaving specific instructions to his aides that he did not want to be disturbed. He devoted much of his time to studies of pending state papers.

In the afternoon President Garcia had a round of billiard games with Major Jose Estrella, junior presidential aide.

He then conferred with Press Secretary Jose C. Nable. The President informed Nable that he had ordered early start of work on the multi-million-peso extension of the Manila Railroad lines to Cagayan Valley. He said he had ordered Teofilo Zosa, MRR manager, to cause the immediate start of construction work. He conferred with Zosa earlier.

Zosa had earlier postponed work on the project in view of the inability of the President to make the scheduled weekend trip to Tuguegarao, Cagayan, to lay the cornerstone of the MRR terminal building in the capital town of Cagayan.

Source: **National Library of the Philippines**

President's Week in Review: July 16-22, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent a quiet Sunday at Malacañang. In the morning he heard mass at the Malacañang chapel. After mass the President had his breakfast alone, as the First Lady had to attend a wedding ceremony. Then he spent some time with his granddaughter, Maricar, before he read the Sunday newspapers, after which he studied state papers until noontime.

Partaking of a light lunch, the President then rested and read the Holy Bible, which had been given to him by Francis Cardinal Spellman.

In the evening he attended the *asalto* held at the Malacañang social hall by Cabinet and Congress ladies in honor of Mrs. Garcia, who is celebrating her 55th birth anniversary today.

The special Cabinet committee on the development of the Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan area submitted its five-year program proposal to President Garcia today.

The plan calls for a total expenditure of P1.23 billion, starting off with a P214 million initial outlay for 1962.

Private participation in the plan will constitute P530 million, or roughly 40 per cent of the total.

Chairman Jose C. Locsin of the National Economic Council, head of the special committee, said the program covers the development of agriculture, mining, and manufacturing on a precedent-setting scale; the development of transportation and communication, education and public health, community development; and the improvement of public administration skills and practices in the area.

The report said that the revenue would be taken from the Mindanao Development Authority, government revenue, reparations, foreign aid and loans, as well as particular allotments from the national government.

The lion's share of the program has been allotted to construction with P478 million, with manufacturing projects rating second with P276 million.

In agriculture the program calls for expansion of crop, livestock, and fish production; forest conservation and use; new approaches to development of agricultural estates; and a reexamination of the land tax patterns and leases.

July 17.—EARLIER this morning the President assisted the First Lady in celebrating the latter's 55th birth anniversary. They heard mass at Malacañang and received well-wishers.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive reenacted his signing last June 17 of a bill converting Mrs. Garcia's hometown, Opon, in Cebu, into a chartered city to be known as Lapu-Lapu City.

After the ceremony the President and the First Lady were entertained with a Happy Birthday program by the Garcia for Reelection Movement in Manila.

During the program the performance of Dominador, Alicia, and Domingo de Guzman 7, 5, and 3 years, respectively, who were accompanied on the guitar by their grandfather, Romulo San Jose, drew warm applause.

However, Maricar, the President's granddaughter stole the show when she shouted "again" at the end of an improvised piece called Reelect Garcia President.

Among the songs rendered by the De Guzman kids were “Happy Birthday To You,” “I Love You,” and “Abadabada,” which were rendered in their Tagalog versions.

The Malacañang Newsmen’ Association, led by its president, Mabini Rey Centeno, also greeted the First Lady in the afternoon and presented her with a gift.

This evening the President braced up for a scheduled meeting at 10 a.m. tomorrow with the Council of Leaders at his Bohol Avenue residence in Quezon City.

Principal figures in the conference will be the President himself and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., who has been agitating for the Council’s meeting so that his demand for reforms may be satisfied.

Palace sources said the President plotted up to this evening the strategy he would follow tomorrow, and boned up on background materials to cope with any surprise move the Amang make tomorrow.

July 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia conducted a marathon session today with members of the Council of Leaders in a formal sealing of his rapprochement with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr.

The Chief Executive sat down with the Council of Leaders at 10 a.m. at the presidential private study room and they immediately plunged into business scheduled for the conference. The meeting broke up at 8:05 p.m.

The unforeseen extension of the Council of Leaders meeting prompted the President to cancel his afternoon engagements, including the scheduled presentation of the credentials of Korean Ambassador-designate Honko Lee.

The formal accreditation was re-scheduled for 5 o’clock tomorrow afternoon.

Before meeting the members of the Council of Leaders, the President received Dr. Maurice Galante, and Luis and Gregorio Lacson. The three were accompanied by the Senate President Protempore.

Earlier President Garcia authorized the release of P100,000 for the waterworks system of Padada, Davao, and P50,000 for the construction of feeder roads in the same municipality.

The President released the money after administering the oath of affiliation with the, Nacionalista Party to Mayor Gregorio M. Matas of Padada. Matas was also the district chairman of the Liberal Party in southern Davao. Present at the affiliation ceremony were Juan C. Pajo, chairman of the board of the Philippine National Bank; Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang of Bohol; Davao City Councilor Dominador Zuño; Niño Ramirez; Malacañang Executive Assistants Jose Ma. Rocha and Edilberto Gallares; and Gaudioso Tiongco.

July 19—PRESIDENT Garcia today scored again when he raided Liberal ranks and came out with three Liberal mayors and one vice-mayor wrapped up in the Nacionalista fold.

The President administered the oath of affiliation at Malacañang to the following Liberals from Camarines Sur; Mayor Jaime Sibulo of San Fernando, Mayor Napoleon Pendor of Del Gallego, Mayor Hilarion Rodriguesa of Bombon, and Vice-Mayor Francisco Binondo of Magarao.

The latest incursion of the President in the LP ranks leaves only two LP mayors in the first district of Camarines Sur while the Nacionalista ranks have swelled to ten.

The defection of the three LP mayors swung the balance of power from the LPs to the NPs in the municipal level from 18-18 tie to 21-15 advantage in the whole province.

The new NP converts who pledged to support the Garcia-Puyat ticket informed the President that in the near future other Liberals in their province are going to defect.

Earlier the President received a group of financiers who represented Don Julio Muñoz and whose purpose is to invest capital to accelerate the industrialization program of the President.

Given the proper incentives, the foreign financiers are willing to invest up to \$50 million in the Philippines, according to a spokesman of the group.

The financiers whose headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland, represent financiers from Great Britain, Switzerland, and Spain.

The group was composed of Dr. Jaime Ferrer, Justice Salvador Viado, and Prof. Antonio de Luna, who were accompanied to Malacañang by Santiago Abraham, president of the Ajax International (Philippines), and Jose Llamas.

The President also received Gov. Felipe Garduque of Cagayan with whom he discussed some pressing problems of the province.

This afternoon the President directed the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency to look into the case of one, Antonio R. Pigar, temporary letter-carrier of Binalbagan, Negros Occidental, who had allegedly been discriminated against in his bid for re-appointment to the same job he occupied for more than five years, until laid-off for lack of funds.

The Chief Executive issued the directive to Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, after reading the letter of appeal sent him by Pigar.

The letter-carrier informed the President that when the position of letter-carrier was re-created, another person who is also a non-eligible like him was allegedly given undue preference despite his "better qualifications" both in length of service and educational attainment.

The other candidate to the position is not even a high school graduate and, even though he had also worked as letter-carrier for the same municipality, his experience as such, is sorter, compared to his experience, Pigar said.

President Garcia today underscored his concern for the welfare of labor, not only because of its vital role in the country's economic development but because labor is less fortunate and deserves more benefit than many other sectors of the populace.

The President added that labor is the counterpart of capital in building up the economy and that, without labor, capital is useless; so labor must receive its just due from the benefits of progress and prosperity brought about by economic development.

The President made those observations before some 50 labor leaders from Mountain Province who called on him to express their gratitude for his approval of the Gold Subsidy bill and to pledge their unconditional support to his re-election in November.

The delegation which was accompanied to Malacañang this afternoon by Rep. Ramon P. Mitra. Sr., and Gov. Bado Dangwa of Mountain Province, included Engrs. P. Quinto and J. S. Perfecto of Benguet Consolidated, Inc.; Abraham Brillantes and Marcos Danaguin, president and vice-president, respectively of Bohok Lumberjacks Association; Ernesto, Abraham and Ramon Lanag, president and vice-president, respectively, Baguio Gold Mining Laborers Union Crispin Ballang, president of Itogon Mining Labor Union; Mariano Dula and Simplicio Hiquiana, president and secretary, respectively, Benguet Exploration Miners Union; and the following members of the board

of Benguet-Balatoc Workers Union: Vicente Oximana, president; James Lucero, vice-president; Benjamin Dumo, secretary; Teodorico Calica, assistant to the president; Gregorio Adaci; Juan Calub and Fernando Aoanan.

Before proceeding to the Cabinet meeting, the President received Harry Welker, editor of the New York Herald-Tribune Syndicate, who came to pay his respects to the Chief Executive. Welker is leaving Monday for Hongkong and Tokyo after spending a week in the Philippines gathering materials on the local election campaign for a series of articles on the Far East.

President Garcia and Korean Ambassador-designate Honkon Lee this afternoon reaffirmed their countries' determination to continue the struggle against communism and the maintenance of their freedom and independence.

The Philippine Chief Executive and the new Korean ambassador exchanged pledges at the presentation of the latter's letters of credence at the Malacañang ceremonial hall this afternoon at 5 p.m.

In reply to the ambassador's cordial greetings and request for close cooperation between the two governments, the President recalled Philippine participation in Korea's struggle for independence and in her fight for membership in the United Nations, and assured him of the full cooperation of the entire Philippine officialdom.

The new ambassador of Korea is a young general of 41 years, a professional soldier who rose to chief of staff of the ROK army before retiring in 1957 to become national commander of the Korean Veterans Association. He succeeds former Ambassador Lincoln Hoon Kim.

The Korean ambassador was accompanied to Malacañang by Minister Pedro Angara-Aragon; Col. Young Juhng Pak, Korean military attache; Consul Choong Whay Koo; and Third Secretary Sung Moo Park of the Korean embassy in Manila.

Among those present at the presentation ceremonies were Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Secretaries Florencio Moreno of Public Works, Alejo Santos of Defense, Elpidio Valencia of Health, Manuel Lim of Commerce, and Serafin Salvador of General Services, Chairman Jose C. Locsin of the National Economic Council, Paulino J. Garcia of the National Science Development Board, Buenaventura Ocampo of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, Lugum Uka of National Integration, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug, Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema, and Ministers Manuel G. Zamora and Manuel Collantes.

The importation of another 100,000 metric tons of rice to lower prices was approved by the Cabinet this evening.

The additional rice, estimated to cost \$12 million, is expected to fill the expected shortage for the months of August and September.

President Garcia created a five-man committee to study the financing aspects of the transaction and to find out if the Philippines can take advantage of the farm surplus program of the United States government.

The Chief Executive pointed out as a possibility, the tapping of a group of European financiers who had indicated a willingness to invest up to \$50 million to help ease the financial difficulties of the country. The financiers called on the President earlier today.

Members of the committee chairmanned by Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim are NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Economic Administrator Juan O. Chioco, and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug.

The Cabinet decision was based on the certification of the NEC that there would be a total shortage of 1.127 million cavans of rice in July; 1.802 million cavans in August; and 1.323 million cavans in September.

July 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia today issued an administrative order prohibiting public officers and employees from entering into certain kinds of official transaction with spouses and relatives of the President, Vice-President, Senate President, and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Administrative Order No. 359, which was signed by the President this afternoon is in pursuance to Republic Act No. 3019, otherwise known as the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practice Law.

The order prohibits public officers and employees from dealing directly or indirectly with relatives of the four high government officials either by affinity or consanguinity up to the third civil degree “in any business, transaction, contract, or application with the government or any other matter calling for action or decision by such officers or employees.”

The President in his order warned that any officer or employee of the government or of government-owned or controlled corporations found violating the prohibition shall be “dealt with accordingly.”

Under section 5 of Republic Act No. 3019, known as the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act, it is unlawful for same relatives of these four high government officials to intervene, directly or indirectly, in the same type of transactions with the government.

This particular provision, however, does not apply to persons who, prior to the assumption of office of the officials to whom they are related, have already been dealing with the government along the same lines of transaction, nor to transaction already existing or pending at the time of assumption to office of the officials.

Neither does this provision of law apply to any application the approval of which is not discretionary on the part of the official concerned but depends upon compliance with requisites provided by law, or rules or regulations issued pursuant to law, nor to any act lawfully performed in an official capacity or in the exercise of a profession.

The President today directed the Department of Justice to give full legal assistance in the criminal prosecution of violators of the ceiling price law.

The presidential directive was issued after President Garcia ordered the immediate prosecution of a Quezon City NAMARCO retailer who was allegedly found selling NAMARCO rice at P1.20 in violation of a presidential directive to sell the imported cereal at P0.85.

The NAMARCO retailer whose identity was not disclosed was apprehended by Vicente Hechanova, team leader of the PCAPE-Department of Commerce agents engaged in “operation normal prices” campaign waged by the government to prevent the hoarding and overpricing of prime commodities.

The President again took occasion to renew his appeal to the people to report any irregularity or violation in the sale of the NAMARCO rice and urged them to make use of the “ten-centavo” telegram in filing their complaint directly with him or with the PCAPE.

He emphasized that all-out cooperation of consumers would insure successful distribution of the imported rice.

The case of the NAMARCO retailer was submitted to the legal panel of the Commerce Department preparatory to the formal filing of the charges before the Quezon City fiscal’s office.

Under Republic Act No. 4164, persons engaged in the retail business of prime commodities are required to price prime commodities in accordance with the ceiling price law. Any person or retailer found violating this requirement will be penalized with a fine ranging from P200 to not more than P2,000 or six months imprisonment or both.

July 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia today rejected outright all possible Russian moves to open diplomatic relations with the Philippines.

The President's rejection was a strong reiteration of his policy that, as long as he is President of the Republic, he would not entertain any proposal towards opening diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

In a telephone conversation with Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano early this morning, the President consulted Serrano about the news reports from Filipino newsmen now on a tour of Russia that "the Soviet Union is ready anytime to establish diplomatic relations with the Philippines." The newsmen's report quoted as their source Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Nicolai Phirubin.

The President left at 7 o'clock this evening on board the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* for a seven-day barnstorming tour of five southern Tagalog island provinces. These are Romblon, Masbate, Marinduque, to Mindoro Occidental and Mindoro Oriental.

The Chief Executive was accompanied by Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia, political leaders, and wives of Cabinet members senators, and congressmen.

President Garcia continued working on pending state papers in efforts to clear his desk before he pulled out for the island provinces in the evening.

July 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia was in a fighting mood today, obviously elated by the elimination of a thorny problem to the Nacionalista Party election drive: the formulation of a senatorial slate.

Rising early from a good night's rest, the President wrested from newsmen, during an informal press conference aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* the initiative in commenting on current political issues.

The Chief Executive did not need much prodding in answering his opposition rival's criticism of his administrative order banning relatives of the President, the Vice-President, the Senate President, and the Speaker from certain government transactions.

Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal was quoted as having declared that President Garcia should have followed the late President Magsaysay's example" by issuing the ban upon assuming the presidency four years ago.

"Obviously," the President fumed, "Macapagal is ignorant of the fact that Republic Act 3019 (Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Law) was enacted only last year and my administrative order is grounded on that status rather than an imitation of President Magsaysay."

"I'm no carbon copy of Ramon Magsaysay," President Garcia stressed as he explained that he could not have revived the Magsaysay ban before the passage of the anti-graft law because he considered it "untenable from the legal point of view."

President Garcia observed that the Magsaysay ban was issued without benefit of a thorough legal study and had the effect of completely denying the President's relatives access to their government.

"But with the passage of the anti-graft law," he added, "the situation is entirely different since the statute now pinpoints specific transactions in the government which presidential kin may not engage in."

President talked to newsmen shortly before he disembarked in Odiongan, Romblon, to address a morning rally at the local plaza.

In his stumping speech President Garcia accused Vice-President Macapagal of doing nothing concrete for the masses.

"Will hand-shaking solve the problems of the nation?" the President asked with sarcasm.

Odiongan is the first stop of the President's seven-day stumping tour in Romblon, Masbate, Mindoro Oriental, Mindoro Occidental, Catanduanes, and Marinduque.

President Garcia covered some 54 kilometers of territory, including Odiongan, Despujol, Calatrava, San Agustin, and Romblon towns with two major rallies and two whistle stops.

With the presidential party are Secretary of Public Works Florencio Moreno, Rep. Jose D. Moreno, Mrs. Garcia, Secretary Dominador Aytona, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez, Mrs. Elpidio Valencia, Mrs. Isagani V. Campo, and other high officials.

President Garcia, in his speech, warned that the return of the Liberals to power would restore a regime of terror.

The President administered the path of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party of 92 Liberal Party leaders in Romblon, among them ex-Mayor Federico Maaba, ex-Councilor Andres Pitalino, Celso Balqueza, and Policarpio and Antonio Mongari.

In San Agustin, Odiongan, and Romblon towns the President cited progress attained by the nation during the NP regime, including improved living conditions of the rural people and unprecedented advance in industry.

President Garcia today proclaimed Tuesday, July 25, 1961, as College Editors' Day. The proclamation was issued in conjunction with the pearl anniversary of the College Editors' Guild.

The President cited in his proclamation the College Editors' Guild for having been "instrumental in fostering closer understanding among our student constituencies, insuring freedom of the college press, encouraging good literature, elevating the standards of collegiate journalism, and rendering service to the country through the dissemination of knowledge and information."

Source: **National Library of the Philippines**

President's Week in Review: July 23-29, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 23.—THE President crisscrossed Masbate in a whole day stumping tour which started in Cataingan town at 8 this morning and wound up with tonight's rally in Masbate, Masbate. He motored a total of 70 kilometers, delivering speeches in population centers on the way.

The President noted that like Romblon, where he campaigned the whole day yesterday Masbate is predominantly Nacionalista in sentiment.

President Garcia woke up early aboard the *Lapu-Lapu* this morning and partook of a hearty breakfast. He was in a jolly mood as he assessed the political situation with newsmen covering his trip, his third barnstorming tour since his nomination as reelectionist NP standard bearer last June 3.

As usual the President exuded optimism of NP victory in the November 14 polls and he gave another reason for his confidence. He cited what he called the weakness of the Liberal Party at the grassroots level.

Asked to elaborate on his estimate; of the situation, the President called attention to the failure of the Liberal Party until now, he said, to complete its lineup for the 120 congressional districts. He quickly attributed such "failure" to the reluctance of good candidates to carry the LP banner in the electoral contest.

"That is suicidal," said the President, as he argued that: congressional candidates are important in the overall scheme of the national-elections because they carry the brunt of the barrio-to-barrio campaign for the national ticket.

The Chief Executive claimed that the situation in the Nacionalista Party camp was the exact opposite because in, almost all congressional districts; several candidates are vying for the chance to bear the NP banner;

At this juncture, he pointed to former *Chronicle* political reporter Francisco "Kiko" Dipasupil, who wants to be the official NP candidate for, the second congressional seat of Batangas, along with incumbent Rep. Numeriano U. Babao and several others.

The President wished Dipasupil good luck and virtually assured him of his blessings. President Garcia himself invited the former newsman to join him in his current vote-winning drive.

President Garcia sailed for Marinduque tonight aboard RPS *Lapu-Lapu* confident of having sewed up the votes of Masbate for the Nacionalista ticket.

July 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia breezed through dangerous grounds today as he stumped in Boac, Marinduque at the height of the rivalry between the warring Nacionalista Party factions headed by Gov. Miguel Manguera and reelectionist Rep. Francisco Lecaroz.

The President had a hard time steering clear of the raging intramurals, which he described in Masbate yesterday as proof of Nacionalista strength at the grassroots. He has welcomed as a good sign the fact that many seek the NP congressional candidacies.

Gov Manguera, the President was informed is pitting Edmundo Reyes against Rep Lecaroz, who is reported to have the backing of no less than Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez. Both factions are fighting to get the NP election inspectors.

The intra-party wrangling, however, did not prevent President Garcia from winning more converts for the Nacionalista Party. In between whistlestops today he administered the oath of affiliation with the NP to Buenavista Mayor Claudio M. Mabunga and his Liberal followers.

The defection of the Mabunga group left the Liberal Party with only one municipal mayor in the entire province of Marinduque.

The President capitalized on the defection to bolster his claim that his visit in Marinduque has turned the political tide in favor of the Nacionalista.

The Chief Executive was an inspired man as he reiterated his pledge to see to it that the November 14 elections are free, clean, and orderly.

“I would rather lose in an untainted election than win in a poll marked by dishonesty and terrorism,” declared President Garcia in major speeches.

He then recalled “the rape of democracy” during the Liberal Party regime, citing such infamous cases as the killing of the Nacua brothers in Cebu and the Moises Padilla tragedy in Negros Occidental.

Attacking his LP rival, the President asked his audiences where Vice-President Macapagal was at the time, and what he was doing to stop the trampling of civil rights.

“Macapagal stood aloof to the challenges of the time,” the President charged;

The presidential party landed at Sta. Cruz town at 9 this morning aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* from Masbate. From Sta. Cruz President Garcia traversed Marinduque, whistlestopping in population centers until he reached Boac. He sailed for Mindoro Occidental tonight from the municipal port of Balanacan.

July 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia today stumped Liberal-controlled province of Mindoro Occidental where he made definite gains by his visit.

With a potential voting population of 25,000, the President expected to receive 55 per cent of the votes. He delivered a major political speech in the town plaza where a huge crowd heard him defend the Administration against opposition attacks.

Emphasizing the unequalled record of the Administration in its service to the people and country, the President warned against the return of the Liberals to power which, he said, would signal the return of wholesale looting of the nation’s wealth and poll frauds, such as those committed in 1949.

The Chief Executive also squarely faced the issue of rising prices of prime commodities, explaining that this was merely a worldwide trend which naturally affects the Philippines.

The President was met by provincial and town party officials. A colorful fluvial parade of gaily decorated bancas and fishing boats met the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* as it steamed into port late this afternoon.

The President will stump in Mindoro Oriental the whole day tomorrow before returning to Manila.

July 26.—OVERWHELMED by the spontaneous and unprecedentedly large welcome at Pinamalayan earlier this morning, the President said that he felt proud and happy that he had justified the confidence of the people of the province who gave him a big majority in the 1957 elections by keeping his promise for the improvement of their lot.

The President and party arrived in Pinamalayan at 9:30 a.m. and were met at an improvised wharf by 10,000 cheering people headed by Dominador Madrid, ex-Rep. Conrado Morente, NP Congressional Candidate Jose Leido, Jr., and a host of others.

From the wharf the President and the First Lady proceeded to the Church for *Te Deum* and later held conferences with local officials at the municipal building.

After speaking briefly at the rally, the President had lunch at Mayor Madrid's residence before boarding the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for Calapan.

In Calapan the President, accompanied by the First Lady and Constancio Leuterio, received another rousing welcome. He proceeded to church for *Te Deum* and later conferred with local officials.

President Garcia today renewed his challenge to the opposition to lay aside negative thinking and destructive criticism for constructive proposals as he wound up his week-long island-hopping in Calapan, Mindoro Oriental.

After addressing a rally and dinner at Rep. Leido's residence, the President boarded the *Lapu-Lapu* for the return trip to Manila.

The President and the First Lady wired from the *Lapu-Lapu* their condolence to the surviving member of the family of Court Appeals Justice Manuel Mejia, who perished with his wife and seven children in a fire which gutted their house in Malate.

Julieta, 14, a sixth grade pupil of barrio Subaan, Pula, is suffering from brain tumor followed by gradual loss of hearing and eyesight as well as severe headache.

Mrs. Gertrudes Nolasco, the mother, said she first noticed symptoms in May this year and had unsuccessfully tried to secure treatment locally. The child's parents are poor farmers.

Upon being told of the case of the girl at his conference with Pinamalayan municipal officials, the President directed Dr. Antonio Guytingco, presidential physician, to diagnose the case. Dr. Guytingco recommended the immediate airlifting of Julieta to Manila.

July 27.—THE President arrived shortly after 9 a.m. today from a five-day stumping tour of the five southern provinces and was met by political leaders from Manila, Occidental Negros, Samar, Nueva Ecija, and Capiz, with whom he conferred briefly on local matters.

President Garcia expressed confidence that he is going to win in the provinces of Romblon, Masbate, Marinduque, Mindoro Oriental, and Mindoro Occidental at a conference with Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez and House Majority Floor Leader Rep. Jose Aldeguer, who met him upon his arrival on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

Among the welcomers from Manila were Mrs. Marina Francisco, widow of the late Rep. Augusto Francisco of the fourth district, and Councilors Alfredo Gomez, Gonzalo-Santos Rivera, Francisco Gatmaitan, Eriberto Remigio, and Vicente Cruz.

Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao led a delegation of Negros Occidental NP leaders composed of Board Member N. Jocson, Jose Espino, Ramoncito Padilla, Placido Esteban, and Francis Medel, who conferred on local matters with the President.

Other callers were Vice-Gov. Inday Melencio of Nueva Ecija, former Rep. Carmen D. Consing, former Gov. Jose Dinglasan of Capiz, and Reps. Eladio Balite and Valeriano Yancha of Samar.

From the *Lapu-Lapu*, the President motored to the Funeraria National to express personally his condolences to the surviving members of the family of the late Justice Manuel Mejia, who met a tragic death, together with his wife and seven children, in an early morning fire which completely destroyed his home in Maytubig, Malate, yesterday.

The President this day ordered the chairman of the Board of Liquidators to facilitate the release of two parcels of land located in Davao and Cotabato so that the P300, 000 government coffee processing plant could be immediately constructed in these provinces.

The Chief Executive issued the directive upon being informed by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, that the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration, in collaboration with the International Cooperative Administration, has all the machinery and construction materials ready to cut up the plant. The plant site is still under consideration.

In a conference between ACCFA Administrator Vicente Araneta and PCAPE Chairman Maximo Maceren, Araneta said that check for P70,000 will be flown to Davao, Monday, by an ACCFA official and the President the Coffee Growers Cooperative Marketing Association to be used in the purchase of coffee beans produced in that region. The purchase of the coffee beans by the COGCOMA through the ACCFA on a commodity loan basis is being undertaken to assist coffee growers in obtaining a better price for their beans.

July 28.—THIS noon the President stated that it is essential to increase rice and corn production in this country not only to maintain self-sufficiency but also to keep cereal prices within the reach of the lower income sections of the population.

The President made the statement at Malacañang Park after awarding the prizes to the winners of the third national rice and corn production contest.

“When we have increased production and kept prices down, then we can claim that we really have achieved something,” the President said.

The President took the opportunity to congratulate the winners for increasing the yield in their farms when before the Nacionalista administration was returned to power, it was considered impossible to harvest 50 cavans of palay per hectare.

He cited with satisfaction that Victor de los Reyes, winner in Category III (over 15 hectares) had an average yield of 282 cavans of palay a hectare, which is a far cry from the yield of 182.64 cavans a hectare registered by Felmington Dorado, of Calauan, Laguna, winner of the same category in 1958, when the contest started.

Decrying the fact that many big palay planters were not happy at the efforts of the government to maintain the price of rice at P0.85 per ganta, the President pointed out the example of other Asian countries that kept the prices down in order to keep the masses well-fed and contented.

He added that there is no reason why the Philippines cannot keep prices down through an increased yield.

This afternoon the President moved swiftly to cut down on illegal logging in Bataan by directing the PCAPE to cancel all existing timber licenses in that province.

The Chief Executive based his directive on a recommendation and report of the Inter-departmental Committee on Forest Conservation submitted to him by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman.

The directive was recommended as a counter-measure to check the discriminate cutting of timber in that province and to make it easier for police authorities to apprehend timber smugglers.

At the same time the President directed Justice Ocampo to forward a copy of the findings and recommendation of the special committee to the Bureau of Forestry for immediate implementation.

The Forest committee, in recommending the cancellation of all licenses in the province, based its finding on the report that the Bataan can no longer yield timber in commercial quantities.

To be effected by the order for cancellation of licenses are forest areas in the towns of Dinalupihan, Limay, Mariveles, and Orani, covering some 5,000 hectares and granted previously to seven persons.

President Garcia today called the Cabinet to a special meeting tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. to clear a backlog of pending state matters among these, petition of the Estero Sunog Apog (Tondo) for allocation.

The President called the meeting before he received president Eduardo Romualdez of the Philippine National Bank, who accompanied chairman George D. Woods of the First Boston Corporation.

After receiving the visiting American businessman, the President received a delegation of officials of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines (Cavite Council) who asked for the release of funds for the construction of the Boy Scouts headquarters in Cavite City.

The delegation led by Gov Delfin Montano and members of the Provincial Board of Cavite, was assured that the President would study the release of the amount of P127, 000 appropriated in the 1961 Public Works Act for the purpose.

At the same time, the President lauded the youth movement of the BSP as an effective way to combat juvenile delinquency in the Philippines.”

This afternoon the President called eight senatorial candidates and top Nacionalista Party leaders to a strategy conference in Malacañang tomorrow morning.

This will be the first formal meeting of the senatorial candidates with the President since they were elected by the party’s executive committee.

The President invited the candidates to breakfast in Malacañang at 8 tomorrow morning. They are expected to map out a stepped up and saturation campaign for the remaining period prior to election day.

The conferees are likewise expected to discuss other party problems.

Invited to the conference are the vice-presidential candidate, Senator Gil J. Puyat; senatorial reelectionists Lorenzo Sumulong, Quintin Paredes, Pedro Sabido, Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez, Domocao Alonto, and Decorao Rosales; Labor Secretary Angel Castaño and Rep. Jose J. Roy of Tarlac; Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez; and Speaker Daniel Romualdez.

July 29.—AT a breakfast conference this morning President Garcia and top Nacionalista leaders adopted definite measures to step up the pace of the campaign for the remaining 100 days prior to election day. The President and the other candidates for national positions were brimming with confidence in winning the elections.

In rapid succession the leaders agreed to:

- (1) Proclaim as official candidates the eight senatorial aspirants in a public rally in Plaza Moriones, Tondo, August 18;
- (2) Confirmed the proposal of NP strategists to split the eight senatorial candidates into three teams, one to be led personally by the vice-presidential hopeful, Sen. Gil J. Puyat;
- (3) Adopted a time table for a systematic and effective campaign that would send all candidates stumping in all provinces; and

(4) Discussed ways and means of outlawing any attempt of candidates, whether for national or local office, to campaign solely for himself. The conferees agreed that the campaign line would be for a straight NP ticket from President down to congressman.

Senate President Rodriguez warned against the dangers of candidates going it alone. He stressed the importance of campaigning for the whole ticket.

President Garcia informed the NP leaders of his own assessment of the political situation in all the places he has so far visited, covering to date northern Mindanao and part of the Visayas and Luzon. President Garcia invited the leaders to a breakfast conference in Malacañang.

Present were Vice-Presidential Candidate Puyat, Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sneaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, senatorial candidates Lorenzo Sumulong, Quintin Paredes, Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, Domocao Alonto, and Pedro Sabido. Secretary Castaño who was reported campaigning in Leyte, Sen. Decoroso Rosales, campaigning in Central Luzon, and Rep. Jose Roy were unable to attend. Also present were Gov. Esteban Bernido of Bohol and Legislative Secretary Vicente Logarta.

President Garcia and the Cabinet approved today the proposed importation of high-grade U.S. Virginia leaf tobacco as a means of improving local products and to enable the ACCFA to dispose of its huge stocks of low-grade Leal Virginia tobacco and pay its indebtedness to the Central Bank and farmers.

Importation of high-grade Virginia tobacco for blending purposes was proposed by a Cabinet committee which pointed out that the ACCFA had to dispose of its huge stocks of low-grade Virginia leaf tobacco aggregating some 49 million kilo! to enable it to settle its P155 million outstanding obligations to the Central Bank and the farmers.

The committee which had been created to study Problems connected with the disposition of the ACCFA stocks and which had submitted its final report at the Cabinet meeting today was composed of Agriculture Secretary Cesar M. Fortich, chairman; and Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, Labor Secretary Angel Castaño, and Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, as members.

The President, at a special meeting of his Cabinet at Malacañang this noon, underscored the urgency of disposing the stocks to enable the agency to liquidate its indebtedness to the Central Bank and the farmers, and maintain the high quality of local tobacco products.

He said that the deteriorating quality of local products had been held responsible for the rampant smuggling of foreign-made cigarettes and resulted to loss of revenue estimated at P4 million in three months. The President expressed fear that in a year this loss might be multiplied to as much as six times which, he said, the government could all afford owing to heavy budgetary requirements this year.

President Garcia this noon expressed his gratitude to the members of the League of Governors and City Mayors for assuming a major role in the electoral fight and "making the victory of the Nacionalista Party ticket much earlier".

The President was the guest of honor and main speaker at ceremonies marking the inauguration of the League's national campaign headquarters on Dakota Street, Malate.

The role to be played by the provincial and city executives in the national election is "an indication that the Nacionalista Party will achieve another victory in November," the President added.

In answer to the clamor of the members of the League, the President stated that "further improvement of the local autonomy act is meritorious."

At the same time, the President pleaded to the League's members to work for the victory of a straight NP ticket in their respective localities.

Present at the inaugural ceremonies of the League's headquarters were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, and Sens. Gil J. Puyat, Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez, Domocao Alonto, Lorenzo Sumulong, Quintin Paredes, and Pedro Sabido.

The President was introduced by Gov. Isidro Rodriguez of Rizal in his capacity as chairman of the League.

Before leaving for the inaugural ceremonies, the President received at Malacañang officials of the Music Promotion Foundation of the Philippines and music lovers led by Jovita Fuentes, and assured them that the corner stone of the National Theatre will be laid before November.

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In the evening the President was again a guest speaker—this time at ceremonies marking the 30th anniversary of the College Editor's Guild at the Winter Garden, Manila Hotel.

A feature of the evening called for his handing an award to Liberal Vice-Presidential Candidate Emmanuel Pelaez as the "most distinguished alumnus" of the CEG.

Source: **National Library of the Philippines**

President's Week in Review: July 30 - August 5, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

July 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia today ordered the disbursement of P68 million for the redemption of backpay certificates already processed under the new system of assessing claims.

In a directive addressed to Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, the President said that he had received complaints from holders of backpay certificates in Manila and in the provinces over the delay in the payment of their claims.

The President expressed hope that with the adoption of the IBM system instituted by Secretary Aytona, processing of the claims would be greatly facilitated and the claimants paid as early as possible.

The Chief Executive had previously directed the revision of processing procedures which, he observed, had been rather slow.

President Garcia today granted another 30-day reprieve to Antonio Yu, *alias* Sostenes Yongco, in order to give the Board of Pardons and Parole more time to study his petition for commutation of sentence from death penalty to life imprisonment.

The Chief Executive, however, approved the execution of the death sentence imposed on two other prisoners on the recommendation of the board. The prisoners are Eutiquio Yamson, *alias* Eustaquio Yamson, and Primo Romero, who had been meted out the supreme penalty by the Rizal court of first instance which was affirmed by the Supreme Court.

These three convicts had previously petitioned the Chief Executive for the commutation of their death sentences. The President had referred their petitions to the Board of Pardons and Parole for its recommendation.

President Garcia woke up early and heard mass with the First Lady at the Malacañang chapel.

The President then had breakfast. After a brief rest, he brushed up with his golf at the Malacañang golf course. He played with Dr. Antonio Guytingco, Dr. Alejandro Gaerlan, and retired Censor Director Leon Ma. Gonzales.

July 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received a heavy number of callers lasting up to 1:30 p.m. without any break.

The President first received Francisco Delgado, permanent Philippine delegate to the United Nations, who paid his respects and consulted the Chief Executive on official matters.

The Philippine UN delegate, who arrived in Manila three days ago and is scheduled to leave for his UN post on August 14, was accompanied by Canuto Pefianco, his former Senate assistant, to Malacañang.

The President later presented the Presidential Award Medal to Rotary International President Joseph A. Abey, and then received a big delegation composed of presidents of national organizations in the Philippines.

The group, constituting the Coordinating Council of National Organizations for Motion Pictures, came to thank the President for signing the Movie Censorship Law and to submit recommendees to the board as provided for by the new law.

Under the new law, the board was increased from 15 to 25 members to be nominated by civic, welfare, religious, cultural, professional, and educational associations.

The law also provides for censorship of television and advertising materials in addition to movies, and the classification of movies into categories of for adults only and for general patronage.

Among those who called were A. Nieva and Nini Quezon-Avanceña, co-chairman of the CCNOMP; Presidents G. M. Feliciano of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines; Geronima T. Pecson of the UNESCO National Commission; Vicente de Vera of Catholic Education Association of the Philippines; Celso Al. Carunungan of Film Society of the Philippines, Carmen Perez of Manila Newspaperwoman's Club; Magtanggol P. Pedro of Archdiocesan Union of the Holy Name Society; Teresa Feria Nieva of the Christian Family Movement; Estefania Aldaba Lim of Family Life Workshop; Enriqueta R. Benavides of the National Federation of Women's Clubs; Cristina R. Gonzalez of the Girl Scouts of the Philippines; Ernesto Escaler of Catholic Action; Dr. Gumersindo Garcia of the Philippine Federation of Christian Churches; Teotimo A. Rojas of Catholic Action; Domingo C. Bascara of the YMCA; Pacita B. Cudala of Catholic Welfare League; Ellen M. Villamor and Nancy Montinola of Catholic Action, Belen E. Gutierrez of Civic Assembly of Women; Eva Kalaw of Samahang Pilipina; Leon T. Garcia of the Knights of Columbus; and Ralph G. Hawkins of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines.

The President later received Consul Leon T. Garcia, who sought the relocation of some 100 families from the Pampanga River dike in San Miguel, Calumpit, to a higher place to avert loss of life due to floods.

The President also received pledges of support from two big delegations, one from Negros Occidental which supports the candidacy of Macario Zafra in the congressional district of the province and a 50-man delegation of NP ward leaders from the Manila fourth district who endorse the candidacy of Mrs. Marina Francisco for the congressional seat vacated by her late husband. The Negros Occidental delegation headed by Zafra and Jose O. Macasa included members of the Liberal Party and some followers of independent candidates, among them Dr. Aniceto Parreño and Amado A. Parreño and Reynaldo C. Depasucat of Bacolod City; former Vice-Mayor Julio Bioco, former Chief of Police Gaudioso Lapore, Josue Gelvosa and Desiderio Bancalo of Cauayan; Teodorico Cordero of Kabankalan, Serafin Durban, Exequiel Villaceran, Leonardo Limsiaco; and Pedro Dolneo of Himamaylan; Patricio Tizon and Simeon Sumalinog of Binalbagan; Vice-Mayor Ignacio Almaiz, former Mayor Jose R. Verzosa; former Vice-Mayor Ernesto Erpe, Santiago Arroyo, Oscar Calamba, Florentino Saldavia, and Filemon Tabligan of Ilog, all in Negros Occidental.

The resolution endorsing the candidacy of Mrs. Francisco for the fourth congressional seat of Manila was signed by Manila Councilors Felicisimo Cabigao, Pablo Ocampo (who headed the delegation), and Alfredo Gomez, Ex-Councilor Justo Ibay, and all the NP ward leaders in the district as organized.

President Garcia today conferred the Presidential Award Medal on Joseph A. Abey, president of Rotary International, at Malacañang Palace.

In accepting the Presidential Award the visiting RI president paid tribute to the determined stand of the Filipinos against the communist ideology and expressed hope for the continued success and prosperity of the Philippine Republic.

"We in the United States," Abey told the Chief Executive, "have a high regard for the Philippines because your country is one outstanding place in the world that is fighting for the freedom of all human beings against tyranny and oppression."

The Presidential Medal was conferred on Abey for his "enterprising leaders of the worldwide service club" which has a membership of over 2,000 in the Philippines dedicated to the promotion of international goodwill and community betterment.

Abey, who is fulfilling a series of speaking engagements in the Philippines, will visit the 11,000 clubs in 122 countries throughout the world. He is traveling with his wife.

Present at the ceremonies held at the Malacañang Music room were Mrs. Abey, District 385 (Philippines) Governor and Mrs. Paco Delgado Rotary.

President and Mrs. Emilio Abello of Manila; Rotary President Apolonio Pisig of Cavite, Francisco Vicuna of Lucena, Emiliano Custodio of Caloocan, Jose Ma. Hernandez of Quezon City, and Mariano Lucero of Malolos, Bulacan; and Rotarians Cornelio Balmaceda, Art Ilagan, Jack Preysler, Tommy Benitez, Marianito Lichauco, Jose Barredo, Teddy Henares, Jr., Ralph G. Hawkins, and Jonby Carlos.

The President this day congratulated Development Bank of the Philippines officials for the major role played by the government-owned bank in financing agricultural and industrial projects which helped place this country on a stable financial and economic basis.

In a report to the President on operation of the DBP covering the fiscal year June 30, 1961, Chairman Gregorio S. Licaros described the bank's operations as "satisfactory."

Particular emphasis was made by President Garcia on the bank's assistance to farmers. He said continued emphasis should be made on this particular policy which is within the sphere of the Administration's program to attain self-sufficiency in food.

The President also noted with pride that more private capital are being invested which may be interpreted as a sign of confidence in the stability of the government.

August 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received another boost in his re-election bid with the mass induction into the Nacionalista Party of former Liberal Party leaders of Zambales.

In bolting the opposition and joining the NP, the 37 new Nacionalista partymen informed the President they had decided to join Gov. Manuel Barreto in working for the NP victory because they were convinced of the soundness of the party's policies in providing a real government of, by, and for the people.

The inductees, who were accompanied to Malacañang by Gov. Barreto, included Board Member and LP titular head Vicente V. Felarca, Vice-Mayor and LP head Federico Felarca of San Marcelino, Former Mayor and LP chairman Ricardo P. Asis of Palauig, Dr. Vicente de Leon, former Vice-Mayor Eleno Novera, and Major Pedro Arce;

Ex-Mayor Severino Mina, who is the brother-in-law of former LP Rep. Cesar Mirafior, Councilor Amado Monsalud, Ex-Councilor Juan Minas and Arcadio Metran, Nazario Mose, Perpetuo Montevirgen, Roque Montealegre, Doroteo Ariola, Donato Ecaldre, Luis Montehermoso, Florencio Alviar, Ernesto Amores, Juan Arcelao, Bernardo Valdez, Francisco Minas, Prudencio Valentino, and Franklin Minsa of Sta. Cruz; Ex-Councilors Modesto Eclevia and Eleuterio Ebbat, Vicente Chong, Gregorio Eclarino, Ceferino Edejer, Evaristo Hermosillas, Vicente Ecaña, Mauricio Atrero, Fernando Echaloze, Cornelio Fontillas, Henry Chong, Megronio Ensada, Candido Eclarina, and Benito Misa of Candelaria.

Earlier the President inducted into office Gil J. Carlos as a member of the board of directors of the National Marketing Corporation (NAMARCO).

Present at the induction were NAMARCO General Manager Jose Y. Orosa, Central Monetary Board Member Marcelo Balatbat, and officials of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, including Alfonso Calalang and Benito Medina.

The President had a busy day working on state papers and receiving callers. Among those who called on the Chief Executive were Sen. Arturo M. Tolentino, accompanied by Manila Councilor Ernesto Maceda and Ex-Councilor Justo Ibay, who discussed political matters with him; former Gov. Juan Triviño and Liberal Party Board Member Vicente Bonot of Camarines Sur; and Reps. Wenceslao R. Lagumbay of Laguna and Benjamin Ligot of Cagayan, who took up problems of their respective districts with the Chief Executive.

The President today showed a firm determination to continue his fight against graft and corruption by relieving the director of the Bureau of Printing and the justice of the peace of Urdaneta, Pangasinan.

Printing Director Mariano Ledesma was found by the three-man probe committee headed by Justice Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez guilty of mismanagement, gross negligence, and incompetence, based on specific acts of overpricing and overstocking, supplies and incurring huge overdrafts.

In considering Ledesma resigned from his post effective on the date of his preventive suspension, the Chief Executive took cognizance of Ledesma's over 40 years of public service' and allowed him to enjoy his retirement privileges. He was suspended on September 24, 1960.

In his administrative order the Chief Executive concurred in the findings of the committee composed of Undersecretary Fernandez, Maj. Teodulo Natividad of the PCAPE, and Laureao A. Ferrer of the General Auditing Office.

Specifically, Ledesma was found guilty of overstocking in the requisition of the following supplies:

- (1) 6,000 reams of white writing paper in November and December of 1959, which would take three years to consume;
- (2) Ledger buff paper which would take the bureau 30 years to consume;
- (3) Book cloth requisitioned in September and November, 1959, which will take 10 years to consume; and
- (4) Large quantities of various envelopes, glue, and metal fasteners for which there was little use.

The committee found it hard to believe that Ledesma, who had attended many Committee on Awards meetings; used the phrases "urgent" and "for immediate delivery" indiscriminately on his requisitions even when there was no immediate need for the supplies.

The committee said that such phrases furnished ready justification for dispensing with the required public bidding in which case the bureau could have got the lowest price for the supplies.

The committee cited specific instances in which the bureau lost plenty owing to overpricing as a result of Ledesma's certifications.

The committee also found, the bureau to have incurred the following overdrafts from June 30, 1956, to September 30, 1960: June 30, 1956, P1,054,468.41; 1957, P1,491,119.46; 1958, P2,393,442.96; 1959, P2,232,135.05; June. 30, 1960, P3,675,393.93; and Sept. 30, 1960, P3,178,565.95.

In another administrative order the President considered Melecio E. Bongolan resigned from office as justice of the peace of Urdaneta, Pangasinan, effective upon receipt of the order, on recommendation of the secretary of justice.

The district judge who investigated the case against Bongolan found the latter guilty of abuse of authority, partiality, gross ignorance of the law, and rank inefficiency.

Bongolan was charged with grave abuse of authority and utter disregard of his sworn duty to administer justice impartially, in Criminal Case 1239 which he dismissed when the witnesses for the prosecution failed to appear on the date set for original hearing which had been reset at a later date by him.

Other cases cited were:

- (1) Crim. Case 1353 in which Florida Andaya filed charges for less serious physical injuries against Diosdado Caoagdan, which the justice of the peace also dismissed on the pretext that Andaya failed to show how and by whom she was wounded, despite' the contrary;

(2) Crim. Case 1118, in which the justice of the peace dismissed a case for less serious physical injuries against Eusebio Bernales and. ordered the filing of case for serious-physical injuries, which was turned down by the Pangasinan court of first, instance on the ground of double jeopardy; and

(3) Cr. C. 1060 and Civ. 193—the first allowed to drag on for almost two years with 20 postponements, while the latter was postponed for seven months.

August 2.—BEFORE leaving for the South this evening President Garcia appointed Fernando Dizon as acting deputy commissioner of the Budget Commission.

The Budget Commission has been without a deputy commissioner for almost two years following the transfer of Secretary Aytona to the Department of Finance and the elevation of Deputy Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to the commissionership.

President Garcia in appointing Dizon took into consideration his 37 years of efficient public service.

Starting as a P40 a month clerk in the Bureau of Audits, Dizon became the chief of the Budget Operation Service of the Budget Commission five years ago, which position he held until his new appointment as deputy commissioner.

A Bachelor of Commercial Science at the Jose Rizal College, the new acting deputy commissioner of the budget also studied budgeting in the United States in 1952 as an ICA pensionado in public administration.

In the ECAFE Conference held in Bangkok in 1957 he was chosen the Philippine delegate in the field of budgeting.

Immediately following the signing of the appointment papers by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Commissioner Sy-Changco inducted Dizon into office and hailed his appointment as the triumph of the merit system in the government service.

President Garcia today spent the day quietly in his cabin working on state papers he had brought along with him from Manila.

The yacht *Lapu-Lapu* cruised at a leisurely pace in an unusually smooth sea as it approached Palawan.

The President worked continuously, stopping only during meal time and a short siesta in the afternoon.

The President is scheduled to arrive at Puerto Princesa, Palawan, early tomorrow morning on his first official visit to that province during his incumbency.

August 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia was assured today of at least 60 per cent of the Palawan votes. This assurance was given by Rep. Gaudencio Abordo, Gov. Telesforo Paredes, and other Palawan officials and given more credence by the warm and huge reception accorded the President which, in the words of Mayor Severino Vicente of Puerto Princesa, was “the biggest so far ever accorded any presidential candidate.”

Palawenos by the thousands flocked to Puerto Princesa to give the President a red carpet reception on his first visit to the island province during his incumbency as President. People from hundreds of kilometers away started arriving at Puerto Princesa since early yesterday to get their first glimpse of the Chief Executive. The wharf was filled with people upon arrival of the President and party on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

Immediately after receiving honors at the wharf, the President, the First Lady, and members of the party, as well as welcomers, proceeded to the Cathedral where *Te Deum* was sung. After the *Te Deum*, the President proceeded to Governor Mendoza Park, (named after the Palawan governor executed by the Japanese) where a rally was held. Before the President was introduced by Rep. Abordo, Gov. Paredes presented Sens. Pac M. Gonzalez, Domocao Alonto, and Lorenzo Sumulong, who asked the Palawan electors to vote for straight NP ticket.

In his speech the President belied the claim of the Liberals that they were interested in the welfare of rural folks by citing facts and figures. In the matter of feeder roads construction and development of springs, the President said that the NPs accomplished more than the LPs. The Nacionalistas constructed in 1961 alone a total of 104 kilometers of sub-graded feeder roads and 62 kilometers of surfaced roads and developed many springs aside from constructing 136 artesian wells in Palawan. The President took opportunity to express his gratitude to the voters of Palawan long considered an NP bailiwick and where he always won in all elections since 1941 without having to campaign in the province.

In comparing records of the LP and the NP regimes, the President pointed out that in this sparsely populated province where roads are essential, the LPs constructed a total of six kilometers of all type of concrete and asphalted roads in 1953 as against 217 kilometers constructed by the NPs in 1961, or an increase of 150 per cent.

After the rally the President and party had lunch at the residence of Gov. Paredes before meeting national, provincial, and municipal officials.

The President left on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* bound for Jolo, Sulu, at 2:30 p.m.

President Garcia granted a 30-day reprieve to prisoners Primitivo Ala y Duran and Martial Ama y Torres, who were scheduled to be executed tomorrow, August 4, for murder, Malacañang announced today.

The stay of execution of the two convicts was granted by the President in order to give the Board of Pardons and Parole ample time to consider the convicts petitions for commutation of their death penalty.

Records of their case showed that Ala killed a fellow convict by the name of Ruperto Argus y Garcia on March 24, 1959, while Ama killed another convict by the name of Almario Bautista in the New Bilibid prison in Muntinlupa, Rizal, August 27, 1958.

Although they pleaded guilty of the crime upon arraignment, the trial court gave them the supreme penalty, which penalty was affirmed by the Supreme Court because of the aggravating circumstances, one of which is *quasi-reeidivism* in that the crime was committed while both of them were serving prison terms.

August 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia was very chummy with newsmen aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* during the short trip from Jolo, Sulu, to Zamboanga City. He was obviously inspired by the new political gains he won in the Moslem capital where he inducted into the Nacionalista camp 30 Liberal Party leaders.

Before a big crowd on Plaza Tulay in Jolo, the President released some P300,000 in public work funds for development projects in Sulu and promised to accelerate the progress of that Moslem province if reelected in November.

Here, a big crowd of 50,000 welcomers greeted the President at the local pier. Sen. Gil J. Puyat, his running mate, was on hand to join the Garcia party in its Mindanao stump.

Before disembarking, President Garcia exchanged jokes with newsmen and freely lambasted his favorite targets—the Liberals and Vice-President Macapagal.

The President took occasion to deny reports that the Barrera Report slated to be by Malacañang had been “expurgated.” He gave assurance that the “unexpurgated” edition will be published.

Turning to his Liberal Party rival, the President twitted the Vice-President for yielding readily to the demands of Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson that two LP congressional candidates be junked. The President described this action of Vice-President Macapagal as a sign of weakness.

“It is quite clear that the opposition leaders are unable to make up their minds and decide for themselves,” he added.

August 5.—THE President today drew more support to the Nacionalista Party when he inducted into the NP Bernardino Camins, Vice-President Macapagal's own campaign manager in Zamboanga City.

The Chief Executive administered the oath of affiliation aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

Later, during a public rally in Basilan City, Mayor Leroy S. Brown assured President Garcia that "the people of Basilan will manifest their gratitude to you come November for your solicitous attention to their welfare."

The President's departure for Basilan City from Zamboanga City was delayed for two hours because he took time out to view the remains of Mrs. Mercedes Lim, mother of Sen. Roseller T. Lim, and to condole with the bereaved family.

Mrs. Lim succumbed to a stroke at 5:20 this morning at the Zamboanga General Hospital, where she was rushed two hours earlier.

The President was accompanied by the First Lady, reelectionists Sens. Lorenzo Sumulong, Pacita Madrigal-Gonzalez, and Domocao Alonto; Rep. Canuto M. S. Enerio; and Mrs. Daniel Z. Romualdez.

Upon his return to the *Lapu-Lapu*, President Garcia swore in Camins into the Nacionalista Party. Camins was elected Liberal Party presidential campaign manager for Zamboanga City only a month ago.

The new NP convert explained that latest political developments which found LP leaders giving ex-Bacolod City Mayor Felix P. Amante and ex-Pampanga Gov. Jose B. Lingad important positions in the Liberal Party organization convinced him that he could no longer stay in the opposition party and remain true to his principles.

The presidential party arrived in Basilan City shortly after 9:30 a.m. today and was received with a resounding welcome, complete with a display of gaily costumed women and the sound of drums and gongs.

On hand at the pier at the head of the welcoming throng were Sen. Gil J. Puyat, NP vice-presidential candidate, and Mayor Brown.

The President and Puyat later spoke at a public rally in Basilan City, training their guns at Vice-President Macapagal and the Liberal Party.

Puyat told his audience that Macapagal's election in 1957 was a "big mistake," because he has been doing nothing since then but collect his salary from the people's funds. He also warned against regionalism, saying that a Philippines threatened by communism need cohesion and national unity.

A heavy downpour drove the crowd to seek shelter under trees and nearby buildings while President Garcia was speaking. The Chief Executive was forced to cut short his address, but he drew a thunderous applause when he recited a *balak* (Visayan poem) in response to the clamor of the audience.

From the rally, the President and his party boarded again the *Lapu-Lapu* which sailed for Pagadian town, the capital of Zamboanga del Sur.

Source: National Library of the Philippines

President's Week in Review: August 6-12, 1961

President's Week in Review: August 13-19, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived at Dapa, Surigao del Norte, this afternoon in the course of his 15-day political stump of Mindanao.

Shortly before landing at Dapa, the President conferred with Commissioner Lugum Uka of the Commission on National Integration and discussed possible measures to help deserving non-Christian students.

He directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release P1.1 million to finance non-Christian scholars. It is the biggest dole authorized by the government. Last year, only P500,000 was released to help non-Christian students.

In a rally at Dapa, the President lashed at the Liberal Party and its candidates before a crowd estimated at 25,000.

The President charged Vice-President Macapagal, LP presidential candidate, with mud-slinging in his political campaign to unseat the NPs in the November elections.

President Garcia also delivered a political broadside against Emmanuel Pelaez, LP vice-presidential candidate, and challenged the latter to bare the achievements of the opposition party by way of helping the people in the rural areas.

President Garcia and his party are scheduled to leave tonight for Surigao, capital of Surigao del Norte, to climax his political stump in that province. From there, he will proceed to Agusan.

At the rally in Tandag, Vice-Gov. Montano Ortiz, Board Member Pio Castro, and ex-Sen. Felixberto Serrano, who are vying for the congressional seat appeared in the same stage.

Ortiz, the official NP congressional bet, predicted that in Tandag alone, where the President won in 1957 by a ratio of 29 to one, the electorate will give the Chief Executive a bigger majority in November.

In Tago, LP Mayor Damian Laurente said the President never lost in his town in all past elections.

The Chief Executive had the opportunity to meet his old friend, Vice-Mayor Tomas Pareja, who lived with him in the same boarding house in Intramuros during their student days.

After lunch at the Tandag Elementary School, the President boarded the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for the town of Dapa in Siargao Island in Surigao del Norte where he spoke at a rally, and then left for Surigao for another mammoth rally.

The President is scheduled to inaugurate the Surigao Development Bank before departing for Cabadbaran, Agusan, at midnight tonight.

August 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia received today assurance from feuding Nacionalista Party factions of Agusan of solid support upon arrival at Cabadbaran and Butuan City.

Despite of the high waves, the presidential party landed at Cabadbaran and led a motorcade to church for the *Te Deum* before going to the plaza for a youth rally.

At the rally Rep. Guillermo R. Sanchez of Agusan and former Agusan Gov. Felixberto Dagani, both vying for the lone congressional seat of Agusan, cast away political differences to appeal to the electorate for solid support for the NP national ticket.

Dagani, referring to attacks of Vice-President Macapagal and ex-Senator Emmanuel Pelaez against the President, said: "Those who continually find fault with President Garcia should first look at the mirror to see if they are perfect."

The former provincial executive warned that "former Justice Secretary Oscar Castelo and ex-Gov. Rafael Lacson of Negros Occidental, who are now languishing in Muntinlupa, are best examples of the reasons why we cannot permit the Liberal Party to come back to power lest they resort again to frauds and terrorism and rape democracy again."

In his speech the President said the Liberals always take with them in their campaigns a sack of criticism and a barrel of mud to engage in character assassination and to impugn honesty of political opponents.

He added that the graft and corruption issue being raised by the Liberals for the fourth time is a stale issue, because the electorate have repudiated the Liberals from 1955 to 1959.

President Garcia, denounced his opposition rival for doing nothing as congressman about the Maliwalu massacre in his own province, Pampanga, during the height of LP power. He added that Vice-President Macapagal never denounced the massacre both at the halls of Congress and before the courts of justice.

The President warned the electorate about the LP electoral gimmicks designed to fool the people, and castigated Pelaez for being a tool of vested interests.

The President was met at the Cabadbaran wharf by Rep. Sanchez, Gov. D. O. Plaza, Dagani, and Mayor Basilisa Atega in whose residence he had lunch. He rested a short while before going to Butuan for a conference with national, provincial, and local officials.

After addressing a rally in Butuan City, the President and his party motored to Nasipit, with a whistle-stop at Buenavista, for a farewell rally before boarding the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* at midnight for Cabalian, Leyte.

August 15.—THE President today squeezed tight his schedule to make a surprise visit to the Tacloban fire area to see personally the progress of relief work which had been going on since fire gutted the City's commercial center last August 11.

In a brief message to the fire sufferers, the President assured continued relief work as long as necessary and authorized government lending institutions to grant liberal credit loans to help the victims rehabilitate themselves.

The First Lady, who had sent Operations Puso goods to the fire area, received resounding ovations when she helped SWA workers distribute relief to the needy this morning.

Touched by acclamation and placards expressing gratitude to the President and the First Lady, Mrs. Garcia said afterwards that when she launched "Operations Puso" a year ago she never expected it to last so long. Now she said "Operations Puso" is a by-word, thanks to the selfless dedication of civic-spirited men who contributed generously for the welfare of our fellowmen."

The First Lady emphasized that Operations Puso is an example of what faith, hope, and charity can do to make the Philippines a better place to live in.

President Garcia had previously released P100,000 from his contingent fund, P10,000 of which was spent for local procurement of relief goods in Tacloban. Felicidad Legarda, SWA supervisor who is assisted by 14 SWA personnel, said that relief consisting of three planeloads of rice, canned goods, blankets, mosquito nets, clothings, and some 120 Operations Puso bags, has been extended to hundreds of families.

The President and the First Lady made the unscheduled stop risking the dangerous motor launch crossing from Babatngon, Leyte, to the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* docked on the Samar side of San Juanico Strait to bring cheer, comfort, and sympathy to the fire victims.

The President left Nasipit soon after the rally that ended at 2:00 a.m. and arrived in Tacloban at 12:00 noon, where Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Gov. Ildefonso Cinco, Mayor Artemio Mate, and other officials accompanied the Chief Executive and the First Lady in the survey trip.

From Tacloban the President motored 40 miles to Babatngon to address an unscheduled rally. The President told Leyteños that the Nacionalista Party, inspired by Quezon, Osmeña, and Palma has dedicated itself to the attainment of economic independence through the Filipino First policy and the uplift of the living conditions of the Filipinos.

Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, another speaker, informed the people that the NP, if given a new lease in November, will continue to work for the people's welfare, especially of women, children, and barrio folks.

Other speakers at the rally were Gov. Cinco and Mayor Ricardo Ansales of Babatngon.

From Babatngon the President and party waited for one hour to board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* launch on a three-mile crossing to the yacht anchored on the Samar side.

The President proceeded to Calubian, the last stop on the return trip to Manila, to inaugurate the Northwestern Hospital.

From Calubian the President will proceed to Manila where he is expected to arrive at about 9:00 a.m. tomorrow.

August 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned this evening from a "hectic but fruitful" political stump of Mindanao and Sulu. He looked tired but nevertheless spry, confident that he had solidified his position in the areas which had given him landslide majorities' in the 1957 elections.

With the President were the First Lady, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, Councilor Alfredo Gomez, and newsmen.

Gen. Campo conferred with the President aboard the presidential yacht and discussed with the latter plans to insure an orderly and peaceful elections in November.

Councilor Gomez, on the other hand, took up political matters in Manila with the Chief Executive, including plans of bringing Vice-Mayor Antonio Villegas into the Nacionalista Party.

The Chief Executive was met at Pier 5 by Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who reported to the President on pressing state matters.

The President and his party had come from Tacloban City where they made an unscheduled visit to view the fire area. Mrs. Garcia distributed relief goods to the fire victims.

The President and the First Lady proceeded to Malacañang where they spent the night.

President Garcia solidified the Nacionalista Party position in Surigao del Norte with the mass affiliation of the municipal officials of Dinagat.

Those who took their oaths of affiliation with the NP before the President were Mayor Baldomero Meso; Vice-Mayor Bernardo B. Ga, Councilors Dioscoro Pigaro, Ereno Geraldino, Timoteo Estobo, Anselmo Piodo, Lupici-nio Edera, and Recaredo Ecubin; Municipal Secretary Angel Masaya; and LP leader Tomas Lesoy.

The oath-taking of the new Nacionalistas topped off popular rally preceded by a magnificent torch parade from the pier which waited patiently for the President to arrive up to past 11 p.m. The President was scheduled to arrive two hours earlier but was considerably delayed by another public rally at the town of Dapa where a mammoth crowd from six other towns gave the President a warm welcome.

At both rallies, the crowds expressed preference to hear the President's ballot instead of a political speech.

August 17.—THE President today stayed in his bedroom the whole day to rest after a gruelling 17-day political campaign which took him to all the Mindanao provinces and certain areas in the Visayas.

On advice of Dr. Antonio Guytingco, the President's physician, Malacañang officials closed the doors of the President's bedroom to enable the Chief Executive to be alone for the respite. Dr. Guytingco prescribed rest, although the President's blood pressure was pronounced normal.

The Chief Executive still has to wade through several months of intensive campaign in an effort to insure his re-election in the coming November polls. He is slated to switch his-campaign to Luzon, the heaviest voting area in the country, beginning tomorrow.

Several Malacañang officials had wanted to see the Chief Executive to consult him on official matters, but they were asked to come back tomorrow.

President Garcia and the First Lady returned last night. The President looked tired but beamed with confidence that his hectic political campaign in Mindanao provinces will give him a 4 to 1 majority over the Liberal Party presidential candidate.

President Garcia today proclaimed Saturday, August 19, as special public holiday to commemorate the 83rd birthday of the late President Manuel L. Quezon.

In his proclamation the President said "it is desirable that our people be given full opportunity to render homage to the memories of our illustrious leader".

August 19 of every year, being also Citizenship Day, the Chief Executive in the same proclamation enjoined the observance of the day with "appropriate ceremonies designed to inculcate upon our people, especially the youth, the rights and duties of good citizenship to the end that they will consecrate themselves to the ideals and traditions of our Republic."

The President today directed the implementation of the WAPCO plan regarding the automatic, increase of salaries of government employees.

In a directive to budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, the President said that the plan should be implemented in this year's budget.

The President said that this policy should be also reflected and implemented in the five-year, fiscal plan. He was referring to the WAPCO pay plan, which insures the automatic increase of salaries of government employees.

President Garcia was informed by Commissioner Sy-Changco that the amount of P32.5 million had been already earmarked for the purpose of implementing the WAPCO plan of salary increases. The President based his directive on the assurance by Commissioner Sy-Changco that there are funds available for this purpose.

August 18.—THIS morning President Garcia presided over the Council of Leaders meeting and took up various conflicts among congressional aspirants in the Nacionalista Party. He met the Council of Leaders from 9:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Malacañang.

The President decided to help solve the political disputes among NP aspirants after he had resolved his own feud with the Senate President.

The President and Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez signed a joint communique burying their political hatchet, and joined hands for a better government and for the victory of the NP in the coming elections.

Present at the council meeting were the President, Senate President Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castaneda, Sen. Cipriano Primicias, and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer.

After the protracted meeting with Congress leaders, the President motored to the Manila Hotel where he addressed the Lions Club. He extolled the life of the late President Quezon whose 83rd birth anniversary will be celebrated tomorrow.

From the Manila Hotel, the President returned to Malacañang. He left again at 10 o'clock this evening for Plaza Moriones, Tondo, where the Nacionalista national and city tickets were proclaimed.

This was the President's first appearance at a political meeting in Manila since the presidential campaign in 1957.

After his proclamation by Senate President Rodriguez, NP president, President Garcia appealed to the city electorate to keep him and the Nacionalista Party at the helm of the government so that they could continue the unfinished projects of the Administration.

At the same time, the President warned against a Liberal victory in November. He accused the Liberals of wholesale frauds in the 1949 elections and charged that their administration failed miserably in promoting the welfare of the people.

President Garcia compared the record of the Nacionalista Party with that of the Liberal regime to show that, contrary to LP claims, the NP administration has achieved vastly more than the LPs.

August 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia said today that the Nacionalista Party is not afraid of facts on vital public issues so long as they are faithfully presented by the press to the people.

The Chief Executive made this statement in paying tribute to the late President Manuel L. Quezon on the occasion of the induction of the officers of the Quezon Press and Radio Club held in Lucena City his noon.

He said that although the press have been lately critical of his administration, sometimes "it is better to have a free press abused than curtailed."

He emphasized that democracy cannot be successful if the citizenry is not well-informed on the vital public issues whether it is election time or not.

The President also underscored the role played by the press in Quezon's fight for independence during the Commonwealth.

Before speaking at the induction and awards presentation ceremonies held at Don Froilan Lopez Hall of the Luzonian Colleges, President Garcia offered a minute silent prayer in honor of the memory of the late national leader on the occasion of his 83rd birthday anniversary.

The President and his party received a rousing welcome upon arrival at the newly created Lucena City this morning with thousands of greeters led by Reps. Manuel Enverga and Leon Guinto, Jr.; Gov. Claro Robles, Mrs. Claro Recto, and Lucena City Mayor Casto Profugo, overflowing the space of the railroad station here.

Alighting from the coach of the presidential train, President Garcia thanked the huge crowd in Tagalog, expressing his deep gratitude for the warm and spontaneous reception.

He was given full military honors, including the 21 gun salute. He later went to the MLQ memorial monument for wreath laying ceremonies before proceeding to the town cathedral for a *Te Deum* with members of the National Veterans Action under Major Jaime Piopongco.

The inducted officers of the Quezon Press Club were: Cesar Villariba, president; Ven Zoleta, executive vice-president; Jose Mendoza, first vice-president; Pio Bautista, second vice-president; Jose Atienza, secretary; Leandro Garcia, treasurer; Zenaida Ragaza, assistant treasurer; and Juan Oboza, auditor.

The President also presented QPRC awards to Rep. Enverga as Quezonian of the Year; Mayor Profugo as Mayor of the Year; Filemon Rodriguez as Industrialist of the Year; Manuel Marquez as Banker of the Year; Felix Brillantes as Businessman of the Year; Dr. Pablo Managas as Professional of the Year; Peter Paul (Phil) Co., as Employer of the Year; Artemio De Luna as "Labor Leader of the Year; and Luis Gonzales as Farmer of the year. A posthumous award was presented to the late Senator Claro M. Recto for service to the country.

After the civic parade in honor of Quezon's birthday, the President spoke at a huge rally. He then held a conference with national, provincial, and municipal officials.

The President this day certified to the Court of Industrial Relations the labor dispute in the strike-bound Philippine Airlines.

The certification was issued following separate conferences with the PAL management headed by Eduardo Romualdez, PAL president, on board the presidential train enroute to Lucena, Quezon, this morning and with representative of PAL workers at Malacañang earlier this morning.

The President issued the certification on the recommendation of Labor Secretary Angel M. Castaño, who contended that the government-controlled corporation is performing services affecting public interest.

Under the law, the certification has the effect of compelling the strikers to return to work pending the resolution of their case.

Source: National Library of the Philippines

President's Week in Review: August 20-26, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia made deep gains in Quezon province today as he won to his side two Liberal mayors who assured his victory in their respective municipalities.

LP Mayor Andres Remo, in a conference with the President, pledged to the Chief Executive, "I guarantee your victory here."

Earlier, during a mammoth rally in Lukban which was swelled by people from neighboring towns who nocked to see the President, the Chief Executive also inducted into the Nacionalista Party LP Mayor Remigio Bastonera of Infanta, thereby reducing the Liberal mayors to only seven as against 38 Nacionalista mayors in the entire province.

Speaking before the huge crowd, the President recalled the NP fight against the copra cartel in foreign markets in order to secure better prices for copra producers.

Lukban townspeople, most of whom were small copra producers, cheered the President when he cited the efforts of the Nacionalista Party to help the copra industry, adding that the NP-dominated Congress had appropriated P38 million to help them, particularly in the production and marketing phases, to wrest control of the industry from alien hands.

Great significance was attached to the presence of Mrs. Aurora Recto, widow of the late Senator Recto, and Sen. Lorenzo M. Tañada of the Nationalist-Citizens Party, along with Rep. Manuel Enverga and Gov. Claro Robles.

Mayor Dator assured the visiting Chief Executive that he will make a sweeping victory in Lukban.

Earlier President Garcia inducted the officials of the newly created Lucena City. Inducted were Mayor Casto Profugo, Vice-Mayor Manuel Derosas, and Councilors Hermilando Alcala, Antonio Lagos, Rosendo Angeles, Mauricio de la Paz, Antonio Cabrereros, Crisanto Tadosa, and Federico de Leon.

After the induction ceremonies the President assisted the First Lady at the unveiling of the marker commemorating the inauguration of Lucena City. He then heard mass at the cathedral before motoring to Tayabas and Lukban towns.

After the rally at Lukban, the President and his party were luncheon guests of Mayor Dator and Lukban municipal officials.

At Tayabas, Mayor Epifanio Orias, an LP mayor, headed the welcomers.

August 21.—THIS morning the President stayed in his bedroom, where he rested after a two-day stump in Quezon province.

He ordered Press Secretary Jose C. Nable to read his speech before the National Association of Government Public Relations Officers at the Malacañang Social Hall.

The President, in the speech read by Secretary Nable, said that the "function of public relations is neither to cover up nor to compensate for the deficiencies in a person's or an administration's policies. It is not and can never be a substitute for good policies."

"Public relations is based on the premise that its subject must first pursue policies which are in the public interest and then the effort to earn the goodwill of the public only follows," the President said in his speech.

The President further said that it is the duty of the public relations men to inform the people of the truth, to gather the true facts, and to tell them of “what we have done for them and will continue to do for them so that they can arrive at a fair and intelligent decision on election day—a decision based on the cold and inexorable logic of indisputable and accomplished facts and not on emotions stirred by demagoguery and overweening personal ambitions.”

President Garcia today, through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, denied the petitions for reconsideration of former Sugar Quota Administrator Ramon L. Pagua, who was dismissed last January 28 by the Chief Executive for gross negligence, grave abuse of discretion, and misconduct in office.

Pagua’s dismissal from office was embodied in an administrative order issued on the strength of the, unanimous recommendation of a three-man investigating committee headed by the late former Justice Mariano de la Rosa of the Court of Appeals which heard the charges against him.

In denying his petitions, the President chided the former SQA chief for alleging that the President’s decision “was based on the erroneous and fraudulent committee report,” which contention he even had published in newspapers: through paid advertisements.

The President said that the man who composed the committee that investigated the case “showed a good grasp of the law, regulations, and fundamentals on sugar and a thorough appreciation of the basic facts and various angles involved in the case,” and considered Pagua’s stand as “an unfair and gratuitous slur on the investigating committee.”

This evening the President addressed Filipino businessmen as guest speaker of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines and reiterated his stand to push through his Filipino First program to wrest away from alien traders control of the country’s economy.

The Chief Executive also inducted the officers of the Chamber headed by Alfonso Calalang.

The President was escorted by Calalang, Gil R. Carlos, and Primitivo Lovina from Malacañang to the Manila Hotel where the CCP dinner was held.

The President stressed his administration’s policy to give life and realism to the country’s political independence by making the Filipinos the master of their own economy.

August 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia’s barnstorming campaign in Cagayan Valley had an auspicious start with the induction into the NP folds of the entire LP leaders in Camalaniugan who publicly pledged to work for the victory of the majority party in the November elections.

Inducted as card-bearing members of the Nacionalista Party were LP councilors and leaders Hermenegildo Cobarrubias, Sofronio Tabuli, Francisco Onsa, Teodoro Paclig, Bernabe Gonzalez, Lorenzo Pattugalan, Tomas Paraguayans Francisco Paragua.

The President chose to fire his opening salvo in his Cagayan Valley campaign in Camalaniugan where he addressed a huge crowd consisting of delegation from all towns of Cagayan.

He underscored the determination of the Nacionalista Party to wrest economic mastery in the country from alien hands, and dared the Liberals to duplicate the NP economic development program for Cagayan Valley, which includes the Cagayan Valley Development Authority and the extension of the railroad line to Cagayan.

The President arrived at the Aparri airport at 10:15 a.m. and was met by a mammoth crowd composed of delegations from neighboring towns, civic groups, and other organizations led by Gov. Felipe Garduque and Mayor Primo Gorospe.

Other passengers of the presidential plane were Sens. Eulogio Balao, Quintin Paredes, and Pedro Sabido; Reps. Benjamin T. Ligot and Jose Roy; Press Secretary Jose C. Nable; and Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema.

From the airport, President Garcia and members of his party motored to the Catholic Church for *Te Deum*, passing through unique welcome arches and eye-catching streamers.

Along the route was a dense crowd lining the two-kilometers road waving flags and shouting *Mabuhay*. From Aparri, the President proceeded to Camalaniugan to address a big rally after which he returned to Aparri for another speaking engagement and luncheon.

In the afternoon the President flew to Tuguegarao to unveil the terminal plaque of the Manila Railroad Company to mark the northern end of the extension line.

In the evening President Garcia addressed another rally in Tuguegarao where he spent the night.

The President today declared August 24 as a special public holiday in most of the provinces and cities of Mindanao. The day marks the feast of Maulid-on-Nabi, one of the most important holidays for Muslims.

The President signed the proclamation shortly before he flew to the Cagayan Valley this morning for a four-day campaign tour of the northern region.

The proclamation embraces the provinces of Sulu, Cotabato, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, Davao, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Bukidnon, Palawan, Agusan, Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur and the cities of Zamboanga, Basilan, Davao, Iligan, Marawi, Cotabato, and Butuan.

National and local muslim officials and employees of the government who are performing their duties and functions outside the above mentioned provinces and cities will be exempted from duty on the particular day.

August 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today lauded the establishment of the cigar rolling mills in the Cagayan Valley as of tremendous significance in the history of the country.

In his brief remarks at the cornerstone laying of a twin P2 million cigar rolling mills of the Philippine Tobacco Administration in Tuguegarao, Cagayan, and Cabagan, Isabela, the Chief Executive expressed the hope that the pioneer plants would enable Philippine cigars to gain firm foothold in the American market.

Later, at a public rally in Cabagan, the President castigated Macapagal for denouncing the distribution of P1.5 million for public improvements in Quezon province as “bribing the people to retain the Nacionalistas in power,” during the Chief Executive’s recent trip to that province.

Speaking with indignation, the President asked; “What better proof of Nacionalista affection for the people could there be than give them schools, roads, and hospitals?”

The Chief Executive received a long ovation when he said in a ringing voice; If that is bribery then I am ready to commit thousands of bribes in order to serve the people, for after all the government is of, by, and for the people.”

Earlier in the morning the President laid the cornerstone of the PTA cigar mill at Tuguegarao assisted by Sens. Quintin Paredes, Pedro R. Sabido, and Eulogio Balao; Reps. Delfin Albano and Jose J. Roy; and Manager Peregrino Quinto.

The President told the Cagayanes that it was most opportune for the Philippines to venture in the American market to fill the vacuum left by Cuba’s break with the United States and to fill the Philippine quota which is not currently being used.

Sealed in the cornerstone were a roster of government officials for posterity, rice for good luck, and a bottle of oil for the smooth operation of the plant.

From Tuguegarao, the President motored to Cabagan, Isabela, and, despite continuous driving rains which destroyed all welcome preparations and soaked people wet, he received warm receptions.

He laid the cornerstones of another cigar rolling plant and the P320,000 Northern Isabela Hospital.

At the cornerstones laying ceremonies, the Chief Executive handed to Manager Quinto a P2 million check for the construction of the rolling mills; P150,000 for the purchase of tobacco in Cagayan; P250,000 for Ilagan, Malig, and Naguilian; and P100,000 for Echague.

At the public rally in Gabagan where the President and party were welcomed by Vice-Gov. Vicente Albano and Mayor Albano, the people expressed their gratitude for the allocation of P50,000,000 for tobacco purchase to save the people from cartels.

They also thanked the President for the law creating the Cagayan Valley Institute of Technology, and the construction of the Magat and the Siffu irrigation projects.

After the rally the President and party were honored with a luncheon at Rep. Albano's residence.

The Chief Executive left Cabagan for Ilagan in a heavy downpour at past three, arriving there for *Te Deum* at the Catholic church at 4:30 p.m.

After the *Te Deum*, the President proceeded to Dr. Jesus Maddela's residence for merienda, and for dinner after addressing an evening rally.

August 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia today continued consolidating Nacionalista "gains" as he approached the homestretch of his four-day political swing through Cagayan Valley.

During his entire campaign President Garcia received pledges of support and expressions of gratitude from the people for many development programs of the Administration.

Accompanied by Sens. Quintin Paredes and Eulogio Balao and Reps. Jose J. Roy of Tarlac and Delfin B. Albano of Isabela, the President left Ilagan town at 9 a.m. today on the last lap of his trip which took him through Reyna Mercedes, Cauayan, San Mateo, Santiago, and Echague.

The President rallied the people to the NP banner by asking for a sober appraisal of both Liberal and Nacionalista accomplishments.

Favored by fair weather, the President was greeted by the Isabela folk who hurried to the roadsides through towns and barrios to wave at him and cheer him.

At San Mateo President Garcia received a long applause when he asked: "What has Macapagal done for you in 12 years as congressman?" He then proceeded to enumerate various projects of the Administration, such as the Magat Irrigation System, which cost P13 million and irrigates 30,000 hectares of riceland and for which he had recently authorized P20,000 for expansion, the establishment of the Bureau of Plant Industry selective rice seed station which furnishes certified rice seeds through Cagayan Valley, the Siffu Irrigation System costing P6 million and irrigating 10,000 hectares of land, road development to enable farmers to bring products to market, and the establishment of two cigar, rolling plants to elevate the standard of living of Cagayanos.

President Garcia also cited the gigantic Cagayan Valley Development Authority as evidence of the NP affection for the people of the valley.

From Echague the President proceeded to Santiago, Isabela, where he addressed a large crowd late this afternoon, after luncheon and brief rest at Mayor Dodo Miranda's residence.

From Santiago he is scheduled to motor to Echague to address another rally where mass defections of Liberals are expected.

From Echague the President will proceed tomorrow to Munoz, Nueva Ecija, to inspect the Central Luzon Agricultural College. He will board a special train at San Jose town for the return trip to Manila. He is scheduled to arrive in Manila at 8 p.m. tomorrow.

August 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned today from a four-day political stump in Cagayan and Isabela provinces that was marked by inclement weather. He returned beaming with optimism that he has "softened" the Liberal Party's grip over Cagayan and Isabela.

His tour of Isabela was climaxed by the defection of some 1,600 Liberal Party ward and town leaders to the Nacionalista Party. President Garcia, who inducted the LP leaders, claimed that there is "general demoralization" within the rank and file of the opposition.

The President arrived shortly after 12 noon today at the Nichols Airfield aboard the presidential Fokker *Friendship* plane.

He was accompanied by senatorial candidates, namely, Sens. Quintal Paredes, and Pedro Sabido, and Rep. Jose J. Roy. Rep. Salinada Pendatun, also rode with the President. Pendatun urged the President to call a special session of Congress with the President. Also with the President were Press Secretary Jose C. Nable and Sen. Eulogio Balao.

Before enplaning to Manila the President addressed rallies in Alicia and Cauayan, Isabela. In some instances the President had to address a town twice.

He had cancelled his engagements in the towns of Gamu and Roxas, as the Chico River became impassable owing to the continuous rains brought by typhoon Lorna.

The President toured the towns of Aparri, Camalaniugan, and Tuguegarao, Cagayan; and Cabagan, Ilagan, Santiago, San Mateo, Alicia, Echague, and Cauayan, Isabela. In some instances the President had to address a town twice.

He had cancelled his engagements in the towns of Gamu and Roxas, as the Chico River became impassable owing to the continuous rains brought by typhoon *Lorna*.

The President today declared Tuesday, August 29, as a special public holiday in San Juan, Rizal, to give the residents of the municipality the opportunity to observe fittingly the 65th anniversary of the battle of Pinaglabanan.

In issuing the proclamation the President underscored the importance of the historical event in our struggle for freedom, and its special significance to the residents of the municipality of San Juan.

President and Mrs. Garcia today wired a message of condolence to Armando Manalo, press attache of the Philippine Mission to the United Nations and husband of Jim Austria, who died in New York.

In his wire the President said that Jim's passing has created a void in Philippine journalism.

August 26.—THIS noon President Garcia addressed the opening of the convention of the United Crusade for Clean Elections at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel and underscored his determination to see a "clean, free, orderly, and honest elections" this year.

The President emphasized that he had always won all his political fights without any protest, and took occasion to lash out at the opposition for having been “responsible for the rape of democracy in the 1949 elections.”

The President was cheered during the course of his extemporaneous address prompting Joaquin G. Garrido, a member of the UNICRUCCEL advisory council, to remark that the organization could well be renamed UNICGARCEL, recalling United Crusade for Garcia Election.

UNICGARCEL members were expecting to roast the President, who is running for re-election this year. However, President Garcia, leaning on his clean political record, was able to take advantage of the situation to stress his determination to keep this year’s polls “clean, free, and orderly.”

Before proceeding to the Manila Hotel the President motored to the St. Francis Church in Mandaluyong to view the remains of former Chief Justice Manuel V. Moran, who died four days ago, while President Garcia was in the course of his political stump in the Cagayan Valley.

He had previously prevailed upon the late Chief Justice to accept membership of the committee which will probe charges against Lt. Gen. Manuel Cabal, chief of staff of the Armed Forces.

President and Mrs. Garcia condoled with the Moran family. The President recalled he had absolute faith in the impartiality and judicial statesmanship of the late Chief Justice that he was constrained to prevail upon him to sit with the investigating committee despite the deceased’s relationship with one of the complainants against Cabal.

The President and the First Lady also motored to the temporary residence of Rufino J. Cardinal Santos in Intramuros to congratulate him on his 53rd birth anniversary.

Source: **National Library of the Philippines**

President's Week in Review: August 27 – September 2, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

August 27.—THE President heard an early morning mass at the Malacañang chapel.

After the mass the President motored to Camp Murphy and played golf with Maj. Gen. Pelagio Cruz, vice-chief of staff of the Armed Forces, at the Camp Murphy golf course.

In the afternoon the President received former President Sergio Osmeña, who arrived in Manila to attend the Council of State meeting on Wednesday. Osmeña reported on the political situation in Cebu.

President Garcia, on the other hand, told President Osmeña that his campaign has given him confidence in his victory in the coming presidential elections.

Rep. Salipada K. Pendatun was seen in Malacañang today seeking audience with the President. It was not known whether the Cotabato solon was able to see the Chief Executive.

The President this afternoon designated acting Central Bank Governor Andres Castillo as chairman of the Philippine delegation to the annual meeting of the board of directors of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in Vienna next September.

August 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia today mapped out a saturation drive that will cover the whole Bicol region, which he will undertake early next month.

The President, together with Sen. Gil J. Puyat, his running mate, received a complete fill-in of the political situation obtaining in the region from NP top leaders of Bicol at a two-hour breakfast conference in Malacañang this morning.

Sen. Puyat's erstwhile opponent for the vice-presidential post at the NP convention, Finance Secretary Aytona, actively participated in the planning for the Garcia-Puyat campaign.

Present at the conference were Sen. Pedro Sabido, Ex-Sen. Edmundo Cea, Reps. Pedro Venida of Camarines Norte, Agaton Ursua and Felix Fuentebella of Camarines Sur, Vicente Peralta and Salvador Encinas of Sorsogon, Emilio Espinosa, Jr., of Masbate, and Jose M. Alberto of Catanduanes; Reparations Commissioner Juan M. Alberto, Govs. Nic Maronilla-Seva of Albay and Jesus Almero of Masbate, Ex-Gov. Juan Trivinio and Vice-Gov. Jack Arroyo of Camarines Sur, Vice-Gov. Delfin Posada of Catanduanes, Jess Frivaldo (son of Governor Frivaldo), Sorsogon Board Member Fernando Gerona, Jr., Nick Enciso, Salvador Balane, and others.

After his conference with Bicol leaders, the President received officials of the Bus Operators Association of the Philippines who petitioned withdrawal of the Luzon Bus and Benguet Auto lines from highways already adequately serviced by private transportation.

The BOAP made the petition in line with the Administration's policy of withdrawing from fields where private enterprise is ready to take over, among which is the transportation business.

The President referred the matter to the board of directors of the Manila Railroad Company for study and recommendation.

Those who conferred with the President were Geminiano Yabut, president; Eugenio D. Trinidad and Gov. Bado Dangwa, directors; and Manuel Vijungco, executive secretary.

The President also received Ex-Gov. Jose P. Carag of Cagayan, who took up political matters with him, and Rep. Ramon P. Mitra of Mt. Province and Baguio City Mayor Luis Lardizabal, who took up problems of their respective jurisdictions with the Chief Executive.

Export-Import bank officials this morning pledged to President Garcia full cooperation in the negotiations of the Philippine Government for a \$63 million loan for the construction of the Iligan integrated steel mill.

The bank officials, accompanied by Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona and NASSCO Manager Bernardo Abrera, stressed that the projected loan was looked upon with favor despite the Philippine Congress' failure to enact a bill authorizing the government to negotiate for a loan.

The bank officials who met the President were Charles Meriweather, Carl Cass, and Robert Warren of the Export-Import Bank.

During the conference President Garcia told Manager Abrera to go ahead with the laying out of blueprints for the steel mill and other civil works. But the actual purchase and putting up of the machinery will have to wait until Congress approves the administration bill authorizing the negotiation for the loan.

President Garcia assured the bank officials that he would seek the approval of Congress for the early enactment into law of the bill early in the next regular session of Congress.

Mr. Meriweather, director of the bank, is a leading man high in the Kennedy administration.

President Garcia took the occasion to emphasize the importance of the steel mill project and what benefits it will bring to the economy of the country, particularly the direct benefits it would give the people in Mindanao in terms of employment.

The President today issued a proclamation declaring Wednesday, August 30, this year, as a special public holiday in Bulacan province.

The President issued the proclamation in order to give the people of Bulacan opportunity to celebrate appropriately the birthday anniversary of the hero and patriot, Marcelo H. del Pilar, who was born in Bulacan, Bulacan, on August 30, 1850.

August 29.—THIS morning President Garcia received Rep. Tobias Fornier of Antique, who reported to the Chief Executive on his two-month survey and inspection trip abroad.

Rep. Fornier, who is chairman of the House appropriations committee, returned from his tour of inspection through West Germany, France, Spain, Italy, the United States, and Thailand on August 24.

During his tour Rep. Fornier observed industrial progress in the countries he visited and inspected the various Philippine embassies and consulates with the view to making recommendations in Congress at its next regular session.

Earlier the President received Susan Molina and Lucy Ancheta, Misses Philippines of Hawaii in 1961 and Maria Clara of the Century, respectively, who conveyed to the Chief Executive the best wishes and greetings of James K. Kealoha, Lt. Gov. of Hawaii.

The beauty queens who were accompanied to Malacañang by Sen. Arturo M. Tolentino and Sally Rivera, their chaperon, presented the President with a lei, and the First Lady with a corsage.

Among other callers of the President were Reps. Valeriano Yancha of Samar, Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte del Sur, Jose Alberto of Catanduanes, accompanied by Reparations Commissioner Juan Alberto and Gov. Jorge Almojuela, Sen. Lorenzo Sumulong, and Rep. Francisco Sumulong of Rizal.

The President, upon the recommendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole, turned down today the petition for commutation of the death sentence of Antonio Yu, *alias* Sostenes Yongco.

Yongco had previously been given two 30-day reprieves by the President, the last one expiring today, in order to give the Board ample time to study his petition. The Board however recommended execution of the death sentence.

The prisoner was convicted and sentenced to death by the court of first instance of Davao, affirmed by the Supreme Court, for the rape and murder by strangulation of six-year old Delia Abule in that province, on November 14, 1957.

The President was informed today that a team of the Nacionalista League of Provincial Governors and City Mayors invaded Mindanao yester-day to mop out Liberal Party remnants in that area and insure the victory of a straight NP ticket.

Firing off their opening salvo at a mammoth rally, which was broadcast by a local station, at Plaza Divisoria in Cagayan de Oro, the provincial and city executives dared the LPs to match the record of the Garcia administration rather than resort to beguiling promises and character assassinations.

Composed of Govs. Esteban Bernido of Bohol, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Constantino Navarro of Surigao, Guadalupe Adaza of Zamboanga del Norte, Vice-Gov. Casiano Aloyon of Marinduque, and Rep. Fausto Dugenio of Misamis Oriental, the team also brought to the people's attention that there never was any better and more responsive administration than the present.

This afternoon the President enlisted the cooperation of the people in the holding of a free, clean, honest, and orderly elections in November in an address delivered at the program commemorating the 65th anniversary of the Battle of Pinaglabanan, in San Juan, Rizal.

The President gave the assurance that the Nacionalista Party record is the best guarantee that the coming elections will be free, clean, honest, and orderly. He pointed out that under the responsibility of the majority party all elections had been above board.

The President addressed the huge crowd that gathered in front of the Pinaglabanan monument. He braved the drizzle that continuously fell throughout the military parade and review. He was presented by Mayor Nicanor Ibuna.

After the grandstand ceremonies, the President had merienda at the residence of the late Dr. Severo Siasoco. Then he returned to Malacañang.

August 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia today took time out from his political campaign and did some spade work in an effort to clear the backlog of state papers which had piled up while he was stumping in some Luzon provinces.

In the morning the President presided over the Council of State meeting and in the afternoon, he convened his Cabinet for their first meeting in two months.

In between these two meetings, the President received the credentials of Jacobus Van der Zwaal as ambassador of the Netherlands to the Philippines and Dr. Tan Huu Thee as ambassador of South Vietnam.

In accepting the credentials of the South Vietnamese envoy, the President said he was happy to receive him as the first diplomatic representative of his country to the Philippines.

He said that the Philippines and Vietnam have a common political experience.

The ceremony was attended by the members of the Cabinet and by Ambassador Trinidad Legarda, Philippine envoy to Thailand who is also assigned to Vietnam.

In receiving the credentials of the new Netherlands envoy, the President said Ambassador Van der Zwaal's assignment to this country is the "latest manifestation of the strength of the friendship that binds our two peoples."

President Garcia and his Council of State approved, various urgent public works and self-liquidating economic development projects all over the country proposed to be financed from bond issues totalling some ₱150 million.

In a two-hour meeting in Malacañang's state dining room early this afternoon, the Council unanimously voted to give to a screening committee wider determining powers to decide which of the projects should be given top priority, and to set a ceiling as to the amount of bonds to be floated to finance these projects.

The Council committee which had been instructed to submit its recommendations after consultations with the Monetary Board of the Central Bank and the National Economic Council is composed of Public Works Secretary Florencio Moreno, chairman, and the following members:

Senate Majority Floorleader Cipriano Primicias, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, Senator Lorenzo M. Tañada, NEC Chairman Jose Locsin, and Rep. Cornelio Villareal of Capiz.

During the meeting the President called attention of the Council members to four proposed projects which he considered essential and urgent, namely:

- (1) Extension of the South railroad line from Legaspi to Matnog, southernmost point of Sorsogon;
- (2) Additional capitalization of the National Marketing Corporation amounting to ₱10 million to enable it to step up its drive to stabilize prices and place prime commodities within the reach of the laboring class;
- (3) Improvement of facilities of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority so as to insure an adequate water supply in summer and an efficient drainage system in the rainy months for Manila and suburbs; and
- (4) The Quinala River hydroelectric project in Albay costing ₱3.3 million designed to generate 2,000 KW and to provide the Bicol region with a cheap source of power.

The President urged that priority be given to the extension of the southern railroad line as a means of helping the farmers in Southernmost Luzon and hasten the development of the area. He pointed out that the financing of the railroad extension to the Cagayan Valley in Northern Luzon had already been provided for.

In plugging for the NAWASA project, the President took occasion to recall that Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson of Manila, when he first ran for office 12 years ago, was elected on the promise that he would solve the recurrent flood problem in the City.

The President said it is apparent that Mayor Lacson has forgotten this election promise, and that it is up to the national government to do something about this urgent matter.

During the meeting the President announced the appointment of Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia as chairman of the NAWASA board of directors, vice Ambrosio Magsaysay, retired.

The Council of State screening committee was charged with studying each individual project with the view to determining its rank in the scale of priorities. Among the considerations to be taken by the committee in its study of the merits of the projects are (1) whether they conform with the overall program of economic and social development; (2) whether the project is among those which rank high in the scale of priorities previously set forth by

the Council of State; and (3) whether the level of bond issues necessary to finance the projects would cause an undue rise in prices and exert pressure on the balance of payments.

The Chief Executive opened the meeting about 12:45 p.m. by emphasizing the urgent need of deciding upon the advisability and feasibility of approving these projects.

Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal and Rep. Cornelio Villareal, opposition representatives in the Council, were unable to attend as they were reported campaigning in the provinces. They were invited and informed about the meeting.

Also unable to attend the meeting were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Sr., who was indisposed; General Emilio Aguinaldo, who was ill, Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez, who is abroad; and Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda and House Majority Floorleader Jose Aldeguer, who are both out of town.

This evening the Cabinet approved the importation of an additional 100,000 metric tons of rice to keep the price of the cereal down.

The Philippine National Bank was instructed to make ₱24 million available to the NAMARCO to finance the importation of the additional rice.

Commerce Undersecretary Perfecto Laguio in his capacity as chairman of the NAMARCO board of directors said he will convince the board tomorrow afternoon to determine the date and place of the public bidding for the additional rice importation.

He said, however, that the eight awardees in the last bidding would be automatically given the awards for the importation of 25,000 tons, following the law which allows old awardees 25 per cent of new importations.

The Cabinet members suggested that the NAMARCO use a new distribution system to replace the first "foolproof" system devised by the NAMARCO.

The new system will be based on lists of employees to be submitted by heads of offices of both government and private firms.

The rice will be distributed through the offices and firms instead of through regular NAMARCO distributors.

August 31.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning laid a wreath at the tomb of the late President Magsaysay at Manila's North Cemetery, to commemorate the 53rd birthday anniversary of the former Philippine Chief Executive from Castillejos, Zambales.

Earlier the President issued a proclamation declaring the day a special public holiday in Zambales, where RM was born, to give the people in the province opportunity to observe the day fittingly.

The President had also ordered the mounting of a guard of honor from the Presidential Guard Battalion at the tomb of the late President from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today.

Shortly before 11 a.m., the President took time out of his regular schedule to motor to the North Cemetery to lay a wreath and offer prayers at the tomb of his famous predecessor.

At the tomb the President was joined by relatives of the late RM, among them his son Ramon, Jr., his son-in-law Jesus Vargas, Jr., Dr. Paulino J. Garcia, and Judge Feliciano de Gala, chairman of the PHILCOA.

From the Cemetery the President returned to Malacañang and received the Rizal mayors. The President had a breakfast conference this morning with a delegation from Negros Occidental who briefed the President on the political situation in the province.

The delegation was headed by Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao and Reps. Agustin Gatuslao, Vicente Gustilo and Inocencio Ferrer. It included Board Members Narciso Jocson, Mario Peña, and Ben Gaston Vice-Mayor Eddie Maravilla of Saravia, and the following municipal mayors of the province:

Pedro Yulo of Binalbagan, Jose Moises of Isabela, Vicente Suanico of Pontevedra, Hector Montinola of San Enrique, Benjamin Gomez of La Castellana, Romulo Golez of Silay City, Luis Magalona of Saravia, Teofisto Cordova of Bacolod City, Dolores Invante of Valladolid, Elizalda Rodrigo of Murcia, Maria Lizares of Talisay, and Vice-Mayor Eddie Maravilla of Saravia.

The President this day announced he will soon create the Embroidery and Apparels Control and Inspection Board to carry out strict implementation of the Embroidery and Apparels law.

The President gave this assurance to a group of municipal mayors from the second congressional district of Rizal who complained that the illegal entry of duty-free embroidering materials sold locally has caused the mass lay-off of factory hands and partial closure of textile mills.

The law which provides that all embroidery materials imported into the Philippines should be re-exported as Philippine-made embroideries and apparels and not be sold locally, was among the bills approved by the President last June.

The mayors headed by Marikina Mayor Osmundo de Guzman, president of the Rizal Mayors League, petitioned the President to put a stop to the importation of embroidery raw materials to save the textile industry.

The President, however, pointed out that while self-sufficiency in clothing remains a goal of the Administration, to stop importation of embroidery materials would be unfair to thousands of Filipino embroiderers who will lose their only means of livelihood.

The Chief Executive said the solution would be a strict implementation of the law through the creation of the Embroidery and Apparels Control and Inspection Board.

During his conference with the Rizal mayors, the President administered the oath of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party to former Grand Alliance Mayor de Guzman, Vice-Mayor Jose Andres, and Councilors Virginia de Guzman and Manuel Santos of Marikina.

Other mayors who called on the President were Liberal Mayor Emiliano Caruncho, Jr., of Pasig, Mayors Alejo Digma of Baras, Saturnino Tiamson of Angono, Teodulo Bernados of Tanay, Manuel Santos of Taytay, Jose Alegre of Morong, Teodoro Rodriguez of Montalban, Francisco Felix of Cainta, and Francisco Francisco of Teresa.

The President today proclaimed the first day of September of every year as Social Security Day.

In issuing the proclamation, the President said it was on September 1, 1957, when the Social Security System commenced full operation, and that the event is worthy of commemoration because "it marked the start of new measures for the economic security and well-being of the Filipino working-men."

September 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning lauded the recipients of the Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Award for 1961 for their invaluable and outstanding service to humanity.

The five awardees and the members of the board of trustees of the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation were breakfast guests of the President and the First Lady at Malacañang.

In personally congratulating each of the awardees, the Chief Executive said that the example they have set will serve as a beacon light to guide all men to the service of their fellowmen with the inner sense of satisfaction for having been of service as their only reward.

The awardees honored by the President and the First Lady were Mr. Amitabha Chowdhury of India in the field of journalism and literature; Gus Borgeest of Great Britain, for community leadership; Dr. Raqlen Kodijat of Indonesia, for government service; Miss Nilawan Pintong of Thailand for public service; and Miss Genevieve Caufield, American, who had worked for international understanding despite her loss of sight.

Also present at the breakfast were Mrs. Amitabha Chowdhury, Mrs. Gus Borgeest, Mrs. Raden Kodijat, Director and Mrs. Dana S. Creel of the Rockefeller Brothers Funds, Minister Manuel G. Zamora, and the following officials of the board of trustees of the RMAF:

Former Chief Justice Ricardo Paras, chairman; Francisco Ortigas, Jr., vice-chairman and treasurer; Jesus Magsaysay, Baldomero T. Olivera, Judge Guillermo S. Santos, and Frisco San Juan, members; and Miss Belen H. Abreau, secretary.

After breakfast the President received Argentina Ambassador Raul Rodriguez Arraya and Francisco Delgado, permanent Philippine delegate to the United Nations.

Ambassador Arraya invited the President to visit the Argentine training ship *La Argentina*, which is due in Manila on September 6, while the Philippine delegate to the UN took up with the President latest developments in the world situation.

President Garcia conferred today with Vice-Mayor Antonio Villegas of Manila, a Liberal, in Malacañang giving rise to speculations that the latter may join the Nacionalista Party. Villegas has been repeatedly quoted as displeased with the way he was treated by LP leaders in Manila.

Malacañang was silent on the conference, but previous reports indicated the Manila vice-mayor was drifting towards the NP.

In the evening the President and the First Lady motored to the residence of Sen. Gil J. Puyat to felicitate the President's vice-presidential running mate who celebrated his 54th birthday.

The President today issued an administrative order abolishing the Presidential Fact Finding Committee in the Bureau of Customs.

In abolishing the PFFC, the President said that the purpose for which it was created is about to be achieved, except the final winding up of certain pending projects and the corrective phase in them which properly belongs to the corresponding administrative authority.

The Committee was created by the President in 1958 through Administrative Order 268 to recommend ways and means of ejecting good administration, performance, and efficiency in the Bureau of Customs.

The Chief Executive gave the Committee 90 days within which to wind up its pending work.

September 2.—THIS morning President Garcia conferred on Paul. Henry Wood the Philippine Legion of Honor (rank of Commander) for his role in promoting better Philippine-American relations and enhancing the economic, industrial, and social advancement of the country.

In pinning the Legion of Honor on Paul Wood, the President cited his various contributions in the rehabilitation of the Philippine economy, the manufacture of farm implements locally, the growth of small business, creation of more job opportunities, and the training of more Filipino technologists,

In accepting the award, Wood assured the Chief Executive that although he was retiring in November from International Harvester Macleod, Inc., he will continue to remain in the Philippines so that he can contribute in any capacity to the industrial and economic development of the country.

Present at the award ceremonies held at the Malacañang Ceremonial Hall this morning were U.S. Minister Gordon Mein, Management Consultant John Curtin of the U.S. Embassy, U.S. Commercial Attache Joseph Rand, General Manager Colin Crawford of Philippine Packing, Manager H. D. Carl of the U.S. Lines. General Manager Albert Dunn of Goodyear Tire, Resident Manager Richard Henry of the First National Bank of New York, Assistant Editor John Yench of the *Journal of the American Chamber of Commerce*. Executive Vice-President Stanley Fisher of the American Chamber of Commerce; President Alfonso Calalang of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce; and the following officials and ladies of IHMI:

Vice-President and Mrs. C. E. Harrington, Vice-President and Mrs. Frank Hill, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Bownass, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Whisenant, IH Labor Union president; Domingo Sta. Ana, Col. Manuel Syquiao, Pedro Joven, former Press Secretary Antonio Arizabal; and Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal.

This noon the President reiterated his full backing to Filipino businessmen in the fight to gain mastery over the economic household through the Filipino First policy of his administration.

The President renewed his pledge for a clean, honest, and orderly election in November to preserve the democratic way of life in this country, which he said, had been jeopardized by the Liberals through terrorism, mass frauds, and murders in 1949.

In his hour-long extemporaneous speech at the sixth annual convention of Filipino Distributors Association at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel this noon, the Chief Executive said that Filipinos face a grim task of winning control of domestic and international trade as well as the national patrimony but assured them the full backing of his administration in the endeavor.

The President pointed out that the task calls for patriotic as well as business motives and requires all the aggressiveness, alertness, vision, and foresight at their command in order to be successfully achieved.

The President was given a long ovation when he said that every Filipino should be proud of the fact that the Philippines is considered by the entire world as the most successful democracy in Asia.

This afternoon the President met the Council of Leaders and other Nacionalista candidates at Malacañang and discussed the political situation with them.

Present at the conference, which started at 5 o'clock this afternoon, were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez. Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda, and Sens. Gil J. Puyat, Cipriano Primicias, and Arturo M. Tolentino.

This afternoon the President also appealed to the Philippine Airlines Employees Association to heed the order of the Court of Industrial Relations to return to work "for the sake of public service".

In a 20-minute conference with representatives of the PALEA at Malacañang late this afternoon, the President asked the workers to restore voluntarily normal operations at the strike-bound firm which he said, was essential to the Nation's economy.

The President assured the workers that their return to work would not in any way prejudice their negotiations with management and their cause in the labor dispute.

Accompanied by Sen. Roseller T. Lim, chairman of the Senate committee on Labor, Emilio Saho, PALEA president, gave the Chief Executive a fill-in on their side of their controversy with management. Pie promised to transmit the President's return-to-work appeal to PALEA members.

In the course of the conference the President accepted the offer of Sen. Lim to arbitrate between the workers and management.

Also present at the conference were Pacifico Aplao and Potenciano Basilio, PALEA officials, and Mariano Ampil, the union's counsel.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: September 3-9, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 3.— AFTER hearing mass in Malacañang, where he received holy communion, the President played golf with Chairman Paulino J. Garcia of the National Science Development Board and J. Antonio Araneta up to 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

The President played 18 holes and had lunch at the Wack Wack Clubhouse with his playmates.

From the clubhouse, the President motored back to Malacañang for a brief nap and then studied pending state papers which piled up during the week.

The President today received a message from Rep. Harold Cooley, chairman of the United States House agricultural committee, thanking him on behalf of tobacco growers in America, for authorizing the importation of high-grade U.S. Virginia leaf tobacco to improve the quality of locally-manufactured cigars and cigarettes.

"I am certain that this action will prove to be mutually advantageous to the peoples of both of our countries since our tobacco will blend well with native-grown tobacco," Rep. Cooley informed the President in a cable received in Malacañang. "All the tobacco growers of America are grateful to you," the cable stated.

President Garcia, after consultation with his Cabinet, had approved the proposed importation to enable the ACCFA to dispose of its huge stocks of low-grade Virginia leaf tobacco, some 49 million kilos, and to settle its indebtedness of amounting to ₱155 million from the Central Bank and the farmers.

The President also received today a message of gratitude from some 100 evicted families of Enrile, Cagayan, who were allocated government lands through the direct intervention of the President.

These families who were earlier given until March next year to vacate the land they had been cultivating for more than ten years will be resettled in the rich agricultural area in Tabuk, Mountain Province, about 40 kilometers away from Enrile.

The message of gratitude was transmitted to the President by PCAPE Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren, who, together with members of a Presidential task force, went to Cagayan and Tabuk to look for a suitable farm land for the displaced families.

September 4.— PRESIDENT Garcia today strengthened his position in Mindanao, Mountain Province, Manila, and Pampanga as he discussed the political situation with top leaders representing these areas.

President Garcia was assured by eight governors who recently concluded an 8-day tour of Mindanao that his re-election has an "easy sailing" and that his running mate, Sen. Gil J. Puyat, is "picking up considerable ground" in the region.

The assurance was conveyed to the President by Gov. Isidro Rodriguez, president of the Governors and City Mayors League, in the presence of Sen. Puyat.

Other members of the group were Govs. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Juan Frivaldo of Sorsogon, Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur, Godofredo Ramos, of Aklan, Felipe Garduque of Cagayan, D. O. Plaza of Agusan, and Constantino Navarro of Surigao del Norte and Vice-Governor Graciano Aluyon of Marinduque.

The governors requested the President to impose party discipline on all NP congressional candidates in order to insure a straight party victory.

The President also received a pledge of support from 40 professionals of Macabebe, Pampanga, led by Marcelo Lagman.

The Macabebe group denied reports of a strong regional in favor of Macapagal and Puyat and asserted that on the contrary they were working hard for the victory of the Garcia-Puyat team in their hometown.

The group, accompanied by Rep. Emilio Cortez, was composed of Alejandro Manlapaz, Drs. Marcelino Benzoza, Leocadio Manansala, and Miguel Galang, Urbano Castillo, Emilio Hernandez, former Councilor Antonio de la Cruz, Fernando Dungca, Ricardo Manlapaz, Juan Bustos, Feliciano Viray, Melencio Cancio, Eloy Alfonzo, Jesus Polintan, and others.

The President administered the oath of affiliation as member of the Nacionalista Party to Mayor Juan Madriaga of Pudtol, Mountain Province.

About three hundred members of the Manila Jockeys Mutual Aid Association, NP and PPP ward leaders of Manila led by Eladio Sordan, pledged to support the President in the November elections.

Other callers were Eduardo Romualdez, board chairman of the Philippine Air Lines, who received instructions to see the PAL strikers at the office of Sen. Roseller Lim, chairman of the Senate committee on Labor, Gov. Clara Robles of Quezon, Gov. Jesus Almero of Masbate, and Sen. Domocao Alonto.

The President today granted another 30-day reprieve to prisoners Primitivo Ala y Duran and Marcial Ama y Torres, who were scheduled to be executed today at the state penitentiary for murder.

The stay of execution was granted by the President to give the Board of Pardons and Parole ample time to consider the convicts' appeal for commutation of their death sentence.

Ala killed a fellow convict while he was serving prison at Muntinlupa on March 24, 1959, while Ama also committed the same crime on August 27, 1958.

The two convicts pleaded guilty upon arraignment at the trial court but were given the supreme penalty because of aggravating circumstances.

President Garcia today received a message of sympathy from President Posun Yun of the Republic of Korea, who learned of the flood disasters that inundated part of northern Luzon provinces during the recent downpour.

In his message which was forwarded to the Chief Executive by Ambassador Honkon Lee of the Korean embassy here, President Posun said that he is praying for the early reconstruction of the stricken areas.

President Garcia this evening reiterated the policy of the Philippines in favor of total disarmament as the solution to a lasting world peace.

The President said the Philippines will stand four square behind all moves for total disarmament.

The President frowned upon the decision of Soviet Russia ending the ban on nuclear test.

This evening the President said he will honor the decision of the Nacionalista Party arbitration committee declaring the first congressional district of Sorsogon as a "free zone." The Presidential statement was made after the Chief Executive conferred with Major Bonifacio Gillego.

The NP arbitration committee composed of Sen. Eulogio Balao, chairman; Secretary Cesar Fortich, J. Antonio Araneta, and Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, members, decided officially on August 28 to declare Sorsogon's first congressional district as a "free zone."

September 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today had a two-hour conference with members of the Council of Leaders and senatorial candidates of the majority party at Malacañang to discuss campaign plans and strategies.

The President also exchanged views with the NP senatorial bets on the progress of their campaign and discussed ways and means to gear it to the campaign of the NP congressional candidates to avoid duplication of efforts.

The conference started at 11 a.m. continued through lunch and ended at 1 p.m.

The conferees were heartened by the announcement of Sen. Domocao Alonto that the entire NP senatorial ticket will garner an overwhelming majority in Mindanao owing the campaign of NP leaders for a straight ticket.

Present at the conference were Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Sens. Gil J. Puyat, Quintin Paredes, Pedro Sabido, Arturo Tolentino, Domocao Alonto, Lorenzo Sumulong, Cipriano Primicias, Pacita M. Gonzalez, and Reps. Constancio Castañeda, and Jose Roy.

Earlier the President administered the oath of affiliation as NP member to Alejandro L. Catubig, former provincial secretary of the Progressive Party of the Philippines and the Grand Alliance, in Pangasinan.

Present at the induction were Sen. Cipriano Primicias, Gov. Conrado Estrella, Vice-Gov. Nancy Q. Sison, and other top Pangasinan NP leaders.

The President also signed an order creating the town of Basista as well as the appointment papers of the following municipal officials: Mayor Artemio Frias; Vice-Mayor Irineo de Guzman; and Councilors Romeo Resultay, Alejandro de Guzman, Juan Frias, Maximiano Mendoza, Primitivo Frias, and Victor Cagunot.

The President also received Gov. Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac; Mayors Hipolito Castañeda of Tarlac and Victor Tizon of Capas; Gov. Feliciano Leviste and Rep. Numeriano Babao of Batangas; and Rep. Lamberto Macias of Negros Oriental.

At two p.m. the President motored to the Nichols airbase where he boarded a plane for Bukidnon on the first leg of his 15-day stumping tour of Mindanao, Western Visayas, and Bicol provinces.

With the President were Sens. Gil J. Puyat, Pedro Sabido, Pacita Gonzalez, and Rep. Jose Roy of Tarlac.

The President this day ordered the dissolution of the Export Coordinating Committee following completion of task of finding ways and means to check the loss of dollars through anomalous importation and exportations of goods.

The President, through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, directed acting Customs Commissioner Rolando Geotina, who is also acting chairman of the coordinating committee, to notify the members of the committee's abolition.

The committee was created by the Cabinet on December 18, 1957, to formulate appropriate measures to stop the underpricing, misdeclaration, and overshipment of exports as well as overpricing in importations which have resulted in the loss of dollars and revenues.

The members of the committee are Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich, and Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim.

The Chief Executive noted with satisfaction the accomplishments of the committee in effectively carrying out the task entrusted to it despite various handicaps like lack of adequate personnel and funds.

Reports from customs attaches in Hongkong, Tokyo, London, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and other ports of entry showed negligible differences in ships' cargoes between what was loaded and what was actually landed at their destinations.

September 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today appealed for a renewal of confidence in the Nacionalista administration so that it will be able to continue with its grandiose program of development and increased services for the rural areas.

Debunking criticisms that he has forgotten the welfare of the masses, the President said he will never forget the masses from whence he came, pointing out that he was born a poor man.

The President cut short his speech upon the request of the people for his famous *balak*, and left to his teammate and senatorial team the refutation of the opposition claims against the majority party.

Puyat predicted in his speech that President Garcia will win in Luzon because the people will vote on the good, faithful service of the President to the people.

He said the Nacionalistas deserve a renewal of power in order to carry out successfully the plans under the Mindanao Development Authority (MDA).

President Garcia left Del Monte at 8 this morning traveling 70 kilometers of rough, winding roads through the country's finest scenery.

At Sumilao and Impasugong, the party made forced stops as enthusiastic welcomers waved placards and stretched colored ribbons across the route and sprayed the party with fresh flowers.

Arriving at 10:30 a.m., the party was met at the outskirts of Malaybalay by another huge welcome crowd stretching up to the town plaza.

After a *Te Deum* at the St. Isidro Church, the President and his running mate, together with Sens. Pedro Sabido and Pacita Madrigal Gonzalez and Reps. Jose Roy and Cesar Fortich, went to the public rally.

The welcome party was led by Mrs. Fortich, Vice-Gov. Teodoro Oblad, and Mayor Lorenzo Dinglayan.

Immediately after the luncheon, the party took off from Malaybalay airport aboard the *Fokker*, *Sahib*, and *Dagohoy* for Surigao where another rally awaited the NP campaigners. They will spend the night at Surigao before proceeding to San Jose, Antique, the following morning to carry the fight to Panay.

President Garcia today proclaimed Tuesday, September 19, as Law Day.

In issuing the proclamation, the President said that the vital role which lawyers play in the administration of justice should be brought to the attention of the people.

He emphasized that the administration of justice is "indispensable to a sound and vigorous democracy," and urged the bar and lawyers' associations throughout the country to celebrate the day with appropriate programs.

This evening President Garcia and Nacionalista senatorial candidates warned that the return of the Liberals to power meant the return of poll frauds and systematic looting of the country's wealth.

Speaking one after the other with clock-like precision, the NP candidates kept what Gov. Constantino Navarro said was the biggest gathering ever held at the local plaza, that lasted from 3 p.m. to past midnight, some even foregoing supper to wait for the President, who was scheduled to be the last speaker.

Both the people and local government officials praised President Garcia for fulfilling the promise he had made last month that he would return to their province. They said that few candidates kept their promises like him.

President Garcia, during his tour of Mindanao provinces last month, had been scheduled to hold rallies in several towns of Surigao but owing to the disruption of the itinerary on account of many unscheduled stops, the Chief Executive had arrived in Surigao at past midnight instead of at 4 p.m. of the appointed day; hence, the promise to return to the province.

President Garcia, Vice-Presidential Candidate Gil J. Puyat and senatorial candidates Pedro Sabido, Pacita M. Gonzalez, and Jose J. Roy arrived from Malaybalay, Bukidnon, at 3 p.m. yesterday and were received with flowers, brassbands, and fireworks by an estimated crowd of 20,000.

President Garcia and party will enplane tomorrow morning to Antique after spending the night at the residence of Gov. Navarro in this town.

September 7.— PRESIDENT Garcia and Nacionalista senatorial candidates today continued their sustained drive to topple down Liberal strength as they invaded Panay on the third day of their campaign that covers Mindanao, Visayas, and the Bicol region.

Concentrating on past Liberal record of inefficiency, terrorism, and frauds in elections, and neglect of the masses, the Nacionalista tandem and senatorial team, composed of the President, Vice-Presidential candidate Gil J. Puyat, Sens. Pedro Sabido and Pacita M. Gonzalez, and Rep. Jose J. Roy, received repeated ovations at a rally this morning at the San Jose public plaza.

President Garcia, in his hour-long speech, recalled the campaign in 1958 when he and the late President Ramon Magsaysay raised the issue of renaming the people's faith and confidence in the government and won overwhelming majority for the Nacionalista Party throughout the country.

"You will recall the reform movement of Magsaysay and myself, giving lands to the landless and homes to the homeless, even to Huk diehards," the President said. "Now that we have restored the faith and confidence of the people in the government, we are again appealing to you on the basis of performance."

The President then compared the record of the Liberals and the Nacionalistas. He said the Liberals had given Antique only one prefabricated school and one-half hospital against the Nacionalistas' 444 prefabricated schools, three hospitals, two finished concrete bridges costing F3 million, two other costing ₱1.5 million, twenty kilometers of feeder roads, 70 springs developed, 12 more artesian wells, 182 barrio school buildings, and others

The President and his party arrived in San Jose, Antique, past 10 a.m. and landed amidst uproarious welcome which indicated a solid Nacionalista strength in the entire province.

Leading the huge welcome party composed mostly of delegations from towns some 100 kilometers away were Rep. Tobias Fornier, Gov. Josue L. Cadio, and provincial and municipal officials.

From the airport, the party proceeded to the St. Joseph parish church for the *Te Deum*, and then to the rally.

The rally was threatened by intermittent showers and hot sun, but the crowd stayed on to hear the President who was surprised by their requests for *balak* since he did not consider the province a part of the *balak* area.

After speaking at the rally at past 1:00 p.m., the President proceeded to the residence of Rogelio Javier for lunch and brief rest before flying to Roxas City, where he will address an evening rally and later board *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for New Washington, Aklan.

The President received today a roaring welcome upon arrival at the LP bailiwick from Antique aboard the plane *Dagohoy*.

In spite of the inclement weather, people from all walks of life forgot politics and crowded the airport some seven kilometers from the city and all along the route of the motorcade to cheer the President and party.

Nacionalista welcomers were led by former Reps. Carmen Dinglasan-Consing and Jose Dorado; former Gov. Jose Dinglasan; former Roxas City Mayor Leni Alba; Provincial Board Member Ricardo Castro; Mayors Jose Viterbo of President Roxas town, Pedro Esmundo of Tapaz, Prudencio Livera of Maayon, and Eligio Apelita of Pilar; and Mrs. Dolores Mosquete, president of the Capiz Women's Club.

Not to be outdone, local Liberals trooped in great number to the airport to welcome the President, among them Vice-Gov. Filomeno Villanueva representing Gov. Atila Balmes, who is in Manila, and City Mayor Lorenzo Arnaldo, Vice-Mayor Mabini Altavaz, and Councilors Arturo Jugo, Nicolas Arcenas, Vicente Laferrer, Teodoro Arcenas, and Salvador Medina.

Among other welcomers were Aurelio Ramos representing the Asturias Sugar Central and executives of the Pilar Sugar Central of the Elizaldes.

The President led the motorcade from the Airport to the Cathedral for Te *Deum*.

The Chief Executive then proceeded to the residence of former Rep. Consing for rest before going to Asturias Sugar Central for dinner.

After dinner the President attended a mammoth rally held in the city plaza and then boarded the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for New Washington, Aklan.

September 8.—THIS morning President Garcia almost met an accident which could have been fatal. He had barely crossed the gangplank connecting the *RPS Agusan* to the New Washington town wharf when it flipped on its left side, throwing out two members of the presidential party following the Chief Executive.

One of the victims was Francisco de Leon of the *Manila Chronicle*, who was able to hold on to a dangling rope until aid arrived. De Leon does not know how to swim. The other was Sergeant Prado of the PC, who fell into the water and swam to safety.

The accident did not dampen the enthusiasm of the President in wooing the votes of Aklan. In his speech in New Washington, Ibajay, and Kalibo he accused the Liberals of having failed to live up to the ideals of the late President Roxas.

President Garcia observed that ironically it is the Nacionalista Party that is now implementing the good policies of Roxas. He told the followers of ex-Speaker Jose Yulo that their idol was now campaigning for him because Yulo was disgusted with the leadership "of Vice-President Macapagal.

Feuding Nacionalista factions led by Rep. Jose Legaspi and Gov. Godofredo Ramos, who are contesting the lone congressional seat of Aklan declared a moratorium on politics in order to give President Garcia a big welcome upon his arrival this morning in Kalibo, Aklan, NP bailiwick.

From New Washington, President Garcia and his party motored to Kalibo where they were received by a mammoth crowd that escorted the presidential party to church for the *Te Deum* and then to the residence of Gov. Ramos for lunch and conference with provincial officials.

The President rested at the residence of Virgilio Garcia where he took his *merienda* before motoring to Ibajay for the rally.

From Ibajay, the President and his party came back to Kalibo for dinner at the residence of Rep. Legaspi and a grand rally at the plaza where Liberal, now NP convert, Mayor Federico Icamina promised to give the NP ticket a sweeping victory.

At the same rally, Vice-Gov. Virgilio Patricio was scheduled to be inducted as governor in lieu of Gov. Ramos, who resigned to run for Congress against Rep. Legaspi.

After the rally, the President and party motored to New Washington to board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for Bulan, Sorsogon.

President Garcia today directed the PCAPE-NAMARCO enforcement group and all police agencies engaged in the apprehension of NAMARCO rice “blackmarketeers” to adopt and “iron fist” policy against these unscrupulous persons.

The President issued the directive in a wire sent through Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo following receipt of a wire from Malacañang giving him a day-to-day fill in on the rice situation.

The Chief Executive said that drastic measures should be adopted against these persons, Filipinos, and aliens alike, who preferred their own selfish interest to the welfare of 27-million Filipinos.

The directive of the President was read to some 38 PCAPE investigators who were to be deputized as NAMARCO agents before they departed this afternoon to places where the supply of rice was tagged as “critical”.

September 9.—THE President boarded the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* at New Washington, at past 5 a.m. today after a series of rallies in New Washington, Makate, Ibajay, and Kalibo in Aklan which ended at 3 a.m.

At 6 a.m. the *Lapu-Lapu* lifted anchor and proceeded to Bulan, Sorsogon, via Masbate, anchoring at 1 p.m., two miles northeast of Ticao Island, where it will remain for the night.

The President and the rest of the Nacionalista campaigners took a much-needed respite today after a gruelling five-day stumps of Mindanao and Visayas provinces. Except for brief conferences with Press Secretary Nable and Gonzalo D. Vasquez, the President kept to his cabin the whole day to take a complete rest.

With the President on board the yacht are Sens. Pedro Sabido, Domocao Alonto, and Pacita M. Gonzalez and Rep. Jose J. Roy. Also with the President is Maj. Bonifacio Gallego, NP official candidate for the first district of Sorsogon, who had been invited by the President to join him at Roxas City.

Sen. Gil J. Puyat, NP vice-presidential candidate, who flew to Iloilo from Kalibo, will join the presidential party in Bulan, Sorsogon, tomorrow.

President Garcia today issued a proclamation pegging the maximum price of rice to ₱1.20 per ganta and enjoining all retailers to observe this price ceiling.

The proclamation was signed by the President in Kalibo, Aklan, early this morning shortly before he pulled out on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for Bulan, Sorsogon, on the fifth day of his current barnstorming tour of Mindanao, Western Visayas, and Bicol provinces.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: September 10-16, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning started his Bicol campaign in the Liberal-controlled town of Bulan, Sorsogon, with an appeal for a new lease of power based on the Nacionalista Party record of performance.

Preceded by NP Vice-Presidential Candidate Gil J. Puyat, reelectionist Sens. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Pedro Sabido, Domocao Alonto, Lorenzo Sumulong, and Rep. Jose J. Roy, the President reiterated the NPs dedication to, the amelioration of the lot of the masses economically, materially, and socially.

Among other things President Garcia cited were the extensive public works program, the passage of Republic Act No. 3045, appropriating ₱20 million over a five-year period for abaca industry development, increase of the loan capacity of abaca producers from ₱180 to ₱800 a hectare by the Development Bank of the Philippines, and the extension of the Manila Railroad line from Guinobatan, Albay, to Matnog, Sorsogon.

The President was well applauded when he turned over the second installment of ₱2 million for the MRR extension to Gov. Juan Frivaldo at a rally.

President Garcia and party received a rousing welcome at the Bulan wharf led by Gov. Frivaldo, Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Rep. Salvador Encinas, and Rep. Vicente Peralta.

Also with the welcomers were Sen. Gil J. Puyat, Agriculture Undersecretary Salvador Cunanan, former Senator Edmundo Cea, and Manager Galo Meliton of the Abaca Corporation of the Philippines.

Delegations from Matnog, Gubat, Barcelona, and other nearby towns swelled the welcome crowd with numerous placards among them: "Bicolanos Are For Filipino First; We Will Vote Garcia," "A Vote For Garcia Is Vote Against Demagoguery."

From the wharf the President and party proceeded to the parish church for *Te Deum* then to the rally after which he returned to the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for Sorsogon where he will start work on the MRR extension, lay the cornerstone of the half million-peso Capitol annex, and address separate rallies in Gubat and Sorsogon.

During the trip the President conferred with Secretary Aytona on the rice situation.

September 11.—NICANOR Seva of Albay assessed the chances of victory of President Garcia in his province as "very good" after noting the enthusiasm aroused by the visit of the President, who arrived Legaspi City about 10 a.m. today from Sorsogon.

The President was met at the boundary of Albay and Sorsogon by about 150 buses and 50 cars full of labor and civic delegations coming from all parts of Albay led by Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Rep. Justino Nuyda, and Gov. Seva.

The President had to stop at Putiao, Sorsogon, and Locsin, Albay, where welcomers formed road blocks and stopped the motorcade to see and shake hands with the President.

Upon arrival in Legaspi, the President proceeded to the cathedral for *Te Deum*. He had a hard time getting out of the churchyard as crowds pressed in from all sides to shake his hand.

President Garcia and Sen. Gil J. Puyat, NP vice-presidential candidate, were honored at a luncheon tendered by the *Union Obrero de Legaspi* headed by former Legaspi Mayor Ramon Arnaldo at the International Chamber of Commerce building.

After the luncheon the President boarded the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for a short rest before attending the inauguration of the Development Bank of the Philippines where he took his dinner.

The President and Sen. Puyat, together with senatorial candidates Pacita M. Gonzalez and Pedro Sabido, spoke at rallies held in Legaspi and Locsin where huge crowds attended.

The President spent the night at the residence of Gov. Seva in Legaspi.

President Garcia today called the .Council of Leaders, including some members of the Cabinet and legal advisers, to a meeting tomorrow at Tabaco, Albay, to discuss the current rice problem.

In a directive issued to Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo this evening the President asked the following to fly to Tabaco, Albay, early tomorrow morning for the conference: Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Romualdez, Sens. Cipriano Primicias and Fernando Lopez, Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda, House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich, .Solicitor General Edilberto Barrot, NARIC Assistant General Manager, and Malacañang legal adviser Judge Salvador Esguerra.

Earlier this morning the President, through Executive Secretary Natalio Castillo, directed the National Marketing Corporation to import an additional 30,000 metric tons of rice to meet the demand up to harvest time later next month.

The previous authorized importation of rice as approved by the Cabinet was 100,000 metric tons.

September 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today convened the Council of Leaders and several members of the Cabinet to discuss important state matters, particularly the rice situation.

Present at the luncheon conference aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* docked at Tabaco, Albay, were Speaker Daniel Romualdez; Sens. Fernando Lopez and Cipriano Primicias; Secretaries Manuel Lim of commerce and industry, Alejo Santos of national defense, Cesar Fortich of agriculture and natural resources, and Dominador Aytona of finance; and Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Justice Undersecretary Enrique Fernandez, Judge Salvador Esguerra, and Brig. Gen. Isagani Campo, PC chief.

Earlier the President inaugurated the Abaca Corporation of the Philippines branch office in Tabaco, assisted by Manager Galo Meliton, Secretary Aytona, and Gov. Nicanor Seva.

Meanwhile, the President in his bid for a fresh mandate from the people, made appreciable gains in Albay with the affiliation with the NP of Mayors Teodoro Regalado of Malinao and Alfredo Caldino of Malilipot at the Tabaco rally.

Regalado, who controls 55,000 votes, brought along 900 followers who also pledged to work for a straight NP victory because they said this is necessary for the implementation of programs for the people's welfare.

Before leaving Gov. Seva's residence in Legaspi City where he spent the night, the President conferred with Sen. Reseller T. Lim and Willie Jurado, who reported that rice hoarders had been pinpointed and that a leading opposition leader in Manila was suspected as the mastermind.

The President and the First Lady left Legaspi City at 9:10 a.m., making two whistle-stops in Sto. Domingo and Malilipot, and delivered major speeches in Bacacay and Tabaco.

In his speeches the President reiterated his appeal for a straight NP victory which he said is needed to implement the program of development for the next four years.

The President also cited the construction of the ABACORP branch office in Tahaco as of tremendous influence in making Albay not only the abaca export but also cottage industry center for the entire region.

The President said that this will also be boosted by the MRR extension to Matnog, Sorsogon, of which work has already begun.

After the conference with the council of leaders, the President will motor to Mogo and then to Bantayan to lay the cornerstone of the Quinale Hydroelectric power plant and later inaugurate the rice and feed mill warehouse in Oas.

Later in the evening the President will address rallies in Guinobatan, Ligao, and Polangui.

September 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today announced that the allocation of funds in government projects designed for the people's welfare will be based on necessity and urgency and not on political or party considerations.

The President gave the assurance to LP Mayor George Tuyay of Bato, Camarines Sur, who appealed for the extension in that town, of the Bicol River control irrigation project.

The President was loudly applauded when he said "Whether you are a Liberal or a Nacionalista, I will see to it that this project will be constructed."

Mayor Tuyay was among the welcomers who met the presidential party at the provincial boundary, along with Reps Felix Fuentebella and Agaton Ursua, Vice-Gov. Jack Arroyo, and other provincial and municipal officials and several top ranking Liberals whose presence pressed mass defections from the Liberal ranks in Camarines Sur.

Among the Liberals present were former Reps. Sebastian Moll and Juan Miranda; Mayors Moises Habana of Bula, Luis Bisana of Minalabac, and Gregorio Balatan of Balatan; Vice-Mayor Mariano Atienza, and LP Chairman Julina Sibulo of Pamplona.

Earlier in Libon, the last stop of the President in Albay, the Chief Executive lauded Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona as a man who would do credit in any administration.

The President pledged that he will retain Libon's favorite son in the Cabinet if reelected and predicted that Aytona may some day occupy the highest or second highest position of the land.

The President left Polangui at 10 a.m. and made an unscheduled stop in Libon. With the President were Gov. Nicanor Maronilla Seva of Albay and reelectionist Sens. Pedro Sabido and Pacita M. Gonzalez.

From Libon he proceeded to Bato to start his political campaign in Camarines Sur.

Observers said the President will win over a large segment of the opposition with his clean, high-level campaigning in the Bicol region.

At Bato the President addressed two rallies, one held by the municipal officials and the other, by the NPs at the market place.

At the NP rally the President expressed confidence in his victory owing to lack of LP candidates in Cebu, Bohol, Leyte, Negros, and other provinces.

The President and party had lunch and a brief rest at the residence of William Buguid, PHILCOA secretary.

From Bato the presidential party will proceed to Nabua, Iriga, and Buhi to address separate rallies. The President will spend the night in Iriga.

September 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia today appealed for the solid support of the Bicol voters so that the Administration can continue giving more benefits to the abaca producers.

The President continued stumping in the second district of Camarines Sur for two consecutive days in an effort to strengthen the NP hold in the province, holding rallies in Baao, Ocampo, Tigaon, and Goa.

He pointed to several measures adopted by the majority party in order to improve the lot of the abaca producers, among them more income and enactment of Republic Act No. 3045, appropriating funds for the development of the abaca industry.

The Chief Executive said that, if only for these reasons, he expects the Bicolanos to give their solid support to the Nacionalista Party.

In answer to the President's appeal, the members of the Rinconada Abaca Producer Marketing, Inc., of Iriga, presented a resolution unanimously approved pledging members of the group not only to vote for the President and the NP ticket but also to campaign actively to ensure an NP victory.

At Iriga where he slept, the President inducted into the Nacionalista fold three LP leaders; namely, Councilor Ramon Badaje Exedile, Eliodoro Cailao, and retired Head Teacher Jose Antioquia. They were sponsored by NP Mayor Jose Villanueva.

The Chief Executive heard low mass at Iriga's St. Anthony church and attended *Te Deum* at Baao and Ocampo.

At Ocampo he gave an exclusive press interview to members of the National Association of American Editors currently on observation tour of Southeast Asian countries. He then proceeded to the Consocep Resthouse for the inauguration and rest.

President Garcia today proclaimed the period from September 24 to 30 as National Health Week.

In issuing the proclamation, the President said that it is but fitting that the joint efforts of the various public and private health organization, in the protection and promotion of health be brought to the attention of the people.

The Chief Executive said that "the protection and promotion of individual and community health is a prime obligation of organized society."

The President took occasion to pay tribute to the Government and the private, fields and volunteer civic organizations devoted to health who, he said, "have shown exemplary dedication" in the fulfillment of their obligation.

September 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia said today that Nacionalista Party measures during his administration have changed the country's economic structure and opened the gates for new opportunities for rapid development. He spoke at the inauguration of the Cagaycay irrigation system at Goa, Camarines Sur.

He pointed out that the inauguration of the system, the fifth to be constructed in Bicolandia during his administration, was geared to the program of self-sufficiency in food, and would undoubtedly prevent current shortage of rice in towns of Goa, Lagonoy, and San Jose which are benefited by the project.

With five new irrigation systems and the enactment of Republic Act 3045, which appropriates ₱20 million to help the abaca industry, President Garcia said he foresaw prosperity for Bicolanos. The new law enacted by the Nacionalista administration seeks to modernize abaca by-products through scientific research, like using fiber for production of cigarette papers as done in Japan.

In answer to requests of Rep. Felix Fuentebella and the mayors of Goa, Lagonoy, and San Jose, the President promised to secure funds for the construction of a 400-kilowatt hydroelectric plant to serve the three municipalities.

Explaining the spiraling prices of rice, the President said production was reduced by numerous typhoons which hit Bicolandia and by two big floods which placed Central Luzon under water last year.

President Garcia slept aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* last night. This morning he landed at Nato and motored to the Cagaycay dam site. He passed through San Jose where a big crowd lined on the roadside begged him to stay a little longer. He attended a *Te Deum* at the local Catholic church.

Another unscheduled engagement was a political rally in Lagonoy where the President could not refuse a request for him to deliver a speech. The impromptu whistle-stops caused the President to arrive at the inauguration rites two hours late.

From the dam site, President Garcia motored back to Nato and boarded the *Lapu-Lapu* for Guijalo and Caramoan for more rallies. Thereafter, he boarded again the *Lapu-Lapu* at past midnight for rest.

President Garcia today expressed gratification over a report that some 2,000 ranking Liberal Party members of Mallig, Isabela, including the Vice-Mayor and the entire LP council members, are all set to affiliate with the Nacionalista Party.

The Chief Executive received the report of the intended mass affiliation in Bicol this afternoon where he is on a current stumping tour.

The report, signed by PCAPE Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren and Sergio Tucao, executive director of the PCAPE Presidential Task Force, said that Mayor Catalino Franada and Councilor Francisco Pascual of Mallig arrived this morning to pledge their support to the President and the entire NP ticket, and to inform them that some 2,000 LP ward leaders composed of the Mallig vice-mayor, the entire municipal council, barrio lieutenants, barrio council members, and their LP followers are all set to affiliate with NP.

September 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia today advocated a national policy of faith, hope, and love to combat the destructive effects of the policy of hatred being preached by Liberals in their campaign.

The President enunciated the policy at the popular luncheon tendered by provincial and city officials in his honor at the Ateneo de Naga gymnasium.

The President broke off his political stump today to join the First Lady and his daughter Linda as well as thousands of people in the traditional pilgrimage and adoration of the Lady of Peñafrancia, patroness of Naga.

In advocating the national policy, the President emphasized that the foundation of prosperity, peace, and happiness are faith that can remove mountain of obstacles, hope that crosses darkness between aspirations of today and realities of tomorrow, and love that unites man to fellowman and to God, the Creator.

He said these three mighty forces are the strongest defense against “destructive criticism and gospel of hatred being propagated by our rivals” which result only in the demolition of national institutions and the destruction of societies and communities.

The President asked the people to ask the Liberals for a concrete program of government which can be the only basis for their prosperity and happiness.

Earlier, the President and the First Lady were praised and congratulated by Archbishop Pedro Santos of Nueva Caceres for their deep concern for the welfare of the masses, during the cocktails held at the convent hall.

In an after-luncheon address the President lauded Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona and predicted that some day he will hold higher responsibilities than those he is now holding.

The President left Guijalo for Naga at 6 a.m. by boat, and from there motored to Naga City, some 40 kilometers away, to join the traditional pilgrimage to the Lady of Peñafrancia.

At Naga the President received assurances from Sangay Mayor Salvador S. Felipe that he will carry 95 per cent of the votes of the municipality.

Arriving at the boundary, the President was met by a long motorcade headed by Rep. Agaton Ursua, Mayor Victorino Ojeda, Vice-Mayor Mariano Villafuerte, and former Gov. Juan Triviño.

From there the President and the First Lady headed the motorcade through a three-kilometer route lined with people who were attending the annual fiesta.

The President proceeded to the Cathedral where a *Te Deum* was sung by Archbishop Pedro Santos. After cocktails at the convent, the Chief Executive proceeded to the Ateneo de Naga gymnasium for luncheon.

In the afternoon, after a brief rest at the residence of Dr. Dominador Almeda, the President met the fluvial procession and heard mass in honor of the Lady of Peñafrancia. He later addressed a public rally at the city plaza. He stayed overnight in Naga City.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: September 17-23, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia and his party, which includes the First Lady, running mate Gil J. Puyat, and Nacionalista senatorial candidates, entrained at Naga City this morning hearing mass at Peñafrancia church and partaking of breakfast with Msgr. Pedro Santos, archbishop of Nueva Caceres.

In informal chats with newsmen aboard the presidential train, President Garcia was brimming with optimism over the political gains of his four-day stump in the supposedly opposition area.

He was elated over the "full" reconciliation of Sen. Puyat and Finance Secretary Dommador R. Aytona, erstwhile rivals for the NP vice-presidential nomination contest at the NP national convention last June.

Until yesterday morning, Puyat and Aytona had not spoken to each other since the convention. Following the dramatic forgive-and-forget huddle, Aytona mounted the rostrum during a political rally in Naga City and appealed for a straight NP victory.

Aytona vowed that he will quit the government service if President Garcia loses in the Bicol region. He repeated the promise in Daet tonight,

The President held six political conferences in Camarines Sur and was kept busy inducting new Nacionalistas in between rally speeches.

The presidential party is sailing for Manila tomorrow night after stumping in several Camarines Norte towns, and will arrive in Manila early Wednesday morning aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*.

This evening the President reiterated his pledge that elections under his administration will be clean, honest, and free.

At the same time, he urged the people to go out and vote for the men whom they think will lead the country ably and well.

In a nationwide radio address on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of the first elections held under the Philippine Constitution on September 17, 1935, the President gave assurance that he will not tolerate any attempt at subverting the people's will.

"My thirty-six years of public service in which I have won all my political battles will not be stained at this stage of my life," he said.

In urging the electorate to go to the polls and vote for the men of their confidence, he asked them not to allow themselves to be blinded by passion and prejudice.

"Do not allow yourselves to be made the tools of demagogues. Vote and vote freely. I will safeguard your freedom. The sanctity of your ballot shall be untrammelled. Let us live together in freedom and prosperity as true and tested Filipinos," the President said.

September 18.—THE President directed Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo to release 500 sacks of rice impounded by the local PC command.

The President issued his order after the owner of the cereal, Luis Miguel, called on him at Daet and assured him that he would sell the stock at government price.

Miguel earlier had obtained a court injunction stopping the PC from selling the rice. Alarmed that the injunction might become a pattern that would weaken his antiprofitteering drive, President Garcia wired a directive to the solicitor general's office to exhaust all remedies in fighting moves to stop confiscation of hoarded cereal.

The President inducted more than 100 Liberal Party stalwarts led by Mayors Nicolas Herico of Paracale, Marciano Linis of Jose Panganiban, Sofio Balce of Vinzons, and Claro Ibasco of Mercedes.

The President in rallies stated that the NP does not practice political vindictiveness. He pointed out that although he lost in the province, his administration gave aid to the mining industry, constructed a smelter plant in Jose Panganiban, and included Camarines Norte in the construction of cement roads.

In the afternoon the President inspected the NASSCO steel mill in Jose Panganiban and later spoke at simultaneous rallies in Larap and Jose Panganiban where he appealed for support for the NP tickets.

After the rallies the President boarded the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for the return trip to Manila.

President Garcia today granted a 35-day reprieve to prisoners Manuel Pakingan and Braulio Bersalona, ending October 25, 1961, in order to give the Board of Pardons and Parole ample time to study their petitions for commutation of sentence from death penalty to life imprisonment.

Manuel Pakingan, 34, was convicted by the Court of First Instance of Cavite for the murder of Cesareo Gawaran of Bacoar, Cavite, on November 10, 1953, and was sentenced to life imprisonment which, on appeal, was modified by the Supreme Court to death penalty.

Braulio Bersalona, 57, was convicted by the Court of First Instance of Bohol for the murder of Francisco Bersalona, a sexagenarian, on March 28, 1935, in barrio Tambo, Mabini, Bohol, and was sentenced to suffer the death penalty which was affirmed by the Supreme Court.

The execution of their death sentences had been originally set for September 20, 1961.

September 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia woke up late today and stayed in his suite aboard the presidential yacht *RPS Lapu-Lapu* to rest after a gruelling 14-day political stump in the provinces of Bukidnon, Surigao, Capiz, Aklan, Antique, Sorsogon, Albay, Camarines Sur, and Camarines Norte,

He had decided to take the presidential yacht to give him time to rest before returning to Manila, where he is expected to plunge into a series of conferences. The President is scheduled to be back in the city at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Upon his return, the President will meet the members of his Cabinet to review the rice situation following reports that figures from the Philippine National Bank conflict with those of the Department of Agriculture and the National Marketing Corporation. PNB figures as presented to the President by PNB Director Fortunato de Leon show there is a shortage of the cereal.

However, Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, Constabulary chief, told the President the other day that there was sufficient stocks of the cereal.

The President is also expected to meet NP leaders sometime this week before he sails anew for Iloilo, Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, and Misamis Occidental for another 10-day campaign starting Saturday.

From aboard the yacht, the President issued a statement mourning the death of Dag Hammarskjold, who perished in a plane crash in Africa.

President Garcia mourned the death of Dr. Dag Hammarskjold, secretary general of the United Nations, and extolled his efforts to preserve world peace. The President said Dr. Hammarskjold's life was one dedicated to the service of mankind. The Filipinos, he said, join other freedom-loving peoples of the world in mourning this great loss.

The President this day ordered a more intensified investigation of the reported disappearance of Special Prosecutor Isidro Vejungco of the Department of Justice, who had been assigned to prosecute cases of anomalies in some government corporations.

In a wire received in Malacañang this evening from the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* enroute back to Manila, the President reiterated his deep concern over the case, saying that he will never allow violence and lawlessness subvert the prosecution of justice in this country.

The President ordered the National Bureau of Investigation, one of the agencies working on the case, to submit progress reports on their investigations.

The Chief Executive had been informed of Vejungco's disappearance more than a week ago when the special prosecutor was first reported missing. He promptly wired Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag in Manila to submit details of the case on learning that the missing prosecutor had been handling the prosecution of alleged anomalies in the ACCFA, in land cases involving some government agencies, as well as some murder cases in Ilocos Sur, at the time of his disappearance.

The President was then in Sorsogon, on the start of his ten-day stump of the Bicol region.

September 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived in Manila this morning on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* after an intensive 16-day campaign in Mindanao, Western Visayas, and the Bicol region.

From the *RPS LapuLapu*, the President inspected the *RPS Rajah Soliman*, first Philippine destroyer, which was docked at Pier 3. The destroyer is a fast attack transport destroyer, formerly the *USS Bowers*, with a maximum speed of more than 30 knots per hour. The ship is captained by Cdr. Geronimo Cabal with a complement of more than 100 officers and men. The President was shown around the ship by Defense Secretary Alejo Santos and Commodore Jose Francisco, Philippine Navy chief.

The President was met at the pier by ranking NP leaders who reported to him on the progress of the NP campaign in their respective provinces. Among the President's welcomers was a Negros Occidental delegation composed of NEC Chairman Jose C. Loesin, Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, Alfredo Montelibano, and Provincial Board Member Narciso Jocson.

Others who met the President on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer, Secretary Santos, Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., of Quezon, Rep. Delfin Albano of Isabela, Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, Rep. Manuel Zosa of Cebu, Rep. Valeriano Yancha of Samar, Rep. Inocencio Ferrer of Negros Oriental, Vice-Gov. Inday Melencio of Nueva Ecija, Gov. Constantino C. Navarro of Surigao, Rep. Eladio Balite of Samar, Rep. Emilio Cortez of Pampanga, and PNB Chairman Juan C, Pajo.

From the Pier, the President motored direct to Malacañang where he spent the rest of the morning holding conferences with assistants who brought to him piles of pending papers for action.

The President today issued a proclamation making public the treaty of friendship and final protocol between the Republic of the Philippines and the Swiss Confederation.

The proclamation was issued by the President in order that the treaty and "every article and clause thereof" may be observed and fulfilled with good faith by the Filipinos.

The treaty of friendship and final protocol was entered into by the Philippines and the Swiss Confederation so as “to strengthen and perpetuate the friendly relations so happily existing between the two countries . . . and to fortify their spiritual, cultural, and economic ties.”

Ratified by both parties were instruments of ratification exchanged in Manila a few years ago, the treaty and final protocol having been concluded and signed by President Garcia, then vice-president and concurrently secretary of foreign affairs, for the Philippine Government and Walter Hofer, then Swiss consul general in the Philippines.

This evening the President inducted three officials of Cebu in Malacañang and in turn got their pledge of support for his re-election in the coming November polls. He swore in Francisco Remotigue as acting governor of Cebu, vice Jose Briones who resigned to run for Congress in the second district of the province; Carlos Cuizon as mayor of the City, vice Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., who vacated the mayoralty when he presented his certificate of candidacy for vice-president; and Councilor Luis Diores, who had earlier yielded the same position to run for Congress.

Among those who witnessed the ceremonies were Briones, Reps. Maximo Noel and Pedro Trono, Tereso Dumon, and Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructuoso Cabahug.

The President, also received Reps. Niganor Yhiguez and Leonardo Perez.

September 21.—THE President today received pledges of support from 200 Liberal Party leaders of Pangasinan led by Rep. Jose D. Parayno, who affiliated with the Nacionalista Party in a mass ceremony in Malacañang.

The Pangasinan solon took his oath of affiliation, together with his wife and 30 woman leaders of his faction who were accompanied by Mrs. Estrada Kalaw, national president of the “Samahang Pilipina.”

Among the other new Nacionalistas are the former members of the LP chapter in Calasiao led by Councilor Momo Ugay.

The Calasiao new NP affiliates included Geronimo Sison, Feliciano Ugay, Dr. Mariano Aquino, Emilio Torres, Ambrosio Sison, Alejandro Torres, Arnulfo Soriano, Francisco Ferrer, Miguel Arenas, and Ceferino Valencia.

The mass defection of Rep. Parayno and members of his faction was witnessed by Sen. Cipriano Primicias, his son, Tito, official NP candidate for Congress who lost to Parayno in the 1957 elections; Gov. Conrado Estrella, Secretary of Labor Agapito Braganza, and Mrs. Eva Estrada Kalaw.

The President inducted today Agapito Braganza as acting secretary of labor, vice Angel Castaño, who resigned to run for the Senate under the Nacionalista Party, and Jose Tuazon as acting secretary of education, vice Jose E. Romero, who resigned to run as an independent candidate for the Senate.

A delegation composed of coordinators of the National Voters League, led by Major V. Loteyro, also pledged before the President to support the entire NP ticket.

Other callers of the President included the papal nuncio, Msgr. Salvatore Siino, who is leaving soon for Rome on home leave; Ambassador Pir Ali Muhammed Rashdi of Pakistan, who bade farewell before leaving the home office for reassignment; Sen. Lorenzo Tañada; and Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, accompanied by Gov. Tomas Martin and Major Teodulo Natividad, official NP candidate for Congress in the first congressional district of Bulacan.

This evening the President met with the Council of Leaders and his running mate, Sen. Gil J. Puyat, and discussed strategy plans in an effort to assure their election.

Present at the conference were Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, the Senate President Protempore, Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castaneda, Sens. Puyat, Cipriano Primicias and Arturo Tolentino, and House Majority Floor Leader Jose Aldeguer.

The President and the Council of Leaders decided to tighten their political stump and coordinate their campaign in order to reach the rural areas.

September 22.—THIS morning President Garcia approved in principle the plan to construct a public hospital in the foreshore land of Tondo, at a lengthy conference held at Malacañang with Vice-Mayor Antonio Villegas of Manila and Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia. The President referred all pertinent papers to Secretary Valencia for study and recommendation.

The Vice-Mayor informed the President that there is an available site on Herbosa Street near the Dewey Boulevard Extension for the purpose and that there is an appropriation amounting to ₱150,000 to start the project.

The President also authorized the release of the following funds -for Manila: (a) ₱80,000 for the Sta. Ana Elementary School, (b) ₱25,000 for the Bagong Barangay Elementary School, (c) ₱20,000 for the construction of Sto. Niño Street in Pandacan, (d) ₱30,000 for the Araullo High School, (e) ₱5,000 for Smith Street in Malate, and (f) ₱5,000 for laying main water pipes in the fourth district.

Other callers were Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, who received instructions before leaving for the Bicol provinces, Don Manolo Elizalde, NEC Chairman Jose Locsin and NEC Executive Director Rafael Salas, and PACD head Ramon Binamira.

The President had lunch with Rep. Vicente Gustilo of Occidental Negros, Alfredo Montelibano, and Jose Mapa Gomez.

Earlier this morning President and Mrs. Garcia gave a breakfast in honor of Rufino Cardinal Santos, who is soon leaving for Rome to attend the inauguration of the Colegio Seminario Filipino.

Other guests at breakfast were Speaker and Mrs. Daniel Romualdez, Sen. Gil J. Puyat, Sen. Pacita Gonzalez, Mrs. Jose Aldeguer, Dr. and Mrs. Alejandro Gaerlan, Msgr. Benjamin Marino, Minister Manuel Zamora, and Rev. Fr. Froilan.

President Garcia today authorized the Philippine Federation of Private Medical Practitioners to conduct a national educational and fund drive during the period from October 1 to November 30.

The fund that will accrue from the drive will be used to finance the establishment and operation of a Geriatrics Center that will provide for the care, treatment, and rehabilitation of aged persons.

In issuing a proclamation for the fund drive, the President said that “the problem of rehabilitating the physical capacities of aged persons is a national concern.”

The Chief Executive called upon all citizens and residents of the Philippines, regardless of nationality, race or creed, to assist in the humanitarian campaign by giving generously for the success of the project. He also authorized government officials and employees to participate in the drive and contribute to the realization of its goal.

The President this afternoon orders Social Welfare Administrator Mrs. Amparo P. Villamor to send immediately 100 sacks of rice to Naga City to help flood victims.

The President was informed by Naga City Mayor Victorino Ojeda, who called at Malacañang, that the city was flooded owing to heavy rains in the past few days.

Showing deep concern for the flood victims of Naga City and recalling the warm and enthusiastic reception he received there during his recent campaign drive in the Bicol region, the President immediately instructed Mrs. Villamor to send without delay the rice and other relief for the flood victims.

This afternoon the President lauded the opening of the modern Manila International Airport building as another milestone in the Philippine march to progress and prosperity.

The President delivered the main address while Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia cut the ceremonial ribbon and unveiled the marker during the inauguration of the ₱7.25 million MIA terminal, which is equipped to bundle jet liners.

In his brief remarks, the President said, "From here on we are going forward; we are going onward; we are going upward."

He pointed out that the construction of the modern terminal, which is the biggest and most modern in Asia, will give added stature to the Philippines which has become recognized as the most successful democracy in the continent of Asia.

He said the event assumed added significance, as it coincided with the 100th birthday anniversary of the Philippine national hero and martyr, Dr. Jose Rizal, who foresaw in his writings a happy and prosperous Philippines.

The President said the new building will enhance Philippine progress generally, as jet liners from all principal cities will bring in thousands of tourists, and passengers who will exchange ideas and goods with the Filipinos.

The President and the First Lady, accompanied by their daughter Linda, arrived at the MIA at 4:20 p.m. After the flag raising ceremonies, the President proceeded to the second story for the blessing of the building by Rufino J. Cardinal Santos.

After the inauguration ceremonies cocktails were served the guests.

Among those present at the ceremonies were members of the Cabinet, high government officials, members of foreign diplomatic services, military personnel, and airlines officials.

September 23.—THE President left Manila aboard the *RPS Lapu-lapu* at 11 a.m. today together with the First Lady, Sen. Fernando Lopez and Gov. Jose Zulueta, heads of formerly feuding factions but who are solidly behind the President, and the entire NP national ticket,

Also with the President were reelectionists Sens. Lorenzo Sumulong, Domocao Alonto, and Pacita M. Gonzalez.

Sen. Lopez and Gov. Zulueta assured the President that the Iloilo reception will be the warmest ever accorded the President, with both NP factions trying to outshine each other in friendly rivalry.

President Garcia is scheduled to arrive in Iloilo tomorrow at 9 a.m. for a two-day stump that will cover four congressional districts in order to consolidate the NP hold on 270,000 voters of the province.

Upon arrival, military honors will be accorded the President at Muelle Loney. From there the party will motor to the San Jose church for *Te Deum* before making the whole day incursion in the first district where he won in the 1957 elections.

The President will hold rallies in Tigbauan, Guimbal, Miagao, and Oton before returning to Iloilo City for a mammoth rally at Sunburst Park.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: September 24-30, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

September 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia today pledged that the Administration will keep the country moving upward, forward, and onward along the highway of prosperity and progress.

The President, confident of the Nacionalista victory in November, gave this pledge to the people of Iloilo in his first two speeches at Tigbauan and Guimbal this morning.

The President emphasized that the Nacionalista Party, which was organized to fight for immediate, complete, and absolute independence, will press on its fight with vigor for economic independence because it is vital to our very existence that the Filipino should gain control of its own economic household.

The President also lauded the unity of the warring factions in the province as a sign that the entire Nacionalista ticket will win. He said that the NP candidates deserved the vote of confidence because they are chosen on the basis of record of achievements and dedication to the people's service.

President Garcia said that the Nacionalista Party, which was given the vote of confidence in the last four elections, chalked up a brilliant performance, and as if to underscore President Garcia's reiteration, LP Mayor Eugenio Torrento of Tigbauan, who organized a riotous welcome for the President, told the people not to forget the many benefits extended by the President to Tigbauan.

Sen. Fernando Lopez and Gov. Jose C. Zulueta appealed to the people to close ranks behind the Nacionalista Party because the happiness and prosperity of the region and the entire country rest on NP victory.

President Garcia and party arrived in Iloilo City at 9 a.m. They were met by no less than 20,000 people who crowded the route of the entourage from the pier to the plaza.

Heading the welcomers, waving giant streamers and placards, were former Gov. Mariano Peñaflorida, Mayor Rodolfo Ganson, Rep. Domitilo Abordo, and acting Mayor Renerio Ticao.

From the wharf the long motorcade proceeded to the city parish church for a *Te Deum* after which the President proceeded to Tigbauan, 20 kilometers away.

Along the route were crowds of welcomers in their Sunday's best, jostling and elbowing one another to get a closer glimpse of the visiting Chief Executive and the First Lady.

From Tigbauan, after a brief rally, the party proceeded to Guimbal where another rousing welcome headed by Rep. Pedro Trono and Mayor Antonio Gelvezon awaited and escorted them to the local parish for another *Te Deum*.

After the *Te Deum* the President and NP campaigners, including Sen. Gil J. Puyat, NP vice-presidential candidate, and reelectionist Sens. Pacita M. Gonzalez, Lorenzo Sumulong, Domocao Alonto; Rep. Jose J. Roy; Sen. Lopez; and Gov. Zulueta, proceeded to the rally which lasted well after 2 p.m.

The President had a late lunch and brief rest at the Trono residence before motoring to Miagao to unveil the Ramon Magsaysay monument. Then he went to Oton for a merienda-conference with town officials and public rally.

In the evening the President held another conference with public officials and local leaders at Gov. Zulueta's residence. Then he addressed a mammoth rally at the Sunburst Park before returning to the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* for the night.

September 25.—EARLY morning callers disrupted President Garcia's schedule and it was already 9 a.m. when he left for a breakfast conference with city and municipal officials of the second district of Iloilo at the city mayor's residence in Molo.

During the conference the President battled for a law to standardize the salaries of department officials and employees of cities and provinces by class and categories.

Present at the breakfast conference were Acting Iloilo City Mayor Renerio Ticao; Mayors Susano Tayo of Buenavista, Desiderio Gani of Jordan, Antonio Ortiz of Nueva Valencia, Espiridio Jagunap of Leganes, Gerardo Gorricita of Pavia; vice-mayors and councilors of said towns; and department officials of Iloilo City.

The President expressed his gratitude to Edwan Baldago, president of the Iloilo City Student Movement for Good Government, for the organization's pledge of support for his reelection.

After the breakfast conference the President motored to the Development Bank of the Philippines branch building in Iloilo City for its inauguration and then entrained to Pototan, arriving there at half past noon.

En route the President made whistle stops at Sta. Barbara and New Lucena to thank the people who waited for him since early this morning. The President also received a tumultuous welcome at Pototan despite the heat of the sun. After the *Te Deum* at St. Joseph's church, the President and party were luncheon guests of former Gov. Peñanorida.

After addressing a huge rally in Pototan, the President returned to Iloilo City by car making stops at Janiuay, where he inaugurated the new municipal hall, Cabatuan, Sta. Barbara, Pavia, and Jaro.

In the evening the President and party attend a dinner given in his honor.

President Garcia today directed the display at half-mast of the national flag on all government buildings and installations throughout the country on Friday, September 29, in tribute to Dag Hammarskjold, secretary general of the United Nations, for his achievements in advancing world understanding and brotherhood.

The President in his proclamation took cognizant of Hammarskjold's vision, idealism, and statemanship, and his unceasing efforts to advance the interest of small nations, thus earning the respect and esteem of their peoples and their faith in the efficacy of the United Nations.

The President also directed the representatives of the Philippines in foreign countries to make arrangements for the display of the flag at half-mast over all embassies, legations, and consular offices.

Hammarskjold's burial is scheduled on September 29.

The President today declared Wednesday, September 27, as a special public holiday in the province of Batangas and Lipa City to give local residents an opportunity to celebrate the birthday anniversary of the hero and patriot, Miguel Malvar.

Malvar was the last Filipino general to surrender to the Americans during the Filipino-American war. He was a native of Batangas.

September 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia today committed the Administration to the development and improvement of the sugar industry to exploit the sugar bonanza of increased United States quota.

Earlier, during the unveiling of the Moises Padilla monument in Bacolod City, the President warned the electorate against a new era of terrorism should the Liberals gain power in November.

During the ceremony the President enjoined every Filipino to help preserve democracy which has been recognized by the whole world as the most successful in whole Asia.

The President pointed out that the cause of democracy is bigger than the cause of Garcia or the Nacionalistas, and reiterated that he would rather lose than win in terrorized and fraudulent elections.

The President laid down the sugar platform in a speech at the luncheon at La Carlota Central immediately after he had opened the milling season by pulling on the switch at the mill.

In his speech the President said that the bonanza should be spread out among the millers, planters, and laborers because every humble man is entitled to a share of the comforts of modern civilized life.

The President revealed that he had authorized Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim at a morning conference to give his full backing of full capitalization to give the industry maximum production not only to fulfill the country's commitments to the United States but to make sugar available locally at reasonable prices.

The President also said he will initiate cottage industries in all centrals with PNB financing in order to increase the income of the laborers, especially during the off-season when they have no work to do.

The President at the luncheon denounced politician; and aliens conniving to corner sugar and fleece poor Filipinos to satisfy their ambitions.

The President received an unprecedented welcome in Bacolod where placard-bearing crowds from outlying towns, estimated at over 50,000, converged to give the visiting Chief Executive the warmest welcome. The welcomers were led by Rep. Inocencio Ferrer, Gov. Valeriano Gatuslao, and Mayor Teopisto Cordova.

Among the placards which greeted the presidential party were: "Garcia Synonymous with Democracy", "Save Us From New LP Reign of Terror", "Remember Moises Padilla Vote straight Nacionalista", "Down With Alien Control", "Vote for Macapagal is Insult to Victims of Maliwalu".

Arriving at Banago wharf at 9 a.m., the President proceeded slowly by car through dense crowds which gave the security force a tough time as they milled around the presidential car.

Arriving at Bacolod, the President and the First Lady heard *Te Deum* at the Cathedral said by Mons. Manuel Yap and then inaugurated the Padilla monument near the airport.

From there the President proceeded to La Carlota, stopping at Bago where Liberal Mayor Manuel Torres pledged his support and where he inaugurated the waterworks and announced the release of ₱4.6 million for the town's irrigation system.

The President also laid the cornerstone of Central Negros Emergency Hospital at Valladolid, and pointed out to the people that all the improvements common throughout the country indicate the Nacionalista's concern for the welfare of the masses.

The President arrived at La Carlota at past 1 p.m. and motored back to Bacolod late in the afternoon to address a simultaneous Bacolod-Silay rallies. Later he conferred with public officials at the residence of Gov. Gatuslao.

This afternoon the President directed the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources to hold in abeyance the issuance of patents to one, Eligio Leyva, whose claim allegedly embraces what is known as the Makar townsite in General Santos, Cotabato.

The Chief Executive issued the directive upon the recommendation of Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, who informed the President that a petition had been received by the committee purporting that the claim

of Leyva forms a major part of the townsite under a proclamation allegedly issued by then Governor-General Stimson in 1928.

September 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today received assurances from Mayors Jose Gatuslao of Himamaylan and Mayor Pedro Yulo of Binalbagan of straight NP victory in both towns in separate public rallies.

The President and Sen. Gil J. Puyat, NP vice-presidential candidate, arrived aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* after a stumping tour of the second congressional district of Negros Occidental. They received a rousing welcome from the residents who crowded the Gatuslao Park to hear the President.

Pressed for time and at the insistence of the town folks, the President recited a *Balak* and then inaugurated the 25-bed Negros Occidental South General Hospital, a pet project of Rep. Agustin Gatuslao.

Later, at Binalbagan, the President also inaugurated the new ₱200,000 public market.

The President then administered the oath of affiliation to two former Progressive Party stalwarts; namely, Mrs. Conchita Rivera, former Bacolod PPP coordinator, and Mrs. Francisca San Juan.

After a public rally, the President had lunch at Binalbagan-Isabela Sugar Company clubhouse where top BISCOP officials welcomed him.

Among those present were Senate President Protempore Fernando Lopez; Jose Mapa Gomez, president of the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters; and former NEC chairman Alfredo Montebano.

After resting in the house of Alfredo Montelibano, Jr., at the BISCOP compound, the President proceeded to Hinigaran town which he and Sen. Puyat promised to convert into a port of entry for the benefit of sugar planters.

Alonto recalled that in the 1949 elections, he was imprisoned together with Gov. Gatuslao by Liberal goons during the heyday of then Gov. Rafael Lacson. He compared the reign of terror in this province then and the atmosphere of freedom during the Nacionalista regime, and asked the voters to choose between the two parties on this basis.

From Hinigaran, President Garcia proceeded to Pontevedra for another rally before having dinner at Pulupandan and speaking at another political meeting.

After the rally he boarded the Lapu-Lapu and sailed for the first district in northern Negros.

September 28, was declared a special public holiday by President Garcia in the province of Camarines Norte to give local residents an opportunity to celebrate the birthday anniversary of the late Wenceslao Q. Vinzons.

Vinzons, a former delegate to the Constitutional Convention and former governor and representative of Camarines Norte, was one of the country's outstanding heroes in the last war.

September 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning improvised his own platform in Escalante when he was faced with two platforms in the heart of the town, set each by rival NP congressional candidates.

The two platforms were put up by re-electionist Vicente Gustilo, official NP candidate, and Ramon Lacson, independent NP candidate.

Faced with this problem, the President stood on a box, set his own sound system, and addressed the big crowd which curiously waited for him to make a decision between Gustilo and Lacson.

Early this morning the President landed at the Danao wharf and then addressed rallies in Escalante, Sagay, and Fabrica.

He had lunch at the Insular Lumber Company in Fabrica, where he also rested in the afternoon.

From Fabrica, the President visited the Danao Development Corporation where he was welcomed by Jose Maria Javellana, president, and Rodolfo Lizares, general manager.

The President addressed an unscheduled political rallies there. He was assured by Mayor Albino de la Cruz that he would win overwhelmingly in the locality.

The President also took time out from his grueling campaign to remember his political adversary, Vice-President Macapagal, who celebrated his 51st birth anniversary.

In an act of sportmanship, the President wired the Liberal Party presidential candidate, Many Happy Returns of the Day.”

Before debarking from the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* off Escalante, the President dictated a letter to Mrs. Miiagros P. Novales, who complained she had lost her F25 umbrella after it was borrowed by Rufino Cardinal Santos to shield the President from the sun at an affair two years ago.

In a letter he personally dictated on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* while enroute from one Visayan province to another, the President chided Mrs. Milagros P. Novales, owner of the umbrella who made her complaint through a newspaper, for her failure to lodge her claim earlier.

Said the President: “Of hand, it would seem that you have slept on your rights too long and this omission on your part should put you in estoppel. But of course you had an unassailable title to the lost umbrella; hence, I find it only fair that I should pay you the price you gave for it.”

He enclosed a postal money order for ₱25.00.

The President’s attention had been called to an item appearing in a recent issue of a morning daily that on August 19, 1959, Mrs. Novales attended a ceremony in the Don Bosco Institute, where her son was enrolled. President Garcia and Cardinal Santos had headed the guests.

As the sun was very hot and the Cardinal was looking around for an umbrella with which to shield the President, Mrs. Novales had offered her umbrella. The ceremony over, the President left in his car. A “dignified looking” man, to use Mrs. Novales’ words, followed, carrying the umbrella with him. The loss of the parasol had been on her mind ever since.

President Garcia today proclaimed the period from October 1 to 7 this year as Business and Professional Women’s Week.

The President issued the proclamation in recognition of the important role being played by business and’ professional women in the promotion of the economic and social welfare of the country.

September 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia sailed at midnight for Manila, concluding a seven-day political drive which he believes would bring big dividends in the Nov. 14 elections. He looked tired but satisfied over the warm receptions accorded him in every town he visited.

President Garcia has conducted his political campaign in Iloilo and Negros Occidental with *Balaks*, The crowd at his rallies had pleaded with the President to campaign with his *balaks*,

The President arrived at Larena, Siquijor, shortly before sundown aboard the Lapu-Lapu. He came from San Carlos City. He had gone to Vallehermoso and Guihulngan before shifting his drive to Siquijor, a sub-province of Oriental Negros.

The President inaugurated the new town hall at Vallehermoso, assisted by the First Lady, Rep. Lorenzo Teves, and Gov. Mariano Perdigon of Negros Oriental.

Before leaving San Carlos City early this morning, the President wired Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano to submit his recommendation in connection with the Russian *Troika* proposal seeking the establishment of a three-man Secretariat in the United Nations.

The President stopped at the newly constructed Guihulngan Emergency Hospital, where he turned over a new ambulance donated by the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

The President and the First Lady had lunch at the residence of Mayor Melina of Guihulngan before boarding the yacht for Larena. The President also stopped over at San Juan and Lazi town before capping his stumping tour in Larena.

President Garcia today declared Monday, October 2, as a special public holiday in the provinces of Batangas and Quezon to give local residents full opportunity to observe with appropriate ceremonies the first death anniversary of Senator Claro M. Recto.

Senator Recto was President of the Philippine Constitutional Convention, a patriot, statesman, jurist, and man of letters. He died in Rome last year while on a special mission as a personal representative of President Garcia in European and South American goodwill tour.

September 30.—THIS day President Garcia relaxed in his suite aboard the yacht *RPS Lapu-Lapu* after a hectic stump of Iloilo, Negros Occidental, and Oriental Negros. Despite the rigorous campaign, he was visibly in high spirits, confident that he had been able to sew up the voters of these provinces behind his re-election and that of other Nacionalista candidates.

While resting in his suite, the President conferred with Navy Capt. Heracleo Alano, chief of the G-2 of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and discussed the implications of the defection of Jorge Freire Gonzalez, an official of the Cuban Embassy in Manila.

The President had earlier asked Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto M. Serrano to determine the veracity of the charges of Freire that the Cuban embassy in Manila had engaged in subversive activities.

Gonzalo D. Vasquez, Surigao businessman, who has joined the presidential party in its stump of Western Visayas, also saw the President. Vasquez was directed to proceed to Mindanao and join NP leaders in following up the gains achieved by the party in its recent stump in the southern islands.

The President also conferred with his appointment secretary and took up his schedule in Manila.

During this conference the President approved a tentative schedule for a nine-day stump to northern Luzon, touching the provinces of Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Abra, Mt. Province, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, and Pangasinan. The President has tentatively scheduled the start of this campaign for Thursday.

President Garcia, accompanied by the First Lady, is scheduled to arrive in Manila at 10 o'clock this morning.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: October 1-7, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived this morning from his nine-day stumping tour of Western Visayas, confident of victory in the three provinces he visited.

The President and party arrived in Manila at 10:30 a.m. on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*, which docked at Pier 5, South Harbor, from a stump of Iloilo, Oriental and Occidental Negros, and the sub-province of Siquijor where he and his party were accorded rousing welcomes.

Before disembarking from the ship the Chief Executive signed a letter addressed to Director Raoul Inocentes of the Bureau of Labor Relations, informing him of his designation as acting undersecretary of labor.

Inocentes will take the place of former Undersecretary Agapito Braganza, who was recently designated acting secretary, vice Angel Castaño, who is running as an official candidate for senator under the Nacionalista Party banner.

Inocentes, who was an assistant to the Secretary of Labor, was designated acting labor secretary upon the recommendation of former Secretary Castaño.

Among the officials that met the President and party at the pier were Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia, former Labor Secretary Castaño, Assistant Executive Secretaries Enrique C. Quema and Edilberto Gallares, Manila Councilor Alfredo Gomez, and many others.

Earlier the Chief Executive and the First Lady and members of the presidential party, heard mass before an improvised altar at the dining room of the *Lapu-Lapu*.

In the evening the First Couple motored to nearby San Miguel church convent, where they were dinner guests of Monsignor Vicente Antiporda, auxiliary bishop of Manila.

The dinner is being tendered by the auxiliary Bishop in honor of Saint Micheal, patron saint, of the district of San Miguel, which is celebrating his feast day today.

October 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia today paid the highest tribute to the late Senator Claro M. Recto for his “sterling nationalism” and “granite conviction” on the occasion of the Batangas solon’s first death anniversary.

The President was the guest speaker at the memorial services and ceremonies for the late senator held under the auspices of the Claro M. Recto mausoleum in the North Cemetery.

Recalling the greatness of Senator Recto, the President said that the most outstanding contribution of the Batangas lawmaker to Philippine History and politics was his “nationalism which was neither tainted by chicanery to cater to the popular fluctuation of opinion nor was formulated to please the powers that be.”

He pointed out that the utterances, writings, and opinions of the late Senator on nationalism constitute the best part of his life. “Every one of us admires Recto for one thing and that is his sterling nationalism that is akin to Rizal,” the President said.

Speaking extemporaneously, the President stated that Recto’s nationalism was probably one of the reasons why on the inscriptions on his mausoleum are found the words of Rizal through Philosopher Tacio: “*No todos dormia ante la noche.*”

The President spoke at the rites after former Chief Justice Ricardo Paras spoke on the “Deathless Words of Claro M. Recto.” The Chief Executive and Doña Aurora R. de Eecto led the floral offering at the mausoleum which was blessed by Mons. Alejandro Olalla, D.D., bishop of Lipa.

The President today stated that the election of his running mate, Sen. Gil J. Puyat, would insure the continuation of the economic policies of the Nacionalista administration, at a conference with Bulacan political leaders who pledged to support his reelection bid.

The Bulacan group was told by the President that their support for his reelection bid would be useless if they did not work for the election of Puyat as Vice-President, as the NP economic policies would be disregarded in case another candidate would assume the second top position of the country.

In response to the President’s request, the Bulacan leaders pledged to work for Puyat’s candidacy.

During the occasion the President administered the oath of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party to former Mayor Servando Santos of Baliuag, who, before his defection, was the campaign manager of the Liberal Party for the province of Bulacan.

The Bulacan group, accompanied by Rep. Rogaciano Mercado, was composed of Mayor Eliseo Jose of Guiguinto, ex-Mayor Anastacio Jose of Gui-guinto, ex-Mayor Mamerto Bernardo of Pandi, Col. Adonais Maclang, Maj. Carlos Maclang, Maj. Romeo Ramos, Leoncio Gonzales, Joaquin Tomaciuz, and others.

The President also administered the oath of office to Gov. Arsenio Lugay of Tarlac as acting secretary of general services.

Present at the ceremony held in Malacañang were Vice-Gov. Benigno Aquino, Gov. Manuel Barretto of Zambales, PNB Chairman Juan C. Pajo, and Tarlac Board Member Ricardo Tañedo.

The President today directed the Philippine Constabulary to investigate the alleged “merciless mauling” of an Igorot Liberal Party leader-watcher in a polling place in Baguio City.

The Chief Executive irked by the report, told the PC to take stern measures against police authorities and “goons” responsible for the alleged “merciless mauling” of the Igorot and his subsequent hospitalization for serious injuries. He also instructed the PC to report its finding and recommendation immediately.

The directive was issued through Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman, who informed the President of the incident which happened last September 30 in a polling place inside the Lucban Elementary School compound in Baguio City.

This evening the President directed all government investigative and intelligence agencies to redouble their efforts to locate Isidro Vejungco, a special prosecutor of the Department of Justice who has been missing since September 11.

At the same time the President appealed to the public to inform the nearest police or Constabulary agency of any suspicious incident which might provide a lead to the recovery of the missing government prosecutor.

The President, worried over the long absence of Vejungco and the negative findings of the National Bureau of Investigation to find the motive for the sudden disappearance, also told the family of the missing prosecutor to keep the police informed of any suspicious incidents.

Mrs. Trinidad Almario Vejungco, wife of the missing prosecutor, informed the President that newspaper reports that her husband was living somewhere in Nueva Ecija were not true. She also reported to the President that early this morning four unidentified men were inquiring for her married daughter, Mrs. Lilia V. Vejungco.

Mrs. Vejungco called on the President Monday night, accompanied by daughters Lilia, Lourdes, and Leticia, and her cousin, Mrs. Benedicts Vejungco Atendido.

October 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia today conferred the Philippine Legion of Honor with the rank of commander upon Eric Ridder, publisher of the *New York Journal of Commerce*, in a ceremony held at the Malacañang music room.

The President also conferred upon Piux Kabahar, a distinguished Visaya writer, the Rizal Pro-Patria Award on the same occasion.

The award to the American publisher was given in “recognition of his accomplishments toward the promotion of Philippine-American friendship and his sympathetic concern in acquainting his fellow Americans, through the media of the press and the radio, with the earnest efforts and the current needs of the Filipinos in their program of economic development, and as a tribute also to his enlightened outlook which seeks to emphasize goodwill, friendship, and mutual respect in the relations between the peoples of the Philippines and the United States.”

After receiving the award, Ridder presented to the President a book written in Pampango by a Jesuit priest during the reign of Ferdinand VI of Spain (1746-1759), entitled *Canan Quing Aidao Quing Taung Christianong Tulung Bisang Midi Banua* (Food for every day for the Christian man who really wants to go to Heaven).

The book formerly formed part of the Wahett collection in England and consists of 527 pages. It will be turned over to the Filipiniana Division of the National Library.

Present at the ceremony were Mrs. Ridder, Robert Potesky, NYJC international director, Minister Manuel Zamora, Mrs. Mariles Cacho-Romulo, and Joe Carpio, general manager of the Philippine Association.

Kabahar was conferred the Rizal Pro-Patria Award “in recognition of distinguished contribution to the promotion and advancement of our national progress and the stimulation and encouragement of love of country and civic and citizenship responsibility, beneficial to the general community and the Republic/”

Present at the ceremony were executives and staff members of the Liwayway Publications, including Adriano P. Laudico, Celso Carunungan, Francisco Candia, and Mabini R. Centeno, as well as numerous friends, relatives, and admirers of the awardee.

The President received Vice-Mayor Mariano Villafuerte, Jr., and members of the Municipal Board of Naga City with whom he discussed local problems.

The Naga councilors were Leon Aureus, Rito Dilanco, Francisco Veras, and Ramon P. Sibulo. Other members of the group were Mayor Jaime Avengoza of Sipocot, Camarines Sur, and Naga Board Secretary Alfonso Ocampo.

The Naga group assured the President of victory in their province, and expressed the gratitude of the City Board on behalf of their constituents for the allotment of funds for the improvement of the Naga waterworks system.

In the afternoon the President addressed the first foundation day of the Philippine Veterans Administration.

President Garcia also received officials and members of the Philippine Association of Justices of the Peace in Malacañang.

During his conference with the town judges, the President directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to implement Republic Act No. 3086, increasing the salary of town judges.

The JPs were headed by Jose Angustia, president of the association. Among those with the group were Doroteo Cañeba, president of the Camarines Norte JPs; Rizalino Cusi, president of the JPs in Occidental Mindoro, and Francisco Santiago of Bulacan.

This afternoon the President appealed to Filipino veterans to stand ready and vigilant to preserve civil liberties and the ideals of democracy in this country.

In his extemporaneous address at the First Foundation Day celebration of the Philippine Veterans Administration this afternoon, the President warned that unless the Filipinos, particularly the veterans, are ready to die for the democratic principles which they fought for, the mandate of the people's will could be subverted, especially through elections.

The President told the huge assembly at the PVA compound that the elections of 1949 were an abject lesson to all freedom lovers. He said that in that election the Liberals tried to rape the people's will through violence, terrorism, and wholesale frauds.

Only the people's determination to defend the democratic ideals for which many of them fought and died, prevented the Liberals from destroying the democratic ideals and democratic processes in this country, the President said.

President Garcia pointed out that the Huk rebellion of 1950 was a direct result of the efforts of the Liberals to subvert the people's will in that election.

The President pledged to the veterans that he is determined to maintain clean, free, and honest elections and expressed his faith that the veterans will stand against any practices to violate the sanctity of the ballot.

Touching on the functions of the Philippine Veterans Administration, the President said that the PVA was the best evidence of the government's concern for its soldiers, their widows, and their orphans.

As long as the Administration is running the affairs of state, the President pledged, we will see to it that the rights and interests of our defenders are defended, that they receive the maximum benefits from a grateful people and nation.

After the program, the President unveiled the marker at the PVA main building, and later conferred with the PVA administrators.

After his tour of the building, the President congratulated the PVA management for the spic-and-span manner in which the offices were kept. The President specially noted that the floors were as shiny as dining room floors and that there was never a misplaced clip or piece of waste paper to be seen anywhere.

The President was fetched from Malacañang by General Torralba at 4:50 p.m. and was met at the PVA by Col. Antonio Martinez, Juan L. Gacad, Capt. Sofronio Tagaro, and Honorio Lopez, PVA deputy administrators. The President was given a standing ovation by the assembly.

The President returned to Malacañang at 7:45 p.m.

This evening the President directed the Philippine Constabulary to verify reports that armed agents of Gov. Eduardo Joson of Nueva Ecija are allegedly terrorizing Nacionalista leaders and sympathizers in that province.

The Chief Executive issued the directive upon the complaint of seven Nueva Ecija mayors who sent urgent wires to Malacañang denouncing the "terroristic" acts of the governor's agents who were reportedly threatening the Nacionalista followers with death or bodily harm should they continue campaigning for Nacionalista candidates in Nueva Ecija.

The complaints which were brought to the attention of President Garcia by PCAPE Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren were signed by Mayors Pascual Linsangan of Zaragosa, Lucio Aquino of Talavera, Zacarias Cienes of Aliaga, Virgilio Calica of Guimba, the chairman of the local NP chapter of Nueva Ecija, and two prominent NP leaders.

October 4.—THE President had breakfast with publishers and editors of the leading metropolitan papers at the Malacañang state dining hall.

Later he received Jose Mapa Gomez, Alfredo Montelibano, Ramon Nolan, Eduardo Ledesma, and Reps. Jose Aldeguez of Iloilo and Nicanor Yñiguez of Leyte del Sur as a group, and discussed local problems with them.

Rep. Yñiguez informed the President of the scarcity of rice in Leyte del Sur. The Chief Executive directed NAMARCO to dispatch rice immediately to the province to be sold at NAMARCO prices.

Other callers were Gen. Basilio Valdes, Col. Jesus Villamor, and Gov. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas.

This noon the President asked the Filipino people for a reiteration of confidence in the Nacionalista Party on the basis of its performance.

The President cited five outstanding services rendered by the Nacionalista Party for the people and country in an extemporaneous speech before the Manila Lions.

The President was the guest of honor and speaker at the regular luncheon meeting of the Manila Lions Club held at the Winter Garden of the Manila Hotel.

President Garcia today, through Assistant Executive Secretary Edilberto B. Gallares, directed the provincial commander of Catanduanes to insure peace and order in that province, especially during the coming elections.

The President's directive was issued to the newly-designated provincial commander of the province, Maj. Celso Alikpala, following reports made by Rep. Jose Alberto of the province's lone district that trouble might erupt there because of the alleged presence of teenage hooligans and hired goons.

The President this day granted executive clemency to a death convict who was scheduled for execution today.

Saved from the electric chair was Primitivo Ala y Duran, whose death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by the President on the recommendation by the Board of Pardons and Parole.

Ala, a convict serving term in the New Bilibid Prison in Muntinlupa, Rizal, was sentenced by the Court of First Instance of Rizal to suffer the extreme penalty. The sentence was affirmed by the Supreme Court, for the murder of a fellow inmate on March 24, 1959, at the national penitentiary.

He had been granted two reprieves by the Chief Executive, the second expiring today.

This evening the President received Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo, who had just arrived from Hongkong aboard a Philippine Air Lines Viscount. Romulo reported on his work in Washington, and intimated he wanted to retire from the foreign service. Romulo has been in Washington as Philippine ambassador since the liberation.

The envoy told the President he came to the Philippines in order that he may be able to cast his vote in the November 14 elections. He was the keynote speaker at the Nacionalista Party convention held last June.

October 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia today asked the people of Laguna for a reiteration of their confidence in the Nacionalista Party and allow it to continue giving maximum service to the country.

In his campaign tours of Pagsanjan and Mabitac, Pakil, Paete, Sta. Cruz, and Nagcarlan, the President rallied the people to support the cause of the majority party, citing various important projects of immense benefit to Laguna folks, like construction of several irrigation projects costing millions of pesos.

The Chief Executive received prolonged applause when he announced in the towns near the Rizal boundary that he had released ₱150,000 for the asphalt-paving of the highway connecting the provinces of Laguna and Rizal.

Along the route, people blocked the presidential car in order to get a glimpse of the President, causing the delay in his arrival at Pagsanjan where he had his lunch at past 2 this afternoon at the house of ex-Mayor Manuel Soriano.

After the rally in Pagsanjan, the President rested awhile and then motored to Sta. Cruz where he had his dinner.

After simultaneous rallies at Sta. Cruz and Nagcarlan, the Chief Executive motored to San Pablo City, where he slept at the residence of his aide, Major Ciriaco Hocson.

With the President are senatorial candidates Domocao Alonto, Pacifica M. Gonzalez, and Lorenzo Sumulong; and Rep. Wenceslao Lagumbay, the NP congressional bet for the second district of Laguna, whom he publicly endorsed as one of the most dedicated public servants in the country.

President Garcia arrived at Sta. Cruz, Laguna, early this evening to cap a whole-day stump of the second congressional district of the province.

The President started his tour of Laguna from Siniloan and then swung to Paete, Pagsanjan, Luisiana, Cavinti, and Nagcarlan before proceeding to Sta. Cruz.

President Garcia was introduced throughout the rallies by Rep. Lagumbay,

Laguna is predominantly Nacionalista, although the President lost there in the 1957 presidential elections to former Speaker Jose Yulo by 11,000 votes.

The provincial government is also headed by a Liberal, Gov. Felicisimo H. San Luis.

After his rally tonight, the President is scheduled to motor to San Pablo City, where he will spend the night at the residence of Major Ciriaco Hocson, military aide to the First Lady.

President and Mrs. Garcia will start their second day of campaign of Laguna tomorrow from San Pablo City.

October 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today predicted that the Philippines would soon be a rice exporting nation.

The President made the prediction at the formal opening of the Mabacan River irrigation system at Calauan, Laguna, in the presence of Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista, Economic Coordination Administrator Juan Chioco, Gov. Feliciano San Luis, Rep. Jacobo Gonzales, and other high national and provincial officials.

The President based his prediction on a series of irrigation projects he has inaugurated during his four-year administration. The President stated that all irrigation systems in the country services an aggregated area of 440,000 hectares, enough to flood the country with rice plenty to spare for exportation.

In view of the expected surplus in the future, the President said he had directed government agencies concerned to find new industrial uses of rice. He mentioned the experiments being undertaken at the Rockefeller International Rice Research Institute located near the College of Agriculture of the University of the Philippines in Los Baños, which produces better seeds for better yield.

The Mabacan Irrigation System costing nearly P1 million will irrigate about 1,500 hectares and benefit the towns of Calauan, Bay, and Los Baños. It is expected to increase the yield of palay in the three towns by no less than 350,000 cavans, the President said.

The President woke up late in San Pablo City and heard mass at 9 a.m. at the Catholic church and then returned to the residence of Maj. Ciriaco Hocson, aide, for breakfast before going for the inaugural rites of the irrigation system.

The President conferred with Pedro Trono about the political situation in Iloilo and Manuel Enverga about his campaign in the second district of Quezon.

Mayors Leonardo Leon of Bay and Genaro Catalan of Los Baños spoke before the President at the ceremony and expressed the gratitude of the people for the new manifestation of the NP administration for their welfare.

They said that the project was the dream of their townspeople for a long time and it is only now realized under the Garcia administration.

The President said that Laguna immensely benefitted by the program of construction of irrigation systems of the NP regime citing the inauguration of the systems in Sta. Cruz, Balanac, Sta. Maria, and Fami, aside from Mabacan for which purpose the government spent millions of pesos in order to give utmost service to the people of 18 towns of Laguna.

“For this reason, the President added, “Laguna people should vote straight NP ticket so that the Nacionalistas can continue serving the best interest of the people.”

After the inauguration, the President motored to Villa Escudero in Tiaong, Quezon, for lunch and rest.

At 5 p.m. the President returned to San Pablo for the rally after which he left for rallies at Calamba and Bihan before returning to Manila late in the evening.

President Garcia renewed today his appeal for people of voting age to register tomorrow, the second and last registration day this election year.

In the course of his tour of Laguna towns on the second day of his two-day stump of the province, the President pointed out that the right of suffrage is not only the privilege of a citizen but a supreme duty in a democratic country like the Philippines.

The Chief Executive exhorted the people to perform their duty by registering and then voting on election day, November 14 this year.

The President, meanwhile, expressed confidence that he would win in Laguna over Vice-President Macapagal as a result of his two-day sorties in that province which is expected to end early tomorrow morning.

October 7.—THIS morning President Garcia had a long sound sleep after a hectic two-day stump of Laguna province which he believed he had sewed up behind his candidacy in the coming November elections.

The President and the First Lady returned to Manila at 3 a.m. today from a late political rally in Biñan, Laguna, the last town in his itinerary.

A Malacañang spokesman said the President slept up to 11 o'clock this morning. He had a late breakfast which also served as his lunch for the day.

This afternoon the President received the credentials of Dr. A. M. Malik as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Pakistan and of Dr. Eugenio Rubino as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Italy.

The President welcomed the two envoys to the country and expressed hope that their presence in the Philippines would help promote better-relations- between peoples of the Philippines and their states.

Addressing Ambassador Rubino, the President said "friendly relations between Italy and the Philippines have already existed even before the establishments of the present independent statehood of the Philippines."

He added: "This relationship is deeply rooted in more than one factor. Catholicism is perhaps the greatest single factor that has exerted the most profound influence in bringing the peoples of our two countries together."

In presenting his credentials, Ambassador Malik said that Pakistan admires the manner with which the Philippines fought for independence.

He paid tribute to Dr. Jose Rizal for his intense patriotism, indomitable courage, and fearless fight against oppression and tyranny which, he said, have been, a source of great inspiration to the people of Pakistan during their struggle for independence.

Ambassador Rubino pledged to devote his efforts to maintaining and multiplying the existing ties between the Philippines and Italy which, he said, are founded on solid foundations of common ideals, aims, and values. He cited the common religion of both countries and the "sincere adherence to the principles of freedom and democracy for which we stand together with the rest of the free world."

Both diplomats were accorded military honors by a contingent of the presidential guard battalion.

For the first time, the ceremonial wine, *basi*, was not served in Malacañang, it being registration day.

Present during the ceremonies were Assistant Executive Secretary Edilberto B. Gallares, Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Fructouso Cabahug and Ministers Yusup Abubakar, Manuel Collantes, Enrique M. Garcia, and Manuel Zamora.

Also present were Commerce Secretary Manuel Lim, Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, and Acting Labor Secretary Agapito Braganza.

The two Ambassadors were presented to the President by Minister Pedro Aragon Angara, protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs,

President Garcia said today that he is leaving for the northern provinces not only to plead for the Ilocano votes but also to observe first hand the actual peace and order situation in that trouble-ridden region.

On the eve of his departure for an 11-day campaign tour which will take him to seven provinces and two cities in Northern and Central Luzon, the President expressed his desire to meet personally with local leaders of both parties in Ilocos Sur and Ilocos Norte in an effort to bring about a more peaceful election in these two provinces.

The President indicated his desire to appeal personally to the local leaders to temper their passions and conduct their campaigns with sobriety and calmness in order to avoid violence and unnecessary bloodshed.

While he said that he is satisfied with the progress of the peace and order campaign so far being waged in the locality during the past few weeks, the President however added he would like to have assurance that the situation will not erupt to more violence as election day draws near.

The Chief Executive reiterated his directive to the Constabulary and the Armed Forces to accelerate the collection and confiscation of loose firearms in the area and the strict implementation of regulations prohibiting unauthorized persons to carry firearms.

The President, likewise, reiterated his threat to place the region under military control if the situation warrants, recalling that he had ordered Armed Forces authorities to stand-by a full strength battalion combat team for this purpose.

The Chief Executive had previously been briefed by Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo on conditions in the locality, particularly the campaign against loose firearms.

Accompanied by reelectionist Sens. Lorenzo Sumulong, Pacita M. Gonzalez, and Domocao Alonto, the President will leave by plane tomorrow morning. He will cover the provinces of Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte, Abra, La Union, Mt. Province, Pangasinan, and Tarlac. He is also scheduled to hold rallies in Baguio and Dagupan Cities.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: October 8-14, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 8.—THE presidential Friendship Fokker plane carrying President Garcia and company landed at the Laoag (Ilocos Norte) airport at 10:15 this morning, with Laoag Mayor Eulalio Siason, a Nacionalista, heading the Nacionalista welcomers.

Liberal officials, led by Gov. Jose Evangelista and Rep. Antonio V. Raquiza, displayed sportmanship as they vied with the Nacionalista leaders in giving the Chief Executive a warm welcome.

Two followers of Gov. Evangelista, Francisco Babal and Bartolome Tolentino, did more than just welcoming President Garcia. They asked him to induct them into the Nacionalista camp during a rally in Dingras town.

Following a *Te Deum* at the local Catholic church, the Chief Executive motored to Dingras, Sarrat, and Bacarra towns where political rallies were awaiting him.

In barrio Sta. Rosa in Sarrat farmers and members of their families left their farms to form a human roadblock to the presidential party.

The President was forced to get off the car and address the crowd. He was applauded warmly when he assured the farmers of continued government subsidy to the Virginia tobacco industry.

The President harped on the same theme in all his political speeches.

The presidential party returned to Laoag late this evening. President Garcia conferred with Nacionalista officials and leaders at the home of Health Undersecretary Damaso Samonte before addressing another political rally at the town plaza.

President Garcia wound up a hectic day in the Liberal-dominated province of Ilocos Norte tonight, confident of having improved his political position.

October 9.—PRESIDENT Garcia today charged Liberal leaders with distortion of facts and demagoguery in their attempt to win the people's votes.

Speaking at huge rallies in Batac and Badoc, Ilocos Norte, and later in Sinait, the President lambasted the opposition for criticizing the importation of American blending tobacco and for promising to lower the prices of commodities when they gain power.

"Can I," the President asked, "destroy one of the pillars of our national economy when I am supposed to strengthen it, promote prosperity, and increase the people's per capita income?"

The Chief Executive also revealed that certain unprincipled Liberals had helped create artificial rice shortage to make it an issue against the Nacionalistas.

"Luckily," he said, "they have been found out, because while you can fool all people sometime and some people all the time, you cannot fool all people all the time."

He explained that the importation of blending tobacco was decided as a measure to save cigarette factories in the country which are being forced to close shop owing to lack of quality raw materials and because of the fact that the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration (ACCFA) has accumulated unsaleable low grade Virginia tobacco of nearly seven million kilos.

The President, however, emphasized that the importation of four and a half million kilos will be strictly for blending purposes and on the condition that the importer buys four kilos of poor quality tobacco from the ACCFA and two kilos from the producer for every kilo imported.

He said this would enable the ACCFA to dispose of locally accumulated tobacco to enable the government to collect P25 million in customs and ₱72 million in specific taxes.

The Chief Executive also announced that he had released ₱8 million to pay for the unpaid ACCFA purchase of 1959.

The President left Laoag at 9:00 this morning, stopping at Batac, Biloca, Currimao, Badoc, and Sinait to address huge crowds.

Heading the welcomers at Badoc was Liberal Mayor Angel Bautista. Also present were Ilocos Sur Gov. Godofredo Reyes, Rep. Faustino Tobia, ex-Mayor Esmeraldo Agabin, and Judge Roman Campos.

After addressing the Badoc rally, the President proceeded to Sinait “for luncheon and another meeting- He then motored to Vigan, making whistle stops at Cabugao, Lapog, and Magsingal, and later inaugurated the new Sto. Domingo municipal building annex.

The President is expected in Vigan at seven this evening to speak at another rally and spend the night at Secretary Enrique Quema’s residence.

October 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today called on the Liberals to take up his challenge for them to present a better solution to the problem of disposing accumulated low grade Virginia tobacco in ACCFA bodegas.

In rallies in Bangued, Abra, and in Pidigan town, he insisted that the Nacionalista formula for solving the tobacco surplus problem would “inject more vigor into the local Virginia tobacco industry and help maintain the government price support for the industry.”

The President, explained that the formula requires importers of high grade U.S. Virginia tobacco to purchase, for every kilo imported, four kilos of low grade local Virginia leaf from the ACCFA and two kilos directly from the farmers.

President Garcia challenged the Liberals to present a better formula whereby the surplus of 47 million kilos of Virginia tobacco can be disposed of and at the same time generate funds to continue the government price support program.

He disclosed that Central Bank officials had informed him that the CB has reached the limit of extending loans for Virginia tobacco purchases and that the Auditor General had also informed him that the GAO would not pass in audit further payments of Virginia tobacco unless ACCFA repaid its Central Bank loans amounting to ₱15 million.

After long studies of the problem, the President said he came up with the formula but added that he was willing to adopt another scheme if the Liberals could present a better one for the sake of the Ilocano farmers.

President Garcia had breakfast in Vigan, Ilocos Sur, in the house of Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique Quema, together with ex-Gov. Eliseo Quirino, Antonio Quirino, Tommy Quirino, Ilocos Sur Gov. Godofredo Reyes, and Rep. Faustino B. Tobia.

The President was heartened by the sight of Antonio Quirino and Tobia, who are rivals for Ilocos Sur’s second congressional seat, evidently forgetting local politics in order to welcome him.

Before leaving Vigan the President went to the Archbishop's palace and was welcomed by Bishop Antonio Mabutas of Laoag in the absence of Archbishop Juan Sison now in Rome.

The President then went to Narvacan, passing through Bantay and Santa.

In Narvacan the President lauded the sportsmanship of Ben Zarragoza and Mayor Ponciano Reyes of Santa Maria, both contesting the first congressional district seat, who set aside their rivalry in order to welcome him and endorse the Nacionalista national ticket.

President Garcia inducted into the NP Vice-Mayors Constante Valdez of Santa Lucia and Honesto Laurente of Tagudin and Councilor Modesto Lardizabal of Tagudin.

There, the President was mobbed by townfolks at the plaza where he spoke after hearing a *Te Deumat* the local Catholic church.

After the rally the President was the honored guest at a popular banquet at the newly rebuilt provincial capitol where he spent the night.

October 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia today lambasted Vice-President Macapagal for “shamelessly peddling his theory of command responsibility and promising to provide 28 million Filipinos with employment and to abolish poverty.”

Delivering his “fightingest” speech at Candon, the President described the theory of command responsibility as a sign of mental emptiness and asked the rally crowd: “How can you hold one man responsible for the acts of another? Let us stop kidding ourselves and not be fooled by these demagogues.”

He also charged Vice-President Macapagal with “shamelessly peddling ridiculous ideas,” like providing everyone with employment and abolishing poverty which, he said, no person can believe.

The Chief Executive cautioned the people not to be deceived by such promises which are usually accompanied by destructive criticism, character assassination, and vilification, but to vote judiciously for the party which can promote the progress and prosperity of the nation.

The President appealed for a straight Nacionalista ticket victory so that the NPs can build a greater, happier, and more progressive Philippines on foundations of faith, hope, and love.

At San Esteban the President, noting the absence of local Liberal officials, told the crowd that welcomed him that officials who, for partisan consideration, show discourtesy to the Chief Executive of the land by not greeting him do not deserve the confidence of the people.

On the other hand, he praised LP Mayor Clemente Abaya and the huge crowd at Candon for giving him and his fellow candidates a chance to be heard.

The Chief Executive emphasized that a renewal of mandate for the Nacionalistas will not be a personal favor or an act of mercy but a just reward for four years of spectacular achievements among which are expansion of agriculture by 40 per cent, establishment of 2,000 new industries, employing two million people and reducing unemployment from 1,800,000 to 800,000, stabilization of the credit and financial position of the government, and turning the balance of trade in favor of the Philippines in 1960 to \$47 million.

The President's speech was preceded by those of senatorial bets Pacita M. Gonzalez, Quintin Paredes, and Angel Castaño. The Chief Executive arrived at 8: 30 a.m. at the Abra-Ilocos Sur boundary where he was met by a delegation headed by Rep. Faustino Tobia and Gov. Godofredo Reyes.

After breakfast with Gov. Reyes and addressing a crowd at the plaza, the President proceeded to Tagudin, addressing rallies at San Esteban, Santiago, Candon, and Sta. Lucia on the way.

The President and party had a late lunch at Tagudin, and after addressing rallies in that town and Bangar and Bacnotan, he motored to San Fernando, La Union, for another mass meeting. He then proceeded to Poro Point for the night.

October 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia today announced that the period from 1960 to 1970 will be dedicated to the attainment of economic emancipation and development in the Philippines.

Speaking at the inauguration of the Philippine National Bank branch, in San Fernando, La Union, the President emphasized that the opening of more Philippine-owned banks, besides boosting the nation's economy, will prove vital in recovering economic control from aliens.

Later the President inaugurated the ₱100,000 bailey bridge in Sto. Rosario. He said it was one more evidence of the Administration's deep concern for the welfare of the barrio people.

In a rally at San Fernando still later, the President said that the importation of blending tobacco would enable the government to continue its tobacco support program to save the industry.

Earlier, at Sto. Rosario, President Garcia inducted into the Nacionalista Party Vice-Mayor Gaetos of San Juan and Trifon Carbonell of San Gabriel. He also swore in this evening at Bacnotan Aniceto Carbonell, LP local chairman, who told the President that he was "switching to the NP because he valued the people's interests more than his party."

During the inauguration the President also pledged the continuance of universal education to provide all children, rich and poor alike, equal opportunities for advancement.

The President said the present administration is giving more emphasis to rural health and education, unlike any past administration. This is the reason for the tremendous increase of the national budget for these services, he pointed out.

In his speech at the PNB the President paid tribute to the daring and pioneering spirit of the late President Quezon and other leaders who built the PNB from modest beginnings to serve the Filipino businessmen, farmers, and traders, and to prevent total control of the economy by the aliens.

Present at the inauguration were the First Lady, PNB President Eduardo Z. Romualdez, Gov. Eulogio de Guzman, Rep. Francisco Ortega, Mayor Lorenzo Dacanay, Justice Secretary Alejo Mabanag, and other high ranking national, provincial, and municipal officials. Romualdez paid tribute to President Garcia as the one solely responsible for the recent rise in the value of PNB assets to P1.3 billion and the increase of deposits to P850 million.

The President held a breakfast party caucus aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* attended by Rep. Francisco Ortega, congressional aspirant Jose Aspiras, and other party leaders.

After the caucus the President motored to San Fernando for the PNB inauguration and later to Sto. Rosario for the San Juan bridge inauguration. From there the President proceeded to Bauang to address a noon-day rally. He returned to San Fernando for lunch at about 3 p.m.

From San Fernando, the President motored to Agoo for another meeting, making whistlestops at Naguilian, Caba, Aringay, Damortis, Sto. Tomas, and Rosario where he urged the people to vote for the straight Nacionalista ticket on the basis of the Administration's solid achievements.

From Rosario the President motored to Baguio, via Kennon road, arriving at the Pines City late in the evening.

October 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia today pledged to give continued support to the mining industry that will result in benefits to both labor and management.

At the same time he warned his audience against being misled by the false propaganda and crazy theories of the opposition which, he said, are designed to deceive them into voting for the Liberal candidates.

Addressing a huge crowd that jam-packed the movie house at the Balatoc Mining Company compound, the President reminded the miners that when he was elected President, the mining industry was on the brink of folding up because of unfavorable international trade conditions.

He said he signed the Mitra bill which is now Republic Act No. 3089, otherwise known as the Gold Mining Subsidy Act, in order to save the industry from closing shop.

The new statute further provides for five per cent bonus to the mining laboring class from whatever allocation may be provided as subsidy for the industry.

The Chief Executive said that the new law provides for an appropriation of ₱83 million for the first three years.

The President was roundly applauded when he revealed that the mining will receive about ₱130,00 as bonus under the subsidy program for the first quarter. Some of the miners, he said, have already received their

He reiterated his appeal for a renewal of the people's confidence in the Nacionalista Party for its accomplishments.

This evening the President instructed Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE Chairman, to assign more investigators to the alleged "Kickback" racket involving ACCFA and FACOMA key officials.

The Chief Executive issued the order following receipt of a wire informing him of the progress of the investigation of the ACCFA tobacco case in the Ilocos region.

Justice Ocampo informed the President that complaints received by the PCAPE from Naguilian, La Union, and Sinait, Ilocos Sur, alleged the existence of a tie-up between ACCFA. and FACOMA officials.

In his preliminary report to the PCAPE chairman, Ondrico A. Batugal, PCAPE investigator, said that several farmers complained of deductions ranging from five to fifteen per cent of what is due them in their tobacco transactions with the ACCFA.

In Sinait, Vice-Mayor Marianito Ibanez said in his verified statement before the PCAPE that of the ₱3,939.15 due him from his sale of tobacco to the ACCFA, ₱240 was deducted by the FACOMA officials.

October 14.—THIS morning the President administered the oath of affiliation with the Nacionalista Party of Alfredo Limcaco and his brother, Ernesto.

Alfredo Limcaco is the technical assistant of Senator Estanislao A. Fernandez, Liberal Party deputy general campaign manager.

Later the President had luncheon conference with Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, NP general campaign manager.

He also received Lt. Gen. Manuel F. Cabal, Armed Forces chief of staff, who reported on the recently concluded SEATO conference.

Other callers at the Mansion House included Ambassador Raul T. Leuterio, Philippine consul general in New York, who paid his respects, and acting Public Works Secretary Marciano D. Bautista.

This evening President Garcia accused the opposition of abusing the intelligence of the Filipino people for making false promises and indulging in destructive criticism.

The President addressed a big crowd which braved a continuous cold drizzle which intermittently broke into moderate rains at the Malcolm Square in Baguio. He lampooned the opposition for continuously promising to bring down the prices of commodities.

“We cannot accomplish anything out of hatred and negative thinking,” the President said. “If we have to realize our aspirations for a better and prosperous Philippines, we must have to work together instead of engaging in character assassination.”

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: October 15-21, 1961

Official Week in Review

October 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia today debunked the claim of Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal that if elected he would bring down prices of commodities.

In a rally in Pozorrubio, Pangasinan, the President said that even presidents of great nations like the United States cannot go against laws of economics. He cited world-wide trend of rising prices of commodities which affects the Philippines.

He added that anybody who claims he can arrest the trend is not telling the truth.

He recalled the rape of democracy perpetrated during the heyday of the Liberal Party and said "when nothing happens to your suffrage, there is no reason to worry, but when it is taken away from you suddenly, you remember the Nacionalista Party and its role in safeguarding free elections."

President Garcia was pleasantly surprised at the warm, reception he received in Tayug, Pangasinan, LP bailiwick.

After breakfast the President conferred with Jose Maria Rocha, presidential executive assistant.

The President signed the proclamation extending the anti-tuberculosis fund campaign up to December 31 this year. He also issued a executive order reserving a portion of the public domain in San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City, for a school site.

He then signed papers designating Ambassador Pedro Hernaez as ambassador plenipotentiary to represent the President of the Philippines in the anniversary rites of the coronation of Pope John XXIII in Rome on November 4.

From Baguio the President motored down to Sison to lay the cornerstone of the municipal building. Then he spoke at a rally in the same town.

After the rally in Pozorrubio, the President proceeded to Asingan where he had lunch at the residence of Rep. and Mrs. Luciano Millan. He then spoke before a big rally held in the town plaza.

In the afternoon the President proceeded to Tayug, Rosales, and Manaoag for rallies.

After dinner in Rosales, at the residence of Gov. Conrado Estrella, the President and his party proceeded to Lingayen where he spent the night.

October 16.—EARLY this morning the President, after breakfast at the Urduja building, inaugurated the San Carlos ceramic plant and held an unscheduled rally at the newly-created town of Basista.

He later proceeded to Bayambang. After the rally, he had his lunch at Dr. Anselmo Gomez' house.

In the afternoon the President proceeded to Malasiqui for a rally at Calasiao, San Carlos, Dagupan City, Mangaldan, and San Fabian before returning to Urduja building in Lingayen for a rest.

Pangasinan Gov. Estrella today assured that the President is going to win in his province.

The Pangasinan executive said that President Garcia is going to win on a 55-45 basis. He pointed out that the enthusiasm generated by the present stump is more than that in 1957. "We are attracting banner crowds everywhere we go," he observed.

President Garcia's reelection bid was further bolstered in Cotabato with the assurance made by Gov. Datu Udtog Matalam that the Chief Executive will garner the biggest majority ever given any presidential candidate.

The assurance was made by Gov. Matalam during a conference with a presidential task force headed by Sergio Toca.

The conference was attended by Matalam, Toca, Vice-Gov. Sergio Morales, and ranking provincial and municipal officials and political leaders.

President Garcia today directed Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release the amount of ₱250,000 thereby increasing the pension of war widows and orphans from 50 per cent to 75 per cent of the base pay of deceased retired or retireable soldiers.

The National Association of War Widows and Orphans of the Philippines made representations with the President in Baguio City for the implementation of Republic Act 3056.

In implementing the act President Garcia expressed concern over the welfare of widows and orphans of deceased officers and men of the Armed Forces "who one way or another sacrificed their lives in the defense of their country."

The war widows and orphans led by Mrs. Angela Borromeo expressed their heartfelt gratitude to President Garcia in a resolution signed by the officers and members of the association.

Upon receipt of the presidential directive, Commissioner Sy-Changco immediately ordered the release of the sum of ₱250,000.

October 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia today assured the Filipino people that the future of the country is secure as long as the Nacionalista Party is at the helm of the government.

Addressing a huge crowd that jam-packed the plazas of Bani and Alaminos, scorching sun notwithstanding, the President said his administration has stabilized the finances of the government making possible the undertaking of tremendous projects like irrigation and waterworks, hospitals, and health centers.

The President arrived at western Pangasinan towns this morning from Lingayen on the third day of his four-day stump of the province to clinch its votes for the majority party candidates.

"I am happy to report to you that my administration has fulfill its promise of promoting the progress and prosperity of our nation," the Chief Executive said.

He pointed out that the country always had an unfavorable balance of trade from 1941 to 1958. Beginning 1959, however, commerce had been so developed that the balance of trade in favor of the Philippines is now 47 million dollars.

The President took occasion to endorse the reelection bid of Rep. Aguedo Agbayani, who he said is one of the rising economists of the country.

In going to Alaminos the President made whistle-stops at Labrador and Sual, where he made brief speeches asking people to reiterate confidence in his administration.

The Chief Executive is scheduled to address rallies in Mangatarem, Lingayen, and in Binmaley tonight.

He will stay overnight at the Urduja House in Lingayen. With the President's party are senatorial candidates Decoroso Rosales, Pacita M. Gonzalez, Jose Roy, Quintin Paredes, Pedro Sabido, and Angel Castano.

Accompanying the President are Pangasinan Gov. Conrado Estrella and Acting Labor Secretary Agapito Braganza.

President Garcia was assured of 60 per cent of the votes of Pangasinan, as he affiliated into the Nacionalista fold 72 top Liberal and barrio leaders.

The President winds up a three-day hectic campaign in the province with a final rally in Urdaneta tomorrow morning before proceeding to Tarlac.

President Garcia made definite gains in Alaminos, a seashore town, welcomed, when about, 50 veterans of the Spanish American war and pledged their unconditional support to his reelection bid. The veterans expressed gratitude for the President's increasing their monthly pensions.

In the same town President Garcia was assured of 30 per cent of the Liberal votes owing to Macapagal's having pulled a political boner when he proclaimed official Liberal candidate Alex de Guzman against Meloy Sison, the town's local favorite boy.

In speeches before huge crowds, President Garcia faced squarely poll issues of high prices of prime commodities and graft and corruption.

President Garcia also inaugurated the Bani bridge and the Alaminos emergency hospital.

October 18.—THE President started his stump of Tarlac this morning after winding up his campaign in Pangasinan with a rally in Villasis town. He is accompanied by Rep. Jose J. Roy, one of the Nacionalista senatorial candidates, who has joined his campaign since the President landed in Laoag, Ilocos Norte, 11 days ago.

The President was met by Tarlac leaders headed by acting Gov. Benigno S. Aquino and acting General Services Secretary Arsenio Lugay. Later he was joined by Speaker Protempore Constancio E. Castañeda in Moncada.

The President addressed a brief rally in San Manuel and then repaired to Moncada where he had lunch at the residence of Rep. Roy.

In his rallies in Tarlac the President hit hard at Vice-President Macapagal, Liberal Party presidential standard bearer, who was reported to have the political advantage in Tarlac, it being partly Pampanga province.

From Moncada the President motored to Paniqui and Gerona, veered to Camiling, and then to Tarlac town.

At press time this evening the President was having dinner at Buan residence, after which he was to address a big rally which had gathered at the Tarlac plaza.

He was scheduled to motor back to Manila late this evening to board the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* which would take him tomorrow morning to Leyte. President Garcia today took steps to protect Tondo fire victims by suspending the permit of the General Shipping Company to build a warehouse in the foreshore land occupied by them.

The President made this move following a conference with Max Maceren, vice-chairman of the Presidential Committee on Administration Performance Efficiency, at Dagupan City this morning.

The victims of the fire which hit Tondo last January, complained that the General Shipping Company was building a "Berlin" wall around the area they were occupying by virtue of a provisional permit issued by the Bureau of Lands.

While the Bureau of Lands justified issuance of the permit to the shipping firm on the ground that the lot was exempted from the law concerning the Tondo Foreshore Lands (R. A. 2439), the Land Tenure Administration maintained that the property was covered by the law; hence, the permit should be suspended.

Vice-Chairman Maceren recommended the suspension of the permit pending resolution of the case between the Bureau of Lands and the Land Tenure Administration in order to protect the fire victims who are occupying shanties and army tents in the area.

October 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia called on the late President Sergio Osmeña at the Veterans Memorial Hospital in Quezon City shortly after his arrival this morning from a stumping tour of northern Luzon.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady, was able to speak briefly with the late President during his call.

From the Veterans Memorial Hospital, the President boarded the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* when he conferred with members of the monetary board of the Central Bank on ways and means to fill up the increased Philippine sugar quota to the United States.

Those who attended the conference were Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona, Eduardo Romualdez, president of the Philippine National Bank, Gregorio Licaros of the Development of the Philippines, and Mariano Peñaflorida, MB member.

At the request of the President the Monetary Board discussed steps to boost dollar reserves needed for several administration projects designed to hasten the economic development of the country.

The review of the financial status of the country was made in preparation for the launching of economic projects which would require dollar financing.

During the conference the MB decided to ask sugar millers and planters to step up their production in order to meet the 150,000-ton additional sugar quota granted by the United States.

At noon the President sailed for Leyte, where he is scheduled to officiate at ceremonies marking the anniversary of the Leyte landing. He will also undertake a four-day stumping tour of Samar and Leyte provinces.

Later in the afternoon the President issued a presidential proclamation declaring a 15-day period of mourning in memory to the late President Osmeña. President Garcia was informed of President Osmeña's demise while the *Lapu-Lapu* was en route to Leyte.

October 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia received a rousing welcome on arrival in Tacloban, Leyte, today to attend the ceremonies marking the 17th anniversary of the Leyte landing.

Shortly after his arrival, he motored to Plaza Libertad where he delivered the main address at the anniversary celebration of the landing of American forces in Palo, Leyte.

The President also laid a wreath at the tomb of the unknown American soldier.

Among those who accompanied the President to the tomb were US Ambassador John D. Hickerson, Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez, and other high-ranking Filipino and American officials.

While aboard the yacht *Lapu-Lapu* the President created a committee to take charge of the funeral arrangements and burial of former President Sergio Osmeña.

President Garcia created the committee in order that “adequate arrangements be made for the holding of official necrological services and state funeral for the former President, commensurate with the people’s love and respect for him with the great debt of gratitude that they owe him.”

The committee is headed by Speaker Daniel Romualdez. Among the other members are Sens. Ferdinand Marcos, Mariano Jesus Cuenco, and Domocao Alonto; Secretaries Elpidio Valencia, Alejo Santos, Jose Tuazon, and Jose C. Nable; Justice Jesus Barrera; Speaker Protempore Constancio Castañeda; Minority Floor Leader Cornelio Villareal; Gen. Basilio Kaldes; former Executive Secretary Jose Reyes; Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema; and Gov. Francisco Remotigue, with Minister Manuel G. Zamora as secretary.

The President also issued an order directing the National Rice and Corn Corporation to explain why it was purchasing rice from alien rice merchants in Cotabato province instead of direct from Filipino farmers.

He issued the order following receipt of reports from Sergio Toca, presidential task force director, of alleged irregular buying practices by the NARIC in Cotabato.

October 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia decided today to attend the necrological services for the late President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., in Cebu City on Monday, October 23.

The President will stay in Cebu City, for only-two hours to attend the necrological rites and leave immediately for Manila.

In his campaign speeches in Oras, Samar, the President pleaded for a new mandate of the people to allow the Nacionalista party to continue and finish the socio-economic program, of his Administration,

He chided Vice-President Macapagal for charging that the present administration has forgotten the plight of the rural folk by reminding, the crowd that he (the President) could not probably forget the rural folk because “I was born poor like you.”

President Garcia said that his administration is working in earnest for the uplift of the living conditions in the rural areas as borne out by the social and economic development programs being undertaken at present.

The President and party arrived 11 a.m. at the Oras wharf and was met by jostling welcomers led by acting Gov. Vicente Valley, Rep. Felipe Abrigo, and 20 town mayors. They proceeded to the town parish church for a *Te Deum*, thence to the Plaza for the rally which was overflowing with rural folks.

After luncheon at the Holy Cross Institute, the presidential party hoarded the RPS *Lapu-Lapu*, for Borongan where, upon arrival, they attended another *Te Deum* at the town parish church.

The President conferred with the municipal officials at the town hall, and then attended the public rally at the Plaza where rural folks clamored for his *balak*.

President Garcia will return to Manila Tuesday morning, Oct. 24, instead of Monday, Oct. 23, as originally scheduled, because of the Cebu stop. His trips to Nueva Ecija and Bulacan have been moved to Oct. 27 and 28.

President Garcia moved today to alleviate the plight of some 600 hundred families in Tondo when he issued a presidential proclamation subdividing the portion known as the Sunog Apog in Isla de Balut. The area will be divided among, *bona fide* occupants.

In issuing the proclamation the President considered as a prime concern the construction of drainage works that will conform with the approved plan of the National Planning Commission. In the last session, the President vetoed a bill ordering the release of the same area because it did not provide for appropriate drainage to prevent the incidence of floods in Manila.

The proclamation was issued on the recommendation of a special Cabinet Committee headed by Justice Buenaventura Ocampo of PCAPE. The Committee submitted its recommendation after consultations with the Department of Public Works and Communications, the Department of Health, and the National Planning Commission regarding implementation of health and safety regulations in the area.

The other members of the Committee are Secretary Florencio Moreno, Secretary Alejo Santos, Secretary Jose Locsin, and Administrator Amparo Villamor.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Garcia, C. P. (1961). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 57 (43), ccclxxxiii-ccclxxxvii

President's Week in Review: October 22-28, 1961

Official Week in Review

October 22.—PRESIDENT Garcia tonight concluded his hectic two-day stumping tour of Samar and prepared to sail early tomorrow for Cebu City to pay his last respects to the late President Sergio Osmeña whose remains arrived in that city this afternoon.

The President ended his Samar stump with speeches in the towns of Laoang, Catarman, San Jose, and Allen. The President urged the electorate in those towns to give another mandate to the NP which has devoted eight years of service to the people.

In his speech in Laoang, President Garcia announced the release of P1 million as aid to the fire victims in that town and ₱100,000 to repair a bridge which was destroyed by a recent typhoon.

Despite the rough trip from Borongan, the President woke up early and heard mass aboard the yacht while anchored four miles off Laoang.

At 9:00 a.m. Rep. Eladio T. Balite and Laoang Mayor Romulo Giray boarded the yacht to welcome the Chief Executive, and to escort him to the wharf with a long fluvial parade of gaily decorated boats and motor bancas.

From the wharf where he was received by thousands of people from Laoang and neighboring towns, the President proceeded to the local Catholic church for *Te Deum* before addressing the throng at the plaza.

Other speakers who followed the President were Sens. Gil Puyat, vice-presidential candidate, Pedro Sabido, Domocao Alonto, and Pacita M. Gonzalez, and Cong. Jose Roy.

From Laoang the presidential party proceeded in several buses to Catarman but made whistle stops at Tambungian and San Roque as well as in the barrios of Bantayan, Bagaspas, Roxas, and later, in Mondragon.

From there President and Mrs. Garcia proceeded to the Samar Institute of Technology to inaugurate the Alumni Home building. The President addressed the faculty and student body at the SIT amphitheater before proceeding to Catarman and Allen.

The Chief Executive took time out from his campaign to issue a stern warning to any person, Filipino or alien alike, that he would not hesitate to jail them if they are caught smuggling rice out of the country.

The President issued the warning upon receiving a report that rice, which is the country's critical item and which commands a high price in North Borneo, is being smuggled to the British colony under the very noses of police agencies.

Sergio Toca, executive director of the presidential task force, transmitted the President's warning to Cotabato rice merchants during a meeting there. The meeting was attended by members of the Cotabato rice millers, representatives of the Bureau of Commerce, and Maj. Narciso Digamon, assistant PC provincial commander in Cotabato.

October 23.—PRESIDENT Garcia today paid glowing tribute to the sterling qualities of the late former President Sergio Osmeña as a statesman and patriot during an impromptu program held at the social hall of the provincial capitol building in Cebu City where the remains of the former President lie in state.

Speaking extemporaneously in Visayan, the President pointed out the many sacrifices of Don Sergio for the unity of the Nacionalista Party and for his love for the country and people.

The Chief Executive said Don Sergio left three great legacies to the Filipino people; namely, fervent nationalism, the Nacionalista Party, and the Republic of the Philippines.

He said Osmeña's nationalism is so akin to Rizal's for which the hero and martyr laid down his life in Bagumbayan and welded his disunited people into one.

The President cited the important role played by the late former Chief Executive in founding the Nacionalista Party in 1907, together with Quezon and Palma, to fight the Federal Party, which favored the annexation of the Philippines as a state of the American Union.

Although Don Sergio is dead, the President added, his spirit and ideals will remain alive to guide the present and coming generations.

The Chief Executive consoled the Cebuanos, saying that not only Cebu but the whole nation as well weeps the death of the Grand Old Man whose name is written on the rock of ages.

So grief stricken was the President at the end of his speech that he started shedding tears, and the huge crowd that filled the hall, moved by his speech, also broke out in tears.

The President arrived in Cebu aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* at about noon and was met at Pier One by Rep. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., representing the family of the late former President.

After his speech, the President rested awhile at the office of Gov. Francisco Remotigue and then motored to Don Sergio's house for lunch with the immediate members of the Osmeña family.

From the Osmeña residence, the President and the First Lady returned to the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* at about 4 p.m. for the 23-hour trip back to Manila with a short stop at Lapu-Lapu City, formerly Oton town.

October 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned at 5 this afternoon from an eight-day stump of Leyte and Samar and a sidetrip to Cebu City where he viewed the remains of the late President Sergio Osmeña.

He was met at Pier 3 by Defense Secretary Alejo S. Santos whom he summoned to a conference on the deteriorating peace-and-order situation throughout the country. Santos assured the President the situation is "under control."

The President arrived with the First Lady, Sen. Pacita M. Gonzalez, and Mesdames Paz Romualdez and Amy Lim.

He returned to Malacañang where he viewed for the second time the remains of the late President Osmeña which lies in state at the Palace.

This afternoon he took advantage of his voyage home aboard the presidential yacht by going over a thick pile of pending state papers which were brought to him by Assistant Executive Secretary Enrique C. Quema. Quema flew to Tacloban City to take to him the papers.

The President chatted with some passengers aboard the presidential yacht. He told them that his visit to Samar had tremendously increased his position in that province. He expects to poll a majority of from 65 to 70 per cent in the province.

In the evening the President motored to the Club Filipino to attend the dinner of the Association of the Philippine Broadcasters.

On the way to Manila the President rested in his suite aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu*. He had a hectic time traveling on gravel roads through the coastal Samar towns.

October 25.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning administered the oath of office to Health Secretary Elpidio Valencia as chairman of the board of the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority (NAWASA).

Present at the induction which was held in the President's receiving room were Mrs. Rosie O. Valencia and Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Lacson.

After the induction the President received General Manager Rodolfo Andal of the Government Service Insurance System, who reported on social security development in other countries which he had observed during a recent conference in Ankara, Turkey; and Davao City Vice-Mayor Fermin Abella, who briefed him on the Davao political situation.

Earlier this morning the President, the First Lady, and Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Campos, heard the requiem mass celebrated by Mons. Hernando Antiporda at the Malacañang hall for the late President Sergio Osmeña, Sr.

Also present at the mass were chiefs of diplomatic missions, members of the Cabinet, other high government officials, families of past Philippine Presidents, and close relatives and friends of the deceased, among whom were:

Secretary and Mrs. Elpidio Valencia, Mr. and Mrs. Sergio Osmeña, Jr., Nick Osmeña, Mrs. Trinidad L. Roxas, Manuel Quezon, Jr., Nini Quezon Avanceña, Tommy Quirino, Mr. and Mrs. Luis Gonzalez, Ambassador and Mrs. Carlos P. Romulo, former Secretary and Mrs. Jorge B. Vargas.

Meanwhile, thousands continued streaming to Malacañang to pay their last respects to the late President Osmeña, whose remains was removed from Malacañang at 4 p.m. today to lie in state in the Hall of Congress until interment tomorrow noon.

This afternoon Malacañang announced that all officials and employees in government offices, as well as school pupils and students in public and private schools, colleges, and universities in the City of Manila and suburbs, are excused from coming to office or, class tomorrow morning to enable them to attend or witness the funeral procession as a parting tribute to the late President Osmeña.

The remains of the late Don Sergio Osmeña, Sr., will be laid to rest at the Manila North Cemetery tomorrow, at high noon.

This evening the President presided over the regular meeting of his Cabinet. It was the first meeting of his advisory body since he plunged into an intensive political campaign two months ago.

The Chief Executive found his Cabinet badly depleted by resignations of department secretaries who decided to run for public offices in the coming elections.

Those who left the Cabinet to run for public offices were Secretary of Labor Angel Castaño, Education Secretary Jose E. Romero, acting General Services Secretary Serafin Salvador, and Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo.

Newest face in the Cabinet was acting General Services Secretary Arsenic Lugay, former governor of Tarlac, who sat down for the first time with the President and other department secretaries.

October 26.—PRESIDENT Garcia led the nation in paying final tribute to the late President Sergio Osmeña, who was laid to rest at the Manila North Cemetery at high noon today.

The Grand Old Man of Cebu was buried beside the late Sen. Claro M. Recto, in the presence of high government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, close associates of his in his long public career, relatives and friends, as well as thousands of people from all walks of life.

In his oration at the necrological services earlier, at the session hall of Congress, President Garcia eulogized President Osmeña as one of the greatest men ever born to the Filipino race: a beloved and gentle friend, firm and wise leader, fearless and greathearted statesman, broadvisioned and selfless patriot.

The President said the late statesman left the Filipinos three of his most glorious legacies: a vigorous and triumphant Nacionalista Party, a united nationally-conscious nation, and a free independent Republic.

The President and the First Lady, accompanied by Linda Campos, left Malacañang at 8:30 and arrived 15 minutes later at the session hall of Congress.

At 10 a.m. after the necrological services the flag-draped bier was mounted on a black caisson drawn by a scout car and followed by a mile-long funeral cortège, and proceeded slowly northward along Padre Burgos, Taft Avenue, Plaza Lawton, MacArthur Bridge, Plaza Goiti, Carriedo, Rizal Avenue, and Blumentritt.

Along the route thousands of people crowded the streets to get a last look at the late Chief Executive, as he was taken to his final resting place.

As the funeral cortège approached the cemetery, a 21-gun salute boomed.

The bier was then taken to a catafalque opposite the niche, where final rites were performed by Col. Nicolas Ortega, chief of the Army chaplain corps.

Then three volleys of artillery were fired, and taps sounded the final salute before the remains were gently deposited in the final resting place, with the President placing the last trowel of mortar as a final gesture to his late friend.

The President and the First Lady returned to Malacañang about 12:30 p.m.

In the evening the President inducted the officers of the Tondo Coordinated Parents-Teachers Country Association at the Torres High School.

Sworn in by the President were Jose C. Cruz, president; Pablo Dio Cruz, first vice-president; Gonzalo del Rosario, second vice-president; and Augusto V. Tanghal, third vice-president; Maria Clara Gutierrez, secretary; Patrocinio Toribio, assistant secretary; Rosendo Feleo, treasurer; Emiliana Olandez, assistant treasurer; Dalmacio Maniquis, auditor; and Melquiades Mangay, press relations officer.

After inducting these officers, the President motored to Balut Island where he was met by tenants of the Sunog Apog subdivision. The tenants expressed their gratitude to the President for having allocated a place for them.

October 27.—PRESIDENT Garcia today started on a four-day stump of Nueva Ecija, Bulacan, and Quezon provinces, probably his last campaign in Luzon before shifting his drive again to the Visayas and Mindanao.

He started from the Tutuban Station of the Manila Railroad Company shortly before 8 o'clock, 45 minutes behind his schedule. The President had overslept having gone to bed late the previous night after a political rally in Malabon, Rizal.

With the President were Acting Education Secretary Jose Y. Tuason and Sens. Pedro Sabido and Pacita M. Gonzalez.

They were joined in Guimba by Vice-Gov. Inday Melencio, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Economic Coordinator Juan O. Chioco, Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista, retired General Alfonso Arellano, Angel Concepcion, Martiniano Abad, and Mariano Sta. Romana, Jr.

The President had planned to address the crowd at the railroad station in Guimba briefly. Affected by the enthusiasm of the crowd, the President decided to hold his political meeting at the town plaza.

Before reaching Guimba, the President passed through Tarlac where he was met by acting Gov. Bienvenido Buan and joined by acting General Services Secretary Arsenio Lugay.

Owing to the delayed schedule and the change of plans in Guimba, the President arrived in San Jose four hours behind schedule. Hungry and tired, the President was faced with a problem upon reaching the town. There were three platforms set for him and he was made to choose which stage he would use.

One was set up by Mayor Arturo B. Pascual, a political leader of the town, who had just joined the Nacionalista Party; the other by Maurino Sobrepena, NP president of the town, and the third by the Constabulary as the neutral stage.

The President sought to solve the problem by visiting Sobrepena in his residence and then repaired to Pascual's house where he took his lunch. He then mounted the stage prepared by the mayor.

From San Jose, the President motored to Cabanatuan City with brief rallies in Muñoz and Talavera.

October 28.—PRESIDENT Garcia's plea for a new mandate for the Nacionalista Party to continue administering the government received enthusiastic response as he carried the campaign to Bulacan with initial rally in San Miguel.

Earlier at Cabiao, Nueva Ecija, the President said that projects being inaugurated by him were the products of careful planning, positive thinking, and efficient performance by the NP. He assured the people that the party will continue to serve their interest if retained in power.

The President spoke in the inauguration of the 1.3 km. concrete road in Cabiao that will connect Nueva Ecija with Pampanga.

The President also revealed he had directed Public Works Undersecretary Marciano Bautista to construct an additional 700 meters after seeing the dilapidated condition of the road.

The President left Gapan this morning after a late breakfast conference with OEC Administrator Juan O. Chioco, Secretary Bautista, NSDB Chairman Paulino J. Garcia, PNB Vice-President Conrado Sevilla, Vice-Gov. Inday Melencio and other officials, rural health officers, and teachers at the residence of Chairman Garcia.

Arriving in San Isidro, the President received a tumultuous welcome complete with brass band, fireworks, and leis.

In grateful welcome for the President and for his first visit, people who jam-packed windows and rooftops assured him of NP victory in November and gave him a warm send off.

At Cabiao a more uproarious welcome from a much thicker crowd greeted the President, with Mayor Gregorio Presco also assuring the President of NP victory.

From the entrance to the town, the President walked along concrete road which he inaugurated, up to the church for *Te Deum*, and later delivered a brief remark and promised flood control system to prevent erosion by the Pampanga River.

The President was considerably delayed, as people crowded along the route forcing him to stop and shake their hands.

At the boundary the President was received by Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, Rep. Rogaciano Mercado, and Gov. Martin at the head of welcomers who escorted him to the rally.

People forgetting their hunger at almost 2 p.m. applauded him again and again as he cited the benefits extended by the NP administration.

The President said that government finances have considerably stabilized to enable him to finance huge projects in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao to answer the people's needs.

The President then proceeded to Bustos where he inaugurated a steel bridge and the new municipal hall.

The President also unveiled the memorial for heroes of the resistance movement during World War II in the Bulacan Military area after which he proceeded to the Santos residence for lunch at 3 p.m.

From there the President motored to Baliuag to lay the cornerstone of the new municipal building and address a rally, and later in Hagonoy for another meeting.

From Hagonoy the President motored to Malolos where he also spoke. Then he entrained for Padre Burgos past midnight to finish his Quezon campaign.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

Garcia, C. P. (1961). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 57 (44), cccxciii-cccxvii

President's Week in Review: October 29 – November 4, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

October 29.—PRESIDENT Garcia stumped in ten towns of Quezon province appealing for support for the Nacionalista Party “in view of the nationalistic policy of the NP exemplified by the Filipino First policy.”

The President stated that this same nationalism had been preached by great Filipinos like Rizal, Quezon, and Recto. He urged the people of Quezon to vote as one man to support this policy which aims: to wrest from alien hands the control of natural resources and of foreign as well as domestic trade.

In all the rallies, Sen. Lorenzo M. Tañada introduced the President and urged the people of his province to support the Garcia-Puyat team and the other national NP candidates in view of the nationalism advocated by the majority party.

At barrio Malicboy, Pagbilao, Quezon, the President and party heard mass said on the train, together with barrio folks who welcomed the presidential party.

MRR ground crew were able to clear a landslide on the tracks leading to Padre Burgos, and the President and party proceeded by train, together with Sen. Tañada, Gov. Claro Robles, Rep. Leon Guinto, Jr., and Miss Remy Aguidia. Guinto and Aguila are both NPs, contesting the 2nd congressional seat of Quezon.

After the whistlestop at Unisan and Siain, the President and party motored to Atimonan where they had lunch at the residence of former Gov. Leon Guinto, Sr., before speaking at a rally on the plaza.

After the rally the President motored back to Siain to board the train for Tagkawayan.

On the way back the President held rallies in Calauag, Lopez, and Gumaca.

The President spoke mostly in Tagalog and made a big hit with listeners who applauded him many times.

In Padre Burgos, where the NP has never won since 1946, LP Mayor Bienvenido Marquez came out openly for the President and informed him that there were many Cebuanos and Boholanos in the town who wanted the President to speak briefly in Visayan.

The President took the train back for Manila at past midnight.

October 30.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned about 11 this morning from a hectic three-day campaign of Nueva Ecija, Bulacan, and Quezon highly optimistic of receiving the majority votes in those provinces.

The three provinces have a combined potential voting population of over 600,000 and President Garcia said he has blasted the so-called Liberal stronghold in Central Luzon provinces.

Before President Garcia stumped in Nueva Ecija, he was told that he would receive some 37 per cent of the province's 194,000. After his visit, the President said he hoped to split the votes in the province where he lost heavily in 1957.

President Garcia said he expects Senator de la Rosa to strip Vice-President Macapagal of a large number of votes in the province.

President Garcia, during his barnstorming campaign in Quezon province, strengthened the position of the NP there by inducting into the Nacionalista fold five local LP stalwarts. The new NP converts are Vicente L. Escasa,

president of the National University Alumni Association, well known civic, social, and youth leader and former stalwart of the Yulo-Macapagal Movement there; Ernesto V. Isaac of Unisan; Vice-Mayor Bernardo Pagkaliwangan, Councilor Mariano Salamat, and Barrio Lieutenant Napoleon Arellano, all of Tagkawayan.

Owing to the clamor of the people to hear the President, the schedule of the Chief Executive there was revised. The President made unscheduled stops in Tagkawayan, barrio Panaon of Unisan, Malicboy and Pag-bilao. Other towns visited by the President were Siain, Atimonan, Calauag, Lopez, Gumaca, and Padre Burgos.

The President was delayed three hours in his return to Manila owing to a derailed log car which blocked the railroad tracks. A landslide at kilometer 171 also delayed the President's schedule here.

The President's return from Quezon province marked the end of his stump in Luzon. He is scheduled to leave today for the Visayas, particularly Bohol, where he will check on the political home fires before the Nov. 14 elections.

From disembarkation point, the 'President proceeded to Camp Murphy where he reviewed a Loyalty Day parade by officers and men of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The Loyalty Day parade is a traditional affair of the AFP in connection with the birthday celebration of President Garcia, commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces.

Since President Garcia will not be in Manila to observe his birthday, the AFP reiterated its loyalty to their commander-in-chief.

In his speech the President called for unity and vigilance against the menace of communism in order to preserve freedom and democracy in the Philippines.

In the evening the President motored to the Manila Hotel where he inducted the new officers of the Philippine Chamber of Industries; namely, Mariano V. del Rosario, president; Kilarion M. Henares, Jr., 1st vice-president; Antonio C. Delgado, 2nd vice-president; Aurelio Montinola, Jr., treasurer; and Augusto Caesar Espiritu, executive secretary.

Speaking at the induction of the new officers of the Philippine Chamber of Industries at the Manila Hotel, the President said the economy of the country was stable and, if there were problems and setbacks, most of these were caused by factors outside the control of the Administration.

President Garcia accused the opposition this evening of distorting facts and foisting upon the people economic dangers which did not exist in an effort to discredit his administration*

The President today ordered the Philippine Constabulary to look into reports that congressional candidates 'in different provinces are employing "goons" armed with fake identification papers to give them a semblance of authority to act as personal bodyguards.

The Chief Executive issued the order to General Isagani Campo, PC chief, through Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE Chairman.

The President who expressed time and again his determination to have a clean and honest election this coming November, instructed Justice Ocampo to make representations with authorities concerned so that "nothing will disturb the free exercise of the right of suffrage this coming election." The President, in giving the directive, said, "I will not tolerate any acts that threaten to curtail the free exercise of the right to vote."

The President ordered the PC to mobilize its intelligence units to be sent to the different provinces to cheek on the activities of these "goons" so that proper counter-measures could! be adopted to insure a free, orderly, and honest election.

October 31.— PRESIDENT and Mrs. Garcia this morning gave a breakfast in Malacañang in honor of visiting U.S. Agriculture Secretary and Mrs. Orville Freeman.

Secretary Freeman and his party arrived in Manila Sunday on a tour to survey the food situation in different countries for the U.S. government,

Secretary Freeman said that it was not proper to say there exists a surplus of foodstuffs in the United States or anywhere else while want and suffering exists in other countries.

The President lauded the deep concern and benevolent attitude of the American people; and government towards the poor and under-privileged in foreign countries.

He said this was one of the best means of eradicating communism and keeping the world safe and secure for all free peoples.

Secretary Freeman was given a fill-in on the needs of the Philippines to increase production, such as irrigation and fertilizers, by Agriculture Secretary Jose C. Locsin.

Before leaving the Philippines this afternoon, the Freemans also visited the U.P. Agriculture College and the Rice Institute in Los Baños sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation.

Present at the breakfast, besides the President and the Freemans, were U.S. Ambassador John D. Hickerson, Secretary Locsin, Minister Manuel G. Zamora, Mrs. Dorothy Jacobson, and Rod Leonard of the Freeman entourage.

The President today postponed his departure for Talibon, Bohol, from 10 a.m. to 12 midnight in order to work on pending state papers and receive callers.

After the breakfast tendered by the President and First Lady at Malacañang this morning, the President inducted into the Nacionalista Party, Los Baños Mayor Genaro Catalan (Ind.), who pledged to work for the victory of the Nacionalista Party in November.

Mayor Catalan was accompanied to Malacañang by Wenceslao Nocom, his former campaign manager.

The President also received Mrs. Maria Padilla, mother of the late Moises Padilla, who had been killed in the 1949 elections in Magallon, Occidental Negros.

Mrs. Padilla reported steady progress in her campaign for the Nacionalista Party in the Bicol region and assured the President that the Nacionalista Party is strong there.

The President later also received Reparations Commission Chairman Rodolfo Maslog, Commissioners Juan Alberto and Gregorio Abad, and Reparations Commission Executive Secretary Mauricio Bas, who consulted him on reparations matters, particularly the sixth year schedule already agreed upon between the Philippines and the Japanese governments.

President Garcia's re-election bid in the coming November election was further bolstered today with a pledge of support from Alfredo Lamen, an independent candidate for Congress in the third district of Mountain Province.

Lamen, who was accompanied to Malacañang by Mayors Jaime Quirino of Tabuk and Juan Madriaga of Pudtol, Apayao, Mountain Province, made his pledge of support for the entire Nacionalista Party slate in the presence of Justice Buenaventura Ocampo, PCAPE chairman; Sergio F. Toca, Presidential Task Force director; and Inspector Rosalino Abaya, PCAPE acting chief investigatory

November 1.—PRESIDENT Garcia sailed early this morning for Talibon, Bohol, where he will observe All Saints' Day en route to Tagbilaran to celebrate his 65th birth anniversary.

With the President are the First Lady and a large group of Boholanos.

Before leaving Manila, President Garcia conferred with Elpidio Valencia, health secretary; Brig. Gen. Isagani V. Campo, PC chief; and Marciano Bautista, Public Works Undersecretary.

Also with the presidential parley are Mesdames Campo, Genaro Visarra, and Pedro Mayuga. I

President Garcia heard an All Saints' Day mass aboard the *Lapu-Lapu* this morning.

After breakfast the President j chatted with newsmen and stated he was not taking along other Nationalists candidates with him this time, as they had already "given a vote of confidence and victory."

President Garcia discussed with newsmen his own election assessment. He claimed he will win with plurality of from 700,000 to 800,000 votes and will be able to carry Sen. Gil J. Puyat, his running mate. President Garcia said Puyat will beat his Liberal party rival by 200,000 votes.

The Chief Executive, after the impromptu press conference, retired to the presidential suite where he went over state papers. Other passengers aboard played parlor games, including mahjong, poker, and blackjack.

The *Lapu-Lapu* is expected to steam into Talibon at 6 a.m. tomorrow in time for breakfast at the Garcia home there.

The President will visit the cemetery where his parents are buried. He will sail for Tagbilaran after visiting the tombs of his parents.

November 2.—PRESIDENT Garcia paid homage at the tomb of his parents in Talibon, Bohol, today.

The Chief Executive arrived 8 a.m. today in the small fishing town of Talibon at the northernmost coastal of Bohol, in time for All Saints' Day. He laid a wreath and placed lighted candles at the graves of his beloved forbears.

President Garcia always returns to his native town of Talibon at this time of the year to visit the tombs of his beloved parents. The only time he missed his annual visit was in 1955.

Then Vice-President and concurrently Foreign Affairs Secretary, he headed a Philippine delegation to an international conference.

The President's father, Policronio Garcia, died in 1947 at the age 80 when his son was still a senator. His mother, Ambrosia Polistico, passed away in 1932 at the age of 60 when her son was still provincial governor.

Their remains were interred one over the other in a single tomb some four feet above the ground. The; grave looks drab, unpainted, and with no markings whatsoever to identify illustrious occupants.

Accompanied by Mrs. Garcia, the President was met on his arrival aboard the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* by a large crowd of townspeople. Headed by Gov. Esteban Bernido, Rep. Maximino Garcia, and other local officials, the welcomers gathered at the wharf to greet the famous son of Talibon.

The President and the First Lady proceeded to the town church for *Te Deum*. They then had breakfast in the Talibon residence of Rep. Garcia.

At 10 a.m. the first couple motored to the old cemetery, a few kilometers outside the town, on a grassy land among coconut grooves.

Surrounded by his close relatives, young and old, the President tarried around the scenic cemetery to honor the dead. This is one of the rare occasions that he can rest from his strenuous campaign schedule.

The *RPS Lapu-Lapu* pulled out about 2 p.m. for Tagbilaran, where the President will spend his 65th birthday on Saturday, November 4.

The President is scheduled to return to Manila on Monday after holding three public rallies in three towns, one in each of the three congressional districts of Bohol.

November 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia had a very busy day today as hundreds of wellwishers flocked to his residence.

Well-wishers have been coming to felicitate him on his natal day tomorrow, and to wish him poll victory on November 14.

On the eve of his 65th birthday the Chief Executive began receiving messages of congratulations from Mends and admirers all over the country.

The President's callers were swelled by provincial and municipal officials who came to discuss official matters, and political leaders who briefed him on political situations in their respective localities.

President and Mrs. Garcia woke up early and. went to the cathedral to hear mass at 8:00 a.m. After mass they went home to have breakfast and to receive callers.

Among those who called on the President were Jose Briones, national director, Municipal Mayors' League of the Philippines, who saw the President to ask for a Manila site for the League's headquarters.

Other callers were Gov. Esteban Bernido of Bohol, Tagbilaran Mayor Venancio Inting and his councilors, former Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang, and many others.

The President held a conference at 5 p.m. with provincial and municipal officials at the Governor's home. In the evening he was given an *asalto* by local teachers and provincial and municipal officials and their ladies.

At 8:00 a.m. tomorrow the first couple will hear mass at the cathedral, and later, entertain friends and well-wishers at a luncheon in their residence.

The President will start at 2: 00 p.m. tomorrow for Jagna in the third district, then proceed to Loboc in the second district. He will address loyalty rallies in those places. From Loboc the President will return to Tagbilaran to attend a huge rally at 10:00 p.m.

November 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia dedicated the rest of his life to the service of the nation as he turned 85 years today.

Speaking to hundreds of well-wishers who called at his Tagbilaran residence to felicitate him on his birthday, the President called for a program based on faith, hope, and love as foundations of strong and enduring Republic.

The Chief Executive emphasized to friends that in all his 37 years of public service he' has always kept service to the nation as his motto, and will continue to do so as long as the Filipino people repose their trust and confidence in him

Apparently unfazed by the reported withdrawal of Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa in favor of Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, the President appeared in high spirits and excellent health as he and the First Lady received friends and well-wishers this morning.

At 8:00 a.m. the first couple heard mass and received communion at the Tagbilaran cathedral.

Former Executive Secretary and Mrs. Natalio Castillo, Agriculture Undersecretary and Mrs. Salvador Cunanan, Bishop Manuel Mascarinas of Tagbilaran and Marcelino Gacay of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources were among the host of others that heard mass with the first family.

After mass the President returned to his residence, had breakfast with close relatives and friends, and received a long stream of callers. Among those who came to greet the President were Gov. Esteban Bernido of Bohol, Constantino Navarro of Surigao and Francisco Remotigue of Cebu; Tagbilaran Mayor Venancio Inting; Gens. Manuel Cabal, Isagani Campo, Alfredo Santos, and Ricardo Papa; and provincial and municipal officials.

During a program where strains of "Happy Birthday" were repeatedly sung, the President received renewed pledges of loyalty from the generals as their commander-in-chief, as well as assurances of a free, clean, and honest elections. In like manner local officials and leaders renewed their pledges of support and promises of victory in November.

President and Mrs. Garcia entertained friends at a luncheon. After a brief rest the President motored to Jagna in the third district of Bohol then to Loboc in the second district and finally in Tagbilaran in the first district where he addressed loyalty rallies.

President Garcia said today that Senator Rogelio de la Rosa's withdrawal improved his chances of winning the elections.

Commenting on press reports on Sen. De la Rosa's move, President Garcia told newsmen today, "If the reported withdrawal and horse trading are true, it will only drive De la Rosa's men away from the Liberal Party. It can even improve my chances".

The Chief Executive expressed confidence that the withdrawal will not adversely affect his candidacy. If that is true, the President said, then Senator De la Rosa has destroyed and sold himself down the river.

The President today patched up differences between reelectionist Congressman Bartolome Cabangbang and Jose Zafra in the second district of Bohol. The President did so to avoid further possible bloodshed between sympathizers of both candidates.

The Chief Executive also directed the Philippine Constabulary to disarm and disband personal bodyguards of both candidates. He told Cabangbang and Zafra to be extra careful for the reason that whatever happens in Bohol would be a reflection on him.

Cabangbang and Zafra dramatically embraced each other as a sign of forgetting personal differences. Both pledged to conduct their respective poll campaigns devoid of personal attacks.

The President will fly on a commando sortie to Mindanao tomorrow. He is expected in Manila on November 8. The First Lady will return on board the *RPS Lapu-Lapu* and arrive in Manila as scheduled.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: November 5-11, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 5.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived in Cagayan de Oro City shortly before noontime in the first leg of his commando-type campaign aimed at consolidating his strength in Mindanao provinces which are well known to be his political strongholds.

Arriving unannounced, President Garcia immediately plunged into a series of conferences with party leaders. No details of the conferences were released by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

Traveling with the President are Secretary Nable, presidential aides Lcdr. Melchor Fronda and Gerry Palaypay, and Dr. Valentin Fidelino, personal physician.

The Chief Executive took off from his home province, Tagbilaran, Bohol, where he celebrated his 65th birth anniversary yesterday, to consolidate his forces in Mindanao. He arrived in Cagayan de Oro City unannounced although there were reports he was coming here.

Rep. Fausto Dugenio of Cagayan de Oro province met the President and assured him that the withdrawal of Sen. De la Rosa from the race would help the efforts of the Nacionalista Party.

Dugenio predicted that the De la Rosa followers may drift towards the Nacionalista ticket.

President Garcia has scheduled a series of political sorties to "weak" spots in Mindanao in order to consolidate his position in that area.

November 6.—PRESIDENT Garcia today plunged into mere conferences with Nacionalista leaders of Mindanao who came to Cagayan de Oro City after reading news reports that the Chief Executive had flown there yesterday.

The President discussed the political situation with the NP leaders, including the effects of the withdrawal of Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa from the presidential race in favor of Liberal Party presidential candidate Diosdado Macapagal.

An obvious offshoot of De la Rosa's withdrawal was the defection of a disillusioned coordinator of the former movie actor, Norberto Comendador.

Comendador, Identified by Malacañang as chief coordinator of Sen. De la Rosa in Bukidnon, was sworn into the Nacionalista Party by President Garcia.

At the same time, the President today issued a strong statement denouncing De la Rosa's withdrawal from the presidential race in order to favor Vice-President Macapagal.

He recounted De la Rosa's attacks against Macapagal when the former was still running for the presidency as an independent candidate.

"Right here in Cagayan de Oro," the President observed, "De la Rosa coordinators have travelled from different neighboring provinces to express their indignation over what De la Rosa had done to them."

President Garcia arrived in Cagayan de Oro City shortly before noon yesterday on a political "commando mission" to consolidate his forces in Mindanao.

He is staying in Camp Evangelista and had asked his aides to pay ₱3.50 each for their board and lodging. The President, however, did not pay for his board and lodging at the camp, as he is the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces.

The President was scheduled to fly to Davao City, but up to late this evening, no report was available from the Malacañang press office on whether the Chief Executive had reached that southern metropolis. The President did not take Manila newsmen with him to Cagayan de Oro City.

The President has held strategy conferences in Cagayan de Oro with former Agriculture Secretary Cesar Fortich, Gov. Salvador Lluch of Lanao del Norte, and Sen. Domocao Alonto, who arrived with mayors of Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte.

The nature of the conferences was not revealed, but it was announced that the meeting dwelt on plans of strengthening further the President's position in Mindanao and the Visayas which are considered President Garcia's main political bastions.

President Garcia today directed General Isagani Campo to reinforce immediately the Constabulary force in Ilocos Sur to improve peace and order situation in that province.

The President was angered by reports of bloodshed as he adopted definite steps to prevent possible further trouble between warring political factions.

The Chief Executive took occasion to reiterate his appeal to Liberals and Nacionalista alike to conduct their election campaign in a peaceful manner. He strongly advised a more sober conduct of elections.

November 7.—PRESIDENT Garcia today gave permission to his press secretary, Jose C. Nable, to appear before the Commission on Elections to shed light on a charge that Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa was withdrawing from the presidential race for certain considerations.

As a member of the Cabinet has to seek the permission of the President before he could testify before an investigating body.

Secretary Nable, who is at present in Cagayan de Oro City with the President, wired the Commission that the summons was just transmitted to him this afternoon and that it would be physically impossible for him to appear personally before the poll body in tomorrow's hearings. He informed the Commission that he would have to be represented by counsel in the hearings.

In a resolution passed by the Commission on Nov. 6, the poll body had decided to subpoena Secretary Nable and five others to appear before the Commission in tomorrow's hearing. Others who received subpoena were Rafael Yabut of DZBB, Leon O. Ty of the *Free Press*, and the editors of the *Manila Chronicle*, the *Manila Times*, and the *Philippines Herald*.

The President continued his conference with Nacionalista Party provincial and municipal officials the whole day today in last minute strategy moves aimed at consolidating his position in Mindanao which is considered his political bastion.

Among the top officials he met was Liberal Party Mayor Justiniano Borja of Cagayan de Oro City who paid a courtesy call on the President.

Others who conferred with the President included mayors from Lanao del Norte, Bukidnon, Cotabato, and Davao provinces.

In the afternoon the Chief Executive worked on pending state papers he brought along from Manila in this trip.

November 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the Department of Health to rush medicine and other medical needs to four Negros Occidental towns reportedly hit by choleriform-enteritis.

The directive was issued shortly after mayors from Bacolod City, Victorias, Cadiz, and Sagay made representations for medical assistance during a conference with the President in Cagayan de Oro this morning.

The President expressed concern over the health situation in these four towns. He directed health authorities to keep him posted on developments in that province.

The President arrived this afternoon from a successful four-day series of conferences with top Nacionalista Party and provincial and municipal leaders of Visayas and Mindanao provinces.

Making Cagayan de Oro as the base of his top level conferences, the President expressed satisfaction over the results of his meetings which were aimed at consolidating his strength in the provinces which are already tagged as the President's political strongholds.

The President was met at the airport by Mrs. Garcia.

President Garcia enplaned to Cagayan de Oro on November 5 and returned shortly before three o'clock this afternoon. He was accompanied by Press Secretary Nable, presidential aides, Commander Melchor Fronda, Appointments Secretary Gerry Palaypay, and Dr. Valentin Fidelino, his personal physician.

Fresh from his commando mission in Mindanao, the President left Malacañang at 5:15 p.m. to speak before the students and faculty members of the University of the East.

He was met at the university's Recto Avenue gate by school officials headed by President Francisco Dalupan, Vice-President Vicente Albano Pacis, members of the board of trustees, and academic and administrative officials.

After receiving honors from the model platoon of the UE ROTC unit, the President proceeded to the rostrum escorted by his nattily dressed and smart-stepping honor guards.

The President was introduced by President Dalupan.

President Garcia this evening warned that the return of the Liberal Party to power would mean the resurgence of terrorism and the end of democracy in this country.

In his two-hour extemporaneous speech at the November convocation of the faculty and student body of the University of the East at the U.E. quadrangle, the President said that the recent withdrawal of a presidential candidate engineered by the Opposition was a foretaste of things to come should they be back in power.

The President told some 20,000 listeners that he was seeking a fresh mandate not as an act of mercy or kindness but as a reward for the splendid performance of the Nacionalista administration since its founding by President Quezon, President Osmeña, and Rafael Palma in 1907.

The President said people should not listen to destructive criticisms which lead to negative thinking; and dissension being sowed by the Opposition, because nothing enduring or lasting can be achieved by them.

The President today abolished all investigating committees on veterans' pension throughout the country.

In ordering the abolition of the veterans' pension committees, the President, in an executive order, said that the Philippine Veterans' Administration (PVA) was constituted with the sole function of handling all veterans' affairs.

The Veterans' investigating committees were created under Executive Order No. 487 in December 1951 for the purpose of expediting investigations of applicants for pensions with the end in view of determining their rights to benefits under Commonwealth Act. No. 605, as amended by Republic Act No. 539.

The President said that the PVA has eleven regional offices which are strategically located in different parts of the country to handle all veterans' affairs.

Meanwhile, President Garcia transferred the period of the celebration of Business and Professional Women's Week from Oct. 1-7 to November 19-25 this year.

The President moved the period of the celebration, as the Business and Professional Women's Club found it impossible to celebrate the week last month for lack of sufficient time.

November 9.— THIS morning the President received disgruntled coordinators of Senator Rogelio de la Rosa and a large delegation from Lubao, Pampanga, hometown of Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal.

The former De la Rosa coordinators pledged their support to the President at a breakfast conference held in Malacañang. The disgruntled coordinators were headed by Severino N. Luna, national campaign manager of the (RDRPM Rogelio-de-la-Rosa-for-President-Movement).

They were accompanied by former National Defense Undersecretary Jose M. Crisol, Col. Osmundo Mondoñedo, Narciso Pimentel, and Col. Buenaventura Villanueva.

In the afternoon the President met a large delegation from Lubao, Pampanga, hometown of both Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal and Senator De la Rosa.

The delegation headed by former Councilor Francisco Guinto, assured the President they will support him in the coming elections.

With the group were former Mayor Roman Cabiling, Bienvenido Lampa, Fortunate Siazon, Pedro Cabiling, Guillermo Turla, Manuel Macaspac, and Juan Limpin.

President Garcia addressed the Lubao demonstrators who staged an indignation rally at the Malacañang grounds.

After the rally, the President inducted into the Nacionalista Party 27 former officers of the De-La-Rosa-for-President-Movement in La Union, who also pledged their support to the Chief Executive "for the sake of justice and honor to the common masses."

In the evening the President addressed a gathering of the Parents-Teachers Association at the Aurora Elementary School in San Andres district. President Garcia today authorized the Girl Scout of the Philippines (GSP) to conduct a national fund campaign from November 15 to December 31 this year.

In a proclamation he issued this afternoon for the GSP fund drive, the President underscored the role of scouting "in curbing juvenile delinquency" through its program of character building and citizenship training.

He stressed the necessity of expanding girl scouting in the country "to meet the need for trained leadership" among women.

November 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia today conferred with Malacañang and Nacionalista lawyers on the increasing number Liberal Party cases filed against the administration officials as the political campaign switched to the courts.

The Chief Executive took up with Sen. Arturo M. Tolentino and Prof, Enrique M. Fernando, Malacañang lawyer, the ₱1.2 million suit filed by Sen. Rogelio de la Rosa against President Garcia and Press Secretary Jose C. Nable.

During the conference the President gave Nable the go-signal to file a counter-claim of ₱2.2 million and seek, a preliminary attachment of the ₱500,000 the plaintiff senator had allegedly received.

President Garcia today ordered Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco to release immediately the initial amount of ₱100,000 from his contingent fund for the relief of victims of del Sur, yesterday.

In separate directives issued throughy, Assistant Executive Secretary Edilberto B. Gallares, the President also ordered the Social Welfare Administration and other government relief agencies to extend immediate assistance to the fire sufferers.

The President issued the directive upon receipt of official reports on the conflagration from Zamboanga del Sur Gov. Bienvenido Ebarle and Pagadian Mayor Benjamin Arao this morning.

The fire, which is considered to be the worst, to hit Pagadian, razed the town's commercial center causing property losses estimated at millions of pesos and rendering thousands of persons homeless.

This afternoon the President received a resolution from a delegation of young professionals, supporting his re-election bid.

The resolution, bearing more than 200 signatures of young college graduates, was presented to the President by Rosauo C. Benigno, who heads the young professionals group of the Yulo-for-Garcia movement led by Emilio R. Severino, labor leader and former president of the Philippine Trade Unions Council (PTUC).

In presenting the resolution, Benigno assured the President that the Youth of the land would vote for the Chief Executive because "you stand for liberalism and progress in contrast with Vice-President Macapagal's narrow and bigoted views on government and democracy."

The President, after expressing gratitude to the delegation, reiterated his appeal for a clean and orderly election and counselled the Yulo group to conduct their homestretch campaign on a high level.

At the same time the Chief Executive said that with ex-Speaker Yulo and Benigno's followers' support, his (Garcia's) victory this election was made more certain.

Leaders of the Lubao, Pampanga, delegation which pledged support for President Garcia at an indignation rally in Malacañang yesterday reiterated their pledge of support today and added that the statement of Lubao Mayor Dominador Danan denying that bonafide Lubao residents took part in the rally was all "lies."

The leaders of the delegation returned to Malacañang today to refute the denial of the Lubao mayor. Ex-councilor Francisco Guinto and Guillermo Turla, both of Lubao, who were among the delegation leaders, said that all the 71 busses, which were used by the delegation, were filled up in Lubao by *bonafide* residents of the town who were enthusiastic to join the denunciation rally.

November 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia is reported to be in Naga City this morning where he entrained unannounced at 11 o'clock Friday night.

President Garcia's political mission was bared by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, who took along a string of newsmen last night to follow the Chief Executive to Naga City.

No information was available on the President's activities in Naga City, although it was assumed the President conducted a series of conferences with Nacionalista political leaders in an effort to strengthen his position in the Bicol regions.

Although the President was optimistic of topping Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, Liberal Party presidential candidate, in the Bicol regions, it was believed that the Chief Executive will find rough sailing in some Bicol provinces.

The President has devoted the last four days before election day to political conferences to resolve conflicts and step up follow-up campaigns to be able to crystallize pledges of support into votes on Election Day.

The President failed to return to Manila last night to fulfill an engagement at the *miting de avance* on Plaza Miranda.

At press time last night, the President was still reported in the midst of political conferences in Naga City. Aytona had asked the President to visit Bicolandia anew in order to strengthen his political forces there.

From Naga City, the President is scheduled to fly tomorrow afternoon to Bacolod City where he has slated political conferences.

From Bacolod City, the President may fly to other places for final conferences before proceeding to Tagbilaran, Bohol, where he will cast his vote on Election Day.

Source: University of the Philippines, College of Law Library

President's Week in Review: November 12-18, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived in Dumaguete shortly before noon today and plunged into a series of conferences with provincial, municipal, and party officials in the first leg of "Operations Victory." The commando-type campaign is designed to give the President landslide majorities in the Visayas and Mindanao.

Accompanying the President are Press Secretary Jose C. Nable, Major Jose Estrella and Dr. Valentin Fidelino, the President's personal physician.

The Chief Executive tool off from Naga City where he had entrained unannounced Friday night.

He stayed two days in Naga City meeting with political leaders of the administration party for last-minute instructions to insure a comfortable margin of victory in the coming elections.

The President heard a Sunday mass in Pili, Camarines Sur, and good-humoredly remarked to local and foreign newsmen that his attending mass in that town was a good omen. He reasoned that "Pili" means "chosen," President Garcia, upon his arrival yesterday morning in Naga City, started a series of political huddles. He was accompanied by Finance Secretary Dominador R. Aytona and former Sen. Edmundo Cea.

Cea assured the President he would garner no less than 55 per cent of the total number of votes in all the Bicol provinces.

These assurances gave the President optimism and told newsmen in Naga that he would carry heavy-voting Bicolandia with ten per cent margin over Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal.

President Garcia stayed aboard the presidential train where he spent the night. He also conducted his political conferences aboard the train.

After the mass the President had a breakfast press conference with local and foreign newsmen.

The foreign newsmen who arrived in Manila the other day to "cover" the presidential elections, entrained for Naga Saturday night to meet the President. They were supposed to meet the President at a press conference in Malacañang Saturday afternoon. However, the President's decision to stay in Naga City for more plans. Instead, the foreign correspondents were ferried to Naga City.

It was the first formal press conference presided over by the President in many months.

November 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia arrived in Tagbilaran, Bohol, by plane at 9 a.m. today from Bacolod, where he spoke before a record crowd comparable only to that which the late President Magsaysay drew in 1954.

The President returned highly confident of getting a majority of not less than 135,000 in Negros Islands, where he conferred with party men of both provinces.

The Chief Executive will cast his vote in Tagbilaran at the Central School, in Precinct No. 3-A, where he has voted all his life, except in 1957 when a severe typhoon prevented his going there from Manila. He votes in the first congressional district of Bohol.

He spent the whole day in a tour of the towns of the first district accompanied by Gov. Esteban Bernido. The President advised party leaders and candidates to return to their respective provinces and spend the last remaining hours before election in their respective strongholds.

President Garcia arrived in Bohol unannounced, getting local residents completely surprised. When news of his arrival spread, people flocked to his home to get a glimpse of the hometown boy who made good.

November 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia cast his vote at 8:25 this morning in Precinct 3-A, housed in the Tagbilaran Central School.

In an unscheduled press conference before breakfast this morning in his home, President Garcia was optimistic about his victory which he forecast to be from the minimum majority of Macapagal.

In Bohol alone, Garcia said he expected to snow under Macapagal by at least 100,000 majority votes.

President Garcia said until late last congressional districts confirming his overwhelming majority over Macapagal. He singled out the report from Rep. Justiniano S. Montano, who reported an expected 65 per cent turnout for the Chief Executive in Cavite province.

After voting President Garcia motored to Loon, last town in Bohol's first congressional district.

He expects to stay there overnight to await early poll returns from Mindanao and the Visayas, stating that Tagbilaran is the center of communications for both regions.

The President was up at six o'clock this morning after a restful night, the first good rest he has had since the start of his hectic campaign. He went over poll predictions and reports sent to him by all congressional aspirants before retiring shortly before midnight.

The President, after visiting several polling places in Tagbilaran and several others in the first district of Bohol, expressed satisfaction over the peaceful and orderly manner in which the people exercised their right of suffrage.

The First Lady who had arrived earlier at 3 a.m. aboard the *RBS Lapu-Lapu* went to church, had breakfast with the President, and then motored to Talibon to cast her ballot.

The President on the other hand motored to Calape, some 42 kilometers away, passing through the towns of Cortes, Maribojoc, La Paz, and Loon.

At Maribojoc the President received assurances from Mayor Jacinto Robillar that even the Liberals are voting for him and that Macapagal will get zero in some precincts. There he also met with NARIC Manager Jose V. Rodriguez, who briefed him on the Cebu political situation.

At Cortes the President dropped in at the GI roofing plant of the Southern Industrial Project to witness actual operations in the manufacture of corrugated Iron roofing.

The President also visited polling places in Sto. Niño, Bas-Dacu, La Paz Central School, and Pundol in Loon.

After luncheon at Dr. Cipriano Garcia at Calape, the President motored back to Tagbilaran, arriving at his residence at past 1 p.m.

The President later in the afternoon motored to Loay and other neighboring towns in the second district to observe election proceedings.

The President earlier revealed he would stay in Bohol until Thursday so that he can be informed of the latest political developments, particularly election trends in the Visayas and Mindanao.

November 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia and the First Lady spent the whole day today at their residence, in Tagbilaran, Bohol, where they awaited reports about the results of yesterday's national elections, from Nacionalista leaders and supporter a all over the country.

The President was up at 6 a.m. and .heard mass at the century-old church of the town before he resumed poring over reports of election returns relayed to him from Manila.

The Chief Executive shad decided to delay indefinitely his return to Manila to enable him to observe voting trends in the Visayas and Mindanao. He was to have sailed for the capital city aboard the presidential yacht *RPS Lapu-Lapu* this afternoon en route to Baguio for a much-needed post-election rest.

A spokesman said the Chief Executive remained composed and went about his chores unperturbed by reports giving his opponent, Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal, a wide lead in the unofficial tally of votes cast for presidential candidates.

In the afternoon the President received Rep. Bartolome Cabangbang, victorious NP reelectionist candidate in the second district, who informed him of his plan to seek an investigation by the Commission on Elections of alleged discrepancies in the tabulation of votes cast for presidential and vice-presidential candidates by "Operations Quick Count."

The OQC tally, according to Cabangbang, reflected a difference of 350,000 votes between the sum totals of votes cast for presidential candidates on one hand, and vice-presidential bets, on the other.

November 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Manila late last night after a night flight from Tagbilaran, Bohol.

With the President were Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Valentin Fidelino, Rep. Bartolome C. Cabangbang, Major Jose Estrella, presidential aide, and Major Abdinago Ortiz, chief of the presidential security.

President Garcia literally "slipped" out of Tagbilaran, where he voted last Tuesday and stayed there for two days to await early returns. He left for Manila in order to be able to check on election figures following discovery of an alleged discrepancy in the returns of the Operations Quick Count.

Mrs. Leonila D. Garcia Stayed behind, but left for Manila this morning aboard the presidential *FokkerFriendship* plane.

The presidential yacht *Lapu-Lapu*, which took the First Lady and Manila newsmen to Tagbilaran, was virtually deserted and sailed practically without any passenger to Manila yesterday afternoon.

In Manila, Malacañang imposed a blackout on the activities of the Chief Executive. He was reported to have motored to the Manila South Cemetery to pay tribute to the late President Quirino in connection with the latter's birth anniversary.

Malacañang would neither confirm nor deny this report. The Malacañang press office said that k "complete blackout" has been thrown around the President's activities.

Other sources, however, said the President conferred with Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez and Senator Gil J. Puyat, NP vice-presidential candidate. No report was also available on this conference.

President Garcia flew back to Tagbilaran this afternoon after a few hours stay in Manila.

Nable said that the president then decided to return to Tagbilaran where he will rest from the rigors of the campaign and await final election results.

President Garcia left unexpectedly for Tagbilaran aboard the *Fokker* presidential plane at 6 o'clock this afternoon. He took off unexpectedly with his aides, leaving Nable behind.

November 17.—PRESIDENT Garcia today rested in his bedroom at his private residence in Tagbilaran, Bohol.

He received some callers who listened with him to radio announcements on the tabulation of election returns.

During the noon hour, President Garcia huddled with Gov. Esteban Bernido, Rep. Bartolome C. Cabangbang, former Civil Aeronautics Administrator Urbano Caldoza, Pasay City Police Chief Basilio Pineda, Jose Bernaldez, and other political leaders in Bohol.

The President said he is resting in his home province while waiting for final election returns.

He fumed over reports that in his plane the other night which brought him to Tagbilaran were pallet boxes. He said the report was "crazy."

The President flew to Tagbilaran last night aboard the presidential *Fokker Friendship* plane. With him were Lcdr. Melchor Fronda, his naval aide, and other security officers.

In the morning the President closeted himself alone in his bedroom except for his naval aide and his presidential assistant, Leoncio Piquero, who took turns in bringing him the latest reports and messages on the election returns.

President Garcia dictated congratulatory messages to congressional winners like Rodolfo Ganzon of Iloilo City and Salidapa Pendatum of Cotabato.

November 18.—PRESIDENT Garcia returned to Manila at 10:30 this morning and surprised newsmen with an announcement he was not conceding the election of Vice-President Macapagal, his Liberal Party rival.

Everything was set for President Garcia's concession the previous day. Vice-President Macapagal had issued an embargoed statement for publication in such an event.

But when the President landed aboard the presidential *Fokker Friendship* plane he was surprised to find newsmen waiting for him at the Nichols Airbase.

He had always flown secretly to and from Tagbilaran, Bohol, and Manila.

The President told newsmen he was surprised to find them. "How are you boys?" he greeted them.

"How was the trip?" the newsmen countered.

The exchange of pleasantries finally developed into a planeside interview.

"I am not conceding," the President said.

Newsmen had expected him to acknowledge his defeat in the face of the big advantage piled up by Vice-President Macapagal in tabulations of the Operations Quick Count and of the Commission on Elections.

While his vice-presidential running mate had conceded not only his defeat but impliedly acknowledge Vice-President Macapagal's victory, the President was still in the thick of the fight.

He told newsmen that he was going to ask the Commission on Elections to tabulate the official returns and not the telegraphic reports of the board of inspectors.

He said he was seeking justice, adding that he was informed of discrepancy in the telegraphic reports of boards of inspectors and the actual returns of the board of canvassers.

With the President today were Gov. Esteban Bernido of Bohol, Rep. Bartolome C. Cabangbang, Niño Ramirez, Pasay City Police Chief Basilio Pineda, Lcdr. Melchor Fronda, and Dr. Antonio Guytingco.

The President was met by Press Secretary Jose C. Nable and newsmen, and by Brig. Gen. Pedro Q. Molina, chief of the Philippine Air Force.

Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez was also on hand and conferred briefly with the Chief Executive.

The President saw Malacañang officials including Assistant Executive Secretary Mariano R. Logarta, who was director of propaganda of the Nacionalista Party in the last elections.

In the evening the Chief Executive saw Nable and explained to him his plan of seeking a review of the Comelec returns.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: November 19-25, 1961

OFFICIAL WEEK IN REVIEW

November 19.—PRESIDENT Garcia stayed in Malacañang the whole day this day and received a few callers, friends whose hopes have been buoyed anew by the Chief Executive's fighting statement yesterday: "The fight is not yet over."

President Garcia, defeated by two unofficial counts, chatted with some friends, some Nacionalista leaders, who saw him in the Palace. He explained his views that he would not let down more than three million voters who had supported and voted for him with a concession of defeat on the basis of unofficial returns.

The President hit President-elect Macapagal for announcing his program of government even before he had conceded defeat and before the Commission on Elections had finished counting the official returns as certified to by the boards of inspectors.

Vice-President Macapagal had announced appointments to the Cabinet and even announced he would call Congress to a special session on January 2.

"Why is he (Macapagal) in a hurry?" the President asked his friends.

He previously branded Vice-President Macapagal's appointments and choice of men, including valets, "premature."

The President spent the day with the First Lady and his son-in-law, Fernando Campos, who had been reported to have lost but was also hoping to offset the votes of Rep. Justiniano S. Montano of Cavite.

November 20.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning directed the Social Welfare Administration to rush relief goods to Butuan City families who had been rendered homeless following a ₱1 million fire that broke out yesterday in that city.

The Chief Executive issued the directive upon the receipt of report that at least four persons died, 14 business establishments razed to the ground, 25 families rendered homeless as a result of the two-hour conflagration.

SWA Administrator Amparo P. Villamor in compliance with the presidential directive immediately wired the Butuan City SWA agency to give the necessary assistance and instructed them to render a complete report on the extent of the damage so that the requirements of the 25 families could be determined as early as possible.

The President today followed a regular schedule at Malacañang and started receiving callers.

First caller was Per G. Stahl, president of the Lions International, who was accompanied by Judge Antonio Quirino, governor of Lions District 301-A; Mike Campos, president of the Manila Lions Club; and Mariano Miranda, chairman of Lions District 301-A.

A group of NP political leaders called on the President to point out certain "clerical errors" committed in the transmission of election returns.

Gov. Constantino Navarro and Rep. Reynaldo Honrado of Surigao del Sur told the President that, contrary to news items published in the metropolitan papers, the Chief Executive had won in their province by about 5,000 votes. In Surigao del Norte, both added, President Garcia also won by about the same margin.

The President also pointed out a glaring "clerical errors" committed in one precinct in Calamba, Laguna, where he was credited with only 10 votes but it was found out later that he won in the precinct.

He also underscored the discrepancy of about 14,000 votes in Iloilo which favored his political opponent, as well as the report he received from Rep. Dominador Tan of Leyte of a Garcia win in his district alone of about 18,000, but Comelec figures show he garnered a majority of only 8,000 votes.

Rep. Mercado of Bulacan also reported that in one precinct in Obando another “clerical error” was committed in favor of Macapagal.

President Garcia grieved over the accusation of the opposition that he has a plot to commit a fraud and change the official returns of the election in his favor.

He said: “My public record shows that I have never cheated in any election. If I have not yet conceded, it is because I am waiting for the actual canvass of the official election returns which will be done by the Commission on Elections a few days from now.

“I sincerely believe that telegraphic returns should not be the basis of an official proclamation by the Commission on Elections of the winner. It was invoked that Yulo conceded in 1957 on the basis of telegraphic returns. If he did, it is because he did not find any discrepancies in the telegraphic election returns because I conducted the elections in a very clean way. I repeat, I would rather go down in defeat than win in a fraudulent election. I wish this to be the attitude of the opposition.”

Other presidential callers were James E. Warner of the New York Herald-Tribune and Don Ludlow of the London Daily Mirror, who were accompanied by A. L. Valencia.

November 21.—PRESIDENT Garcia continued to be swamped the whole day today with reports throughout the country supporting the charge that glaring errors were committed in the reporting of presidential and vice-presidential election returns by telegraphic messages to the Commission on Elections.

Simultaneously, a Malacañang spokesman emphasized that President Garcia did not question the integrity and honor of the election commissioners.

The President pointed out that what had been sought by Malacañang was clarification of errors committed in the reporting of election returns by telegrams. Malicious and deliberate tampering of these messages to the Commission is possible, it was stated.

Presidential comments were based on reports appearing in afternoon papers quoting Commission officials as stating that tampering of telegrams to the Commission was impossible.

On the contrary, the President has every respect for the law, the spokesman emphasized. The President has never cheated nor even contemplated cheating in elections in his entire 36 years of public life, it was added.

What has been merely asked from the Commission is for that body to look into the glaring errors committed while reporting the election returns by telegrams to the Commission, it was stated.

President Garcia had earlier turned over for verification to the Commission conflicting poll reports in Malitbog, Leyte, Jagna, Bohol, and Cebu City which showed that he lost while the official count reported the President as having won.

This morning the President received Richard W. Reuter, executive director of the Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere, Inc. (CARE), who informed him that the community development program of the Philippine government is so effective that “CARE men learn a great deal here,”

Reuter, accompanied in his visit to Malacañang by Robert Linder, local CARE head, also reported on the development of the CARE school lunch program in the country which benefits approximately 3 million students in 23,000 schools in the country.

The President was informed that CARE representatives from six Asian countries are studying in Los Baños the community development course offered by the Presidential Assistant on Community Development.

Reuter expressed the conviction that what CARE personnel can learn here about community development can be of some major use in other Asian countries.

George F. Getty II, president of the Tidewater Oil Company, also called on the President. In his courtesy call, the Tidewater executive was accompanied by W. F. Hagans and C. H. Penson, managing director and public relations manager, respectively of the local Tidewater office.

November 22.—THIS evening the President welcomed the announcement by the Commission on Elections that it will start tabulating official election returns Friday and attempt, to complete the count in 10 days.

At the same time, the President received more reports from Nacionalista field men supporting the claim that errors had been committed in reporting election returns by telegraphic messages to the Commission on Elections and Operations Quick Count.

In hailing the announcement of the Commission on Elections for speedy count of election returns beginning Friday, President Garcia emphasized that this would serve to clarify the confusion that has caused by erroneous reporting by telegraphic messages.

President Garcia said it was the duty of all parties concerned to keep the entire people informed on the conduct of the elections just held.

He took occasion to reiterate his position that he has never doubted the integrity nor the honor of the election commissioners.

What was merely being sought was a clarification of the errors committed by telegraphic messages sent to the Commission on Elections and OQC, he said.

The President also disabused the public's mind from malicious insinuations by certain opposition quarters of alleged attempts by the NP to tamper with the official election returns.

He stressed that he never cheated in his 36 years in the public service nor in any election, and that the reason for his refusal to concede the victory of Vice-President Macapagal at this time was that he was waiting for the official final count of the Commission on Elections.

The President said his decision was influenced by the discovery of glaring discrepancies found in telegraphic messages to the Commission on Elections and to the OQC.

The President also received this evening the unconditional support of seven Manila councilors who called on him in Malacañang.

Councilors Gomez, Gatmaitan, Cruz, Yuseco, Remigio, Cabigao, and Alday told the President they would stay by him through thick and thin.

President Garcia today gave the green light to Ambassador Carlos P. Romulo to visit officially Taipei and South Korea.

Ambassador Romulo could not say his date of departure but revealed that his trip to Taipei was on a personal invitation by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and by Chairman Pak of the National Reconstruction Government of South Korea.

Romulo said both invitations extended to him were made in his capacity as former President of the United Nations General Assembly.

The President was closeted with Romulo for about half an hour.

November 23.—EARLY this morning President Garcia alerted the Social Welfare Administration in the wake of reports received from the Office of the President that heavy damage to life and property is expected as a result of the last typhoon.

The Chief Executive issued the alert order following an early conference with PCAPE Vice-Chairman Maximo Maceren, who briefed him on the extent of damages as gleaned from reports received from provincial executives that wired the committee for assistance.

The President also directed the SWA to give assistance to victims of a dawn fire in Gumaca, Quezon, which reportedly, razed 50 residential and commercial buildings, in the municipality.

Estimated loss was placed at ₱1 million with no casualty reported.

Malacañang announced today the new composition of the Board of Examiners which will conduct the medical examinations on November 29.

Appointed members of the new board were Drs. Jesus Delgado, Carmelo Jacinto, and Pablo Nañagas. They replaced Drs. Antonio Guytingco, Edgardo Caparas, and Cesar Filoteo, who had served for two years last November 17.

The reappointed members were Drs. Ricardo Juico, Valentin Fidelino, and Estelito Madrid.

Under the Medical Act of 1959, a member of the Board of Medical Examiners serves for a term of one year. He may be reappointed for a term of another year but may not serve more than two years.

This evening the President said the Nacionalista Party will not surrender to the Liberals under any terms and conditions.

With this statement, the Nacionalistas virtually slammed the door shut against the proposal made by the Liberals for an *entente cordiale* in both chambers of Congress.

The Nacionalistas will stand together and closely, the President stressed. This was a reiteration of party unity by the President.

Earlier, a caucus of NP congressmen rejected outright a proposal sponsored by the Liberals for an *entente cordiale* between the Nacionalista and Liberal solons in Congress.

In the same caucus the congressmen adopted the pose of acting as a party and not as individuals.

President Garcia said he was not attending a caucus of Nacionalista senators scheduled for this evening.

The Chief Executive also took occasion to reiterate his praise of the Commission on Elections' determination to start count on presidential and vice-presidential election returns, and try, to complete the count in 10 days.

President Garcia said this tally by the Commission should clear the confusion that has been raised among the people, Nacionalistas and Liberals alike, caused by errors committed in transmitting election returns through telegraphic messages to the Commission on Elections and Operations Quick Count.

He said the government machinery will cooperate fully with whatever needs the Commission may have in its forthcoming task.

November 24.—PRESIDENT Garcia today stayed in Malacañang where he received intimate friends and relatives who consulted him on political developments.

He insisted he was still awaiting the final canvass of the official poll returns by the Commission on Elections. He stated that “the fight is not yet over.”

The President stayed in Malacañang where he was in a better position to receive reports of developments at the Commission on Elections which started the canvassing of official election returns. He had previously disputed the authenticity of returns sent through the wire.

The poll body did not release its latest tabulations, but the President was hopeful that the final tabulation would show some disparity between the figures of the Operations Quick Count and those of the Comelec.

In his talks with his relatives the President asserted that whatever would be the outcome of the Comelec’s figures, he would seek to strengthen the Nacionalista Party and make it an effective political group. He said he would only concede his defeat if he is convinced by official figures as counted by the Comelec.

President Garcia also took occasion to hit President-elect Diosdado Macapagal for his pronouncements and program of government even before the Comelec has completed the tabulation of poll returns.

November 25.—FOR the second consecutive day President Garcia stayed in Malacañang working on state papers which had piled up since before the elections. He went over pending appointments in preparation for the go-signal to fill up existing vacancies in the judiciary and other positions in the government.

The Malacañang press office said that there were no listed callers of the President.

It was learned, however, that a congressional committee saw the President early this evening to transmit the decision of the NP solons for a special session.

Those who were reported to have seen the President were Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez and Reps. Dominador Tan, Vicente Peralta, and Salipada Pendatun.

Other politicians were reported to have seen the Chief Executive and discussed with him the political developments, including possible accommodations of their proteges in some vacancies.

The President also took up the latest trends in the tabulation of official returns by the Commission on Elections.

Although the Comelec has not announced the results of their day-to-day countings, Malacañang men have been posted with the Commission to follow the official tabulations of electoral countings.

The President is banking on these tabulations on a final judgment of his political career.

From unofficial tabulations, the President appeared to have gotten the short end of the countings. However, the President said he had uncovered “clerical errors” which had tainted the authenticity of these tabulations.

Source: **University of the Philippines, College of Law Library**

President's Week in Review: November 26, 1961

President Garcia spent his day liesurely and played three rounds of billiards in Malacañang with his military aide, Major Jose Estrella. Major Estrella reported that the President seemed to have had a bad day and lost the match. It was learned that the President usually beat Major Estrella but President Garcia's game was said to be terribly bad.

President's Week in Review: November 30, 1961

President Garcia today observed Bonifacio Day in his bedroom and imposed a blackout on all his activities. Minister Manuel G. Zamora, Malacañang Protocol Officer, placed a wreath on behalf of the President at Bonifacio's monument in Balintawak...

President's Week in Review: November 26-30, 1961

Official Week in Review: December 3 – December 9, 1961

December 3.—PRESIDENT Garcia today directed the Department of Health to submit to him a report on Choleraform Enteritis cases all over the country.

The Chief Executive issued the directive owing to persistent reports that the death tolls in some provinces, particularly in Samar and Romblon, had reached alarming proportions.

The President wanted to find out what measures had already been adopted to check the spread of the disease and that steps need to be taken to insure its eventual eradication.

Early in the morning the Chief Executive went to Malacañang Golf Club where he played a foursome with his physicians, Drs. Antonio Guytingco and Valentin Fidelino, and Constancio Leuterio.

Then together with Mrs. Garcia daughter Linda Garcia Campos, and son-in-law Fernando Campos, the President heard mass at the Malacañang chapel.

Later in the day the Chief Executive retired to his bedroom where he spent the whole day working on pending state papers brought to him by Assistant Executive Secretary Edilberto B. Gallares.

December 4.—PRESIDENT Garcia today conferred with Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez in Malacañang to discuss further Nacionalista solons' plan of calling the Fourth Congress to a special sessions before the year's end.

The President had previously conferred with the Council of Leaders in a four-hour meeting in Malacañang but he failed to arrive at a definite decision on the matter. There were dissenting voices from some NP senators and congressmen which appeared to have wrecked the plans.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable announced this evening the President's meeting with Speaker Romualdez. However, Nable did not divulge the subjects taken up at the conference. Nable speculated the President and Romualdez discussed further the special session plans and took up with the President the dissenting voices in the House of Representatives.

In view of this meeting with Speaker Romualdez, the President directed Chairman Jose C. Locsin of the National Economic Council to represent him at the Jose Rizal Centennial Congress which opened this day.

Before leaving for a medical check-up at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, Secretary Nable spiked reports the President conferred with Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias. Nable said the President met Romualdez alone today. He said the Chief Executive had already sounded out the views of the Senate majority floor leader last week.

This evening the President welcomed some 100 delegates to the First International Congress on Rizal and expressed gratitude for their interest in perpetuating the life and teachings of Dr. Jose Rizal.

The delegates, some 70 of them coming from 18 foreign countries, came to pay their respects to the Chief Executive at Malacañang.

They are attending the First International Congress on Rizal being held in Manila from December 1-8, 1961, as part of the Rizal Centennial celebration.

In expressing deep appreciation and gratitude for their interest in Rizal, the Chief Executive told the foreign delegates that he felt proud that the Filipino race had produced a son like Rizal whose thoughts, ideas, and ideals have produced things that contribute to a better civilization.

“He was a man whose life was dedicated to the service of his country, ever in search of freedom and liberty; a man who preached peace and whose ideas were for world understanding,” the President emphasized.

Among those who paid their respects to the President were: Frau Imtraud von Webber, granddaughter of Dr. Ferdinand Blumentritt, Rizal’s close friend, from Austria; Harald Brokenshire of Australia; Wang The Chao Weber of Germany; Buddhadeva Bose of India; Rosehan Anwar of Indonesia; Prof. S. Horwitz of Israel; Baron Rodolfo W. de Negerdi S. Pietro of M. Montañes, and Leopoldo Zea of Mexico; Dr. C. C. Berg of Netherlands; and Segismundo Royo Villanueva of Spain; Prince Prem Purachatra of Thailand; Charles R. Boxer, Dr. R. A. Skelton, and Austin Coates of the United Kingdom; Dr. Frank C. Laubach, Marguerite J. Fisher, Ruth Lapham Butler, Luther Evans, and Lena Dizenga of the U.S.; and Don Salvador Madariaga, delegate at large.

The foreign delegates were accompanied to Malacañang by local Rizalists by R. Jose C. Locsin, president of the congress; Dean Conrado Benitez, chairman on social science; Ambassador Pedro Hernandez; U.P. President Vicente Sinco; Dr. Antonio Isidro. A. M. Abad; and many others.

December 5.—PRESIDENT GARCIA cancelled all his appointment except that of Msgr. Salvatore, papal nuncio, who paid a social call at Malacañang.

The Chief Executive was reported indisposed and on the advice of his physician, Dr. Antonio Guytingco, stayed in his bedroom after receiving the papal nuncio.

Many callers went to Malacañang to see the Chief Executive to talk him into calling a special session.

Many senators and congressmen were seen at Manila waiting for a chance to see the Chief Executive. Among them was reparations Commissioner Juan Alberto.

The callers were told the President was indisposed. Dr. Guytingco did not specify the President’s ailment.

December 6.—THE President stayed at the Palace the whole morning. It was learned from informed sources that the Chief Executive conferred with the Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez. During the conference the President was reported to have said he was not appointing justices and judges during the remaining days of the year and would not call a special session of Congress.

The President was also quoted as saying that he was still optimistic the official returns of the Commission on Elections would tilt in his favor.

The evening the President presided over the second regular meeting of his Cabinet after the November 14 elections.

The President took up the proposed sale of the textile mill of the National Development Company which was stopped by a Manila court injunction.

Up to press time the President and the Cabinet had not yet arrived at a definite decision on the sale owing to the court decree restraining the NDC from disposing of its textile mills and the two adjoining lots.

December 7.—THIS morning the President received many unlisted callers to whom he intimated his plans to check on the elections returns of the Commission on Elections.

The President was reported to have formed a ten-man committee to check on the official poll returns of the Comelec.

Although the President was still optimistic, he gave the impression he was going to contest of President-elect Macapagal.

This evening the President honored with a state dinner in Malacañang, United States Ambassador John D. Hickerson who is leaving tomorrow for home.

Ambassador Hickerson resigned as U.S. envoy to the Philippines shortly before the election raising speculations that it had something to do with the local polls.

Hickerson said that upon his return to the United States he will retire to private life. He has been in the U.S. foreign service as a career diplomat. He was a hold-over ambassador from the US Republican administration.

Among those invited were members of the diplomatic corps headed by Mons. Salvatore Siino, apostolic nuncio and dean of the diplomatic corps; members of the Cabinet headed by Secretary Felixberto Serrano of Foreign Affairs, other high officials of the Philippine government, and various United States agencies in the Philippines.

December 8.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent the whole day today in Malacañang and received a limited number of callers.

Gov. Godofredo Reyes of Ilocos Sur was among those identified by Malacañang to have seen the President. Reyes discussed with the Chief Executive the political situation and explained the result of the last elections in his province.

Earlier the President played a game of billiards with his aide, Jose Vasquez. Malacañang said the President played a number of games and was steadily picking up in this sport.

After a few rounds at the billiard table, the President worked on pending state papers with Assistant Executive Secretary Edilberto Gallares. He stayed with Secretary Gallares until late this afternoon.

Early in the morning the President and the First Lady heard mass at the Malacañang chapel on the occasion of the Feast day of the Immaculate Concepcion.

December 9.—THE President today received Gov. Feliciano Leviste of Batangas, who plugged for former, Speaker Jose B. Laurel for the speakership of the House of Representatives of the Fifth Congress.

Young Laurel won back his seat last elections in the third congressional district of Batangas. He has challenged the leadership the House Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez.

Reps. Vicente Peralta of Sorsogon and Salipada Pendatun of Cotabato also called on the President and discussed political developments.

They took up with the Chief Executive plans for calling the Fourth Congress to a special session and the possible appointment of judges before the expiration of President Garcia's four-year term in Malacañang on December 30.

After receiving these callers, the President worked on pending state papers with Assistant Executive Secretary Edilberto B. Gallares. They worked until late in the afternoon.

This evening the President received Sen. Lorenzo M. Tañada, who took up with him problems facing Quezon province. The President exchanged views with the Quezon Senator on problems facing the Senate where the ranks of Nacionalista senators were reportedly rocked with disunity.

Source: Supreme Court Library

Official Week in Review: December 10 – December 16, 1961

December 10.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent this day quietly. In the morning he heard a Sunday mass at the Malacañang chapel with the members of his family.

After the mass the President had breakfast with the members of his family. He virtually lost his appetite when he was informed of a press report to the effect that he was preparing to concede his defeat.

Irrked by the news report, the President issued a statement to the press denying the story that he was conceding today.

“No amount of prodding will make me change my decision,” he said.

President Garcia explained that he was still waiting the results of the tabulation by the Commission on Elections of written poll returns.

In the afternoon the President sat down with Assistant Executive Secretary Edilberto B. Gallares and resumed working on pending state papers.

The Chief Executive indicated he wanted to clear his desk of the pile of pending stat papers before the end of the year.

December 11.—PRESIDENT Garcia was besieged by Nacionalista leaders from both the Senate and the House of Representatives the whole day today as excitement heightened over the joint session to be convoked tomorrow to canvass the returns in the presidential elections last November 14.

While Malacañang early yesterday did not identify the President’s callers, it was learned that Speaker Daniel Z. Romualdez headed the morning visitors.

Other House leaders who were seen to have entered the President’s room were Reps. Jose Aldeguer, Nicanor Yñiguez, Eladio Balite, and Emilio Cortez.

Senate Majority Floor Leader Cipriano Primicias was also reported to have conferred with the President.

No announcement was available from Malacañang on the topics taken at the meeting.

It was hinted, however, that the Congress leaders consulted the Chief Executive, who is the titular head of the NP, on the special joint session of Congress tomorrow to canvass the election returns and the possibility that President-elect Macapagal may be proclaimed.

In the afternoon the President met some NP senators at a *merienda* and discussed plans for the coming special joint session of Congress tomorrow.

Although no details were made available to the press at press time, it was learned that the President was being persuaded to concede his defeat.

As the conference was still being held at press time in the evening, Malacañang did not identify the senators who saw the Chief Executive.

The President today personally directed health department officials to rush vaccines and medical personnel to Lanao del Sur to counteract the reported outbreak of choleriform enteritis in the province.

The President acted immediately upon receiving reports from provincial officials of Lanao del Sur. Sen. Domocao Alonto also made personal representations with the Malacañang on the rushing of vaccines and medical personnel to the province.

The President placed the Philippine Air Force planes under the disposal of the health department to airlift the medicine and personnel.

December 12.—PRESIDENT Garcia spent the whole day today watching special session proceedings in Congress on television.

The Chief Executive had sent Congress a letter denouncing alleged irregularities in some 2,000 precincts which, he said, he vitiated the will of the people in the choice of their national officials.

The President also received some solons who consulted him anew on plans to scrutinize minutely the returns. Among those who saw the President was former Executive Secretary Natalio P. Castillo, who presented the case of the President before the congressional canvass committee.

Castillo informed the President on his 30-minute presentation of documents to substantiate President Garcia's charges that irregularities were committed in some precincts. The President appeared pleased with the progress of the special session proceedings.

President Garcia today presented a plaque to the William Howard Taft Memorial Association "as a token of affection" of the Filipino people to the late United States President and first Civil Governor of the Philippines "whose policy of administration was *The Philippines for the Filipinos*."

The plaque was presented by Acting Executive Secretary Edilberto B. Gallares to the late American President's son, Charles P. Taft, who is also the president of the Association.

In receiving the plaque, the younger Taft expressed appreciation of the "interest and concern of the Philippines in the services" of the American Civil Governor to the Filipino people, who also served as the president of the Second Philippine Commission.

According to young Taft, the plaque will be used as a historical marker on the house in Mt. Auburn, Cincinnati, where President Taft was born.

December 13.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning conferred the Golden Heart Presidential Award upon Emilio Aguinaldo, Jr., of Binakayan, Kawit, Cavite, "in deep appreciation of his generosity" for having donated to the Philippine government 50 hectares of land proposed as a military site in Cavite for Philippine Army.

The Presidential Award was, likewise, conferred upon Aguinaldo, Jr., by the President "in recognition of his wholehearted cooperation in numerous operations and projects" designed to promote peace and order within the province.

The conferment of the award was made by Acting Executive Secretary Edilberto B. Gallares on behalf of President Garcia.

In his citation the President gratefully acknowledged Aguinaldo's "altruism, civic spirit, and personal dedication towards the promotion of the welfare of the masses in the rural areas as manifested by his desire to contribute what he could and to help in every way possible within his sphere of influence for the social uplift and progress of the community."

President during the awarding ceremony held at Malacañang this morning were the awardee's children Alice, Aquiles, and Consuelo; Col. Harry Lambert of the U.S. Army; Mr. & Mrs. Amando Mirasol; Counselor T. Hayasi of the Embassy of Japan; and Manuel Villarreal.

The President received today Susanta de Fonseka, Ceylonese minister. Malacañang said it was purely a courtesy visit.

The President also watched on televisions special session proceedings in Congress where his charges of election frauds delayed the proclamation of Vice-President Diosdado Macapagal as the President-elect.

This evening the President presided over the regular meeting of the Cabinet which took up routinary questions, including the proposed sale of government shares in the Manila Gas Corporation to the members of the Manila Gas Savings and Loan Association.

The President had previously endorsed in principle the sale of the government shares in the Manila Gas Corporation but the Cabinet withheld approval pending a study of the legal questions involved.

The President said he wanted to dispose of pending problems with the Cabinet before the end of the year.

December 14.—PRESIDENT Garcia received some callers this morning after a protracted battle challenging the validity of election returns which gave him the short end of the last presidential elections.

Malacañang did not identify the callers who saw the Chief Executive but it was hinted that they were political leaders known to be close to President Garcia.

The President virtually conceded his defeat by congratulating President-elect Diosdado Macapagal and Vice-President-elect Emmanuel Pelaez.

Following his message of congratulations, the President named the members of a presidential committee which will take charge of the inauguration of the President-elect and Vice-President-elect on December 30.

President Garcia today created a committee to take charge of the inauguration of the President-elect and Vice-President-elect of the Philippines to be held on December 30.

The Presidential committee is empowered to call upon any department, bureau, office, agency, or instrumentality of the Government for such assistance as it may need, and may create such sub-committees as may be needed for the purpose of discharging its functions.

Appointed to the committee are Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona and Sen. Ferdinand E. Marcos, co-chairman; Sen. Arturo M. Tolentino and Estanislao Fernandez, Budget Commissioner Faustino Sy-Changco, Fernando E. V. Sison, Reps. Vicente Peralta, and Gerardo Roxas, Mayor Arsenio H. Lacson, Tarlac Gov. Benigno Aquino, Jr., Acting Executive Secretary Edilberto B. Gallares, Amelito R. Mutuc, Press Secretary Jose C. Nable; and Rufino G. Hechanova, members; and Minister Manuel G. Zamora, member-secretary.

The committee shall meet at the call of either of the chairman.

Minister Zamora, committee secretary, announced that the inaugural committee will hold its first meeting at the Council of State room tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. to start preparations for the inaugural rites.

December 15.—PRESIDENT Garcia received a few callers and discussed with them the causes of his defeat in the last presidential elections.

The Chief Executive expressed bitterness over the fact that, although the majority of the Nacionalista congressional candidates won their political fights, he lost in their districts.

He believed he was junked by some NP congressional candidates in their respective campaigns. The President indicated he will retire from active political life after leaving Malacañang.

He sat down with acting Executive Secretary Edilberto B. Gallares and worked on pending state papers. President Garcia wanted to clear his desk before the end of the year.

In the evening the President received Gov. Conrado F. Estrella of Pangasinan and Rep.-elect Natalio P. Castillo.

The President discussed with the two political leaders his plans for retiring from active political life. He had previously turned down suggestions to head the party. He said the NP president should be a person in high position in the government so that he could lead the party effectively.

This evening the President appointed Finance Secretary Dominador Aytona as head of a group to represent the outgoing administration in the turnover of the executive department of the government to the incoming administration of President-elect Macapagal.

Press Secretary Jose C. Nable said that with this presidential action the Chief Executive assured a smooth turn over of the executive machinery of the government. It also assures continuity of service to the people and the country, Nable said.

President Garcia made the appointment of Secretary Aytona after he was told that President-elect Macapagal had earlier appointed Executive Secretary-designate Amelito Mutuc and former Labor Secretary Eleuterio Adevosos as heads of a task force to study the turn over of the executive department.

Secretary Aytona was instructed by the President to draw the membership of his group from the list of members composing the presidential inaugural committee.

President Garcia had instructed Secretary Aytona, as chairman of the presidential inaugural committee, to cooperate fully in the drafting of the inauguration program.

Let the representatives of President-elect Macapagal take the initiative in the planning because of the inauguration will be their show, the President said. Where we can help will be in cooperating fully with them, he added.

December 16.—PRESIDENT Garcia this morning received Commodore Jose V. Francisco, chief of the Philippine Navy at Malacañang.

The Navy chief called to say-goodbye to the President preparatory to turning over his command to Commodore Simeon M. Castro this afternoon. The President received the retiring PN chief after playing a round a golf with friends at Malacañang Gold Course.

Commodore Francisco, who is 52 years old, completes 36 years of service upon retirement.

President Garcia today personally directed the prosecution in court, before his retirement from the government service on December 30, of all persons involved in illegal disbursements committed through forgery.

Deeply shocked and angered by a report made by Col. Vicente Tiongson, Malacañang finance division chief, the President personally directed the National Bureau of Investigation to investigate the case.

Col. Tiongson told the President that the forged treasury warrants and checks were discovered some five days ago while Tiongson was in the process of clearing his desk and closing his account books for the current year. Tiongson said that he immediately started investigating the forgery cases.

Reacting sharply to the report, President Garcia directed that the culprits be made to pay the full penalty of the law. He emphasized he wanted this carried out before the end of the month.

Investigation so far conducted have pointed out to a group of personnel in the Accounting, Auditors Office, and Technical staff as being implicated in the forgery cases.

Definite suspects in the forgery cases have been singled out by government and Malacañang investigators. Their identities were withheld.

Col. Tiongson said that investigations and close check of books so far conducted led to the discovery of forged treasury warrants and checks in the amount of P150,000. He admitted the possibility that more cases of forgery may be discovered as the investigation progresses.

Tiongson said his signature were forged.

All pertinent papers, connected with the forgery cases have been locked up for safe keeping with the Provost Marshall's office. These will be the basis for the prosecution in court of the persons involved.

Source: **Supreme Court Library**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (1961). Official Week in Review. *Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines*, 57(51), cdxlxix-cdliii.

